Fiscal Year 2015
Unified Planning Work Program

Northwest Louisiana
METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

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MPO Transportation Policy Committee Adoption of Work Program Tasks March 21, 2014
MPO Transportation Policy Committee Adoption May 29, 2014
NLCOG Executive Committee Adoption May 29, 2014

Funding for this work program provided by:
Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration,
Local governments and agencies of Northwest Louisiana, and the State of Louisiana
Dear Secretary LaBas:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program for the Shreveport-Bossier Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Unified Planning Work Program documents the federally funded planning activities being undertaken by the NLCOG to maintain and improve the overall efficiency of the region’s transportation network including highway, transit, and non-traditional modes.

Metropolitan transportation planning is the process of examining travel and transportation issues and needs in metropolitan areas. It includes a demographic analysis of the community in question, as well as an examination of travel patterns and trends. The planning process includes an analysis of alternatives to meet projected future demands, and for providing a safe and efficient transportation system that meets mobility while not creating adverse impacts to the environment.

With the renewed focus on transportation planning brought about by the MAP-21 Gregory Nadeau, Deputy Administrator for Federal Highway Administration and Theresa McMillan, Deputy Administrator for Federal Transit Administration jointly issued a memorandum to state DOT’s and MPO’s issuing three Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs) for Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Programs. These PEAs are focus on MAP-21 Implementation, Models of Regional Planning Cooperation, and Ladders of Opportunity.

MAP-21 Implementation - Transition to Performance Based Planning and Programming.

The development and implementation of a performance management approach to transportation planning and programming that supports the achievement of transportation system performance outcomes. NLCOG began a major update to the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Transit Development Plan, and the Human Services Transportation Plan for the area during fiscal year 2014. The principal focus of each of these efforts is on performance measures and the goals and objectives of MAP-21. We will continue to review these planning efforts to ensure that performance based planning and programming are integral parts of the overall planning process and within the project selection process for implementation.

Models of Regional Planning Cooperation - Promote cooperation and coordination to ensure a regional approach to transportation planning. Cooperation could occur through the metropolitan planning agreements that identify how the planning process and planning products will be coordinated, through the development of joint planning products, and/or by other locally determined means. Coordination includes the coordination of transportation plans and programs, corridor studies, and projects. It also includes collaboration among State DOT(s), MPOs, and operators of public transportation on activities such as: data collection, data storage and analysis, analytical tools, and performance based planning. NLCOG has a long history of cooperation and coordination that is evident not only through our traditional transportation efforts but also with our Regional Geographic Information System and our Brownfields quality assurance programs. NLCOG has expanded on these efforts over the last few years to include HUD Choice Neighborhood Planning, representation on the Shreveport Common management team, and on the Strategic Action Council of North Louisiana. We will continue these efforts along with seeking ways to expand upon regional coordination and cooperation.

Ladders of Opportunity - Access to essential services. As part of the transportation planning process, identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services. Essential services include housing, employment, health care, schools/education, and recreation. This includes the identification of performance measures and analytical methods to measure the transportation system’s connectivity to essential services and the use of this information to identify gaps in transportation system connectivity that preclude access of the public, including
traditionally underserved populations, to essential services. System connectivity and access to transportation services is the main goal of our Transit Planning and Human Services Transportation Planning processes. As we continue with updates to these two sections of our comprehensive transportation planning process we will continue to look at ways to improve access to transportation, jobs, education, training, and health care services.

Should the Department have any questions or concerns regarding this UPWP or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. J. Kent Rogers, Executive Director of NLCOG at (318) 673-5950.

Executive Committee

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Policy Committee
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NLCOG Organization

Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments
The Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments shall have the purpose and duty to make studies, maps, plans, recommendations, and reports concerning the physical, environmental, social, economic and governmental characteristics and other aspects which affect the development and welfare of the area as a whole.

Executive Committee
The Executive Committee shall have general oversight of the operations of the Council of Governments and is authorized to make executive decisions on behalf of the Full Board concerning the day to day operations of the Council of Governments and serves as an advisory committee to the Executive Director.

Metropolitan Planning Organization – Transportation Policy Committee
The Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee serves as the decision making body for the Shreveport Bossier City Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Transportation Management Area (TMA).

Project Steering Committees
The Project Steering Committees are broad based advisory committees for major project undertaken by NLCOG. These committees includes technical advisors specific to the type project, representatives from the local school boards and universities, hospitals, neighborhood associations, construction industry, developers and real estate, inner city faith based council, and general public. Each steering committee is developed to guide a specific project and to provide input on the development scope and policy for the specific project.
Planning Prospectus / Work Program Summary

The Unified Planning Work Program documents the federally funded planning activities being undertaken by the NLCOG to maintain and improve the overall efficiency of the region’s transportation network including highway, transit, and non-traditional modes. Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) introduces national goals in seven areas: Safety, Infrastructure Condition, Congestion Reduction, System Reliability, Freight Movement and Economic Vitality, Environmental Sustainability, and Reduced Project Deliver Delays. To achieve these goals, MAP-21 emphasizes a streamlined, performance-based, and multi-modal approach to transportation planning and project implementation.

Task A Transportation Project Funding, Financing & Development

Task A represents an effort to ensure adequate funding for the development and implementation of regional transportation projects and to assist in finding funding and financing mechanisms that may be appropriate for the development of projects within Northwest Louisiana. Two primary efforts of this will be the continued monitoring of funding opportunities that may lead to project implementation and development of the annual listing of projects within the area.

Task B-1 Metropolitan Planning Programs

A properly developed regional comprehensive plan, implemented and sustained, will deliver a metropolitan area that is and can be developed in an orderly manner and is consistent with the public values and goals. The major emphasis of Task B-1 will be the continued work on a major update to the Long Range Transportation Plan to meet the requirements of MAP-21. This plan will included the development of performance measures in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and will identify projects and programs to maintain and improve the overall efficiency of the region’s transportation network including highway, transit, and non-traditional modes.

Task B-2 Project Development Stage 0 and Stage 1

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development has developed a new and streamlined project development and delivery process. The process starts by doing a feasibility study for a proposed project and ends by putting a completed project into service. Stage 0 and Stage 1 of this process involves the feasibility and environmental analysis of the project. The purpose of Task B-2 is to develop Stage 0 Feasibility Studies and Stage 1 Planning and Environmental Studies for projects identified in the Long Range Plan. Specific focus will be given to those projects identified and/or earmarked in federal transportation legislation and those projects receiving Urban Area greater than 200k funding including Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension and continued coordination of ongoing efforts with I-69 SIU 16 connection the urban area to Texas and continue to provide assistance to for the I-220 BAFB Gate Access Road.

Task B-3 Transit Planning and Coordination

Not all citizens have access to vehicles of their own or wish to use those vehicles for all travel. This is evident in the statistics that in 2009, passengers across the country took 10.2 billion trips on public transportation systems in the United States, and that since 1995; public transit ridership has grown at a faster rate than either population or highway usage. The goal of Task B-3 is to assist transit providers in creating a regionally seamless transit system that connects potential workers to job opportunities that enhance overall accessibility and mobility for all residents. NLCOG in conjunction with SporTran will complete a Public Transportation Study which includes four primary tasks; analysis of the existing system, analysis and route reconfigurations due to move of downtown terminal to new Intermodal facility, how best to provide service to the downtown riverfront areas of Shreveport and Bossier City, and development of Performance Measures as required by MAP-21. The second major work product of this task will be an update to the Human Services Transportation Plan for Northwest Louisiana.
**Task B-4  Transportation Alternatives**

Under MAP-21 the Safe Routes to Schools, Transportation Enhancements, and Rails to Trails programs among others were consolidated into the Transportation Alternatives Program. The goal of Task B-4 is to allocate resources to projects that enhance a comprehensive multi-modal transportation network emphasis will be placed on bicycle and pedestrian facilities, Safe Routes to Schools and traditional transportation enhancements. Projects that pursue transportation alternatives grants must link to the transportation system and qualify under FHWA/FTA listed activities.

**Task B-5  I-49 Inner City Connector Stage 1**

With the completion of I-49 North from I-220 to the Arkansas Louisiana State line there exists an approximately 3.8 mile gap between the existing Interstate 49 (I-49)/Interstate 20 (I-20) interchange to the proposed I-49/Interstate-220 (I-220) interchange within the city of Shreveport in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. The purpose of Task B-5 is to complete the Stage 1 of the I-49 Inner City Connector and to obtain environmental clearance consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a controlled access highway to bridge this gap. Through extensive public outreach 5 NEPA identified alternatives (4 inner city – 1 loop around) and a no build option will be analyzed for identification of a preferred alternative.

**Task C  Geographic Information Systems Data Development and Maintenance**

NLCOG and its member agencies have entered into agreements for the development and maintenance of a Regional Geographic Information System. This system is housed by NLCOG and administered by its staff. An Intergovernmental Agreement has been established for the ongoing maintenance of this system and to promote regional compatibility in geographic information systems processes, procedures, and products among the NLCOG member agencies, state and federal sponsors, and local jurisdictions in Northwest Louisiana. The ReGIS system incorporates best available data to support local parish and municipal transportation and land use planning, 911 emergency services, economic development and environmental planning efforts in Northwest Louisiana. Special attention will be given this year to creating web based applications for serving data to both member agencies and the general public through our updated web site developed under Task E Public Involvement & Outreach.

**Task D  Environmental Programs**

NLCOG will continue to implement programs to better the environment including air, water, and land through various federal programs to ensure a safe livable environment for the citizens of Northwest Louisiana. As the MPO for the area, Task D will provide for continued involvement, support and technical assistance pertaining to the region’s development of EPA’s “Ozone Advance Program”. We will continue training on the use of MOVES (MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator) emission modeling system to analyze the air quality impacts of transportation projects contained in the region’s Transportation Improvement Program and Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

**Task E  Public Involvement & Outreach**

Seeking meaningful public involvement is important for sharing the concerns of the community. NLCOG is committed to developing an effective, aggressive Public Involvement / Community Outreach program to promote the involvement of citizen’s groups, business organizations, minority groups, and the public at-large in the transportation policy and planning process. Task E will provide for a major update to our web site to make it more user friendly and up to date. This update will include develop a series of web pages to provide community agencies and residents with information about the transportation planning process, smart growth, the basics of GIS, environmental planning and Brownfields. Additional pages will include interactive mapping, project specific pages such as I-49, I-69, LA 3132. Additional work will include an updated Public Involvement Plan and development of a Social Media Plan.

**Task F  Administrative Programs**

Task F provides for inter-agency cooperation and coordination of the planning process and for the overall management of NLCOG and development of the staff in carrying out the work program. Included in this effort will be the coordination of the various technical, steering and citizen committees, policy and executive committee activities, and coordination with DOTD, FHWA, FTA, EPA, and other governmental agencies.
PLANNING FACTORS

MAP-21 reemphasized the planning factors established under SAFETEA-LU and the responsibility of the MPO in preparing and maintaining the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program and the Unified Planning Work Program. This work program represents a continuation of the strategic planning process begun in previous years. The focus continues to be on maintaining, improving, and utilizing the information resources in the day-to-day transportation decision-making process. In addition the planning process will provide for consideration of projects and strategies that will

(A) support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;

(B) increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

(C) increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

(D) increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight;

(E) protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;

(F) enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;

(G) promote efficient system management and operation; and

(H) emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
Unified Planning Work Program

Objective
To discuss the planning programs priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describe all metropolitan planning, transportation and transportation related air quality planning activities in accordance with the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), and the mission and goals of NLCOG.

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Support Economic Vitality | Increase Safety | Accessibility & Mobility | Life/Property Economic Development Patterns | Intermodal/Multimodal | Management & Operation | System Preservation
**Task A-1 Transportation Project Funding, Financing & Development**

Project costs have escalated over the past few years. NLCOG will examine the existing and proposed new transportation bill, traditional funding and financing mechanisms as well as exploring new and innovative means for development of transportation projects.

**Goal:** To ensure adequate funding for the development and implementation of regional transportation projects and to assist in finding funding and financing mechanisms that may be appropriate for the development of projects within Northwest Louisiana.

**Objectives:** To gain an understanding of the multiple funding and financing mechanisms used across the country and in Louisiana for transportation project development.

- To promote the use of alternative funding and financing through educating the local officials on what mechanisms are available and how they can work on various projects in our area.
- To work with our Federal, State, and local delegation to insure all possible funding measures are available to Northwest Louisiana.
- To assist in the development of legislation and policy that is needed for alternative financing mechanisms.

**Previous Work:** I-49 Funding and Feasibility Task Force report on project financing

  I-49 Inner City Comprehensive Stage 0 and Environmental Study – Financial Report

  Comprehensive listing of current funding and financing programs.

**Methodologies:** Review funding and financing reports and to evaluate any updates needed

- To review current federal, state, and local legislation to ensure that Northwest Louisiana has access to alternative funding and financing mechanisms for the implementation of current and future transportation projects

**Products:** Updated comprehensive report on alternative funding and financing mechanisms for implementation of transportation projects. This report will include a listing of currently available mechanisms, those currently used by other areas, and what legislation may be needed to provide other funding and financing mechanisms to Northwest Louisiana.

**Milestones:** 1st Quarter – Review current state and federal legislation as it relates to implementation of transportation infrastructure.

  Begin to review historical project listings and funding sources as they relate to the Long Range Plan
2nd Quarter – Draft report of potential funding and financing mechanisms

3rd Quarter – Provide a report on funding and financing mechanisms previously utilized for the implementation of transportation projects.

4th Quarter – Work with Federal, State, and Local legislators to identify and draft legislation needed to ensure all possible funding mechanisms are available to Northwest Louisiana
**Task B-1 Metropolitan Planning Programs**

Metropolitan transportation planning is the process of examining travel and transportation issues and needs in metropolitan areas. It includes a demographic analysis of the community in question, as well as an examination of travel patterns and trends. The planning process includes an analysis of alternatives to meet projected future demands, and for providing a safe and efficient transportation system that meets mobility while not creating adverse impacts to the environment.

**Goal:** To implement MAP-21 planning objectives by transition to Performance Based Planning and Programming

**Objectives:**

- Development of a Performance Based Long Range Transportation Plan for Northwest Louisiana.

  To meet the revised Federal requirements of MAP-21 through the development of performance measures for use in the overall planning process and identification and prioritization of projects for implementation.

  To continue to refine the Regional Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program for the region so that it can support sustainable community goals and function as an element of regional comprehensive planning.

  To review of the status of ongoing projects, review of project priorities, and an intensive review of project costing.

  To continue to implement, update and revise the Management Systems including the Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Plan, the Congestion Management Process and the Traffic Incident Management Systems Plan for the Shreveport Bossier City area.

  To provide a broader vision and analysis of transit and transportation services in the region.

**Previous Work:**

- 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan - "Mapping the Way"

  Northwest Louisiana Metropolitan Planning Area Transportation Improvement Program TIP 2008 – 2011

  Northwest Louisiana Incident Management Alternative Route Plan

  Northwest Louisiana Congestion Management Process and Plan

  Northwest Louisiana Regional ITS Plan and Architecture

  Northwest Louisiana Job Access – Extended Service Transportation Strategy Plan

  Coordination with Shreveport Caddo MPC and the Bossier City/Parish MPC on their comprehensive planning effort
**Methodologies:** Direct data collection on existing generalized land use, travel demands through and within the planning area including distribution of traffic, pedestrian movements, parking, transit facilities and demand centers.

Identify zones within planning area where development is proposed or likely to occur within a provided timeline (5-10 years), and the potential impact on traffic, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic demands.

Work to analyze the major issues including, but not limited to, connectivity between transportation modes (vehicle to transit, transit to pedestrian, etc.), safety of non-vehicular transportation alternatives, crash data history of area, accessibility of existing land uses/developed areas by vehicular and non-vehicular means, and accessibility opportunities as part of future development.

Coordinate IM/ITS activities with those of LADOTD, FHWA, motorist assistance patrol, law enforcement, emergency response, homeland security local public works and traffic departments, local transit agencies, and other relevant entities in order to deploy and utilize ITS measures effectively.

Continue work on Travel Time and Delay Studies along the region’s major and minor arterial street system. The data will be utilized to profile existing travel corridors with regard to operating speeds, travel time, and length of delay to identify significant problem locations on major arterials that can be addressed through geometric or operational improvements to reduce delay. This data will also be used to evaluate the effectiveness of congestion mitigation projects implemented in the region.

Review recommendations of the Congestion Management Process Plan, Consolidated Human Services Transportation Plan, ITS/Incident Management Strategic Plans, and transit mobility planning, Safety initiatives, and other corridor and systems planning activities and evaluate them for consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan and the TIP.

**Products:** A comprehensive, continuing and coordinated process for updating the region’s metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) while maintaining consistent required management systems, air quality conformity, the NEPA process and environmental justice requirements.

Long Range Transportation Plan that meets the requirements of MAP-21. Plan will include the development of performance measures in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. The plan will identify projects and programs to maintain and improve the overall efficiency of the region’s transportation network including highway, transit, and non-traditional modes.

Updated and revised Management Systems including the Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Plan, the Congestion Management Process and the Traffic Incident Management Systems Plan for the Shreveport Bossier City area.
A continuously coordinated planning process between NLCOG, the Planning and Zoning Commissions of Shreveport and Bossier, the local governments, and LaDOTD.

**Milestones:**

1st Quarter – Defining 2040 LRTP Goals and Objectives

2nd Quarter – Adoption of an interim MAP-21 compliant plan document. Development of alternatives for evaluation.

3rd Quarter – Continued public outreach and plan alternatives evaluation.

4th Quarter – A fully adopted 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan that meets the full goals and objectives of MAP-21 and the needs of the local area.

Ongoing
Traffic Counts at selected locations within Northwest Louisiana.
Coordination with planning and zoning, and local governments on land use and development issues
Continuous review of the current Long Range Transportation Plan
Task B-2 Project Development – Stage 0 and Stage 1
The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development has developed a new and streamlined project development and delivery process. This new process relies heavily on the principles of project management and defines seven stages in the project development process. The process starts by doing a feasibility study for a proposed project and ends by putting a completed project into service. Stage 0 and Stage 1 of this process involves the feasibility and environmental analysis of the project.

Goal: To develop Stage 0 Feasibility Studies and Stage 1 Planning and Environmental Studies for projects identified in the Long Range Plan. Specific focus will be given to those projects identified and/or earmarked in the Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill and those projects receiving Urban Area greater than 200k funding.

Objectives: Complete Stage 0 Feasibility Studies for earmark, 200k, and selected projects within the Long Range Transportation Plan

Complete Stage 1 Environmental Studies for earmark, 200k, and selected projects within the Long Range Transportation Plan

To assist local governments is moving projects forward through the project development process.

Previous Work: Stage 0 Feasibility Studies for projects identified through the Bossier Parish Congestion Relief Program

Completed Stage 1 Environmental Study for the Bossier Parish North-South Corridor

Completed Stage 1 Environmental Studies for the Bossier Parish East West Corridor and the Wafer Road project

Draft Stage 1 Environmental Studies for the Bossier Parish East Winfield Road project

Comprehensive Stage 0 and Environmental Studies for the I-49 Inner City Connector Project

Revised Interchange Justification Report for I-220 @ I-20 for access to Barksdale Air Force Base and the Cyber Research Park

Methodologies: GIS Data analysis of project corridors for both Stage 0 and Stage 1 analysis.

Stage 0 Feasibility Studies will be developed in accordance to the DOTD Project Development manual

GIS and TranPlan analysis of corridors for Stage 0, Stage 1, and Interchange Justification Reports where needed

Extensive public involvement for all projects to ensure public opportunities for input, comments, and support
**Products:**

- Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension.
- Stage 1 Environmental Assessments for the projects identified in the Bossier Parish Congestion Relief Program
- Stage 1 Environmental Impact Statements for the I-69 Corridor in Louisiana including SIU 15
- Stage 0 studies for selected projects within the Long Range Transportation Plan

**Mile Stones:**

1st Quarter – Continue local coordination of Stage 1 Environmental Impact Study I-69 SIU 15.

- Initiate the Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension.

2nd Quarter - Continue Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension.

- Identify and select projects within the TIP and Long Range Plan for the development of Stage 0 and Stage 1 Environmental Assessments.

3rd Quarter – Continue Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension.

- Continue development of Stage 0 and Stage 1 Environmental Assessments for selected projects within the TIP and Long Range Plan

4th Quarter - Continue Stage 1 Environmental Assessment for the Inner Loop (LA 3132) Extension.

- Continue development of Stage 0 and Stage 1 Environmental Assessments for selected projects within the TIP and Long Range Plan
**Task B-3 Transit Planning and Coordination**

Ladders of Opportunity - Access to essential services. Part of the transportation planning process is to identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services. Essential services include housing, employment, health care, schools/education, and recreation. This includes the identification of performance measures and analytical methods to measure the transportation system’s connectivity to essential services and the use of this information to identify gaps in transportation system connectivity that preclude access of the public, including traditionally underserved populations, to essential services. System connectivity and access to transportation services is the main goal of our Transit Planning and Human Services Transportation Planning processes. As we continue with updates to these two sections of our comprehensive transportation planning process we will continue to look at ways to improve access to transportation, jobs, education, training, and health care services.

**Goal:** To assist transit providers in creating a regionally seamless transit system that connects potential workers to job opportunities that enhances overall accessibility and mobility for all residents. The goal of this task is to implement the recommendations of the Regional Job Access – Extended Service Transportation Strategic Plan for the Shreveport – Bossier City region.

**Objectives:**

- To ensure that the region’s existing transit system, including vehicles, transit stops facilities, and other transit related infrastructure, is maintained in a state of good repair.

- To work with public and private sector organizations to address the transportation needs of individuals who may have difficulty accessing education and employment.

- To develop strategies for improving public transportation opportunities for disadvantaged populations, i.e., elderly, disabled, or low-income individuals, as identified in the Coordinated Public Transportation-Human Services plan.

- To evaluate the overall effects of the Night Owl transit service through tracking its effects to address the gap in transportation services between the “at-need” populations, particularly those who work non-standard work shifts, and major employment centers.

- To monitor and implement the coordinated human services transportation plan for the ten parishes of Northwest Louisiana.

- To develop a web application that links those providing Human Services Transportation with those providing Human Services and those in need of both.

- To develop a comprehensive GIS data set of the regions existing transit system, including routes, stops, stations, facilities, etc.

- To continue to improved coordination of human services transportation in the region, and the on-going process for continual coordination and improvement.
**Previous Work:** Regional Job Access – Extended Service Transportation Strategic Plan for the Shreveport – Bossier City region.

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan For Northwest Louisiana

Extensive employment and education analysis using GIS as part of the Regional Job Access.

Assistance to the Louisiana Department of Economic Development in the location of businesses to northwest Louisiana through GIS data.

Initial development of a web based mapping application for connecting those in need of human services to those providing human services.

**Methodologies:** To work with SporTran to evaluate the effectiveness of the Night-Owl service by looking at ridership, routes and employment centers.

To work with the regions employers to understand their work force, scheduling and transportation needs. Provide technical assistance through the Job Access planning effort in meeting those needs.

To work with the regions human service transportation providers, non-profits, those providing human services, and those in need of human services to ensure accessibility to transportation.

To continue to provide a venue for those involved in Human Service both from the transportation standpoint and those providing service to contribute to updates of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan For Northwest Louisiana.

To work with transit providers to create a policy of regularly collecting measures of transit system performance in order to determine the effects of improvements to the transportation system network. Such measures may include general readership, disabled and elderly ridership, bicycle transfers ridership, headway performance, and travel times, among others. Effects of major transit improvements on the regional air quality may also be estimated through use of transportation demand models.

**Products:** Completion on the Public Transportation Study begun under the previous UPWP which included four primary tasks; analysis of the existing system, analysis and route reconfigurations due to move of downtown terminal to new Intermodal facility, how best to provide service to the downtown riverfront areas of Shreveport and Bossier City, and development of Performance Measures as required by MAP-21.

A systemic strategy toward developing a seamless regional transportation system that optimizes mobility throughout the region and delivers safe, efficient, comfortable service.
A GIS web mapping application to link those in need of human services, those providing human services, and transportation providers throughout the region.

**Milestones:**

1st Quarter - Continued development of public transportation study for the region. Continued building communication linkages those in need of human services, those providing human services, and transportation providers throughout the region. Quarterly Human Services Transportation Coordination meeting

2nd Quarter – Continued development of public transportation study for the region. Update of transit gis database for use in analysis of systems Quarterly Human Services Transportation Coordination meeting

3rd Quarter – Continued development of public transportation study for the region. Quarterly Human Services Transportation Coordination meeting

4th Quarter – Continued provision of support services to user groups and transportation provider agencies. Quarterly Human Services Transportation Coordination meeting
**Task B-4 Transportation Alternatives**

To provide a safe environment that encourages and enables children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school as a more appealing transportation choice.

**Goal:** The goal of the transportation alternatives task is to allocate resources to projects that enhance a comprehensive multi-modal transportation network emphasis will be placed on bicycle and pedestrian facilities, Safe Routes to Schools and traditional transportation enhancements. Projects that pursue transportation alternatives grants must link to the transportation system and qualify under FHWA/FTA listed activities.

**Objectives:**

- Increase the number of schools participating in the Kids on the Move Safe Routes to Schools program within the region.
- To implement the identified infrastructure needs in and around the participating schools.
- Increase the number of opportunities for pedestrian, bicycle, and transit travel throughout the region.
- Direct regional policy and funding that encourages, supports, and implements projects that promote fully integrated “Complete Streets”, with streetscapes and roadways that are safe and welcoming for pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, and vehicular traffic.
- Implement landscaping, scenic beautification, and historic preservation projects within the region’s transportation infrastructure that enhance a community’s unique sense of place, promote economic vitality, and improve environmental health.
- Ensure that bicycle, pedestrian and landscaped facilities are maintained in a state of good repair in order to promote accessibility and livable standards for all members of the community.
- Provide assistance to citizen groups and local government with transportation alternative grant submittals, conceptual design, and project coordination.

**Previous Work:** In fiscal year 2008, NLCOG was awarded by the LADOTD Bicycle/Pedestrian Section a grant to fund their SRTS project titled “Kids on the Move!” The Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) identified two elementary schools in both Bossier and Caddo Parishes that already have the needed infrastructure to facilitate education on pedestrian and bicycle safety. These schools are Bellaire Elementary and Central Park Elementary (Bossier Parish) and Cherokee Park Elementary and Arthur Circle (Caddo Parish).

In fiscal year 2009, NLCOG was awarded a grant to continue with the “Kids on the Move!” program and to implement the identified infrastructure projects.
at the four schools from the 2008 grant and to add Bossier Elementary to the program.

In fiscal year 2010, NLCOG was awarded a grant to continue with the “Kids on the Move!” program at Bossier Elementary and to add Plantation Park Elementary. In addition this grant includes infrastructure improvements for both schools.

In fiscal year 2011, NLCOG was awarded a grant to continue with the “Kids on the Move!” program at South Highlands Elementary Magnet School to implement the non-infrastructure education and encouragement program.

Annual support local government for transportation enhancement projects submissions and ongoing project coordination

**Methodologies:** Continue with implementation of the previous awarded Safe Routes grants

Continue to implement projects that improve overall conditions for non-motorized travelers on existing thoroughfares. Encourage bicycle and pedestrian friendly design, striping, traffic control devices, shoulder upgrades, signage, bicycle friendly drainage grates, and other non-motorized traveler amenities

Continue to assist local parishes with Transportation Alternatives Program and Louisiana Technical Assistance Program, Safe Routes to School, and Louisiana Roads Safety Program for local streets applications and project management.

**Products:** Task order issued for implementation of the infrastructure improvements at the schools included in the previous Safe Routes to Schools grants.

Development of selection criteria and selection process for new projects and a Call for projects for future funding.

Development of a Complete Streets policy for Northwest Louisiana.

**Milestones:** 1st Quarter – Begin implementation of infrastructure improvements at schools.

Development of selection criteria and selection process for new projects and a Call for projects for future funding.

Research successful Complete Streets programs and Policies

2nd Quarter – Continue implementation of “Kids on the Move!” / Safe Routes infrastructure and non infrastructure improvements.
Hold the annual fall Northwest Louisiana Walk to School Day in conjunction with International Walk to School day and Walk to School Month (October).

Review projects submitted under the Transportation Alternatives “Call for Projects”

Draft a Northwest Louisiana Complete Streets Policy and submit for adoption

3\textsuperscript{rd} Quarter – Submit projects selected under the call for funding.

Review Draft a Northwest Louisiana Complete Streets Policy with local jurisdictions and planning bodies.

4\textsuperscript{th} Quarter – Hold the annual spring Northwest Louisiana Walk & Bike to School Day in conjunction with the national Bike to School Day and Bike to School Month (May).

Finalize implementation of current infrastructure projects and begin work on task items for new infrastructure projects.

Adopt a Northwest Louisiana Complete Streets Policy.
**Task B-5 I-49 Inner City Connector Stage 1**

Stage 1 Planning and Environmental Study for the I-49 Inner City Connector project. Following the Stage 0 Feasibility Study, the Stage 1 study will result in the preparation of NEPA documentation to allow for the construction of the preferred alternative.

**Goal:** Stage 1 of the I-49 Inner City Connector is to obtain environmental clearance consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a controlled access highway to connect the existing Interstate 49 (I-49)/Interstate 20 (I-20) interchange to the proposed I-49/Interstate-220 (I-220) interchange within the city of Shreveport in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. This corridor is approximately 3.8 miles long.

**Objectives:** Complete Stage 1 Environmental Study for the I-49 Inner City Connector

Completion of Interchange Justification Report and Interchange Modification Report as related to the I-49 Inner City Connector

**Previous Work:** Construction of I-49 from I-20 south to I-10 in Lafayette Louisiana

- Completed Stage 1 Environmental Study for I-49 North from I-220 to the Louisiana/Arkansas state line.
- Comprehensive Stage 0 and Environmental Studies for the I-49 Inner City Connector Project

**Methodologies:** Development of a plan for coordinating with public and agencies and agency scoping meeting

The preparation of an Interchange Justification Report and Interchange Modification Report

Environmental analysis of the five build alternatives currently identified through the NEPA process.

Economic analysis of the five build alternatives currently identified through the NEPA process.

Engineering studies necessary to develop alternatives considered to the extent necessary to complete the NEPA process.

Technical studies to determine social, economic and environmental impacts at a level of detail consistent with the requirements of NEPA and other applicable laws and regulations

Preparation of a preliminary EA

Preparation of a Record of Decision (ROD)
Preparation of a Mitigation Plan

Preparation of an Implementation Plan with cost estimates in the year of expenditure

Preparation of a Project Management Plan in accordance with Federal guidelines

**Products:** Stage 1 Environmental Assessments for the I-49 Inner City Connector Interchange Justification Report and Interchange Modification Report

Mitigation Plan, Implementation Plan with cost estimates in the year of expenditure, and Project Management Plan in accordance with Federal guidelines

**Mile Stones:** 1st Quarter – Continue with Interchange Justification Report and Interchange Modification Report as required through the NEPA process

Implementation of the plan for coordinating with public and agencies as required through NEPA and Environmental Justice

Continue with Engineering and Technical studies as required through the NEPA process.

2nd Quarter – Continue with Engineering and Technical studies as required through the NEPA process

Continue with Environmental Justice plan implementation.

3rd Quarter – Continue with Engineering and Technical studies as required through the NEPA process

Continue with Environmental Justice plan implementation.

4th Quarter - Continue with Engineering and Technical studies as required through the NEPA process

Finalize the Draft EIS in cooperation with FHWA / LaDOTD / EPA / HUD

Continue with Environmental Justice plan implementation.
**Task C Geographic Information Systems Data Development and Maintenance**

NLCOG and its member agencies have entered into agreements for the development and maintenance of a Regional Geographic Information System. This system is housed by NLCOG and administered by its staff. An Intergovernmental Agreement has been established for the ongoing maintenance of this system.

**Goal:** To promote regional compatibility in geographic information systems processes, procedures, and products among the NLCOG member agencies, state and federal sponsors, and local jurisdictions in Northwest Louisiana. This includes aiding in the development of or to provide high quality GIS products and resources for use in UPWP related corridor and systems planning as well as to support local parish and municipal transportation and land use planning, 911 emergency services, economic development and environmental planning efforts in Northwest Louisiana.

**Objectives:**

Promote regional compatibility and sharing in GIS processes, procedures, and products among the member agencies of NLCOG, state and federal sponsors, and local agencies in Northwest Louisiana by housing, developing and distributing data.

Ensure that outcomes of local and regional planning efforts are compatible with the regional GIS products to support improved integration of regional transportation planning with land use decision-making processes.

Provide GIS/Imagery and database development support to local entities as needed for the development of coordinated GIS data products.

Work with member agencies to increase data quality in terms of detail and accuracy improving existing data, while promoting the integration of planning data development across agencies and across data development initiatives.

**Previous Work:** Implementation of the local ReGIS Intergovernmental agreement and coordination with local governments and agencies has developed into a regional GIS housing highly accurate imagery and vector data including transportation systems, topographical data, environmental inventories and economic databases for use in the UPWP program.

The contracting of high resolution imagery since 1995 including contract management of non-traditional partners in coordination of federal, state, regional and local raster data initiatives.

Implementation of GPS Community Base Station and management of GPS data collection efforts utilizing COG GPS equipment. In addition to maintaining the FCC license for GPS Real-Time Data Broadcasting.

Begun ArcGIS Server implementation to better provide imagery and data products to both member agencies and the general public through web mapping applications.
**Methodologies:** Five basic task areas have been established to manage the Regis System:

*ReGIS Administration*
To continue maintaining and developing a regional geographic information. To assist in the management of regional GIS efforts and to coordinate the development of GIS systems of the member government's/agencies. To provide technical support for the development of GIS and database developments.

*Basemap Maintenance*
To continue to update and expand the project basemap based on new photography this includes building features, hydrology features, transportation features, etc. To review and update of quasi-political boundaries such as neighborhoods, school attendance zones, Delphi Planning zones, etc.

*Aerial Photography*
The purpose of this task is to assist our member agencies in obtaining aerial photography for the area. This photography is vital to the maintenance of existing and development of new data sets for GIS. This year’s objective is to develop a web based image service to provide current and historical imagery to both member agencies and general public.

*Application Development*
To continue the development of custom user applications for access to GIS, Census and planning data. This includes user Interfaces, network development, and Census Data Inter/Intra net Application. In addition, NLCOG will work towards the development of a regional data-sharing network between public entities.

*Socio-Economic Variables / Census Demography*
To compile, organize, and analyze socio-economic and environmental data for the region in order to supplement planning efforts within the region and to provide useful demographic data to the public and local agencies.

**Products:** A regional geographic information system incorporating best available data to support local parish and municipal transportation and land use planning, 911 emergency services, economic development and environmental planning efforts in Northwest Louisiana. Special attention to creating web based applications for serving data to both member agencies and the general public.

Compilation, analysis and mapping of social, economic, and environmental trends in the region, including forecasts of the transportation planning variables, with particular emphasis on the 2010 census data.

A custom user applications for access to GIS, Census and planning data including both an intranet and internet mapping applications.
Mile Stones: 1st – 4th Qtrs:
Training and Expanded Utilization of ReGIS System
Update Selected Transportation and Landuse GIS products
GIS Support for UPWP Work Efforts
GIS architecture development and systems support
Web based access to ReGIS data
Update Selected Demographic data reports for the region
Integrate new data with Transportation Planning Variables for forecasting models.
Refine web based applications
**Task D Environmental Programs**

NLCOG will continue to implement programs to better the environment including air, water, and land through various federal programs to ensure a safe livable environment for the citizens of Northwest Louisiana.

**Goal:** NLCOG will continue to implement programs to address environmental and air quality issues, which MAP-21, the 1990 Clean Air Act and Executive Order 12898 have placed upon the planning process.

**Objectives:**

To provide Quality Assurance assistance regional Brownfields grant recipients

Work cooperatively with LaDOTD and DEQ on the transportation portion of the State Implementation Plan and to establish procedures for monitoring and maintaining ambient air quality standards in the region.

To begin to establish a regional air quality model for the region in order to estimate region wide emissions of Nox and PM10 in order to measure the performance of various air quality improvement measures.

To take appropriate measures to make mandated programmatic changes should the region be designated as non-attainment with the newly revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

To assist various regional entities in the development of water resources, including consumption, waste, and drainage.

**Previous Work:** NLCOG has continued to provide Quality Assurance assistance to Biomedical Research Foundation for their clean-up grants. This work is in effort to implant the Intertech Science Park master plan developed through a TCSP grant administered through NLCOG.

Shreveport-Bossier City Metropolitan Statistical Area Early Action Compact DRAFT Air Quality Improvement Plan March 31, 2004


Application to the Clean Cities Program by the US Department of Energy

Authorization of $2 million from the Water Resources Development Act for Regional Water/Waste Water planning efforts.

**Methodologies:**

To provide Quality Assurance assistance to regional Brownfields grant recipients and to continue to maintain EPA QA/QC certification and training of NLCOG planning staff.

To develop analytical tools for the evaluation of various transportation measures and alternatives that may reduce Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)
A coordination mechanism will be utilized for discussing regional air quality issues, policy options, maintenance of air quality standard, and strategies related to various transportation demand measures.

To review the early action compact set in place in 2004 for modification based on new standards.

To provide training on current air quality transportation planning models for use in developing a regional solution to potential non-attainment status.

To continue to provide technical assistance to state, local, and regional agencies on the development of a comprehensive water management plan for Northwest Louisiana.

**Products:** Quarterly Quality Assurance Reports of regional recipients of EPA Brownfields grants.

Continued involvement, support and technical assistance pertaining to the region’s development of EPA’s “Ozone Advance Program”.

Coordination with state, local, and regional agencies for the development of a Northwest Louisiana Air Quality Improvement Program to reduce mobile source emissions.

Continued training on the use of MOVES (MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator) emission modeling system to analyze the air quality impacts of transportation projects contained in the region’s Transportation Improvement Program and Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Continued data assistance for regional water and waste water planning efforts.

**Milestones:** 1st – 4th Quarter

Continued involvement, support and technical assistance for the Northwest Louisiana “Ozone Advance Program

Quality Assurance for EPA Brownfields grants

TranPlan and MOVES model training

Revision of planning variables for TranPlan Model

Technical assistance to regional water planning efforts.
Task E Public Involvement and Outreach

Seeking meaningful public involvement is important for sharing the concerns of the community. NLCOG is committed to actively involving the public in identifying and addressing quality of life issues. NLCOG will strive to proactively inform and involve the public and improve public involvement through creative and interactive approaches. In order to continue to fulfill its federal mandates, NLCOG has developed several specific and functional goals and objectives for the Public Involvement Policy.

Goal: The purpose and goal of this task is to develop an effective, aggressive Public Involvement / Community Outreach program to promote the involvement of citizen’s groups, business organizations, minority groups, and the public at-large in the transportation policy and planning process.

Objectives: To work to expand public involvement and community outreach efforts to a broader section of the region’s population ensuring that all citizens have opportunity for input, comment, and information.

To employ a breadth of communication tools to educate citizens as well as local government and elected officials about the agency’s function, projects and programs.

To solicit and encourage public participation in identifying and addressing quality of life issues including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Programs, as well as the projects and programs of the UPWP.

To proactively inform and involve the public, and increase public involvement through creative and interactive approaches.

Previous Work: Development of a Public Involvement Plan and Process for use in NLCOG activities.

Development of a Title VI Plan that addresses ADA requirements of a sub recipient, and procedures to consider and encourage DBE participation in federally-funded contracts

Development of Planning 101 brochure and PowerPoint presentation for use at various public outreach meetings

NLCOG Newsletters and NLCOG.ORG website

Establishment of various citizen committees for the development of projects and programs outlined in the UPWP.

Methodologies: Three basic task areas have been established to implement and further develop public outreach and inclusion in the planning process:

Public Involvement and Citizen Participation
NLCOG will re-examine our Public Involvement and Public Inclusion process taking great care to include the public in the development of new processes and procedures.

NLCOG will continue to maintain and expand its database of stakeholders, including neighborhood groups, environmental organizations, the business community, non-profit organizations, etc.

NLCOG will continue to foster the citizen committees established for projects and programs of the UPWP and work to develop additional committees as needed.

**Environmental Justice & Title VI Review**

In adherence with Certification Review NLCOG will continue to review Title VI programs and revise the Title VI Plan, plans and procedures as needed.

**Education and Outreach**

NLCOG will publish transportation related publications on its website, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, the Unified Planning Work Program, Comprehensive Plans, and other commissioned reports.

Participation at public meetings, forums, summits and other events. RPC will engage with environmental organizations, the business community, governmental agencies and citizen groups to educate the public about projects and programs.

NLCOG will do a major update to our web site to make it more user friendly and up to date. Update will include develop a series of web pages to provide community agencies and residents of with information about the transportation planning process, smart growth, the basics of GIS, environmental planning and Brownfields. Additional pages will include interactive mapping, project specific pages such as I-49, I-69, LA 3132.

**Products:**

Updated Title VI Policy  
Copies of PowerPoint and printed materials for Education 101 series  
Press Releases as needed for implementation of projects and programs of the UPWP  
Maps and data as requested through the ReGIS program  
Major update to [www.NLCOG.org](http://www.NLCOG.org) website.  
Facebook page with various announcements and notices

**Milestones:**

1st – 4th Qtrs:  
Publication and distribution of newsletter both in print and through electronic media  
Updated Title VI report for DOTD/FHWA/FTA  
Expanded data access through web site  
Distribution of annual report and financial audit.
**Task F-1 Administrative Programs**

NLCOG and its member agencies have entered into agreements for the development and administration of the budget, program of work, and contracts to fulfill the UPWP and MPO roles and responsibilities.

**Goal:** Provide for inter-agency cooperation and coordination of the planning process; provide for the overall management of NLCOG and development of the staff in carrying out the work program. Included in this effort will be the coordination of the various technical, steering and citizen committees, policy and executive committee activities, and coordination with DOTD, FHWA, FTA, EPA, and other governmental agencies.

**Objectives:**

To provide for implementation of the UPWP

To provide for review and implantation of the Transportation Improvement Program

To provide for accounting and grant implementation

**Previous Work:**

- Fiscal Year 2013 UPWP implementation
- Fiscal Year 2013 Financial Audit
- Fiscal Year 2014 UPWP implementation
- Fiscal Year 2008 – 2011 TIP
- Amendments to Fiscal Year 2008 – 2011 TIP
- Contracts with DOTD for implementation of FY 2013 PL funds
- Contracts with DOTD for implementation of FY 2014 PL funds

**Methodologies:** Three basic task areas have been established to implement administrative functions of NLCOG

**UPWP Administration**

This task includes development of annual report reviewing of previous year work program, (FY 2014), implementation of Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program and development of Fiscal Year 2016 Work Program

**TIP Administration**

This task includes the continual refinement and update to the Financial Plan of projects for the region and to continue to coordinate and advance implementation of the region’s TIP. This includes the development of annual elements for the Transportation Improvement Program, project development for inclusion in future year TIP, monitoring projects within Northwest Louisiana and to provide for inter-agency cooperation and coordination for project development

**Accounting and Grant Administration**
This task provides for the Administration of the budget and grants of the Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program, the financial audit of Fiscal Year 2014 Work Program and Budget and the development of Grant Applications as needed for work program implementation. Also included in this task are the preparation and dissemination of monthly, quarterly, and annual progress reports.

**General Organizational Administration**

This task will provide for working with our legal counsel on the update of general by-laws and policies and procedures of the NLCOG. The goal is to develop an updated organization structure compliant with current federal, state, and local directives.

**Products:**
- Fiscal Year 2015 UPWP
- Draft Fiscal Year 2016 UPWP
- Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Audit
- Contracts and Agreements for Implementation of FY 2015 UPWP
- TIP Amendments and Updates
- Updated By-Laws and Organizational Structure

**MileStones:**
- 1st Quarter – Implementation of Fiscal Year 2015 UPWP
  - Monthly and Quarterly reports to accompany invoicing
  - Agreement for Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Audit
  - Agreements and contracts as need for implementation of FY 2015 UPWP
  - Refinement and updates Fiscal Year 2012 – 2016 TIP
  - Adoption of new organizational structure and agreements.

- 2nd Quarter – Continued Implementation of Fiscal Year 2015 UPWP
  - Monthly and Quarterly reports to accompany invoicing
  - Completion of Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Audit
  - Continued refinement and updates Fiscal Year 2012 – 2016 TIP
  - Certification Review from FHWA - FTA

- 3rd Quarter – Continued Implementation of Fiscal Year 2015 UPWP
  - Monthly and Quarterly reports to accompany invoicing
  - Development of Draft Fiscal Year 2016 UPWP
  - TIP Amendments as need

- 4th Quarter – Continued Implementation of Fiscal Year 2015 UPWP
  - Monthly and Quarterly reports to accompany invoicing
  - Submission of Draft Fiscal Year 2016 UPWP
  - TIP Amendments as need
**Budget of Income and Expenses**

The Fiscal Year 2015 Budget for the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments is the financial guide for the operations of the NLCOG during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014. The 2015 budget supports the work activities outlined in the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Below is a synopsis of this budget, full details can be found under separate document *Fiscal Year 2015 Budget; July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015*.

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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$17,000.00</td>
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<td>Telephone/DSL/Cell</td>
<td>$11,500.00</td>
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<td><strong>Sub total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$307,400.00</strong></td>
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### GRAND TOTAL

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<td><strong>Sub total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,009,476.37</strong></td>
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</table>
### Overhead Details

#### Computer Hardware
- File Server Upgrade/Replacement: $5,000.00
- Misc. (hard drives, memory, etc): $3,000.00

**TOTAL**: $8,000.00

#### Computer Software
- ESRI ArcGIS Maintenance: $40,000.00
- ORACLE: $6,000.00
- Anti-Virus: $800.00
- QuickBooks: $1,200.00
- Microsoft: $3,500.00
- Misc.: $1,200.00

**TOTAL**: $52,700.00

#### Office Systems
- Ricoh Copier/Printer: $3,000.00
- Dell Lease Purchase: $15,000.00

**TOTAL**: $18,000.00

#### Professional Services
- HMV (Auditing): $30,000.00
- Legal: $50,000.00
- Misc Planning / Engineering Assistance: $15,000.00

**TOTAL**: $95,000.00
Public Notice

CADDO BOSSIER METROPOLITAN AREA
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FISCAL YEARS 2015

The Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is submitting for Public Review and Comment the UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) for the CADDO BOSSIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA, FISCAL YEAR 2015. In order to meet the requirements of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) this document is now available for review and comment. Interested citizens may view the document at the following locations:

Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments
625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101
http://www.nlcog.org

For further locations, contact NLCOG at 318-841-5950. Any questions, comments or suggestions concerning the UPWP should be directed to the office of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, 625 Texas Street, Suite 200, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, Attention J. Kent Rogers or by e-mail at nlcog@nlcog.org

-End-
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE
NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

At a meeting of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) held on 05/29/2014 pursuant to due notice, a quorum being present, the following resolution was duly adopted:

WHEREAS, The NLCOG has determined that the requirements of the Urban Transportation Planning process are being carried out utilizing the “3-C Planning Process” (continuous, comprehensive and coordinated); and

WHEREAS, The NLCOG has determined that the UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM for the CADDO BOSSIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA, FISCAL YEAR 2014 was developed in accordance with the requirements of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments does hereby approve and adopt the UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM for the CADDO BOSSIER METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA, FISCAL YEAR 2014 and directs the staff of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments to submit said program to the appropriate federal state and local agencies and to comply with any minor revisions necessary to facilitate submission and adoption requirements including all resolutions, certifications and assurances.

CERTIFICATION

I, J. Kent Rogers, Secretary to the Council of Governments, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a regular meeting of said Committee on 05/29/2014.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary
Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

At a meeting of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) held on 05/29/2014 pursuant to due notice, a quorum being present, the following resolution was duly adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that J. Kent Rogers, Executive Director of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, be authorized to execute a contract between NLCOG and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for Metropolitan Planning (FHWA) in the amount of $539,506.00 of which 80% or $431,605 is federal funds and 20% or $107,901 is local match support for Fiscal Year 2015.

CERTIFICATION

I, J. Kent Rogers, Secretary to the Council of Governments, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a regular meeting of said Committee on 05/29/2014.

J. Kent Rogers
Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

At a meeting of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) held on 05/29/2014 pursuant to due notice, a quorum being present, the following resolution was duly adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that J. Kent Rogers, Executive Director of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, be authorized to execute a contract between NLCOG and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for Metropolitan Planning (FTA) in the amount of $96,351.00 in total federal funds for Fiscal Year 2015 $86,351.00 which requires a 20% local match and $10,000.00 at 100% federal funding.

CERTIFICATION

I, J. Kent Rogers, Secretary to the Council of Governments, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a regular meeting of said Committee on 05/29/2014.
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

At a meeting of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) held on 05/29/2014 pursuant to due notice, a quorum being present, the following resolution was duly adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that J. Kent Rogers, Executive Director of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments be authorized to execute all contracts and agreements pursuant to completion of those programs and projects for completion of the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget as adopted.

CERTIFICATION

I, J. Kent Rogers, Secretary to the Council of Governments, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a regular meeting of said Committee on 05/29/2014.
AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT

Name of Applicant: Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments

Name and Relationship of Authorized Representative: J. Kent Rogers, Executive Director

BY SIGNING BELOW, on behalf of the Applicant, I declare that the Applicant has duly authorized me to make these certifications and assurances and bind the Applicant’s compliance. Thus, the Applicant agrees to comply with all Federal statutes and regulations, and follow applicable Federal directives, and comply with the certifications and assurances as indicated on the foregoing page applicable to each application it makes to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in Federal Fiscal Year 2015.

FTA intends that the certifications and assurances the Applicant selects on the other side of this document, as representative of the certifications and assurances in this document, should apply, as provided, to each project for which the Applicant seeks now, or may later, seek FTA assistance during Federal Fiscal Year 2014.

The Applicant affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of the certifications and assurances it has made in the statements submitted herein with this document and any other submission made to FTA, and acknowledges that the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, 31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq., and implementing U.S. DOT regulations, “Program Fraud Civil Remedies,” 49 CFR part 31 apply to any certification, assurance or submission made to FTA. The criminal provisions of 18 U.S.C. 1001 apply to any certification, assurance, or submission made in connection with a Federal public transportation program authorized in 49 U.S.C. chapter 53 or any other statute.

In signing this document, I declare under penalties of perjury that the foregoing certifications and assurances, and any other statements made by me on behalf of the Applicant are true and correct.

Signature ___________________________ Date: 05/29/2014

Name __________ J. Kent Rogers

Authorized Representative of Applicant

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT’S ATTORNEY

For (Name of Applicant): Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments

As the undersigned Attorney for the above named Applicant, I hereby affirm to the Applicant that it has authority under State, local, or tribal government law, as applicable, to make and comply with the certifications and assurances as indicated on the foregoing pages. I further affirm that, in my opinion, the certifications and assurances have been legally made and constitute legal and binding obligations on the Applicant.

I further affirm to the Applicant that, to the best of my knowledge, there is no legislation or litigation pending or imminent that might adversely affect the validity of these certifications and assurances, or of the performance of the project.

Signature ________________ Date: 05/29/2014

Name __________ Jerald N. Jones

Attorney for Applicant

Each Applicant for FTA financial assistance and each FTA Grantee with an active capital or formula project must provide an Affirmation of Applicant’s Attorney pertaining to the Applicant’s legal capacity. The Applicant may enter its signature in lieu of the Attorney’s signature, provided the Applicant has on file this Affirmation, signed by the attorney and dated this Federal fiscal year.
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2015 CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
(Signature page alternative to providing Certifications and Assurances in TEAM-Web)

Name of Applicant: __Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments__________________

The Applicant agrees to comply with applicable provisions of Categories 01 – 24. _X_
OR

The Applicant agrees to comply with applicable provisions of the Categories it has selected:

01. Assurances Required For Each Applicant. ________
02. Lobbying. ________
03. Procurement Compliance. ________
04. Protections for Private Providers of Public Transportation. ________
05. Public Hearing. ________
06. Acquisition of Rolling Stock for Use in Revenue Service. ________
07. Acquisition of Capital Assets by Lease. ________
08. Bus Testing. ________
09. Charter Service Agreement. ________
10. School Transportation Agreement. ________
11. Demand Responsive Service. ________
12. Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug Use. ________
13. Interest and Other Financing Costs. ________
14. Intelligent Transportation Systems. ________
15. Urbanized Area Formula Program. ________
16. Clean Fuels Grant Program. ________
17. Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Formula Program and Pilot Program. ________
18. Nonurbanized Area Formula Program for States. ________
19. Job Access and Reverse Commute Program. ________
20. New Freedom Program. ________
21. Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program. ________
22. Tribal Transit Program. ________
23. Infrastructure Finance Projects. ________
24. Deposits of Federal Financial Assistance to a State Infrastructure Banks. ________