



Website: Ocalamariontpo.org

Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) 2023 Apportionment Plan



Mission

To plan for a future transportation system that is safe and accessible for the residents and visitors of our community.

Vision

A transportation system that supports growth, mobility, and safety through leadership and planning.

Adopted on October 24, 2023

This document was prepared with financial assistance from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Florida Department of Transportation.

2710 E. Silver Springs Boulevard • Ocala, FL 34470 • 352-438-2630

Introduction

This Apportionment Plan documents the Planning Area boundary map and Governing Board membership for the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), which includes the cities of Belleview, Dunnellon, Ocala and Marion County.

Federal laws require metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) to be designated for each urban area with a population greater than 50,000 people [23 CFR 450.310(a), 23 USC 134(d)]. This designation is accomplished by an agreement between the Governor and the affected units of local government. In Florida, Florida Statutes (Section 339.175) outline the requirements for MPO membership composition and apportionment of the voting membership.

Pursuant to these federal and state laws, the TPO was designated as an MPO in 1981, when the Ocala Urbanized Area Census population exceeded a threshold of 50,000 people (58,103). All planning activities of the TPO must follow a *Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive ('3C') transportation process.

Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary

The boundaries of the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) are determined by agreement between the TPO and the Governor and, at minimum, encompass the entire existing urban area (as defined by the Census Bureau) plus the contiguous area expected to become urban within a 20-year forecast period (23 CFR 450.312). Due to significant population growth in the 1980's, the TPO Board approved the entirety of Marion County in 1992 as the MPA boundary, in agreement with the Governor. The **2020 MPA boundary**, based on the Census, maintains the **entirety of Marion County**, as illustrated in **Figure 1** on the next page.

Metropolitan Planning Area Population

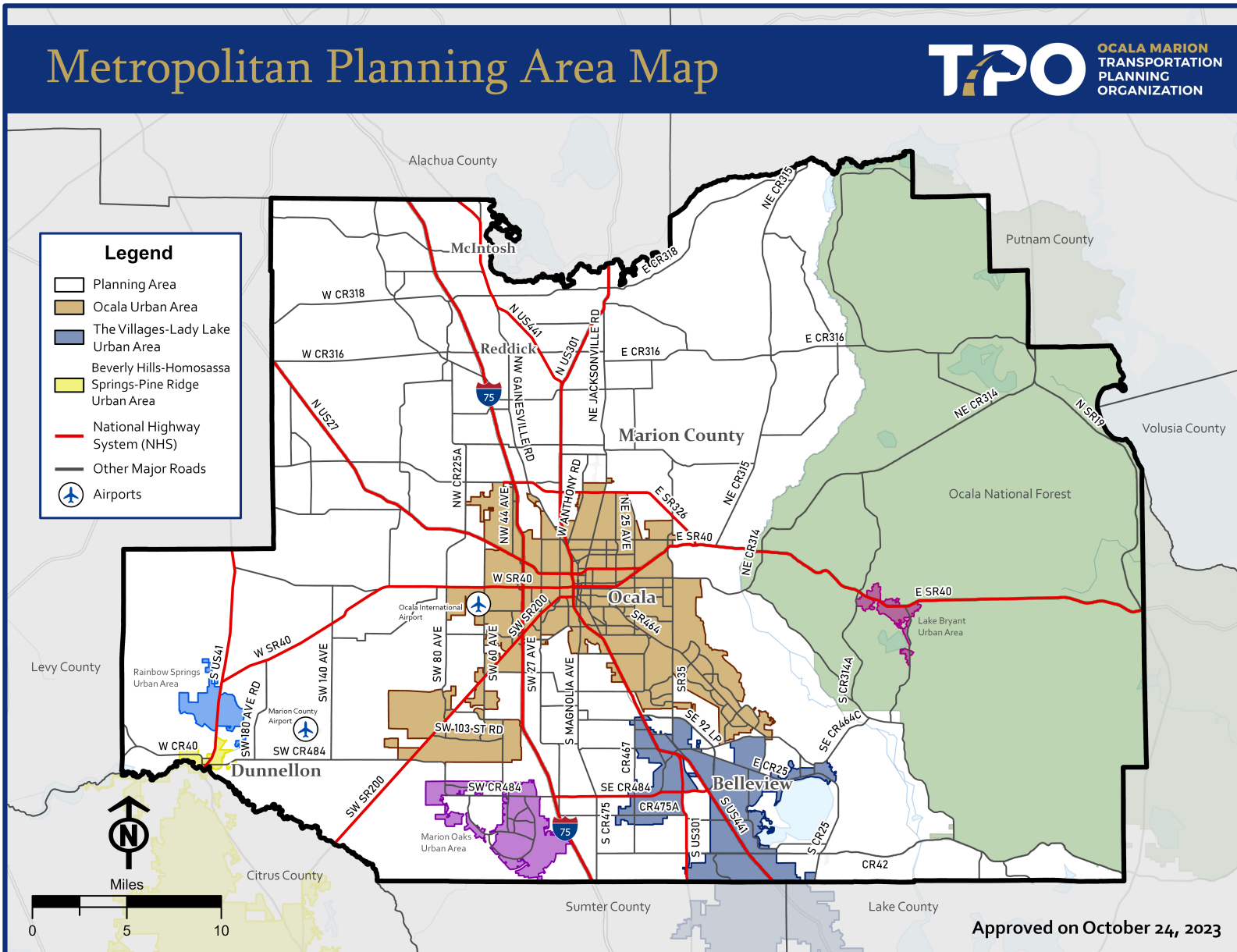
Based on the entirety of Marion County as the TPO's MPA, **Table 1** displays the total population figures for the 2020 and 2010 Census. As displayed, from 2010 to 2020, the population of the MPA grew to 375,908, an increase of 44,610 residents or 13.5 percent.

Table 1: MPA (TPO Planning Area) Population

MPA Area	2010 Population	2020 Population
Total	331,298	375,908

*Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive (3C) transportation process. *Continuing*: Planning must be maintained as an ongoing activity and addresses both short-term needs and a long-term vision; *Cooperative*: The process must include the entire region and all partners through a public participation process; and *Comprehensive*: the process must cover all modes of transportation and consistent with local plans and priorities.

Figure 1: Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary Map, Ocala/Marion County TPO



TPO Membership

Federal and state laws allow states and units of local government to largely determine the specific composition of the MPOs. This process is undertaken every ten years, in alignment with the Census. The following summarizes TPO Governing Board membership.

Membership

The Governing Board is comprised of twelve (12) voting members and one (1) non-voting member. The Board is represented by the City of Belleview Commission (1 vote); City of Dunnellon Council (1 vote); City of Ocala Mayor and Council (5 votes); and the Marion County Board of County Commissioners (5 votes). The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 5, serves as one non-voting member. This composition was agreed upon by the Board members in 2003 and reflected in a membership Apportionment Plan, adopted on November 25, 2003. The 2013 Apportionment Plan and corresponding membership was re-affirmed by the Board on May 28, 2013. Both apportionment plans were finalized with concurrence from the Governor in 2003 and 2013 respectively.

No changes were made to the TPO Governing Board Membership for the 2023 Apportionment Plan, with formal concurrence by the Governor on August 8, 2004. The Board membership remains 13 members, including 12 voting members from Belleview (1), Dunnellon (1), Ocala (5), Marion County (5), and 1 non-voting member from the FDOT District 5. Board membership is displayed in **Table 2**.

Table 2: TPO Board Membership

Jurisdiction/Agency	Membership		
	Number of Voting Members	Number of Non-Voting Members	Percent of Total Votes
City of Belleview	1	0	8.3%
City of Dunnellon	1	0	8.3%
City of Ocala	5	0	41.7%
Marion County	5	0	41.7%
Florida Department of Transportation, District 5	0	1	0%
Total	12	1	100%

Apportionment Plan Board Resolution

Resolution
No. 23-12

RESOLUTION OF THE OCALA/MARION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF
THE 2023 APPORTIONMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, Section 134 Title 23 of the United States Code requires the designation of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in urban areas, as defined by the United States Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for conducting a continuing, comprehensive and cooperative transportation planning process in Marion County; and

WHEREAS, the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization reviewed the Metropolitan Planning Area, and agreed upon the boundary presented herein; and

WHEREAS, the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization reviewed the membership composition, and agreed upon the composition presented herein; and

WHEREAS, Section 339.175(4)(a), Florida Statutes, requires the Governor to review the composition of the Metropolitan Planning Organization membership in conjunction with the decennial census.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization approves the submittal of the Apportionment Plan to the Governor's Office.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Chair of the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization held on this 24th day of October 2023.

By:



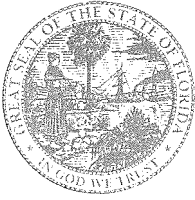
Craig Curry, Chair

Attest:



Rob Balmes, Director

Governor Concurrence Letter



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

August 8, 2024

Ocala-Marion Transportation Planning Organization
2710 E. Silver Springs Boulevard
Ocala, FL 34470

To Whom It May Concern:

In accordance with s. 339.175, Florida Statutes, and Title 23 CFR Part 450, please consider this letter as formal concurrence with the Department of Transportation's recommendation that the Ocala-Marion Transportation Planning Organization's apportionment plan meets the requirements of s. 339.175, Florida Statutes and Title 23 CFR 450.312(a).

The TPO's continued adherence to the requirements of Florida Law are of utmost importance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis, Governor

CC: Mr. Jared Perdue, P.E., Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation