



UTC Project Information – Cooperative Mobility for Competitive Megaregions (CM²)

Project Title	Identifying Organizational Changes to Facilitate MPO Megaregion Planning
University	University of Texas at Austin
Principal Investigator	Lisa Loftus-Otway and Robert Harrison
PI Contact Information	loftusotway@mail.utexas.edu , harrison@mail.utexas.edu
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	U.S. Department of Transportation: \$107,795 (Year 1) \$65,951 (Year 2) UT Austin (reduced overhead): \$35,440 TxDOT: \$52,700
Total Project Cost	\$261,886
Agency ID or Contract Number	UTDOT Grant number: 69A3551747135
Start and End Dates	1/1/2018 - 5/31/2019
Brief Description of Research Project	Beyond Traffic 2045 suggested that transportation funding be organized around emerging megaregions, while at the same time noting the importance of existing and future challenges of planning across jurisdictional boundaries. Developing recommendations for the roles, requirements and responsibilities for the various transportation agencies, and MPOs and planning agencies could be 'scaled-up' to form megaregional partnership with goals to align planning across the megaregions is needed. Currently, MPOs are only required to include projects and programs within their boundaries.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	Researcher Loftus-Otway led a webinar in November 2018 on the Evolving Challenges in Regional and Megaregional Planning with WTS. Paulina Urbanowicz, a CM2 GRA to researcher Loftus-Otway was the 2018 Eno Fellow for the Transportation Leadership Development Conference program. Researcher Loftus, Otway also
Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)	The goal of this collaborative team project is to create a framework for megaregional planning that can be applied as a template to the megaregions (MR) that our team comprise: Texas Triangle, Gulf Coast and the North East. The goal will be to develop products that can be utilized by the MPOs/COGs, and so has an extremely practical application along with an academic element.
Web Links (to reports, project website, etc.)	

