

Move People | Create Jobs | Strengthen Communities

Dear Student,

Thanks for planning to attend the **Think Like a Planner/Engineer Workshop**.

What is an MPO?

Every time you fill up at the gas station, a portion of that money goes to the federal government. This money is then sent to transportation planning agencies, called Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to plan how the amount will be spent on transportation. Did you know that every urbanized area in the United States is covered by an MPO? Today there are over 400 MPOs nationwide - 26 of them are right here in Florida.

The first MPOs were created in 1962 by Congress so that local governments, residents and interested parties can have a setting to collaborate and participate in the transportation planning process. In Broward, each local city is represented on the Broward MPO Board. If you look in the right hand column, all of our Board Members are listed and each member was elected by the general public. In a nutshell, you're represented too!

You may wonder, yes, I'm represented, but how does this affect me?

Transportation is important not only to move you from Point A to Point B, it is one of the aspects of society that binds us together. It's true that no matter which neighborhood you live in, where you go school or how much money your family makes, transportation is something that everyone experiences on a daily basis.

Take a moment to think about how you arrived to school today. Think about the intersections you crossed and the roads that were taken. Were there bits and pieces of your commute that can be improved? Were there certain elements that could make your commute safer? Another responsibility of MPOs is to gather your answers to those question and consider them when making decisions for funding transportation projects and improvements through a process called public involvement.

Your answers to those questions are the main concern of the transportation planners that work in our office. They're continually tasked with thinking of how to move people efficiently, while keeping items like safety in mind. We'd like you to take a walk in their shoes and think like a planner or engineer.

Check out our website before we embark on this journey together and see how the Broward MPO is moving people and goods at: <u>BrowardMPO.org</u> and follow us on social media.

Sincerely,

Broward MPO & Staff

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STREET MIX



Creating Online Complete Streets

What is StreetMix?

<u>StreetMix.net</u> is free online software that allows you to design a Complete Street and learn how your decisions can impact your community.

Why do we need Complete Streets?

A complete street is a roadway that provides safe access for all users. Complete Streets are important since they provide choices for healthier and more environmentally conscious alternatives to driving.



Tips & Tricks to Using Street Mix

- 1. Select 'Start Your Own Street', start with Empty Street
- 2. Click on the box at the top of the screen to rename the street and make it your own!
- 3. Make sure the units are in Imperial Units.
- 4. Select Width and change to '80 feet'.
- Drag elements for complete streets from bottom of the screen up to the street. Elements include Bike Lanes, Bus Lanes, Pedestrians, Landscaping, Street furniture, etc.
- 6. Items will automatically go to the center of the street when dragged into the queue. Drag all items being used to the street and then rearrange them.
- Anything with red measurements means you have run out of Right of Way (ROW). The item needs to be adjusted. Adjust item until measurements turn black.

- 8. Adjust lane width with white arrows.
- When hovering over elements on street, menu pops up with other options (i.e. directional arrows, building appearances can be changed).
- 10. Drag item to the bottom of the screen to remove it from the street.
- 11. When street is completed, make sure to Share on social media platform of choice.

Options include simply saving as a photo for later to post to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. Make sure to tag #SpeakUpBroward on your post!

For complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or nondiscrimination; or for special requests under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Christopher Ryan, Director of Public Involvement and Communication/Title VI Coordinator at (954) 876-0036 or ryanc@browardmpo.org.

