

**RESOLUTION #2023-18**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (NARTS) FY 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) TO INCLUDE VARIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES**

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Department of Transportation regulations require an areawide multi-modal transportation plan and a continuing planning process for urbanized areas; and

**WHEREAS**, said mandated planning process, known as the “3C” (Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive) planning process, must be carried out by a designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and is necessary for transportation projects to qualify for federal transportation funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is the designated MPO for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urbanized Area; and

**WHEREAS**, transportation planning to be undertaken by and under the direction of the MPO must be contained in an approved Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution #2023-04 authorized NWARPC to file application for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant and administer the grant should it be awarded; and

**WHEREAS**, the NWARPC was awarded \$180,000 AoPP Grant by the FTA (90% federal) with the \$20,000 local match (10%) being split by Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) and Razorback Transit; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution #2023-15 authorized NWARPC to utilize \$440,000 suballocated Environment Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Planning funds to conduct regional Energy and Environment Innovation Action Planning; and

**WHEREAS**, the NWARPC wishes to include the above mentioned projects in the FY 2024 UPWP along with other local and state studies for which NWARPC will provide assistance as needed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

That the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Transportation Study (NARTS) FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is hereby amended to reflect additional work projects and studies being undertaken in the fiscal year as shown in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto.

**PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023**

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Judge Barry Moehring, Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A (DRAFT)**

**NARTS FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)  
PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1**

**44.23: LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**WORK TASKS**

**A. ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS:**

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3. Continue to collaborate with Northwest Arkansas planning partners to establish the tools, capacity and public support to address housing, economic development, infrastructure, natural infrastructure, safe streets and roads for all, complete streets, EV infrastructure, and transportation mode choices to: reduce fatal and serious injury crashes, reduce transportation costs and commute times to work, and improve access to public transportation, shopping and services, neighborhood schools, and community amenities for all ages and abilities.

- [Support the Cities of Fayetteville and Springdale with the Northwest Arkansas Rail Corridor Safety Study.](#)

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**F. ASSIST STATE DOT'S WITH THE FOLLOWING:**

- XNA Airport Access Road
- Highway 412 [Planning and Environmental Linkages \(PEL\)](#) Study, from I-35 (west of Tulsa and running N/S through Oklahoma City) to I-49, for designation as a future interstate highway, in coordination with Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) (Cherokee Turnpike/Cimarron Turnpike in Oklahoma) and ARDOT.
- [Highway 59 & Highway 72 Corridor Study](#)
- State DOT's [Complete Streets Plan/Policy](#)
- State DOT's [EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan](#)
- State DOT's [Alternative Fuel Corridor Designations](#)
- State DOT's [Vision Zero / Safety Plans / Safe System Approach](#)
- State DOT's [Carbon Reduction Plan Strategy](#)
- State DOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Policy
- State DOT's Freight Rail and Passenger Rail Plan

**G. CONTINUE ACTIVITIES TO ADVANCE THE FOLLOWING, THROUGH NWARPC/POLICY COMMITTEE, TAC, AND OTHER SUBCOMMITTEES**

1. NWARPC 2045 MTP implementation.
2. Highway 112 Access Management Regional Vision Statement and Access Management Plan Agreements. Apply for ARDOT and USDOT grants to implement the Hwy 112 Complete Streets-Connecting Communities project (TAP, RAISE, SS4A, and other grant programs as applicable).
3. Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) implementation.
4. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture Plan implementation.
5. Congestion Management Process (CMP) implementation.

6. NWA Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan development and implementation.
7. Connect NWA Transit Development Plan (TDP) implementation.
8. Transportation Alternatives Analysis – Evaluation of all reasonable modal and multi-modal alternatives and general alignment options for identified transportation needs.
9. [Development of a Regional Energy & Environment Innovation \(EEI\) Plan](#)
10. Development of a Regional Carbon Reduction Strategy.
11. Development of a Regional Corridor Vision and Strategy.
12. NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, individual Community Plans and Heritage Trail Plan.
13. NWA Open Space Plan updates.

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**K. ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE PLANNING**

1. [Air Quality Planning – Continued air quality attainment status monitoring.](#)
  - [Monitor air quality and its impact on transportation conformity.](#)
  - [Explore participation in the EPA Ozone and PM Advance Programs.](#)
2. [Energy and Environment Innovation \(EEI\) Plan – NWARPC, in partnership with the Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\), City of Fort Smith, and Metroplan, will contribute to the State’s Energy and Environment Innovation \(EEI\) Plan, by completing a consultant-led Regional Priority Action Plan \(PAP\), Regional Comprehensive Action Plan \(CAP\), and a subsequent Status Report, through an Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant \(CPRG\) Planning Grant awarded to the state, with a portion suballocated to NWARPC. The plan will enable access to and enhance competitiveness for federal funding for energy infrastructure and supports investment in technologies and practices that reduce pollutant emissions, create high-quality jobs, and spur economic growth in the region and state.](#)
  - [Phase 1 – Priority Action Plan \(March 2024\)](#)
  - [Phase 2 – Comprehensive Action Plan \(mid-2025\)](#)
  - [Phase 3 – Status Report \(mid-2027\)](#)

	44.23 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION DATES
A.	NARTS participation through staff assistance to local jurisdictions in STBGP GT 200K and TAP programs and by disseminating information regarding transportation programs	On-going
B.	Utilize TDM to assist transit agencies with route optimization and scenario planning and assist jurisdictions	On-going
C.	Amend the NWARPC 2045 MTP to include recent studies, Travel Demand Model data, CMP and TSMO/ITS as required.	On-going
D.	Assist ARDOT and MoDOT with various studies/projects	On-going
E.	Continue activities to advance regional plans and community involvement through the NWARPC/Policy Committee, TAC, and other committees	On-going
F.	Coordination with MoDOT on MTP implementation	On-going
G.	NWARPC 2045 MTP compliance with BIL	On-going

	NWARPC 2050 MTP development	
<b>H</b>	Adopt the updated Regional Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan	August 2023
<b>I</b>	Consultant-led Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	September 2023
<b>J</b>	Regional Carbon Reduction Strategy	May 2024
<b>K</b>	<a href="#"><u>Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Priority Action Plan</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>March 2024</u></a>

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, ODOT, INCOG, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, Northwest Arkansas National Airport Authority, NWA Regional Mobility Authority, and local governments.

**COST DATA**

Federal	\$ 573,932
Local (MPO and State)	\$ <u>143,483</u>
Total	\$ 717,415
Element Percent	<b>3633%</b>

Notes:

- Up to \$50,000 in Carbon Reduction funds, plus match, may be utilized to address climate change.
- The FY 2024 UPWP will use at least 2.5% of FHWA PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities including complete streets.
- Up to \$200,000 STBGP-A and/or SS4A Grant funds plus match will be utilized to complete the consultant-led Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.
- [\\$440,000 suballocated EPA CPRG Planning Grant \(no match required\) will be utilized to complete the consultant-led Energy & Environment Innovation \(EEI\) Plan, including the Regional Priority Action Plan, Regional Comprehensive Action Plan \(CAP\), and Status Report.](#)

**44.24: SHORT-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**WORK TASKS**

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- D. OZARK TRANSIT AUTHORITY AND RAZORBACK TRANSIT:**
1. Continue to support and assist the transit agencies in their activities, including providing subrecipient oversight for FTA grant administration.
  2. Recommend continued and expanded route testing with NWA businesses and municipalities.
  3. Assist the transit agencies with route planning and scheduling through appropriate software acquisition \$19,800 (\$15,840 per year Federal and \$3,960 Local Match-split equally between ORT, Razorback, and NWARPC).
  4. Continue to coordinate and support ARDOT, ORT and Razorback Transit in implementation of their public transportation agency safety plans (PTASP).

5. Approval by the NWARPC/Policy Committee of the PTASP, at least within 180 days after the date of transit agency approval. The NWARPC/Policy Committee approved Resolution #2020-12 on December 2, 2020, in support of ORT's and Razorback Transit's PTASP(s).
6. ~~If awarded, m~~Manage and support the FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA Bus Stop Enhancement Plan Implementation project.

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	44.24 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION DATES
A.	Application reviews	On-going
B.	Performance-based approach (Performance Measures and Measurable Goals)	On-going
C.	Analysis of crash data for performance measures and targets in coordination with ARDOT and MoDOT	Federal due dates/On-going
D.	NARTS participation in ORT and Razorback Transit activities	On-going
E.	Transit Development Plan/TAM Plan Targets/Assist in implementation of Transit Development Plan	On-going
F.	Collection and analysis of data for performance targets and measures in coordination with ARDOT	Federal due dates/On-going
G.	Collection and analysis of data for performance targets and measures in coordination with ORT and Razorback Transit	Federal due dates/On-going
H.	Coordinate with ARDOT on the Statewide Public Transportation Coordination Plan	On-going
I.	Congestion Management Process	On-going
J.	<u>Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA Project and Plans</u>	September 2025

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, FHWA, FTA, various state and federal agencies, NWA Regional Mobility Authority, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, area human service agencies and local jurisdictions.

**COST DATA:**

Federal	<del>\$389,209</del> 569,209
Local (MPO)	<del>\$97,302</del> 117,302
Total	<del>\$486,511</del> 686,511
Element Percent	24 31%

Note: The local match of \$20,000 will be split between Ozark Regional Transit Authority and Razorback Transit for the \$180,000 FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant.

**FY 2024 UPWP MULTIPLE SOURCE FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

<b>2024 UPWP Multiple Source Financial Summary</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
PL Funds (Arkansas)	\$1,046,046	\$ 261,511	\$ 1,307,557	49.50%
STBGP-A Funds	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	9.47%
USDOT SS4A Funds awarded to NWARPC - Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	9.47%
<b>EPA CPRG - Energy &amp; Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan (for informational purposes only)</b>	<b>\$ 440,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 440,000</b>	<b>16.66%</b>
<b>FTA AoPP Grant - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA Project and Plans</b>	<b>\$ 180,000</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	<b>7.57%</b>
FTA 5307	\$ 100,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 125,000	4.73%
Carbon Reduction Strategy	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	2.37%
PL Funds (Missouri)	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,250	\$ 6,250	0.24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,221,046</b>	<b>\$ 420,261</b>	<b>\$ 2,641,307</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-AR)</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-AR)</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 209,209	\$ 52,302	\$ 261,511	20.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 261,511	\$ 65,378	\$ 326,889	25.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 282,432	\$ 70,608	\$ 353,040	27.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 209,209	\$ 52,302	\$ 261,511	20.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 83,684	\$ 20,921	\$ 104,605	8.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,046,046</b>	<b>\$261,511</b>	<b>\$1,307,557</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-MO)</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-MO)</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	40.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning		\$ -	\$ -	
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 1,500	\$ 375	\$ 1,875	30.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning		\$ -	\$ -	
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 1,500	\$ 375	\$ 1,875	30.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,250</b>	<b>\$ 6,250</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP STBGP-A Program Element AR and SS4A Grants Funds</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP STBGP-A Program Element AR and SS4A Grants Funds</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Match*</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 60,000	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 75,000	15.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning (STBGP-A or SS4A Grant with local funding match)	\$ 240,000	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 300,000	60.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 80,000	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 100,000	20.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000	5.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP FTA 5307 Program Element AR</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP FTA 5307 Program Element AR</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 100,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 125,000	100.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 125,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP FTA AoPP Grant - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP FTA AoPP Grant - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 180,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 200,000	100.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 180,000</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP Carbon Reduction Program</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP Carbon Reduction Program</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	100.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 12,500</b>	<b>\$ 62,500</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>2024 UPWP Total by Elements</b>				
<b>2024 UPWP Total by Elements</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 211,209	\$ 52,802	\$ 264,011	12%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 321,511	\$ 80,378	\$ 401,889	18%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning (Includes Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Funding)	\$ 573,932	\$ 143,483	\$ 717,415	33%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 569,209	\$ 117,302	\$ 686,511	31%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 105,184	\$ 26,296	\$ 131,480	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,781,046</b>	<b>\$ 420,261</b>	<b>\$ 2,201,307</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Match is proposed to be provided from local and state sources