ITEM 7 - Action

January 18, 2012

Approval of Funding and Transmittal Letter for TPB's 2012 Membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Staff Recommendation:	Approve funding from the FY 2012 UPWP along with an associated transmittal letter for the TPB's 2012 membership in AMPO.
Issues:	None
Background:	The Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) is a national organization that represents and provides assistance to metropolitan planning organizations like the TPB throughout the United States.

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202

January 19, 2012

Ms. DeLania Hardy Executive Director Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Suite 710 1029 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Hardy:

In response to the invoice of December 6, 2011 requesting dues payment for the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) 2012 membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), I am pleased to inform you that at its January 18, 2012 meeting, the TPB approved a 2012 dues payment to AMPO in the amount of \$22,000. The payment is enclosed with this letter

As a long time member, the TPB greatly values AMPO's active representation of the nation's metropolitan planning organizations, and benefits greatly from the technical assistance it provides our planning staff. The TPB anticipates working closely with AMPO in the coming year on the key planning challenges facing MPOs.

Sincerely,

Todd Turner Chairman National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Enclosure



Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

December 6, 2011

Ron Kirby Metropolitan Washington COG 777 N. Capitol St., NE, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ron,

Over the past year, AMPO has been an increasingly active member of the federal transportation community. Government decision makers and interest groups value AMPO's input on policy matters. This year, we have been invited to participate in a number of closed-door strategy meetings with the USDOT's Office of the Secretary. Throughout 2011, AMPO worked closely with House and Senate staffs to craft policy that protects and improves the status of MPOs. We have met repeatedly with the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as many individual Congressional offices. This action will continue unabated in 2012, as MAP-21 discussions progress and House plans for their version of reauthorization are released. 2012 could be a vital year for transportation policy, especially for MPOs, and AMPO will be leading the charge for increased MPO funding and authority.

In addition to this important policy work, AMPO continues to focus on technical issues important to MPOs. We completed our MPO pooled funding research project in 2011. This report investigated MPO use of activity-based travel forecasting models and studied the level of documentation available to determine if advantages, costs, and benefits of these models can be defined. A second research phase is now underway with support from FHWA. In 2012 we will continue to hold peer-to-peer meetings of our Transportation Management & Operations and our Air Quality Work Groups. We will also continue AMPO's outreach on Climate Change and Energy Planning, with webinars scheduled in January, March, May, and June, and hold workshops on transportation planning's role in livability and sustainability.

I look forward to continuing our important work with you on these issues and to ensuring our voices continue to be heard. Please contact me with your questions or concerns at 202-296-7051 or dhardy@ampo.org.

DeLania Hardy AMPO Executive Director

AMPO

1029 Vermont Ave., NW Suite 710 Washington, DC 20005 202-296-7051

Bill To

Ron Kirby Metropolitan Washington COG 777 N. Capitol St., NE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/1/2012	2012-101



ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

	Description		Amount
AMPO Membership Dues 2012 - AMPO Membership Dues 2012 -	Restricted		17,600.00 4,400.00
Please indicate below what perfederal funds if it is not 80% invoice with your payment. Our percent of federal funds			
		Total	\$22,000.00