

## Section 7 – Public Participation

### *2009-2035 Ashland Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*

The Metropolitan Transportation Planning regulations under [CFR 450.316, Paragraph (b)] state that the metropolitan transportation planning process shall include a proactive public involvement process that provides complete information, timely public notices, full public access to key decisions, and support early and continuing involvement of the public in developing Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs).

Meaning, the goal of public participation is to improve the quality of transportation policy and decision-making through citizen involvement. Therefore, the citizens must be offered the opportunity to be involved in the early stages of the development of new transportation projects and/or documents. As an on-going process, the transportation planning body of the FIVCO Area Development District staff and the regional planning structure supports activities by the Ashland Area MPO to improve public participation through regular contacts with citizens, city and county officials, and elected officials.

General guidelines for this process are published in the Ashland Area MPO/FIVCO ADD Public Participation Plan adopted by the MPO Policy Committee in April 2007, which can be reviewed on the FIVCO ADD website at [www.fivco.org](http://www.fivco.org).

#### **2009-2035 Ashland Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Public Participation**

Public review of the Draft/Preliminary Project List for the Ashland Area MPO 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan was held from February 25, 2009 to March 26, 2009.

Public Comment: Final Draft MTPs were distributed to Boyd and Greenup County Fiscal Court Offices, Boyd County Public Library – Main Branch, Greenup County Library – Flatwoods and Greenup Branch, FIVCO ADD Office, and the City of Ashland Public Works Department. Notices were published in *The Daily Independent*. Additionally, the MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the Policy Committee (PC) meeting/deliberations were open to the public.

Committee Approval: The MPO Technical Coordinating Committee and the Policy Committee met on March 19, 2009 to review the Final Draft 2009-2035 Ashland Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan. After discussion, the committees recommended only minor administrative corrections. The PC approved the Final Draft MTP (based on the recommendation of the TCC) pending no significant comments from the public during the remainder of the 30-day public comment period.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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In accordance with the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETY-LU), notice is hereby given for an opportunity to present comments on the 2009-2013 Ashland Area Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the 2009-2013 Ashland Area Transportation Improvement Program. The LRTP is a plan 20 plus year planning document of all highway, rail, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects in the Ashland Area. The TIP is a subset of the LRTP and addresses short-term or projects within a 5 year period. The LRTP and TIP identifies estimated costs for proposed projects as well as the funding sources to finance the projects. These projects represent the desires of the Ashland Area for developing highway, airport, riverport, and transit projects. In order to be eligible for federal funding, projects shall be included in the LRTP and TIP and approved by the Ashland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and the Federal Highway Administration.

A public meeting which will be held in an open house format will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at the FIVCO Area Development District Office, 32 FIVCO Court, Grayson, Kentucky (located off Technology Drive in the EastPark Industrial Park) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to review the documents. Copies will be available by request prior to the meeting.

Additionally, the LRTP and TIP will be available for review and comment from Wednesday, February 25, 2009 to Thursday, March 26, 2009 at the following locations: Boyd and Greenup County Fiscal Court Offices, Greenup County Public Library – Main and Flatwoods Branch, Boyd County Public Library – Main Branch, City of Ashland Department of Public Works and the FIVCO Area Development District. Information will also be available at the FIVCO ADD website, [www.fivco.org](http://www.fivco.org).

Comments may be submitted to:  
FIVCO Area Development District  
Attn: MPO LRTP/TIP Comments  
32 FIVCO Court  
Grayson, KY 41143  
Phone: 606-929-1366  
E-mail: [terri@fivco.org](mailto:terri@fivco.org)

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