WHAT ARE REGIONAL COUNCILS?
Regional councils are public organizations comprised of local elected officials that promote collaboration among local governments, working across the jurisdictional silos of states, counties, and municipalities.

WHAT DO REGIONAL COUNCILS DO?
• Convene elected officials and leaders from member communities to develop solutions to challenges extending beyond individual jurisdictions.
• Plan transportation, environmental, and community development projects.
• Deliver projects and programs by providing technical assistance and serving in roles such as Area Agencies on Aging, Economic Development Districts, 911 operators, and more.

WHAT ARE MPOs?
Many regional councils serve as their region’s Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). MPOs are local policy boards that collectively decide how to spend federal transportation dollars, conduct long-range transportation planning, and facilitate public involvement.

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BUILDING REGIONAL COMMUNITIES
2019 POLICY AGENDA

MORE THAN 500 regional councils in all 50 states serve areas with populations ranging from less than 50,000 to more than 19 million.
NARC supports:

**TRANSPORTATION**
- Federal partnerships with regions and local governments to address infrastructure challenges.
- Regional planning as an essential component of federal transportation policy.
- Integration of economic development, environment, land use, and housing with transportation.
- Expedited project delivery.
- Increased federal funding for and greater suballocation of the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP), Transportation Alternatives (TA), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ).
- Empowering regions to utilize the opportunities created by technology and data, including automated and connected vehicles.

**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT**
- Federal consultation of local governments in formulating environment, energy, and land use policies.
- Funding to assist local governments in providing safe drinking water and wastewater services.
- Community resilience planning to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events.
- Expand federal incentives to reduce energy dependency and promote renewable energy use.
- Multi-jurisdictional solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
- Local investments to clean up and redevelop brownfield sites.

**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
- Flexible federal funding for local economic and community development programs.
- Regional efforts to expand broadband to underserved communities.
- Investment in workforce programs to enhance the financial stability of low and moderate-income households.
- New federal resources to help communities address the lack of affordable housing.
- Local and regional planning that provides nationwide food access and security.
- Public and private investments that provide regions with the tools they need to create economically vibrant and sustainable communities.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**
- Involvement of local elected officials and regional planning organizations in federal public safety initiatives.
- Coordination between regions to achieve public safety and emergency management goals.
- Federal funding for programs that develop community resilience.
- Public-private partnerships to leverage public safety resources.
- Formal roles for regional planning organizations in emergency preparedness.
- A strong nationwide public safety broadband network for first responders.