

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Gallatin Valley MPO - Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Jeff Butts, MPO Manager

SUBJECT: FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program Final Review and Recommendation

MEETING DATE: July 8, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Grant

RECOMMENDATION: **Consider the motion:** I move to recommend that the Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee adopt the Federal Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.3 Public Agencies Collaboration: Foster successful collaboration with other public agencies and build on these successes.

BACKGROUND: The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the Gallatin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization's annual scope of work and budget for federally funded transportation planning. The UPWP includes Federal Highway Administration Planning (PL) funds for MPO activities and Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 funds for transit planning activities programmed by the Gallatin Valley Urban Transportation District (GVUTD). Adoption of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027 UPWP by October 1, 2026 is required to ensure uninterrupted federal reimbursement.

Preliminary MPO funding assumptions identify approximately \$442,982 in Federal Highway Administration Planning (PL) funds. After the required \$50,461 State allocation, approximately \$392,521 in FFY 2027 PL funds remains available for the MPO work program. The draft UPWP also includes approximately \$210,114 in carry-forward funding from the previous year, following a \$20,800 amendment to the FFY 2026 UPWP. For FFY 2027, the transit section identifies approximately \$115,283 in Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 funds, \$28,821 in local match, and a total transit planning program of approximately \$144,104.

The draft FFY 2027 UPWP programs the MPO's core responsibilities, including administration, public involvement, completion of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), staff time for the Valley Trail Loop Feasibility Study, transportation data collection, and continued coordination with local, state, federal, and transit partners. Transit planning activities include program administration, Transit Development Plan implementation, future

and current service analysis, TIP coordination, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) planning and coordination.

As part of this year's UPWP development, staff prepared updated five-year funding projections for the MPO work program. The projections show that the State allocation deduction and office-related operating costs each reduce available planning funds by more than \$50,000 annually. Together, these recurring costs create a projected five-year deficit shown in Table 29. While this does not create an immediate issue for the current year's budget, it identifies a structural concern that will require future consideration to preserve the MPO's planning capacity. MPO staff will continue evaluating options to preserve planning capacity within the MPO's available funding.

In response to the updated financial projections, staff is requesting to return the two continuous count stations for a refund, subject to a 10 percent restocking fee. This would increase available reserve funding by approximately \$61,000 and reduce future operating costs associated with the equipment.

No changes have been made to the draft FFY 2027 UPWP since the last review. The Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC) discussed MPO office-related operating costs as part of the five-year funding projection review, and the MPO host is reviewing those costs. Those costs remain included in the draft UPWP while staff and the host continue evaluating options to preserve MPO planning capacity within available funding.

Staff requests that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) recommend TPCC adoption of the FFY 2027 UPWP.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the committee.

FISCAL EFFECTS: The UPWP identifies \$400,200 in MPO expenses eligible for federal reimbursement.

Attachments:

[FFY2027_UPWP_TTAC_v2.pdf](#)

Report compiled on: June 30, 2026