MPO BOUNDARIES

Confining Sound Transportation Planning?

Ali Bonakdar, AICP
Corvallis Area MPO
MPOs Responsibilities

Coordinated, Comprehensive and Continuous Transportation Planning and Programming within the MPO Area

- Transportation Plans
- Transportation Programs
- Air Quality in Nonattainment Area
- Land Use and Transportation Linkage
- Livability and Sustainability Planning
- Climate Change/GHG Planning
What is Transportation Planning?

- Transportation Planning is to Provide for the Movements of People and Goods (Trips)
- Trips are Functions of Geographic Distances between Houses, Jobs, Shops, etc.
- The Distribution of Houses, Jobs and Shops is the Determining Factor in the Number and Type of Trips
Distribution of Houses, Jobs and Shops
MPO Boundary Criteria

- US Dept. of Commerce, Census Bureau defines UzAs:
  - UzA consists of densely developed territory that contains $\geq 50,000$
    - Density of 1000 ppsm
    - Urban Territory ($\geq 2,500$) w/ 500 ppsm
    - Jump of 2.5 Miles
    - Hop of .5 Mile
    - No Hop after a Jump
Transportation Planning Implications

- Transportation planning and land use coordination extends beyond political boundaries.
- Sound and comprehensive transportation planning is about the entire travelshed.
- Effective Air Quality improvements and GHG emission reductions are about the travelshed.
- Regional Problems Require Regional Solutions.
- Current criteria for defining MPO boundaries are incongruent with sound transportation planning.