Climate Change and Energy Planning for MPOs

Context for Climate Change Planning
Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2–3:30pm Eastern
What is the status of climate change science and government policies? How does surface transportation fit into the overall climate change picture? What are the latest developments in climate adaptation? How are MPOs planning for climate change?

Climate Change Partners and Collaboration
January 10, 2012*
Who are MPOs partnering with on climate change? Where can MPOs go for climate impacts forecasts? What are some good examples of MPO partnerships? What do MPOs bring to the table in these partnerships?

Climate Change Communications
March, 2012*
How are MPOs communicating climate change challenges – to local officials? The public? What approaches have worked well in various MPOs?

Climate Change Solutions to Other Planning Goals
May, 2012*
How is climate change planning linked to other goals? How are climate change strategies reinforcing broader planning goals like improved access, mobility, and public health? Which strategies are best serving these multiple goals in a constrained economy?

Effective Implementation of Traffic Operations and Management
June, 2012*
How are MPOs building on existing transportation management and operations programs to meet climate change needs? For GHG reductions? For better emergency response to extreme weather (climate) events?

*Specific details on date and time to be announced. For questions, please contact Rich Denbow at rdenbow@ampo.org
The FHWA-sponsored upcoming AMPO series of Capacity Building webinars on Climate Change and Energy Planning will seek to provide a peer exchange of experiences at various MPOs, and conclude with a findings report of the diversity of challenges, ongoing and planned activities and identified needs to assist agencies in meeting these challenges within their regions.

We are continuing to seek MPO “stories” to feature in the series. Climate change and energy planning are relatively new to most MPOs, and we want to hear from MPOs that are in the early stages of those experiences as well as MPOs that are farther along – what’s working, what are the obstacles, what have you learned? In particular, we are looking for MPOs that have experiences with the following:

- Collaborating or coordinating with state DOTs and other organizations on climate change and energy issues;
- Communicating with the public and local officials about air quality, climate change, or energy;
- Undertaking climate change and energy planning as a co-benefit of pursuing other transportation goals; and
- Developing traffic operations and management strategies as a response to emergency events or as an emissions reduction strategy.

Please contact Rich Denbow at rdenbow@ampo.org (or any of our project members listed here) if you have some experience in one or more of the areas cited above.

Sponsor:
FHWA
Diane Turchetta

Project Planning:
AMPO
Rich Denbow
DeLania Hardy
Parsons Brinckerhoff
Cindy Burbank
Gary McVoy
Tara Weidner
Tiffany Batac

Steering Committee:
Puget Sound Regional Council
Charlie Howard
Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Todd Ashby
Genesee Transportation Council
Rich Perrin
Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Cynthia Copeland
RTC of Southern Nevada
Jacob Snow
New Orleans RPC
Walter Brooks
Jeffrey Roesel
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Ron Kirby
Lane Council of Governments
Andrea Riner
San Francisco Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Ann Flemer

Photos courtesy of Lars Gange and Mansfield Heliflight