EWGCOG 2021 TMA Certification Review

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Federal Transit Administration

Introduction of the Federal Team

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

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- FTA Region VII
  - Eva Steinman
- FHWA-MO/IL
  - Brad McMahon
  - Betsy Tracy

Certification Review Focus:

Certification Reviews are required every 4 years

- Substantial Compliance with the Federal Planning Regulations
- Evaluate Planning Process-15 topical areas
  - Outreach, transit, land use, freight
  - Civil Rights, EJ, Safety, Air Quality and others
- Discuss local issues\challenges and plan development
- Best Practices
- Opportunities for improvement

Key Definitions of Findings

- **Corrective Actions:** items that fail to meet one or more requirements of the federal planning statute and regulations.
- **Recommendations:** Items that address technical improvements to processes or procedures, that are not regulatory.
- **Commendations - Noteworthy Practices**: Elements that demonstrate well thought out procedure for implementing the planning requirements.

2021 Certification Review

- The CR site visit portion of review was conducted virtually January 2021 – More than 40 people participated in the virtual sessions
- Allowed opportunities for public involvement at a virtual open house as well as open comment period for the duration of the site visit review. Presentations were made at the Board of Directors Meeting and the January Executive Advisory Committee meeting.

2021 Findings

0 Corrective Actions

13 Recommendations

9 Commendations

2021 Commendations

Transit Planning

1. EWGCOG and Metro are commended on their transit oriented development efforts to integrate land use and neighborhood context into the transit planning process

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

2. EWGCOG's 2018 work effort to produce an updated STP-S project development and selection process that has proven to better ensure projects of all types are considered equally for funding based on a performance-driven approach

2021 Commendations

Public Participation

3. EWGCOG's establishment of a goal, objective, and strategy framework for its public involvement plan (PIP) with regular reviews on the process for each goal

Civil Rights

4. Title VI documents on EWGCOG's website are easily accessible to the public and include detailed information on how to access Title VI plans, open house event information, and how to submit comment.

2021 Commendations

<u>Freight</u>

5. EWGCOG ongoing effort to champion the integration of freight movement into the overall St. Louis metro planning process including project prioritization and select for programming.

6. EWGCOG, MoDOT and St. Louis Regional Freightway's partnering effort to formulate the St. Louis regional element of the Missouri Statewide Freight Advisory Committee framework

2021 Commendations

Transportation Safety and Security

7. EWGCOG's efforts in coordination and communication with the standing committees regarding the Metro Security study objectives

Non-Motorized Planning

8. EWGCOG's outreach efforts in bicycle and pedestrian planning with their development of the Bicycle Planning Guide and Pedestrian Crash analysis tools as well as hosting various workshops on multimodal planning

2021 Commendations

<u>Congestion Management Process/Management and Operations</u>

9. EWGCOG's ongoing efforts to utilize the Congestion Management and Operations Committee and Technical Action Committees to share information, provide assistance for member agencies, and encourage ITS investment in the region.

2021 Recommendations

- The Review Team is working with EWG on ensuring recommendations from the review will add local value as well as developing an action plan on any recommendations EWG may want to implement.
- More detailed descriptions of the recommendations can be found in the Certification Review Final Report

2021 Recommendations

Findings included recommendations related to the following areas:

- Posting of planning agreements on the public webpage
- MTP project solicitation, evaluation criteria, and programming process review
- FMIS trainings
- Public involvement plan
- System-level comparative analysis for environmental justice
- Highway Safety Plans and committees
- CMAQ reporting and processing of funds

2021 Certification Review Outcome:

EWGCOG is certified as substantially meeting the planning requirements defined in federal regulation.

Certified until April 11, 2025

Next Certification Review

Comments?

- Next Review will be held in 2025

Thank you – Questions?

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