

## Answers

# Transportation Planning Quiz

For more information on transportation planning contact us at [planning@mdot.ms.gov](mailto:planning@mdot.ms.gov).

*Question #1: Local transportation projects are planned and funded entirely by MDOT.*

**FALSE.** Planning begins at the community level. Money for new projects, upkeep and improvements is provided primarily by the Federal Highway Administration. In some cases, special funding programs are authorized by Congress. Sometimes costs are shared with local agencies. MDOT's role often includes allocating federal funds for approved transportation projects along with providing corresponding matching funds based on several factors such as the demonstration of a clear need for a new project and the availability of transportation funds.

*Question #2: For a transportation idea to become a reality, it must be listed in the Metropolitan Planning Organizations' (MPO) Transportation Improvement Plans (or TIP, a five-year, short-range plan).*

**TRUE.** The MPOs, like MDOT, use long-range transportation planning to identify future needs. Once the public and concerned agencies have had the opportunity to make comments or suggestions, approved projects are moved to the short-range plan or TIP when funding is available. The project is also listed

in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (or STIP, a five-year, short-range plan administered by MDOT) to ensure that duplication is avoided and our statewide system works together efficiently and cost-effectively.

*Question #3: In Mississippi, a transportation system refers only to highways and streets.*

**FALSE.** All modes of transportation, including rails, public transit, ports, bike and pedestrian paths and airports, work together to move people and goods. Planners seek to ensure that all modes of transportation work seamlessly and meet our mobility needs.

*Question #4: Some of Mississippi's water ports are state owned while others are city/county owned. Therefore long-range planning for ports is conducted jointly by MDOT, the MPOs, concerned agencies, and the public.*

**TRUE.** From Memphis to the Gulf Coast everyone is invited to voice opinions that help planners make decisions for meeting future transportation needs. This is true not only for water ports, but for all modes of transportation - rails, airports, public transit, and bike and pedestrian paths.

