A Plan = ?

Requirements: review

- Scope: 20 or more years out
- Timing: updated every 4 years for non-attainment areas, 5 years for others
- Planning factors: “failure to consider any factor… shall not be reviewable by any court…”
- Public involvement: “reasonable opportunity to comment”
- Fiscal realism: financially constrained plan, plus projects for “illustrative purposes”
- Coordination with other plans: state LRP, SIP, land use plans
- Certification of planning activities: by US DOT no less than once every 4 years

Purpose – as specified in law

“The plans and programs for each metropolitan area shall provide for the development and integrated management and operation of transportation systems and facilities (including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) that will function as an intermodal transportation system for the metropolitan area and as an integral part of an intermodal transportation system for the State and the United States.” (US Code Title 23 Chapter 1 Subchapter I §134)

Contents – minimum requirements…

- Transportation facilities that function as integrated metropolitan transportation system, emphasis on those serving important national and regional transportation functions.
- Financial plan that demonstrates how adopted long-range transportation plan can be implemented, indicates resources reasonably expected, recommends additional strategies.
- Measures necessary to ensure preservation of existing metropolitan transportation system, make most efficient use of existing system to relieve congestion and maximize mobility.
- Proposed transportation enhancement activities.

Process

See FHWA flow chart
See SACOG flow chart
- Start-up
- Begin public dialogue
- Develop alternatives
- Discussion draft input
- The plan

Alternatives: build vs. no-build
Some different perspectives...

Goals and Measures Analysis

Key idea: Goals and measures should match
Corollary 1: Measures that don’t match will lead away from goals
Corollary 2: Goals without measures will be given little weight

Issues Analyses

Accessibility vs. Mobility Orientation
Bicycle and Pedestrian Orientation
Sustainability Orientation

Community Visioning – integrating transportation and land use planning

1. Profiling the Community: Where are we now?
   Gather and analyze information about the social, economic, and natural conditions of the community and, through surveys or community meetings, develop a statement of community values.

2. Analyzing the Trends: Where are we going?
   Analyze trend data, determine the impacts of trends, and develop probable future scenarios through task forces, community meetings, or other means.

3. Creating the Vision: Where do we want to be?
   Develop a preferred future scenario that matches the community’s values and is realistic and achievable.

4. Developing an Action Plan: How do we get there?
   Define specific action steps to take to bring about the preferred scenario.

Example 1: Envision Utah

Example 2: SACOG’s Blueprint Project

Monday: Modeling – read Chapter 5 and “Deception in Dallas”
* If you haven’t taken ECI251, it’ll help to also read “Inside the Black Box”

Wednesday: Memo for Assignment 2 due