

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202 TDD: (202) 962-3213

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ITEM 12

MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Technical Committee

FROM: Jim Hogan
Travel Forecasting Director

SUBJECT: Report of the TPB Travel Forecasting Subcommittee

Since my last report in December 2007, the Subcommittee has met four times to review progress with the work program in the following areas:

- Network Development;
- Models Development;
- Cordon Counts;
- Congestion Monitoring; and
- Travel Surveys.

The TPB Technical Committee was given detailed briefings on the following products emerging from this work program during the past year:

- Version 2.2 Travel Demand Model (March); and
- Spring 2007 Performance of High-Occupancy Vehicle Facilities in the Washington Region Report (June).

These products had received review by the Subcommittee prior to being placed on the Technical Committee agenda. In addition to monitoring progress with these elements, the Subcommittee has received detailed briefings on the following topics:

- Updates on the Household Travel Survey;
- Updates on the Regional On-Board Bus Survey;
- Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse;
- Version 2.3 Travel Demand Model Draft Report;
- Nested Logit Mode Choice Model Update;
- New Truck Models Development;
- Development of New Transportation Analysis Zones;
- Update on Air Systems Planning Activities;
- Metrorail Ridership Forecasts and Capacity Needs;
- Update on the Arterial Highway Congestion Monitoring Program; and
- Regional Congestion Management Process and Its Relationship to Travel Forecasting Program Activities.

As performed previously with the Version 2.2 travel demand model, sensitivity analyses of the new draft Version 2.3 travel demand model are now underway, ranging from executing the model under varying transit fare

assumptions to investigations of shifting travel patterns should capacity on one of the bridges crossing either the Potomac River or Anacostia River be removed. These test results are being reported at upcoming meetings of the subcommittee, prior to application of the model in next year's TIP and Plan Conformity analysis.

VHB, Inc., under contract to TPB to perform task order research during FY2008, conducted investigations of the following:

- Expanding the traffic count database to address a larger portion of the TPB region as an aid to better understanding peak-spreading; and
- Researching changes in external – internal travel patterns in the TPB region over time and the implications for forecasting and planning.

The results of this research will be presented at the next meeting of the subcommittee on September 19th. Cambridge Systematics, Inc. has won the competitive bid to perform task order research to TPB during FY2009.

Finally, the coming arrival of much needed new data in the forms of the Household Travel Survey, the on-board bus survey, and recent Metrorail and airport ground access surveys, will lay the groundwork for updating the current trip-based TPB modeling process and for beginning the process of moving to new tour-based and/or activity-based models. The subcommittee will be receiving briefings on these developments in the months to come.