

The Future of TEMPO and Transportation Planning

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WHAT IS TEMPO?

THERE APPEARS TO BE NO CLEAR MISSION STATEMENT ON WHAT THE MISSION OF TEMPO IS OR WHAT IT HOPE TO ACHIEVE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL MPO'S

WHO LEADS TEMPO?

SINCE THE DEPARTURE OF CHRIS THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE TO NO TEMPO INVOLVEMENT AND EVEN FEWER MEETINGS, EVEN AT TIMES WHEN IT SEEMS PRUDENT AND PRACTICAL. (TRANSPORTATION FORUM)

TEMPO SEEMS TO MISS OUT ON OPPORTUNITIES

- Legislative sessions-no agendas or priorities collectively for the betterment of all MPOs
- Regular meeting schedule for everyone's benefit-select a week and day of week where everyone can meet and make it a standing meeting time.
- Little to no information or guidance on IIJA or grant programs that are available
- Cat. 2 discussion, the last I know of are from December 22, 2021
- Subcommittees, including my own, are not active and have chairs or vice chairs of people who are no longer around.

What Opportunities may lie ahead?

- Coordinate and host, live/virtual, workshops on various subject matters as:
- IIJA and Grant Programs, sure some MPO has grant writing staff who can assist and lead fellow MPOs on the process
- Host staff lead workshop on performance measure and best practices to assist fellow MPOs
- Engage more MPOs to be a part for the resiliency group listed on the TEMPO website, lead by NCTCOG
- Category 7 and project scoring
- Set regular meeting dates that are know by all, example first Thursday of the month, second Tuesday.
- We know we meet quarterly January, April, July and November
- Venues? I personally made 2 calls in Austin and had 2 venues that could host 50 for little to NO fee. One at the capitol. There must be the desire to meet.
- Prepare a legislative priority list that will educate legislators on what will “raise” all MPOs if not most.
 - **Rising tide raises all ships!**

Finally

I know some if not much of this will be discussed away.....however.

- We NEED definitive leadership
- We NEED a definitive path forward
- What is the status of the Resiliency, Fuel/EV, EJ/Equity groups discussed between Dan, Kirk and Jeffrey Neal in March?
- We need to have greater peer to peer information sharing, virtually or in person. We have travel budgets to visit each other and learn best practices.
- We need to assure that ALL MPOs are engaged and aware of discussions with TxDOT, FHWA and TTI that may impact MPOs.
- Prepare mock certifications for TMAs coming online
- Prepare workshops and a mentoring program for new MPOs coming online or even for existing MPOs.