

What is a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)?

A long-range transportation plan (LRTP), also referred to as a metropolitan transportation plan, is a federally required document that addresses future transportation needs within a specified transportation planning area. LRTPs are developed by metropolitan/transportation planning organizations (MPO/TPO).

The intent and purpose of an LRTP is to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of a cost-feasible intermodal transportation system that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight. The proposed system of projects should also foster economic growth and development within and through urbanized areas, while minimizing transportation-related environmental impacts.

The LRTP must include long and short-range strategies that are consistent with Federal, State, and local goals and objectives. For example, LRTPs developed in Florida must consider the goals and objectives of local government comprehensive plans and the [Florida Transportation Plan](#).

The LRTP is a financially constrained plan that includes projects to best meet the identified needs of the transportation system based on projected revenues. It is important that the LRTP accurately reflects transportation needs because local and state planning officials use it to select projects for inclusion in their capital improvement and work programs.

The LRTP is the result of a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive (3-C) planning process that provides for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies, and services that will address the following ten planning factors pursuant to 23 Code of Federal Regulations 450.306(b):

- (1) Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
- (2) Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- (3) Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- (4) Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight;
- (5) Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
- (6) Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
- (7) Promote efficient system management and operation;
- (8) Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system;
- (9) Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation; and
- (10) Enhance travel and tourism.

Key federal and state requirements are summarized in Table 1 with links to the applicable laws, rules and statutes. Comprehensive state-level guidance on Long Range Transportation Plans is available in Chapter 4 of the [FDOT MPO Program Management Handbook](#).

Table 1. Federal and State LRTP Requirements and Guidance

Requirements and Guidance	Description
Federal	
23 U.S.C. 134 (h) and (i)	Scope of the metropolitan planning process
49 U.S.C. 5303 (h) and (i)	Development of the metropolitan transportation plan
23 C.F.R. 450.306	Scope of the metropolitan planning process
23 C.F.R. 450.316	Public participation
23 C.F.R. 450.322	Congestion management process
23 C.F.R. 450.324	Development and content of the metropolitan transportation plan
Appendix A to Subpart 450	Linking transportation and environmental processes
Federal Strategies for Implementing Requirements for LRTP Updates for the Florida MPOs	Expectations for Florida MPOs to meet federal requirements in 2045 LRTPs
State	
Section 339.175, Florida Statutes	MPO responsibilities and LRTP requirements

USC is United States Code
CFR is Code of Federal Regulations