

# **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

Memorandum

**DATE:** May 27, 2008

**To:** Travel Management Subcommittee

**From:** Anant Choudhary  
Transportation Engineer

**Subject:** Highlights of the April 15, 2008 Travel Management Subcommittee Meeting

The following members participated:

Jim Ponticello, VDOT (phone)  
Mark Rawlings, DDOT (phone)  
Maurice Keys, DDOT (phone)  
Tom Biesiadny (Fairfax County) (phone)  
Lyn Erickson (MDOT)  
Mike Clifford, DTP staff  
Andrew Meese, DTP staff  
Jeff King, DEP staff  
Melanie Wellman, DTP staff  
Daivamani Sivasailam, DTP staff  
Erin Morrow, DTP staff  
Anant Choudhary, DTP staff

The meeting was called to order and after introductions, highlights of the February 26, 2008 TMS meeting were approved. Daivamani Sivasailam presided over the meeting.

Under agenda item # 1, Melanie Wellman presented the final version of the Congestion Management reference materials as requested by the subcommittee. Andrew Meese noted that this document will be an aid to the agency staff for completing Congestion Management Documentation Forms for the 2008 CLRP and FY 2009-2014 TIP (CMP) form, especially it will be helpful to those personnel who do not have planning background. Andrew Meese asked the members if they have any questions on the CMP Documentation forms, or the CMP process. Members noted that they are comfortable with the instructions and reference materials.

Under item # 2 Melanie Wellman presented PowerPoint slides discussing the first draft version of the CMP report, and asked for general feedback and comments. She noted that the new federal regulation dated Feb 14, 2007 addresses all the CMP requirements. She

informed the members that the federal legislation requires metropolitan long range plan to have CMP after July 2007. The slides provided an overview of CMP development activities including development of draft CMP report. She explained details of chapters 1 – 6 of CMP report. She noted that chapter 3 provides information on where congestion occurs or will occur in the region. She cited some of the studies related to congestion management strategies. Finally, Andrew Meese outlined the timeline for the next course of actions related to CMP which include an updated version of CMP report, a final draft to technical committee in June and approval by July 2008. Lyn Erickson asked whether this report is required every year. Andrew Meese replied that it will be updated as needed.

Under the item # 3 Daivamani Sivasailam briefed subcommittee on the estimated CO2 benefits from the TERMS being implemented by the Commuter Connections Program. The estimate was prepared in response to a request from MDOT. He stated that the CO2 estimate is annual and proportional to VMT and gas consumption. He further added that the CO2 estimates from Commuter Connections TERMS are regional benefits and not limited to any one jurisdiction. Later he elaborated on cost effectiveness of various CO2 strategies. He further noted that the TPB scenario task force has goals for CO2 emissions reductions. Mike Clifford added that even though CO2 is not a part of conformity work scope, it is better to have CO2 benefit estimates for TERMS in the TERM Tracking Sheet. Jim Ponticello asked staff to identify and circulate studies and data on CO2 reductions from the alternative fuel. Mike Clifford noted that estimating CO2 benefits for traffic stream TERMS using the sketch planning tools may not be realistic.

Under item # 4 Daivamani Sivasailam informed the members that the TERM Status Reports is due in May for the conformity assessment of the 2008 CLRP and FY 2009-FY 2014 TIP. He requested members to send an email if there are no changes in the TERM status since last year.

Under item # 5 Daivamani Sivasailam provided an overview of EPA's call for Diesel emission reduction project grant proposals. Jeff King said that MDE is coordinating proposals for counties in suburban Maryland. Virginia DEQ contacts are focusing most of their efforts to identify potential projects in the Norfolk area. Private fleets can apply for funds through eligible entities such as MWCOG.