

FHWA/FTA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

MPO Coordination and Planning Area Reform

Summary of Proposed Changes

<u>Proposed change</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Key regulatory sections</u>
Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundaries	The metropolitan planning area shall include—at a minimum—the entire urbanized area plus any contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period for the transportation plan	450.104 (Definitions). 450.312 (Metropolitan planning area boundaries).
Determination that more than one MPO in an MPA is appropriate	If after the publication of this rule or the release of the Decennial Census, there is more than one MPO designated within a single MPA, the Governor and MPO must determine whether the size and complexity of the MPA make designation of more than one MPO appropriate. If they determine it is not appropriate, those MPOs would be required to merge	450.310 (MPO designation and redesignation).
Coordination for multiple MPOs within an MPA	Where multiple MPOs are designated within a metropolitan planning area, they shall jointly develop the metropolitan transportation plan, TIP, and performance targets for the MPA. Additionally, the MPOs shall establish procedures for joint decisionmaking as well as a process for resolving disagreements	450.104 (Definitions). 450.306 (Scope of the metropolitan transportation planning process). 450.324 (Development and content of the metropolitan transportation plan). 450.326 (Development and content of the TIP).
Coordination of planning process activities between State and MPO	States and MPOs shall maintain a current planning agreement, including a process for resolving disagreements. States and MPOs shall coordinate on information, studies, or analyses within the MPA	450.208 (Coordination of planning process activities).

Source: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/06/27/2016-14854/metropolitan-planning-organization-coordination-and-planning-area-reform>