What is an MPO?

- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Required by federal law for Urbanized Areas
  - 50,000+ persons
- Responsible for transportation planning
  - Within the metropolitan planning area
  - 3-C planning process
    - Continuing
    - Comprehensive
    - Cooperative
MPO Planning Area

- Consists of the Urbanized Area as defined by the Census Bureau
- Centered around a Core Urban Area
- May include an expanded area due to forecast urban growth or air quality requirements
MPO Goals

- Promote projects that support...
  - system preservation
  - integration of modes
  - economic vitality
  - safety and security
  - environmental and quality of life improvements
  - energy conservation
Why the Expansion?

- The Existing Urbanized Area centered around Salisbury expanded as a result of the 2010 Census.
  - Significant growth since 2000
  - Revised criteria allowed multiple clusters to connect
- The US 13 corridor from Seaford to Delmar is now integrated with the Salisbury/Wicomico planning area.
- Let’s see the map...
Delaware Population: 24,588 (25.1%)

Total Population: 98,081

Maryland Population: 73,493 (74.9%)

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, Mapmyindia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
What does this mean for Sussex County?

- There are unincorporated areas within the Urbanized Area boundary.

- You have representation.
  - 1 voting seat on the MPO Council
  - 1 member on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- The MPO will provide planning services within the MPO Planning Area.

- Capital projects within the Urbanized Area have new requirements.
What does this mean for Sussex County?

- All federally-funded capital transportation projects within the urbanized area boundary must now...
  - Be consistent with the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
  - Be prioritized in the MPO’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
  - Be prioritized in DelDOT’s Capital Transportation Program (CTP)
  - The TIP and CTP must match.
Next Steps

- Sign the MOU
- Approve the Bylaws
- Begin Council and TAC attendance
- Complete the 2015 LRTP
  - All future projects must be consistent with the LRTP
Questions?

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