

1 CHAPTER \_\_.

2 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

3 **Drafting note: Sections dealing with metropolitan planning organizations are**  
4 **relocated from existing Article 15 (Miscellaneous Provisions) of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 to**  
5 **this new Chapter \_\_ in Subtitle IV.**

6 § ~~33.1-223.2:23~~ 33.2-XXX. Metropolitan ~~planning organizations~~ Planning  
7 Organizations; membership.

8 Any metropolitan planning organization may vote, upon the prior written authorization  
9 of the Governor, to have its membership expanded to include members of the House of  
10 Delegates, as selected by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and members of the Senate, as  
11 selected by the Senate Committee on Rules.

12 **Drafting note: Technical changes.**

13 § ~~33.1-223.2:25~~ 33.2-XXX. Transportation planning duties and responsibilities of  
14 Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

15 The Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) of ~~Virginia the Commonwealth~~ shall  
16 be responsible for the development of regional long-range transportation plans for the regions  
17 they represent in accordance with federal regulation. Each such long-range plan shall include a  
18 fiscally constrained list of all multimodal transportation projects, including those managed at the  
19 statewide level either by the ~~Virginia~~ Department of Transportation or the ~~Virginia~~ Department  
20 of Rail and Public Transportation. The purpose of the regional long-range transportation plan is  
21 to comply with federal regulations and provide the MPOs and the region a source of candidate  
22 projects for ~~the MPOs'~~ use by the MPOs in developing regional Transportation Improvement  
23 Programs (TIPs) and serving as an input to assist the Commonwealth with the development of  
24 ~~the statewide Long-Range Plan~~ Virginia's Statewide Multimodal Long-Range Transportation  
25 Plan (VTrans).

26 The MPOs shall ~~develop~~:

27 1. Develop amendments for their regional TIPs in accordance with federal regulations;

28 ~~The MPOs shall be required to coordinate~~ 2. Coordinate planning and programming  
29 actions with those of the Commonwealth and duly established public transit agencies in  
30 accordance with federal regulations;

31 ~~The MPOs shall examine~~ 3. Examine the structure and cost of transit operations within  
32 the regions they represent and incorporate the results of these inquiries ~~in~~ into their plans and  
33 ~~shall~~ endorse long-range plans for assuring maximum utilization and integration of mass  
34 transportation facilities throughout the Commonwealth; and

35 ~~The MPOs shall conduct~~ 4. Conduct a public involvement process focused on projects  
36 and topics that will best enable them to develop and approve ~~Long Range Transportation Plans~~  
37 ~~(L RTPs)~~ long-range transportation plans that shall be submitted for approval by their board and  
38 forwarded to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and updated as required by federal  
39 regulations.

40 **Drafting note: Technical changes.**

41 § ~~33.1-23.03:01~~ 33.2-XXX. Distribution of certain federal funds.

42 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) as defined under 23 U.S.C. § 134 and  
43 ~~Section §~~ 8 of the Federal Transit Act shall be authorized to issue contracts for studies and to  
44 develop and approve transportation plans and improvement programs to the full extent  
45 permitted by federal law.

46 The Commonwealth Transportation Board ~~(CTB)~~, ~~Virginia~~ the Department of  
47 Transportation, and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation ~~are directed to~~ shall  
48 develop and implement a decision-making process that provides MPOs and regional  
49 transportation planning bodies a meaningful opportunity for input into transportation decisions  
50 that impact the transportation system within their boundaries. Such a process shall provide the  
51 MPOs and regional transportation planning bodies with the ~~CTB Board's~~ priorities for  
52 development of the Six-Year Improvement Program developed pursuant to § 33.2-XXX and an  
53 opportunity for them to identify their regional priorities for consideration.

54 **Drafting note: Technical changes.**