

Quotes that Pertain to MPO Organizations

“Responsible for planning and programming transportation investments, metropolitan planning organizations [MPOs] are the most widespread form of regional governance in the United States today”.

Myron Orfield, one of the nation’s leading practitioners on matters of regionalism, in *American Metropolitics: The New Suburban Reality*, (The Brookings Institution Press, Washington, D.C., 2002), p. 137

“There are significant risks associated with the metropolitan planning process. Failure to engage in meaningful, informed decision-making ... exposes a metro area to risks of significant inefficiencies and inequities which can be expected to be compounded by future events, both foreseen and unforeseen”.

John Poorman, *A Colloquy on the Coming Transformation of Transportation: MPOs in the Future*, page 7, produced by the Capital District MPO, Greater Albany, New York and first presented to the National Academies Transportation Research Board’s *Metropolitan Planning Organizations: Present and Future*, Conference, Washington, DC, August 2006.

“When it comes to running Hampton Roads we’re between a rock and a hard place, the rock of the past and the hard place that is the future. ...The hard place, the future, will not give way. We must change the rock, the old way of getting things done regionally around here”.

Roger Richman, Professor of Public Administration, Old Dominion University (retired) and author; an editorial article in *The Virginian Pilot*, December 2008

“The strong indications the funding from the first stimulus package will be directed to primarily to projects already in approved TIP/STIPs emphasize the importance of the TIP process; when any new funding appears unexpectedly and must be committed quickly, the existing TIP/STIP process will normally be used to govern the project selection”.

Ron Kirby, *Transportation Planning Board Memorandum for the TPB (MPO) Board of Directors, an Executive Director Memo for the TPB (MPO) Board meeting of January 28, 2009*

“Never heard of the MPO? If its reforms work, you will!”

David Forster, reporter for *The Virginian-Pilot*, Norfolk, Virginia, the title of his newspaper article, December 16, 2008

Other Quotes that relate more generally to the regional concept

“While 80 percent of Americans live in metro areas, these urban regions account for 84 percent of all jobs. In financial services, the metro areas have 90 percent of the jobs. In both high technology and business services, it's a phenomenal 93 percent”.

Neil R. Peirce, *Citistates: How Urban America Can Prosper In A Competitive World*

“When metro areas thrive, the nation thrives”

Neil R. Peirce, *Citistates: How Urban America Can Prosper In A Competitive World*

“Regions are the new communities of the 21st century. They have emerged just as villages, towns, cities and counties did before them... and now they determine our fates”

William R. Dodge, *Regional Excellence: Governing Together To Compete Globally and Flourish Locally*

“It takes the whole region to live the good life”

William R. Dodge, *Regional Excellence: Governing Together To Compete Globally and Flourish Locally*