



## **CAMPO Fact Sheet**

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are authorized under federal law for the purpose of setting policy and carrying out planning for an integrated transportation system. MPOs are established in Urbanized Areas with more than 50,000 people. The Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) serves Columbus and Bartholomew County. CAMPO is staffed by the City of Columbus-Bartholomew County Planning Department. Activities are coordinated by the CAMPO Director under the supervision of the Planning Director, with support from other planning department staff.

### **History**

The City of Columbus and surrounding area was identified as an Urbanized Area based on the 2000 Census. Such areas are required to have an MPO in order to receive federal funding for transportation projects. CAMPO was officially established by the Governor of Indiana in 2004.

### **Funding**

Federal transportation funds are dispensed in Indiana to INDOT, the MPOs, and local governments. Before its MPO was formed, the Columbus area received funds as a local government through a competitive process. As an MPO, it receives dedicated funds each year for construction projects. CAMPO also receives transportation planning funds, which may be used for staff, office space rental, equipment and supplies, training, consultants, and other expenses related to transportation planning. For most federally-funded planning and construction projects, a local match of 20% is required.

### **Boards and Committees**

The Policy Board is the decision-making body for CAMPO. Members include local elected and appointed officials as follows: the Mayor of Columbus, representatives of the Bartholomew County Commissioners, Bartholomew County Council, City Council, and city and county Plan Commissions. Other members include a representative of the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), and non-voting members from the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Committees associated with CAMPO include the Technical Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Policy Board, and the Citizens Advisory Committee. The Policy Board and the Technical Advisory Committee meet quarterly, or more often if needed.

### **MPOs have the following responsibilities:**

- Ensuring a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process between the MPO and INDOT.
- Preparing a financially reasonable 20 year Long-Range Transportation Plan, updated every 5 years.
- Developing a 4-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which includes a prioritized list of projects and a financial plan.
- Developing an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) or Statement of Work (SOW).
- Publishing an Annual List of Obligated Projects (ALOP), which includes projects with federal funds obligated in the preceding program year.
- Conducting technical studies such as travel surveys and travel demand modeling.
- Providing opportunities for public participation.

For more information, see: [www.columbus.in.gov/planning/campo](http://www.columbus.in.gov/planning/campo), or call the Planning Department at 812-376-2550.