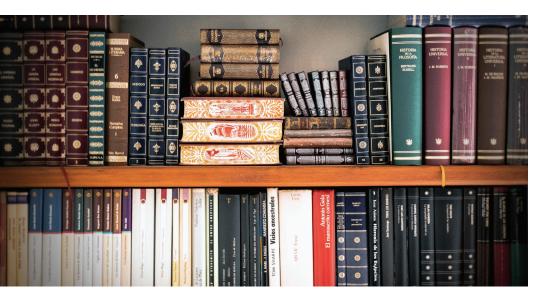
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - updated JANUARY 2019



WHITER REGIONALISM:

THE EVOLVING ROLE OF MPOS

Analysis of larger clusters or agglomerations of metro regions has a long history, beginning in the 1920s under RPAA and Mumford in the US. However, as urban populations continue to grow and cities continue to spread outwards, the megaregion has become a major point of discussion amongst academic researchers. However is the megaregion a legible and compelling scale to address pressing environmental, social and infrastructural challenges now or in the future? Does the megaregional scale have meaning and salience for existing government and governance institutions addressing planning and policy problems spanning multiple metropolitan areas (U.S. MSAs)? How does one even begin to delineate the borders of an identified megaregion?

This research project provides a literature review and evaluation of cases of multi-metro, multi-jurisdictional planning and implementation in the U.S. In addition, the researchers have conducted a survey of directors and/or senior planners at 372 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). The survey asks respondents questions dealing with the following themes: 1). Do MPO directors view collaboration and planning at the megaregional level as a meaningful framework and an important means to address interregional transportation and land use challenges? 2). In what ways do MPOs actively collaborate and/or cooperate with other MPOS across their state or at larger regional scales? 3). What are the legal, regulatory or institutional barriers to greater collaboration or joint project planning and implementation between MPOs at the state or megaregional scale?

Preliminary analysis of survey results show modest evidence that megaregional scales have significant resonance or salience with government or governance institutions or actors.

US DOT Tier-1 University Transportation Center



The Evolving Role of MPOs on Intra and Inter-Regional Transportation, Land Use and Access Policies and Outcomes (#CM2-15)

Dr. Michael Oden, University of Texas at Austin

09/01/2017 - 01/31/2019

Project Information Form: http://sites.utexas.edu/cm2/ files/2018/03/Year-1-Michael-Oden-The-Evolving-Role-of-Metropolitan-Planning-Organizations.pdf



What topics and/or project areas at the mega-regional scale have been a focus of your collaborations with other MPOs and/or other organizations in your mega-region?

| % | Answer | ŧ |
|--------|--|----|
| 17.83% | Congestion Management Issues | 1 |
| 43.31% | Major Transportation Corridor Issues | 2 |
| 16.56% | Intelligent Transportation Systems/Operations | 3 |
| 24.84% | Intercity Passenger Rail Service | 4 |
| 21.02% | Intercity High Speed Rail Service | 5 |
| 14.65% | Intercity Passenger Bus Service | 6 |
| 43.95% | Multi-modal Freight Issues and Services | 7 |
| 12.74% | Planning for Potential Future Growth in Driverless Vehicles | 8 |
| 5.10% | nternational Border Transit and Crossing Issues | 9 |
| 21.02% | Air Quality Issues | 10 |
| 5.73% | Other Environmental Issues | 11 |
| 18.47% | Coordination of Transportation and Land Use Planning Issues | 12 |
| 26.11% | Economic Development Issues | 13 |

What topics and/or project areas have been a focus of your collaborations with other MPOs or international transit-related organizations?

| | Answer | % | Count |
|----|---|--------|-------|
| 1 | Congestion Management Issues | 41.12% | 88 |
| 2 | Major Transportation Corridor Issues | 69.16% | 148 |
| 3 | Intelligent Transportation Systems/Operations | 35.51% | 76 |
| 4 | Intercity Passenger Rail Service | 30.37% | 65 |
| 5 | Intercity High Speed Rail Service | 15.89% | 34 |
| 6 | Intercity Bus Service | 43.46% | 93 |
| 7 | Multi-modal Freight Issues and Services | 52.34% | 112 |
| 8 | Planning for Potential Future Growth in Driverless Vehicles | 22.43% | 48 |
| 9 | Air Quality Issues | 37.38% | 80 |
| 10 | Other Environmental Issues | 14.95% | 32 |
| 11 | Coordination of Transportation and Land Use Planning Issues | 50.00% | 107 |
| 13 | International Border Transit and Crossing Issues | 3.27% | 7 |
| 12 | Economic Development Issues | 35.98% | 77 |

Preliminary MPO Survey results

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