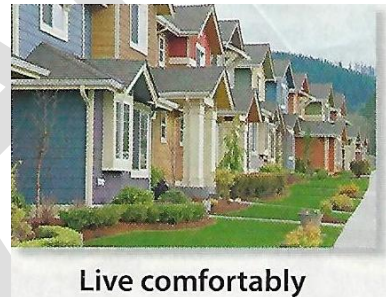
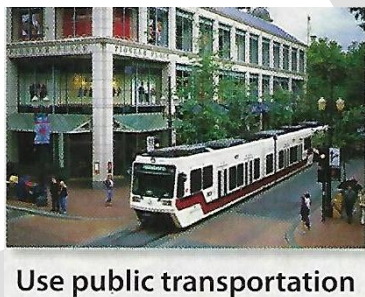


# FY 2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM PINE BLUFF AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

**COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION ALLOWS FOR PEOPLE TO.....**



# UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

## FISCAL YEAR 2026

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by:

***Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission***

In cooperation with:

***Cities of Pine Bluff and White Hall***

***Jefferson County***

***Pine Bluff Transit (PBT) and Southeast Arkansas Transit (SEAT)***

***Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT)***

***Federal Highway Administration***

***Federal Transit Administration***

The preparation and publication of this document was funded in part through grants provided by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration. The provision of Federal financial assistance should not be construed as denoting U.S. Department of Transportation approval of plans, policies, programs, or projects contained herein.

### **NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION:**

The Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (SEARPC) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, SEARPC does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion, or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in SEARPC's programs and activities, as well as SEARPC's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the SEARPC's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Larry Reynolds, Director/Study Director, 1300 Ohio, Suite B, Pine Bluff, AR 71601 (870) 534-4247 or the following email address: [sarpc1@cablelynx.com](mailto:sarpc1@cablelynx.com). This notice will be made available from the SEARPC office in large print, on audiotape and in braille upon request.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
MEMBERSHIP	2
MPO STUDY AREA	3
MPO FUNCTION AND PLANNING PROCESS	5
FY2025 UPWP ACCOMPLISHMENTS / FY2026 GOALS	8
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM	9
Task 1. 44.21 Program Support and Administration	10
Task 2. 44.22 General Development and Comprehensive Planning	12
Task 3. 44.23 Long Range Transportation Planning	13
Task 4. 44.24 Short Range Transportation Planning	14
Task 5. 44.25 Transportation Improvement Program	16
FY2026 UPWP FINANCIAL SUMMARY	18
PUBLIC NOTICE OF DRAFT REVIEW AND COMMENTS	21
RESOLUTION	23

## INTRODUCTION

---

### **What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?**

A Metropolitan Planning Organization or MPO is a transportation policy-making agency comprised of representatives from local governments and transportation agencies. The Census Bureau in 2022 changed the guideline for determining a Metropolitan Planning Area changing from a strict population count to a population density definition. The Federal Surface Transportation Act of 1973 required any urban area with a population over 50,000 people to have a designated MPO. Although the Pine Bluff – White Hall urban area does not meet the new definition, coordination with the Governor and local governments has extended the Pine Bluff – White Hall MPO existence.

The Pine Bluff-White Hall urbanized area, which includes portions of unincorporated Jefferson County, is designated as the Pine Bluff Area Transportation Study (PBATS). The Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (SEARPC) has been designated the MPO for PBATS. The MPO is comprised of two committees; 1) the Policy Committee which serves as the governing body and provides policy guidance and; 2) the Technical Committee which provides technical support and guidance in the transportation planning process.

Policy guidance and overall direction for the integrated, multi-modal, urban transportation planning process is provided by the PBATS Policy Committee. The Policy Committee includes the mayor and one Alderman from the Cities of Pine Bluff and White Hall, the County Judge and one Quorum Court member, the ArDOT District 2 Engineer and ArDOT MPO Coordinator, an ex-officio representative from both the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (SEARPC) and a representative from the Alliance of Jefferson County. Table 1 identifies current members. The Policy Committee reviews and approves both the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and is responsible for approving the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Study Area.

The PBATS Technical Committee assists the Policy Committee by reviewing and making recommendations on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, reports, and studies that the Policy Committee must approve. The TAC members are those technical and professional staff members of local governments and ArDOT who are responsible for planning and managing various transportation systems within the Study Area and a non-voting ex-officio representative from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). See below for current members.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization ensures that existing and future transportation projects and programs are based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process (3-C).

**TABLE 1**  
**PBATS MEMBERSHIP**

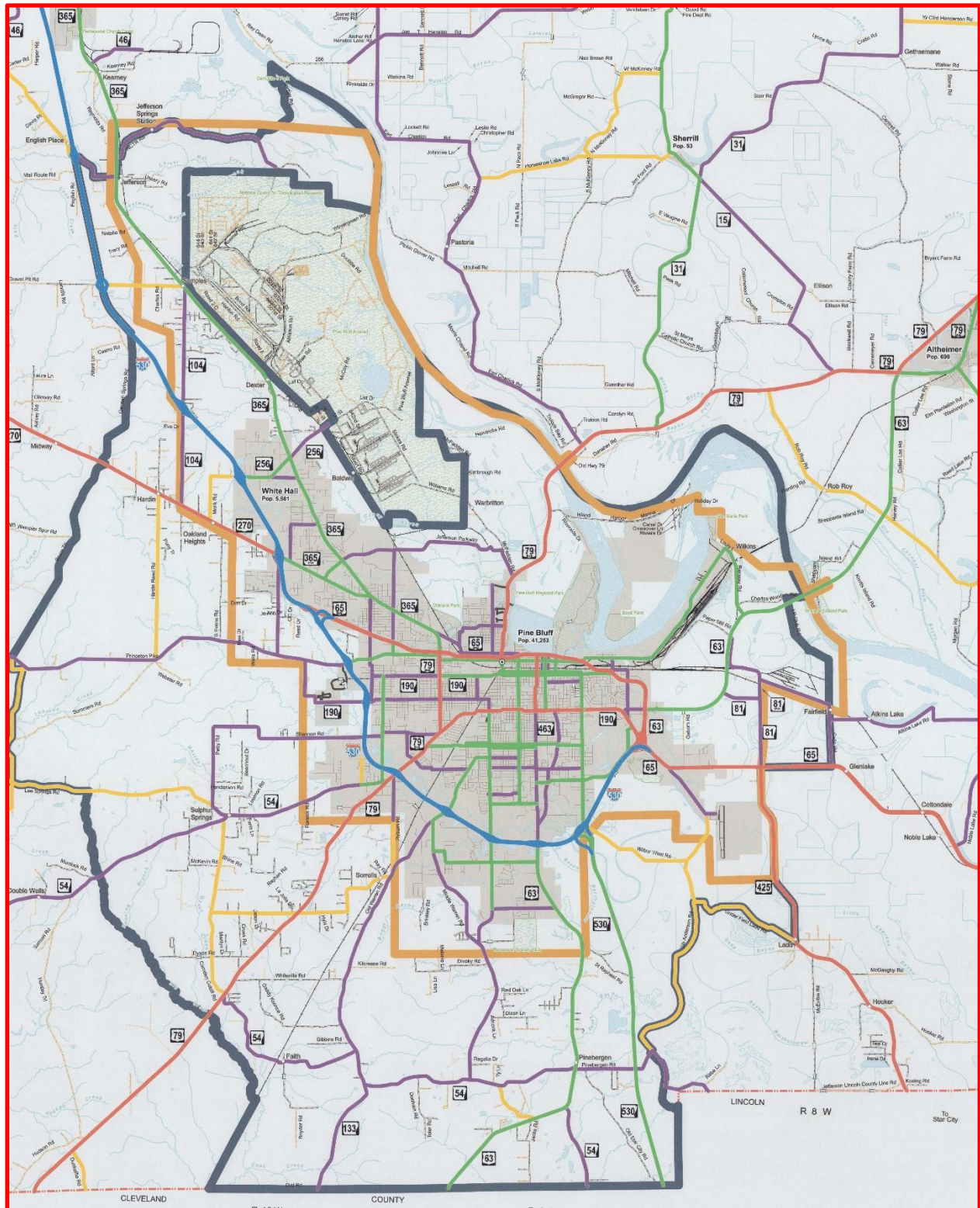
<b>POLICY COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>REPRESENTATIVES</b>	<b>NAME AND TITLE</b>
Jefferson County	Gerald Robinson, County Judge <b>Vacant</b> , Quorum Court Member
Pine Bluff	Vivian L. Flowers, Mayor Bruce Lockett, Alderman
White Hall	Noel Foster, Mayor Scott Ray, Alderman, Vice-Chair
Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Comm.	Ken Smith, PBATS Chairman
ArDOT	Andrew Hoggard, District 2 Engineer Sunny Farmahan, MPO Coordinator
Economic Development Alliance of Jefferson County	Allison J.H. Thompson, President

<b>TECHNICAL COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>REPRESENTATIVES</b>	<b>NAME AND TITLE</b>
Jefferson County	Rickey Bullard, County Road Department County Road Director
Pine Bluff	Tiger Dockett, PB Street Manager Cassandra Shaw, Transit Director <b>Vacant</b> , Traffic Division, PBPD
White Hall	Noel Foster, Mayor
ArDOT	Bryan Swinney, Construction Engineer Anthony Hunter, ArDOT Planning
Pine Bluff Airport Commission	Doug Hale, Airport Manager
Alliance of – Jefferson County	Nancy McNew, Alliance
Area Agency on Aging (SEAT)	Ashley Kimbrell, Adm. Manager
Federal Highway Administration (Non-voting)	<b>Truett Smith</b> , Transportation Planning Coordinator
S.E. Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (Non-voting)	Larry Reynolds, Executive Director



# MPO STUDY AREA



**THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK**

## **MPO Function**

**Metropolitan Planning Organizations have five essential functions and are responsible for the development and maintenance of three (3) key documents.**

**The essential functions are:**

1. Establish and manage a fair and impartial setting for effective regional transportation decision making in the metropolitan area.
2. Identify and evaluate transportation improvement options.
3. Prepare and maintain the Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the area that addresses mobility and access for people and freight; as well as maintaining efficient system performance, preservation, and quality of life.
4. Develop a Transportation Improvement Plan that serves as a short-range plan to meet the area's goals.
5. Involve the public in the transportation planning process.

### **Primary Documents Produced by the MPO**

- a. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP serves as the activity and budget document for the MPO staff and identifies transportation actions to be performed on an annual basis.
- b. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The MTP is the long-range strategic transportation planning document that identifies future investments to be made in the area's transportation system. This plan is updated every five years.
- c. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is a four-year funding program that implements the transportation projects and policies identified in the MTP. It must be updated at least once every four years but may be updated more frequently. In Arkansas, the TIP is updated annually.
- d. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is an informational document that provides guidance and techniques the MPO will use to inform citizens in the transportation planning process.

### **Planning Process**

As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Pine Bluff-White Hall urban area, the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission is responsible under Section 134 of Title 23, United States Code for carrying out a cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous (3-C) process designed to promote involvement by all users of the transportation system, such as the business community, community groups, environmental organizations, freight operators, and the general public, through a proactive public participation process.

SEARPC conducts the planning process for the Pine Bluff Area Transportation Study (PBATS) in cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Cities of Pine Bluff and White Hall, and Jefferson County.



Section 134 of Title 23, U.S.C states:

(a) *Policy – It is in the national interest –*

(1) *To encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of surface transportation systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight and foster economic growth and development within and between states and urbanized areas, while minimizing transportation related fuel consumption and air pollution through metropolitan and statewide planning processes identified in this chapter; and*

(2) *To encourage the continued improvement and evolution of the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning process by metropolitan planning organizations, State departments of transportation, and public transit operators as guided by the planning factors identified in subsection (h) and section 135(d)*

**Planning Factors** – *The metropolitan planning process shall provide for the establishment and use of a performance-based approach to transportation decision making to support the national goals described in 23 U.S.C. 150(b) and the general purposes described in 49 U.S.C. 5301(c).*

- A. Support the economic vitality of the United States, the States and Metropolitan Areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
- B. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- C. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- D. Increase the accessibility and mobility options available to people and for freight;
- E. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
- F. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
- G. Promote efficient system management and operation; and
- H. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- I. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts on surface transportation; and
- J. Enhance travel and tourism.

The Planning Factors, which apply to each Element of the Unified Planning Work Program, are listed in Table 2 below:

**TABLE 2**

FAST ACT PLANNING FACTORS	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
44:21 Program Support and Administration					X			X		
44:22 General Development and Comprehensive Planning	X			X	X	X	X	X		
44:23 Long Range Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44:24 Short Range Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44:25 Transportation Improvement Program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## **NATIONAL GOALS**

It is in the interest of the United States to focus the Federal-aid highway program on the following national goals:

1. Safety- To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.
2. Infrastructure Condition- To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair.
3. Congestion Reduction- To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System.
4. System Reliability- To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system.
5. Freight Movement & Economic Vitality- To improve the National Highway Freight Network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development.
6. Environmental Sustainability- To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.
7. Reduced Project Delivery Delays- To reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy, and expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through eliminating delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices

## **FY2025 UPWP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Prepared 2025-2028 TIP Adoption
- Updates to MPO webpage for public involvement
- Provided technical assistance to local jurisdictions.
- Coordinated with ArDOT on Performance Measures and Targets
- Participated in Bike and Trails discussions.
- MTP Plan Maintenance
- Provided documentation and information for Policy Board meeting.
- Published FY2024 Annual Performance and Expenditures Report (APER)
- Published FY2024 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects (ALOP)
- Drafted FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program
- Reviewed local site development requests.
- Reviewed demolition and building permits.
- Worked with Pine Bluff Transit and SEAT on long range needs and goals.
- 

## **FY2026 Goals**

Goals for the MPO in FY 2026 include:

- Prepare 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- Draft Bike & Pedestrian Plan
- Draft Regional Trails Program
- Coordinate PB Transit transition from 5307 to 5311 funding status
- Actively coordinate Transportation and Land Use planning through local jurisdiction involvement.
- SEARPC will analyze socio-economic data to stay abreast of housing trends, traffic patterns and population shifts to improve transportation decision making.
- Update Public Participation Plan

## **UPWP Purpose**

The UPWP describes the planning activities that the metropolitan transportation planning organization and other agencies propose to undertake during FY 2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026) to address local and regional transportation issues. The Unified Planning Work Program also provides budgeting and proposed expenditures of local, state, and federal funds used to support the various planning activities while providing a management tool for the MPO and the funding agencies in scheduling transportation planning activities, products, and milestones.

Pursuant to these functions, the PBATS FY2026 UPWP is the document identifying all USDOT funded transportation planning activities that will be undertaken within the Pine Bluff-White Hall Metropolitan Area by the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (SEARPC) during the FY 2026 project year. The UPWP has been developed as a cooperative venture between SEARPC (which provides administrative staff for the PBATS MPO), ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall, and Jefferson County.

## **WORK ELEMENTS**

Five work categories or tasks have been developed relative to the planning process that address the factors of the FAST ACT listed previously. These are as follows:

- Task 1: 44.21 Program Support and Administration
- Task 2: 44.22 General Development and Comprehensive Planning
- Task 3: 44.23 Long Range Transportation Planning  
Complete Street Planning
- Task 4: 44.24 Short Range Transportation Planning
- Task 5: 44.25 Transportation Improvement Program.

## 44.21 PROGRAM SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION

---

### **DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this task is to ensure that the transportation planning process conducted in the Study Area is **continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive**, and that has resulted in plans and programs consistent with the comprehensive planned development of the urbanized area. The task consists of the daily administrative and management work elements that are necessary to maintain the transportation planning and public participation process for the Pine Bluff-White Hall Urbanized Area for both the FHWA and FTA portions of the program. This task reflects all those activities associated in ensuring community involvement in the planning process, monitoring of on-going planning activities, and ensuring that all modes of transportation are considered in the planning process in terms of addressing the planning factors as stated in federal transportation legislation.

### **WORK TASK**

#### **44.21.01 – Work Program Development and Administration**

- A. **Financial Management**: Provide administrative, budgeting, bookkeeping, and clerical duties required to perform work tasks and comply with ArDOT, FTA, and FHWA requirements. Progress reports, payment requests, budget monitoring and related documentation will be prepared.
- B. **Administration**: MPO staff will prepare reports and agendas for the SEARPC Technical Committee and Policy Board meetings and respond to committee and/or Policy Board requests and maintain program management and coordination. An on-going review of MPO by-laws and policies will be conducted. Evaluation and upgrading of equipment and SEARPC's website will continue.
- C. **Record Maintenance**: These activities will include all correspondence from ArDOT and local. questions and decisions regarding transportation actions within the MPO area. Committee memberships, agency agreements, financial documentation, and meeting minutes and attendance rosters will be maintained.
- D. **Document Preparation**: Staff will prepare the 2027 UPWP which identifies the transportation planning and programming activities to be undertaken in the SEARPC area.
- E. **Staff Training**: MPO staff will participate in various training related to transportation. requirements including performance measure development and adoption, professional. development, and other Planning related topics.
- F. **Community / Member training**: Staff will look for ways to provide training for member. agencies, citizens, and the media to emphasize the importance of the MPO and community. support through transportation process and to improve understanding of their roles and responsibilities.



**G. Review and Update MOU's:** Staff will review interagency Memorandums of Understanding and updates as needed.

#### **44.21 PROGRAM SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION (cont.)**

##### **44.21.02 – Public Information and Citizen Participation**

**A. Public Participation Plan:** MPO staff will ensure compliance with its current public Involvement procedures and will annually review and update, when needed, the agency's Public Participation Plan.

**B. Planning assistance:** MPO staff will assist SEARPC member organizations in utilizing transportation resources by relaying information regarding transportation programs (TAP, etc.). Staff will assist in updating the Master Street plans for each entity and continue involvement in all local planning issues.

**C. Intergovernmental review:** Review area Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration funding applications.

#### **END PRODUCT**

	<b>END PRODUCTS</b>	<b>Completion Dates</b>
1	Record keeping, correspondence, public involvement	On-going
2	Audit Report	September 2025
3	Financial and Performance Reports.	Quarterly
4	FY2027 UPWP.	May 2025
5	Office/equipment upgrades.	On-going
6	Website Maintenance	On-going
7	Documentation of PPP compliance maintained on file	On-going
8	Compliance Documentation and Training	On-going
9	Community / Member training	On-going
10	Planning Assistance and Program Funding Review	As needed
11	Prepare FY 2025 APERs	November 2025
12	Review and update MOU's	December 2025

Cooperating Agencies: SEARPC, ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, Pine Bluff Transit, SEAT, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall and Jefferson County.

#### **44.21 Funding Data**

**Local           \$ 5,001.00**  
**Federal       \$ 20,001.00**  
**Total         \$ 25,001.00**

**UPWP Percent   15 %**

## 44.22 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

---

### DESCRIPTION

The maintenance of socio-economic data, land use, and transportation system characteristics on a current basis is necessary to compare and evaluate existing conditions in relation to assumptions and forecasts made in developing transportation plans. The determination of the magnitude and location of changing demographics and statistics is essential in updating the overall transportation plan and in the scheduling of priority projects in the Transportation Improvement Program.

The purpose of this task is to collect various data and information that is used in the transportation planning process. The data and information collected is used for the purpose of identifying trends and gaps in connectivity that may result in a lack of transportation related access across various population sectors.

### WORK TASK

#### **44.22.01 – Technical Assistance to Local Governments**

A. **Map Review**: SEARPC staff will assist local jurisdictions in map review and amend the functional classification maps within the study area as needed.

#### **44.22.02 – Geographic Information, Graphics and Mapping**

A. **GIS Development**: SEARPC will work to upgrade PBATS area maps to ArcMap and ArcGIS format.

#### **44.22.03 – Land Use / Socioeconomic Data Development**

A. **Demographics and Projection**: MPO staff will collect and compile demographic data related to population, housing, and employment to provide transportation related projections to assist in prioritizing local projects. Data will be collected from local jurisdictions, ArDOT, the Census bureau, and American Community Survey (ACS).

B. **Land Use / Transportation Coordination**: SEARPC will assist local jurisdictions in coordinating land use decisions with consideration toward transportation alternatives.

### END PRODUCT

	END PRODUCTS	Completion Dates
1	Map Review	On-going
2	Review demographic, traffic and safety related data	On-going
3	Mapping and other data visualization	On-going
4	Demographic and development database	On-going
5	Land use / Transportation Coordination	On-going

Cooperating Agencies: SEARPC, ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, Pine Bluff Transit, SEAT, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall and Jefferson County.

## **44.22 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING (cont.)**

### **44.22 Funding Data**

Local	\$ 3,549.00
Federal	<u>\$ 14,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 17,500.00

UPWP Percent      10 %

## **44.23 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

---

### **DESCRIPTION**

The 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) plan was adopted in September of 2020 and amended in March 2021. The PBATS' 2050 MTP planning process will be completed during this Fiscal Year. To this end, this task will also involve evaluating the work conducted under the other tasks of the UPWP to determine if the Plan meets the immediate needs of the Study Area. A review of local government's policies and practices that have a bearing on the implementation of the Transportation Plan will also be undertaken as part of this task. A minimum of 2 % of PL funds will be appropriated for Complete Street work.

### **WORK TASK**

#### **44.23.01 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

**A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Maintenance:** The development of the 2050 MTP will be the primary focus of this element of the UPWP. SEARPC will utilize an ArDOT consultant for a majority of this work.

**B. Plan Development:** Staff will continue to work with local governments on regional transportation plans and / or updates:

- a. Review with local governmental units the Arkansas Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan
- b. Encourage coordination of local Regional Bike and Pedestrian Plans with the State Plan

**D. Transit Expansion** – Work with Pine Bluff Transit on transition from 5307 funding to 5311 funding.

**E. PEA and Performance Planning** - Provide guidance to local jurisdictions in areas related to Performance Based Planning and Target setting. Through policy Board adoption the MPO will support and adopt ArDOT's performance targets.

**F. Assistance to Local Governments** – Assist local governments with project priorities and funding opportunities as it relates to transportation planning.

#### 44.23 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (cont.)

G. **Complete Streets:** Encourage local governments to develop and get implemented a “Complete Streets” policy for the Cities in the MPO area. A minimum of 10 percent of Federal allocation may be spent on working toward Complete Street policies.

#### **END PRODUCT**

	END PRODUCTS	Completion Dates
1	2045 MTP Monitoring and amending as needed	On-going
2	2050 MTP Development	September 2025
3	Transit 5311 Transition	December 31, 2025
4	Performance Planning	On-going
5	Assistance to local governments	On-going
6.	Complete Streets planning and coordination	On-going

Cooperating Agencies: SEARPC, ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, Pine Bluff Transit, SEAT, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall, and Jefferson County.

#### 44.23 Funding Data

Local	\$ 17,186.00
Federal	\$ 68,743.00
Total	\$ 85,929.00

UPWP Percent     49 %

#### 44.24 SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

---

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The staff will continue to provide technical assistance to local governments in their planning process as it relates to the MPO 3-C transportation planning process. We will assist local governments in preparing and administering “Transportation Alternative” program grants (Enhancement, Trail, Safe Routes to Schools, etc.) and other transportation grants as requested or as may come available. The staff will participate in various community and regional committees related to transportation. Staff will work with local governmental bodies to assist in the understanding of MPO Transportation Planning.

#### **WORK TASK**

##### **44.24.01 – Traffic Monitoring and Analysis of Existing Conditions**

A. **Traffic Counts:** Utilize state and local traffic counts to monitor area of congestion or safety issues.

B. **Project Priority List:** Staff will work with the TAC to maintain a continuous project priority list.

## **44.24 SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (cont.)**

### **44.24.02- Traffic Congestion and Safety Planning**

- A. Crash data analysis and eCrash:** Staff will review and monitor traffic accidents and crash data to identify patterns and use the data to meet FAST Act performance measures when adopted.
- B. Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act compliance :** Inclusion of performance measures are required by the FAST ACT. To this end, staff will continue to work with ArDOT staff and other MPO's to include performance measures that will be used to guide future transportation projects.
- C. Highway Safety Improvement Program** – MPO will participate in on-going involvement with the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).
- D. Streetscape extension project:** MPO will continue to monitor and assist the City of Pine Bluff, Downtown Development regarding extending the adopted streetscape project on Main Street from 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Harding Avenue.

### **44.24.03 – Public Transportation, Goods Movement, and Intermodal Planning:**

- A. Transit Performance Measures:** Staff will work with Pine Bluff Transit and Southeast Arkansas Transit by providing technical assistance in the implementation of performance measures once adopted.
- B. Statewide Public Transportation Coordination Plan:** SEARPC staff will assist public transit operators and local human service providers in coordinating the delivery of transit services. Staff will monitor and work with ArDOT in the coordination of the Statewide Plan.
- C. Assist Pine Bluff Transit on Program Requirements:** SEARPC staff will work with PBT on meeting the Program Requirements including the Program of Projects, Public Participation, TIP and MTP development, and assist with public involvement through the agency's Public Participation Plan.
- D. Map and Data Resources :** Research availability of maps and data available to assist with visual data on transportation and socio-economic data.
- E. Areas of Persistent Poverty :** Assist with Pine Bluff Transit's T.O.T.A.L. (Transportation Options to Accommodate Live) award study.
- F. Coordinate project development and local planning:** Staff will coordinate project development to encourage multimodal transportation planning.



#### 44.24 SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (cont.)

##### **END PRODUCT**

	END PRODUCTS	Completion Dates
1	Traffic Monitoring	On-going
2	Transportation Project Priority List	On-going
3	Assist in Project Prioritization	On-going
4	Public Transportation Assistance and Monitoring	On-going
5	Transit performance measures	On-going
6	Highway Safety Improvement Program Targets	As Determined by ArDOT
7	Map and Data Resources research	June 2026
8	Local project coordination	On-going

Cooperating Agencies: SEARPC, ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, Pine Bluff Transit, SEAT, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall and Jefferson County.

#### 44.24 Funding Data

Local           \$ 7,619.00  
Federal        \$ 30,476.00  
Total           \$ 38,095.00

UPWP Percent    23 %

#### 44.25 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

---

##### **DESCRIPTION**

The objective of this task is to further the goals and objectives of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) planning process through review and analysis by MPO staff or in support of the existing TIP or developing a new TIP.

##### **WORK TASK**

##### **44.25.01 – TIP Development, Project Selection and Monitoring**

A. **Transportation Improvement Program**: MPO will monitor and amend the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program as needed.

##### **44.25 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (cont.)**

B. **Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP)**: Listing and publication of Annual List of Projects (ALOP) in which Federal Highway and Federal Transit funds have been obligated.

C. **Monitor Project Progress**: Monitor progress on TIP projects and keep local government up to date.

## **44.25 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (cont.)**

### **END PRODUCT**

	<b>END PRODUCTS</b>	<b>Completion Dates</b>
1	2025-2028 TIP updates and amendments	On-going
2	Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP)	December 2025
3	Monitor TIP Projects	On-going

Cooperating Agencies: SEARPC, ArDOT, FHWA, FTA, Pine Bluff Transit, SEAT, City of Pine Bluff, City of White Hall, and Jefferson County.

### **44.25 Funding Data**

**Local**        \$ 1,000.00  
**Federal**     \$ 4,000.00  
**Total**       \$ 5,000.00

**UPWP Percent**    3 %

## 2026 UPWP FINANCIAL SUMMARY

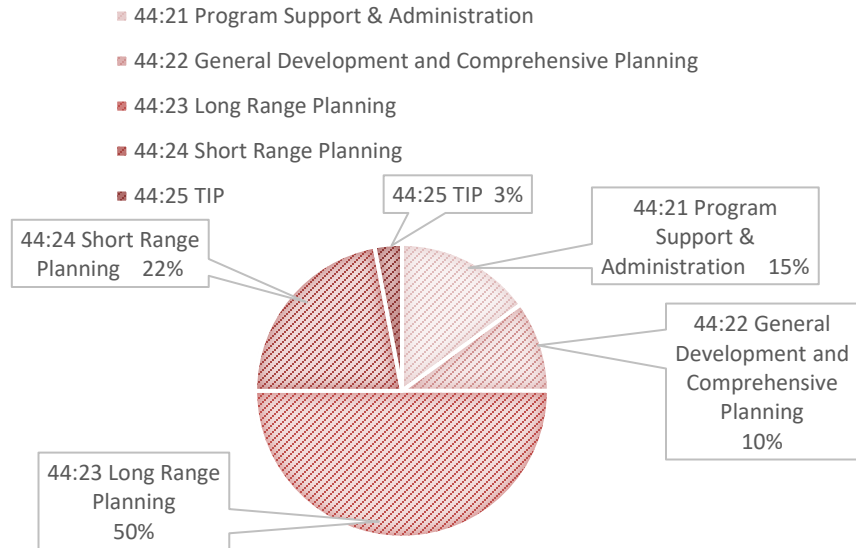
---

It is anticipated that to complete the work tasks as described in the UPWP, \$110,344 in PL and FTA along with FY2024 PL & FTA carryover of \$23,133 (\$133,477 total) funds will be required. The following table indicates the estimated cost by work task to complete each task.

<b>TASKS</b>	<b>PL &amp; FTA FEDERAL (5307)</b>	<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
44:21 Program Support and Administration	\$ 20,001.00	\$ 5,001.00	\$ 25,001.00
44:22 General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 3,549.00	\$ 17,500.00
44:23 Long Range Planning	\$ 68,743.00	\$17,186.00	\$ 85,929.00
44:24 Short Range Planning	\$ 30,476.00	\$ 7,619.00	\$ 38,095.00
44:25 Transportation Improvement Program	\$4,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 137,220.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,306.00</b>	<b>\$ 171,525.00</b>

**\*\* Federal Share includes FHWA / FTA Consolidated Planning Funds**

## UPWP COST ALLOCATION



**THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK**



***PUBLIC NOTICE OF DRAFT FY2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM***

The Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (SEARPC - MPO) is inviting the public to review and provide comments on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Pine Bluff Area Transportation Study (PBATS) area. This document describes what transportation planning activities will be conducted within the Pine Bluff Urbanized Area between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. In accordance with the U. S. Department of Transportation rules and regulations the anticipated expenditures are outlined for those activities.

The UPWP can be viewed at [www.searpc.com](http://www.searpc.com) and is on file and available for public inspection at the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission office, located at 1300 Ohio Street, Suite B, Pine Bluff, Arkansas from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copies will be furnished to individuals by calling 870-534-4247.

Comments concerning the proposed UPWP will be received beginning Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and until 11: a.m., Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Comments should be submitted to the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission, 1300 Ohio, Suite B, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601. Should you have any questions, please contact the SARPC office at 534-4247.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**RESERVED FOR SIGNED RESOLUTION**