



# NEW BRAUNFELS – SEGUIN AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

May 2010



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# Agenda

- Purpose & Need
- What is an MPO?
- Study Area
- Plan Contents
- Plan Process
- *BREAK – 10 minutes*
- Discussion



The City of New Braunfels and the City of Seguin are interested in jointly pursuing the possibility of forming a regional metropolitan planning organization within Comal and Guadalupe Counties. Part of this process will be to **create a regional transportation plan.**

This regional transportation plan will:

1. Review existing plans for the cities and counties, as available;
2. Make recommendations on the consistency of these plans;
3. Determine the appropriate types of road sections; and
4. Review the environmental aspects of relocating and expanding roads and proposing any new roadway alignments.

# What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization...

- the federally required “forum for cooperative transportation decision-making for the metropolitan area” [23 CFR 450.104]
- the engine driving regional collaboration and coordination
- the means to meet regional transportation needs while being responsive to community interests and local by-laws and policies



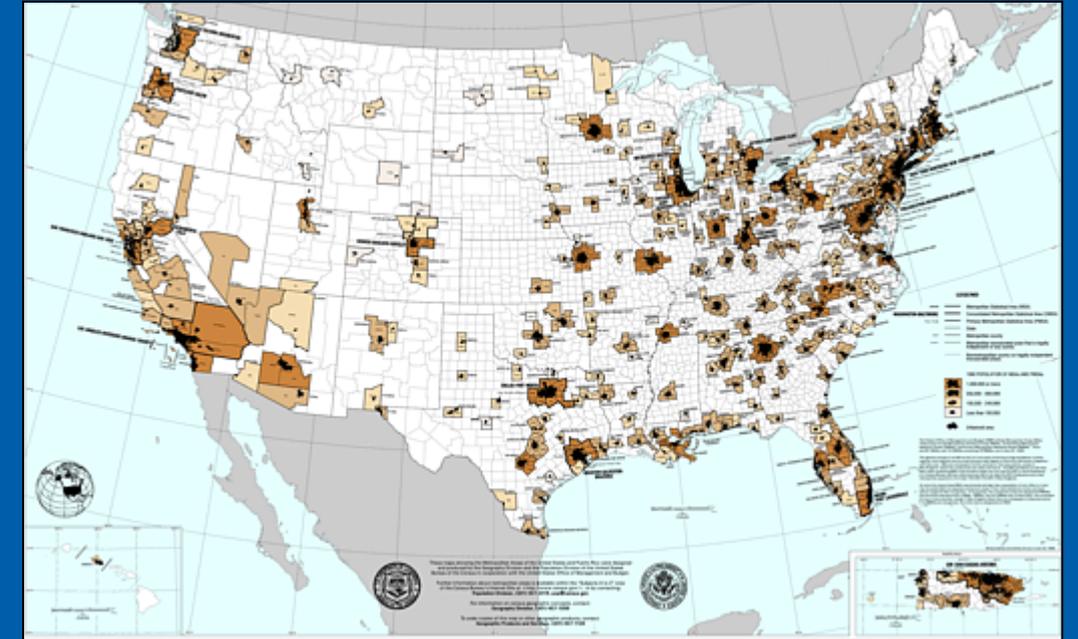
# Metropolitan Planning Organizations...

- ...have the authority of **Federal** law
- ...carry out the metropolitan transportation planning process **in cooperation with State DOT(s)** and **transit operators**
- ...are representative groups of **local** stakeholders
- ...lead the transportation **planning** process for their regions
- ...are their regions' policymaking organizations responsible for **prioritizing** transportation initiatives

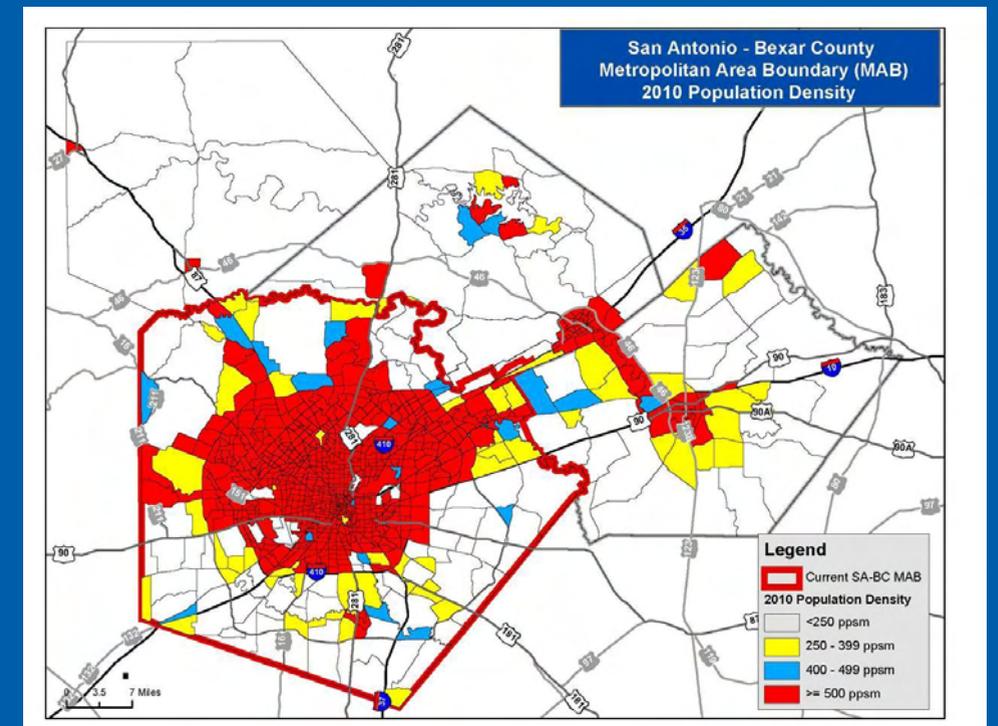


All Urbanized Areas are required by federal law to have, or be a part of, an MPO

Urbanized Area  $\geq$  50,000 persons in a densely settled core of census tracts and related areas



City/County	Population
Comal County	108,472
Guadalupe County	131,533
New Braunfels	57,740
Seguin	25,175



# MPO Dual Functions-

## Planning:

- Developing a vision
- Creating policies and strategies to support the vision
- Long-term

## Programming:

- Prioritizing proposed initiatives
- Matching initiatives with available funds
- Short-term

The public must be involved in both



# MPO Planning & Programming Must Reflect:

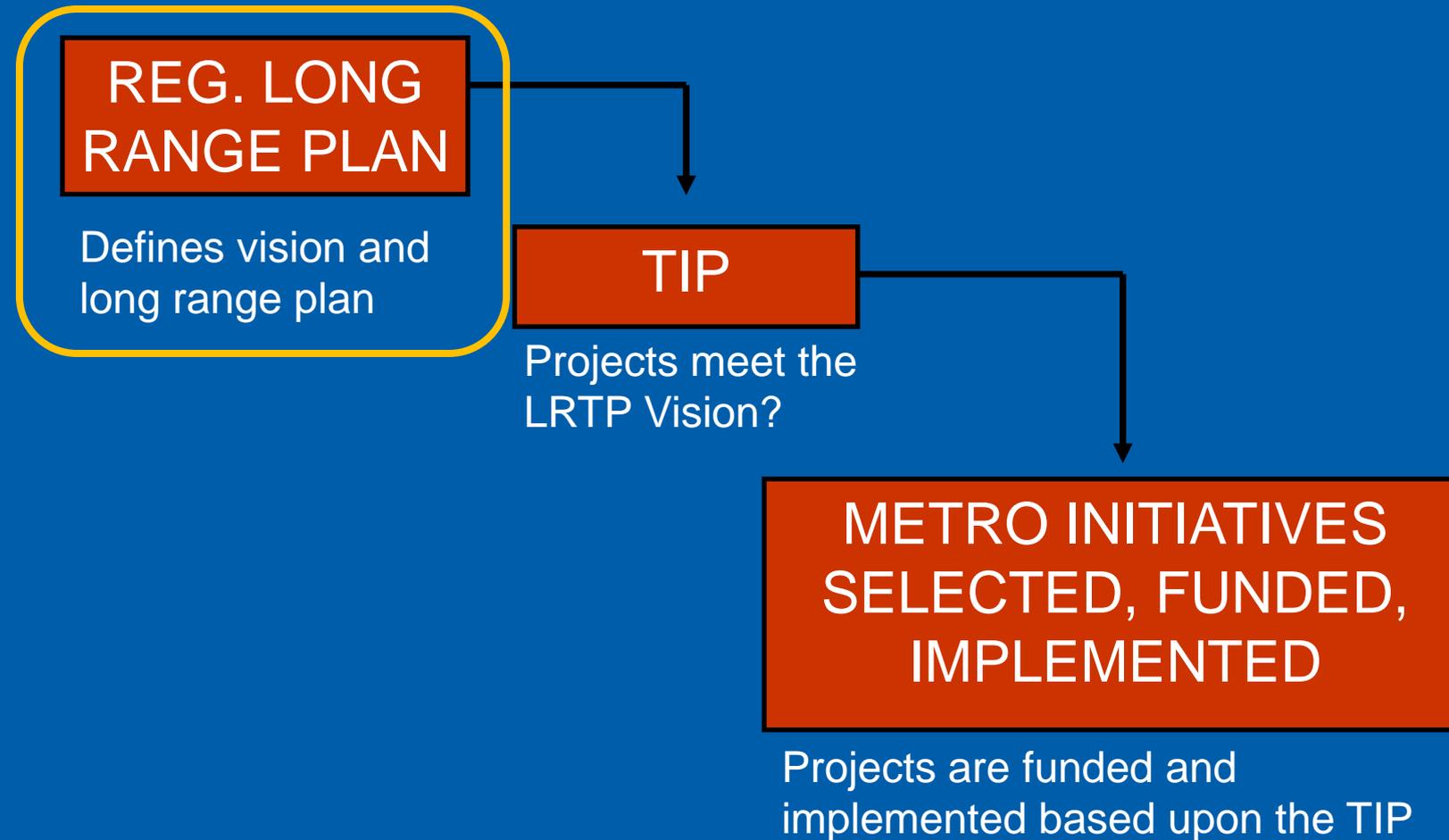
A Comprehensive, Cooperative, Continuing planning process

## Seven Federal planning factors

1. Economic Vitality
2. Safety and Security
3. Accessibility and Mobility Options
4. Environmental Protection, Energy Conservation Promotion, and Quality of Life Improvements
5. System Integration and Connectivity
6. Efficient System Management and Operation
7. Preservation of the Existing System



# How does the LRTP and TIP relate to implementation?

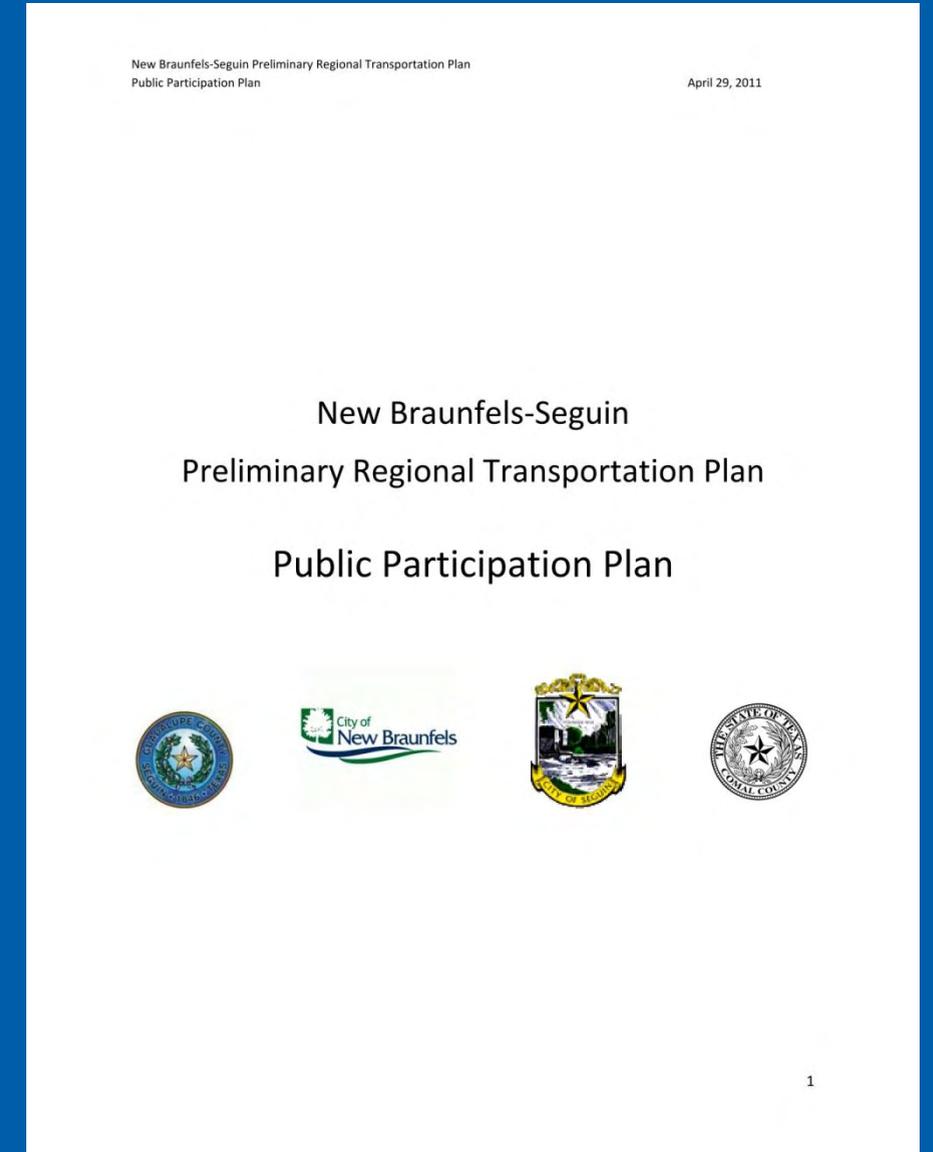


# Timeline



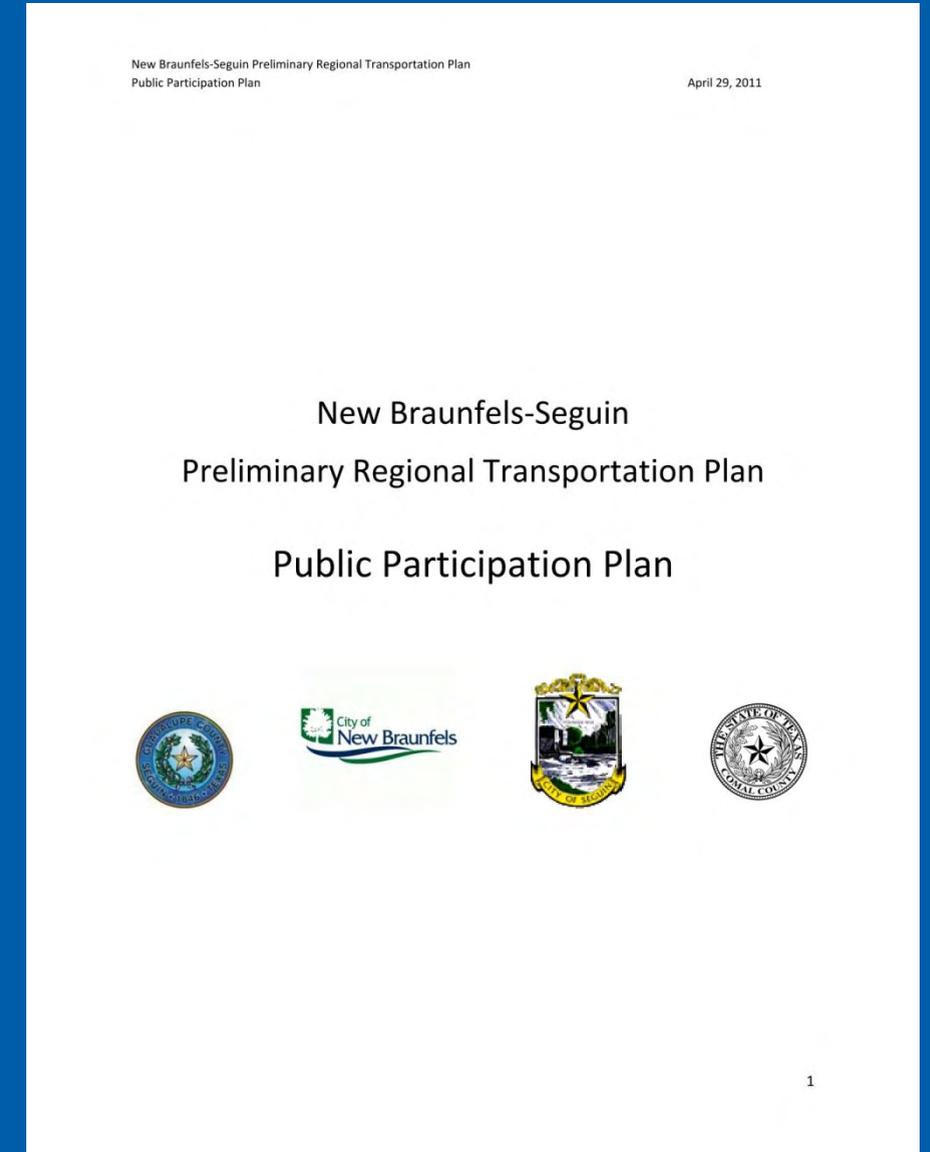
# Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The MPO should:
  - Articulate regional objectives
  - Understand stakeholders and their issues
  - Use a variety of techniques
  - Evaluate and refine the plan approach



# Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The Public should:
  - Participate in meetings and feedback activities
  - Educate themselves on the process of an MPO
  - Be open and communicative of ideas and effectiveness of the MPOs efforts



# PLAN DEVELOPMENT





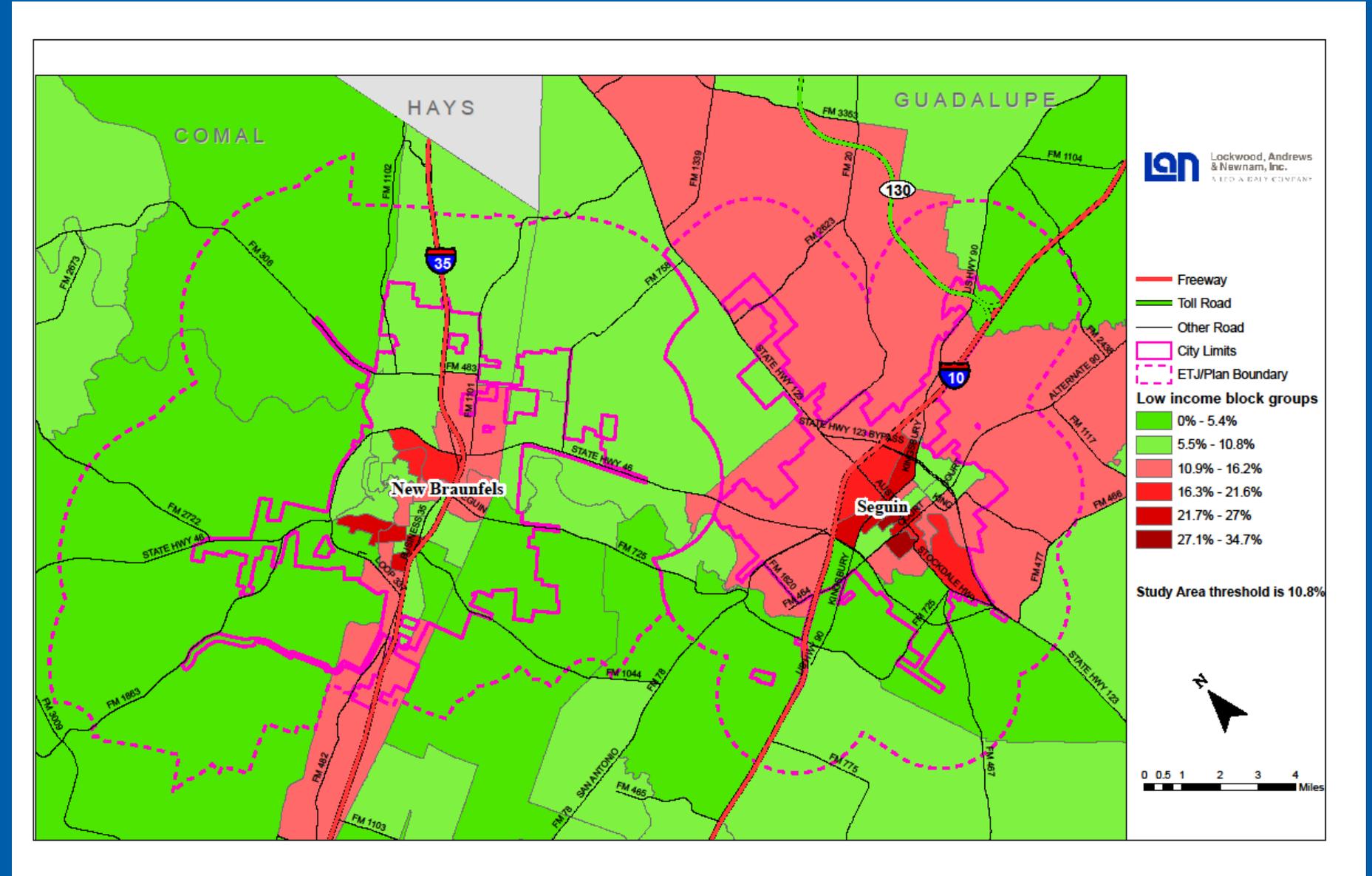
# Plan Contents

- **Demographics**
- **Environmental and Land Use Context**
- **Prior Planning Efforts**
- **Streets & Highways**
- **Public Transportation and Ridesharing**
- **Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodations**
- **Financial Capacity**



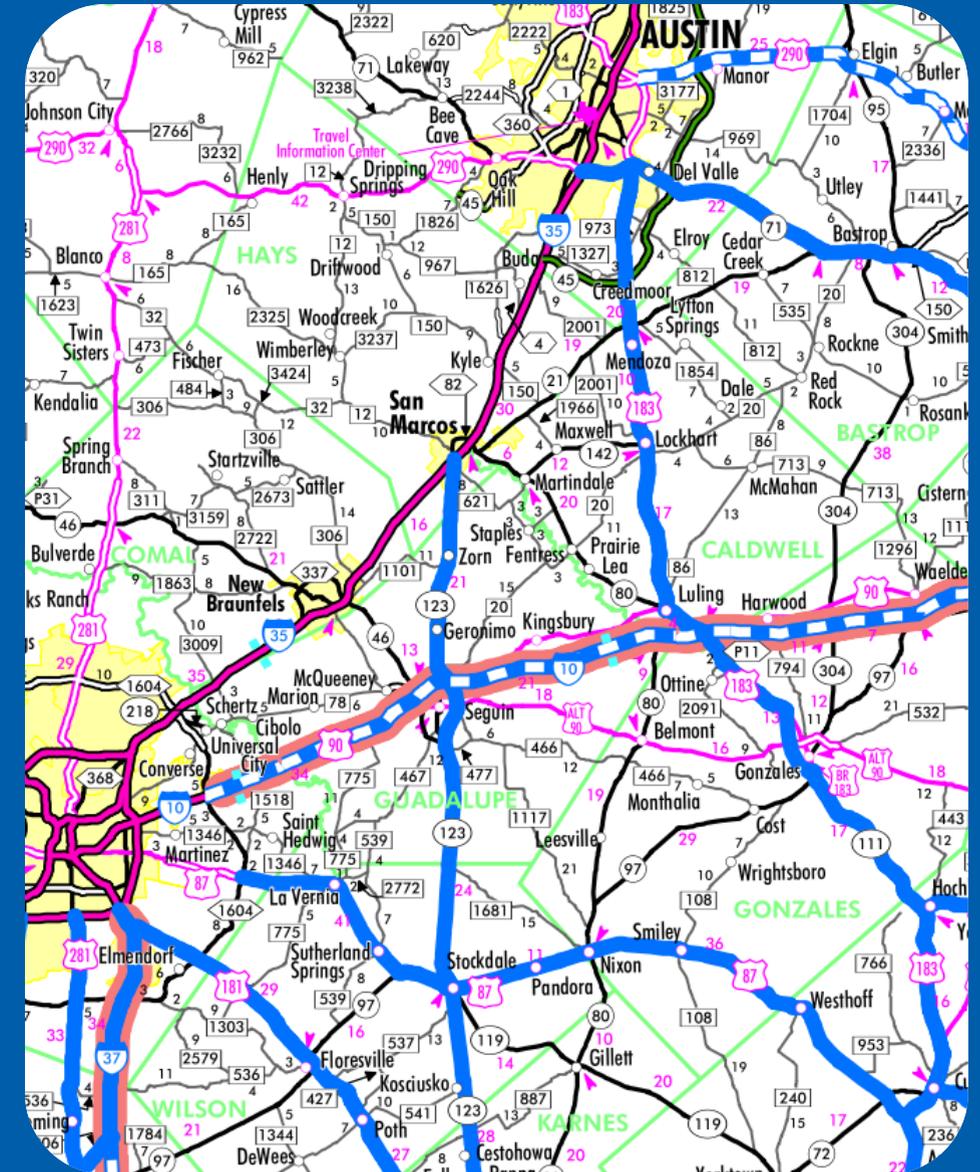
# Demographics

- 2010 Census
- Special Generators
- Environmental Justice



# Environmental and Land Use Context

- NEPA Implications
- Aquifer Recharge & Contributing Zones
- Hurricane Evacuation Routes
- Land Use Plan Objectives



# Prior Planning Efforts

- **Municipal Thoroughfare Plans**
- **Transit Plans**
- **Bicycle/Pedestrian Plans**
- **Adjoining MPO Plans**
- **Project Plans**
  - New Braunfels Outer Loop Study
  - Lone Star Rail



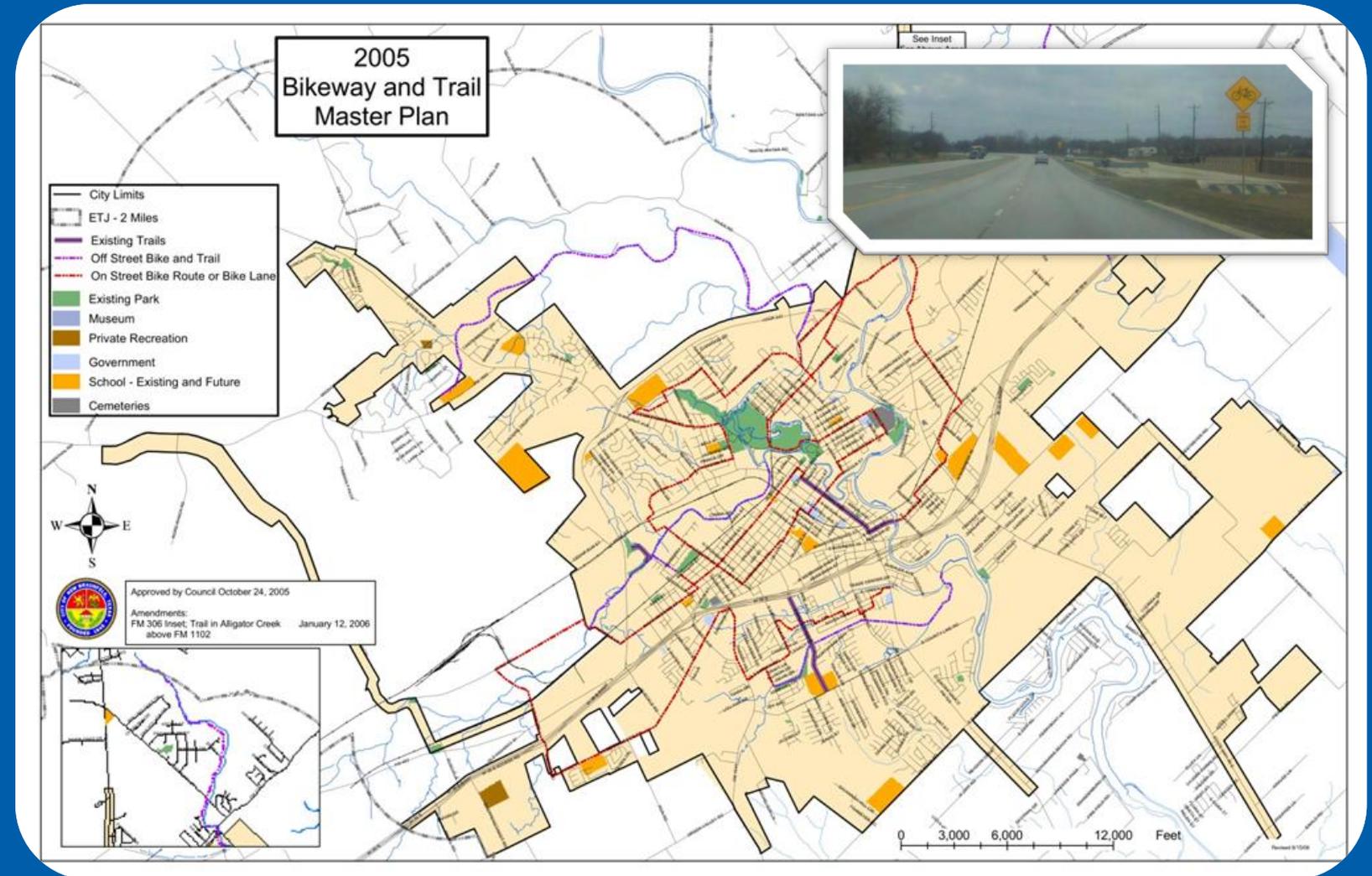
# Streets and Highways

- Alternative Sections
- Reconcile Boundary Issues
- Develop Planning Guide

Facility		Limits		Condition Defined	Functional Class	Existing Condition	Major Throughfare	Jurisdiction	Proposed Section	Description
MTP Designation	Name	From	To							
6th	6th	Union Pacific	New Braunfels	Ultimate	Collector		U2	Seguin		
6th	6th	New Braunfels	Kingsbury	Existing	Collector	R2	U2	Seguin		
6th	6th	Kingsbury	Court	Existing	Collector	U2	U2	Seguin		
Alves Ln	Alves Ln	SH 46	FM 306	Existing	Arterial	R2	80'	New Braunfels		
Alves Ln	Alves Ln	FM 306	Dietert	Ultimate	Arterial		80'	New Braunfels		New Road
Austin	Austin St	Nelda	Cedar	Existing	Arterial	U2	U4	Seguin		Two-way to one-way with River
Barbarosa	Barbarosa	FM 1011	County Line	Existing	Collector	R2	R2	Comal		Conflicts with CONB MTP
Baxter	Baxter	Huber	Guadalupe	Ultimate	Collector		U2	Seguin		New Road
Baxter	Baxter	Guadalupe	Heideke	Existing	Collector	U2	U2	Seguin		
Baxter	Baxter	Heideke	UP Drive	Ultimate	Collector		U2	Seguin		New Road
Blanco	Blanco	Ammann Rd	SH 46	Existing	Collector	R2				
Castell		Mill St	IH 35							
College	College	Austin	SH 123	Existing	Collector	U2	U2	Seguin		
Common St	Common St	Union Ave	Gruene Rd	Existing	Arterial	U4U	80'	New Braunfels		5 lane section east of river
Common St		LP 337	FM 483	Existing	Arterial	R2	80'	New Braunfels		
Cordova	Cordova	SH 46	SH 123	Existing	Arterial	R2	70'	New Braunfels		
Countryside	Countryside	FM 1863	County	Existing	Collector	R2	60'	New Braunfels		
County		FM 1044	FM 725							

# Public Transit and Ridesharing/ Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodations

- Policy Framework  
(Where? How?)
- Interregional Connections
- Local Needs



# Financial Capacity

- **Federal Government (FHWA, FTA)**
- **State Government**
- **Local Governments**
- **Transportation agencies**
- **Public-private partnerships**



# Plan Process

- **Round 1 Comments –**
  - How do you see the region changing?
  - What are your transportation issues & objectives?
  - How should we pay for our needs?
- **Round 2 – Open Houses – Concepts Review**
- **Round 3 – Draft Plan Presentations**





## CONTACTS:

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