## COMMENTS:

-On Page 3- Clearly define the Executive Order 12898, similar to previous definitions on page 2. Additional political jargon is unnecessary to the Public Participation Plan, and takes away from the context and purpose of this document. Your reference on Page 9 is a great example. Removed unnecessary language to better define the requirements of the Executive Order.

-On Page 23- In the MPO's attempt to '*minimize complaints*' about the MPO Planning Process, please be careful to encourage members of the Public to offer comments- both positive and negative, to ensure a healthy, unbiased planning process- most commonly referred to as the Federal 3-C Process (Cooperative, Comprehensive, and Continuing) that is explained in your MPO Self-Certification. Updated section 5.2 to include table outlining tangible goals that aligns with the PPP's of the AOMPO's peer MPOs.

-The PPP highlights the specifics of each MPO document (TIP, UPWP, LRTP) and the legislation that guides the MPO Planning Process, but does not offer substantial information to illustrate exactly how the MPO will conduct Public Participation. The AOMPO reviewed current PPP's of its peer MPO's and formulated a new section (3.6 MPO PPP Strategies) to include quantifiable and measureable public participation strategies.

What formatted, documented evidence does the MPO have that will thoroughly explain how the MPO conducts Public outreach (Where do you go for public meetings, how often, and when?) How do you gain Public input (what methods will the MPO use to gather feedback, where does this information go and how is it tracked by the MPO?) FHWA cannot measure the effectiveness of a PPP without a review of the MPO's strategies to engage the public. Please see Section 3.6

Reading this text will inform the reader who the Public is and who the MPO is, but not much attention is given to what the MPO does during the Public Participation Process. Please define the MPO's procedures for Public Participation.

Please refer to the Purpose of this Document on page 2, "The *Purpose of this document is to formalize the public participation* **procedures** to be used by the Auburn-Opelika MPO in the development of the transportation plans and programs..."

Thank you,

-V