



NASHVILLE AREA

Metropolitan Planning Organization



Shared Goals for Improving Regional Coordination in Middle Tennessee

1. Simplify and **streamline the current process of collaboration** among area jurisdictions in order to use the time and resources of local leaders more constructively.
2. Provide a clear and easy **single point of access to data, research, and planning activities for private sector organizations** interested in regional economic development or quality growth initiatives.
3. Better **align existing regional plans and programs with state and local community concerns** related to growth and development, workforce and jobs, aging and congested infrastructure, and changing demographics.
4. **Bridge the growing divide between rural and urban communities** by responding to the unique nature of their respective challenges, and expanding opportunities for communities of all sizes to benefit from regional plans and investments.
5. Strengthen the regional planning portfolio to **better link transportation planning and decision-making with other activities** related to economic development, land use and design, solid waste management, open space preservation, workforce housing, environmental quality, public health, and other key issues.
6. **Grow the menu of services available to local government members** to enhance the value of participation in regional organizations.
7. **Better position regional priorities** to the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government to affect policy and funding decisions.
8. **Optimize the use of local funds** collected through membership dues and encourage increased funding from the state and federal partners to sustain the required programs.
9. **Ensure equity in the governance structure and decision-making** of regional agencies so that citizens and stakeholders are appropriately represented in the decision-making process.
10. Better **promote the advantages, opportunities, and successes associated with regional cooperation** through strengthened brand identity and unified messaging.

Source: Memorandum of Agreement between the Nashville Area MPO and the Greater Nashville Regional Council, adopted August 17, 20016.
