Proposed Activity Centers Use Policy

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The Activity Centers were developed by the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Who can Use the Boundaries

- COG Members will have unrestricted access to the boundaries
 - Member governments may authorize third party users
- Consultants to COG
- Independent Researchers
 - Contingent on a review of research objectives
- Other requests will be evaluated on a case by case basis

Only Publish the Illustrative Center

It is important to only publish the illustrative center to prevent confusion that could arise from multiple published versions of centers.

The analytic geographies are only designed to consistently study Activity Centers. They are not designed to graphically depict the centers. This is because Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs), Census Tracts, and Census Block Groups are all drawn to best suit their primary purposes. In order to evaluate Activity Centers local governments have worked with MWCOG staff to develop the best representation of each center within the confines of each geography.

Centers are a System

The analysis geographies are a system for analyzing Activity Centers. Each geography will be used for analyze data reported in that format. For example the Cooperative Forecast will only be produced for Traffic Analysis Zones.

Boundaries will not be Changed

It is important that information derived from these boundaries is consistent to prevent confusion. Therefore, no changes are permitted.

Non Transferable

The Activity Center Boundaries will be released with a non-transferable license. This means that COG will release the analysis boundaries and retain full control. Additionally, any products derived from the boundaries will be shared with MWCOG.