

---

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### I. PLANS, PROGRAMS & COORDINATION

#### A. Unified Planning Work Program

Work continued on monitoring the FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

The final draft FY 2005 UPWP was presented to the Technical Committee and TPB for approval in March. The final version was approved by the TPB at its March 17 meeting. The FY 2005 UPWP will be submitted to FTA and FHWA for review and approval in April.

#### B. Transportation Improvement Program

At the February 18 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the project submissions for 2004 CLRP and FY 2005-2010 TIP which were released for public comment and agency review at the TPB Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on February 12. Because additional information on the submissions was received after February 12, the TPB Program Committee on March 5, 2004 decided that the public comment period should be extended by releasing the updated project submission information at the CAC meeting on March 11, 2004. The extended public comment period will close on April 10, 2004. Staff reviewed the hundreds of comments received to date and prepared initial responses to them.

At the March 17 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the initial responses to comments received through March 12. Copies of the more than 2,000 comments received were posted on the TPB web site. The TPB will be asked to approve the projects for inclusion in the air quality conformity analysis for the CLRP and TIP at its April 21 meeting.

#### C. Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP)

At the February 18 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the project submissions for 2004 CLRP and FY 2005-2010 TIP which were released for public comment and agency review at the TPB Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on February 12. Because additional information on the submissions was received after February 12, the TPB Program Committee on March 5, 2004 decided that the public comment period should be extended by releasing the updated project submission information at the CAC meeting on March 11, 2004. The extended public comment period will close on April 10, 2004.

Staff reviewed the hundreds of comments received to date and prepared initial responses to them.

At the March 17 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the initial responses to comments received through March 12. Copies of the more than 2,000 comments received were posted on the TPB web site. The TPB will be asked to approve the projects for inclusion in the air quality conformity analysis for the CLRP and TIP at its April 21 meeting.

Staff summarized travel demand data for the 2003 Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRP), such as Employment, Population, Vehicle Miles of Travel, Transit Trips for 2005 and 2030, based on the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which is also the air quality planning area for the region. This information will be published in the Region Magazine and will also be used in the 2003 CLRP plan document.

#### D. Transportation Operations Coordination and Emergency Preparedness Planning

The Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Policy and Technical Task Forces met on March 9, 2004. The group discussed regional ITS architecture activities and traveler information activities, including planned integration of metropolitan Washington traveler information contractual support (for planning activities) into an upcoming Virginia statewide effort. An associated traveler information steering committee meeting was also held on March 9 to provide metropolitan stakeholder input to the Virginia effort.

Staff completed work on the revised Regional Emergency Evacuation Transportation Coordination (REETC) Annex of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan<sup>SM</sup>. Staff supported presentation of the REETC Annex to the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC) on March 4 by Emergency Transportation Work Group and MOITS Policy Task Force Chair David Snyder of the Falls Church City Council. Based upon the findings of the REETC Annex, the EPC requested that the TPB and staff develop a paper describing options for strengthening regional emergency communications and coordination in the transportation sector. Staff began work on this paper in March, for review by the MOITS Task Forces and the TPB in April and May.

Staff also supported Mr. Snyder's presentation of the REETC Annex to the COG Public Safety Policy Committee on March 19. The Public Safety Policy Committee endorsed the Annex, and forwarded it for approval by the COG Board of Directors.

---

The MOITS Task Forces at the March 9 joint meeting discussed the request for developing information on communications strengthening, and other follow-up activities to the completion of the REETC Annex. The MOITS Task Forces also discussed on March 9 the status and outlook of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program, and its relationship to emergency transportation activities.

E. Financial Plan

No work during the reporting period.

F. Private Enterprise Participation

No work during the reporting period.

G. Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

Staff Activities:

- Attended a meeting on the bicycle-friendly communities recognition program sponsored by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals.
- Met with members of the ADC Map work group to revise the ADC Regional Bicycle Map
- Delivered revised map materials to the ADC Map Company and explained them to ADC representatives.
- Researched bicycle route-finding software
- Prepared hand-outs, took minutes, staffed the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee meeting
- Presented to the Access for All subcommittee on the activities of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee

H. Access to Jobs Planning

COG/HSPPS staff performed the following tasks in March 2004:

- COG/HSPPS staff contacted WMATA staff and received an update on the status of the FY04 Access to Jobs work program. COG staff also worked with COG/TPB staff to increase representation of low-income people for the Access for All Advisory Committee.

I. Public Participation

The TPB Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) held its regular monthly meeting on March 17. The main activity at the meeting was a wide-ranging discussion between committee members and TPB Chair Chris Zimmerman.

The "TPB News" newsletter was written and distributed.

*Access for All Advisory Committee*

Staff drafted the full 2003 report to the TPB by completing the background information and committee concerns sections for the four recommendations of the committee. New tables and graphics were added to the report. Appendices with previous committee reports, presentations and letters were created. The report was circulated to the committee for review and comments were incorporated. The report was mailed out to the TPB for the March 17, 2004 meeting but the item was postponed due to time constraints. A PowerPoint presentation summarizing the report was created for the Chair, Kathy Porter, to use in presenting the report to the TPB. Staff participated by invitation on the WMATA Regional Paratransit Task Force and reviewed the final report and solicited comments from AFA members.

Preparations for the March 25, 2004 AFA committee meeting were made. Staff arranged to have WMATA representatives talk about the recommendations being carried forward from the Regional Paratransit Task Force. Invitations to participate in AFA committee meetings were extended to people that had previously participated in the Job Access Reverse Commute Ad-Hoc Committee.

J. Annual Report

Work continued on the text, photos and layout for the 2003 report.

K. DTP Management

In addition to the provision of staff support to meetings of the TPB, the Program Committee, and the Technical Committee, the following activities were undertaken:

- The DTP Director provided testimony to the Congressional Black Caucus on planning issues related to the reauthorization of the federal surface transportation legislation.

- The DTP Director attended a one-day meeting of the Subcommittee on Planning and Policy Review of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board.
- The DTP Director participated in the Spring Policy Conference of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO).

### ***TPB Task Force on Value Pricing***

Staff finalized materials to describe the draft regional high-occupancy vehicle/high-occupancy toll (HOV/HOT) scenario to be reviewed by the Task Force on Value Pricing at its March 17, 2004 meeting for the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study. A map showing the proposed expanded network was updated, along with the description and assumptions for the scenario. Other materials for the meeting were prepared and distributed via e-mail.

## **II. FORECASTING APPLICATIONS**

### **A. Air Quality Conformity**

Based upon review of project submissions to the 2004 CLRP and FY2005-10 TIP, staff revised the scope of work to reflect conformity tests of the two different alignments of the Intercounty Connector advanced for study by MDOT. Following discussion at the Technical Committee meeting, staff forwarded the revised scope to the TPB for its March meeting.

Staff continued to review and organize inputs for the air quality conformity analysis. Staff updated the conformity table and the significant changes document and distributed them to the Technical Committee and to the TPB. Staff continued to coordinate transit inputs with various implementing agencies.

Staff continued to update the highway network database/GIS files in preparation for network coding activities related to the conformity analysis of the TIP and the CLRP.

Staff drafted a technical memorandum on future transit service in the networks used in the travel demand forecasting process.

Staff calculated 2005 and 2030 MSA HOV and non-HOV lane miles for use in CLRP summary reports.

---

At the request of the District of Columbia, staff provided MSA VMT summaries in the District of Columbia and Maryland for school bus, transit bus, and auto access to transit.

In accordance with TPB consultation procedures, staff also forwarded to the consultation agencies and public advisory committees the meeting agenda and a summary memo regarding the March TPB meeting and air quality conformity consultation elements.

B. Mobile Emissions Analysis

COG/DTP staff continued technical work activities and coordination with DEP staff and MWAQC committees. Staff participated in meetings of MWAQC, its Executive Committee, and its Technical Advisory Committee. Air quality planning activities related primarily to: continued work on tasks associated with the 2002 Periodic Emissions Inventory; provision of travel data to air agency staff for their preparation of EPA's 2002 National Emissions Inventory and developmental work to translate the data into EPA's specific data format; research into refinements to inputs to Mobile6; and work to draft an approach to the development of a mobile source emissions trading program for the Washington area.

Staff worked on a number of work program items during March 2004. Staff modified the TERM Tracking Sheet and removed projects that were implemented prior to 2000 and associated emissions credits which are no longer relevant to conformity analyses. Staff discussed with Maryland and the District of Columbia air management agencies the procedure used by them to develop vehicle registration data for use as input to the Mobile 6 model. Further discussion with the VIN decoder software developer and a user were initiated and use of the software in the region discussed. A draft memorandum on progress to date was prepared and will be presented to the TPB Technical Committee at the April 2004 meeting. Staff reviewed literature (regional and national) on the potential for establishing an emissions trading program in the region and prepared a memorandum which was discussed at the Travel Management Subcommittee. Staff reviewed the list of TERMS that were under consideration for the 2003 CLRP and FY 2004-2009 TIP and compiled a list of TERMS for consideration during the conformity cycle of the 2004 CLRP and FY 2005-2010 TIP.

The Travel Management Subcommittee met on March 23, 2004. The subcommittee discussed the schedule of the 2004 CLRP and FY 2005-2010 air quality conformity assessment. Staff distributed the list of TERMS that had been compiled and considered for the 2003 CLRP and FY 2004-2009 TIP. The committee was briefed on the potential for emissions trading in the region and the progress to date on the refinement of input data to the Mobile 6 model. The subcommittee was also briefed on the status of the Severe Area SIP. The tentative date for the next Travel Management Subcommittee meeting is April 27, 2004 at 9:00 am.

---

COG/DEP staff worked with DTP staff to prepare the mobile inventory for the 2002 Periodic Emissions Inventory and to convert the data to NIF format, the reporting format required by EPA. Several calls were held to discuss seasonal factors for the states to use when calculating annual mobile emissions, and if HPMS data could be used, or if travel demand model data could be used to calculate VMT for the states' report. DEP staff attended TPB Technical Committee meeting and the TPB meeting. Staff updated the TPB Tech Committee on the SIP and regulations.

C. Regional Studies

Staff continued coding of the CLRP Plus Scenario transit network.

Staff continued to work with DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, WMATA and local jurisdiction staff to develop and refine that transit and highway facility assumptions for all alternative land use scenarios.

Staff reviewed the transit coding of the CLRP Plus Scenario and schedule for the analysis of this scenario with the Transportation Scenarios Subgroup and the Joint Technical Working Group.

Staff reviewed the highway and transit facilities recommended for testing with the "More Jobs in Outer Areas" land use scenario with the Transportation Scenarios Subgroup and the Joint Technical Working Group.

Staff reviewed some initial transportation modeling results for the "More Households in Inner Areas" land use scenario with the Transportation Scenarios Subgroup and the Joint Technical Working Group

Staff continued to make upgrades to the Version 2 travel demand forecasting model to enhance the modeling of transit and HOV/HOT facilities in Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study transportation scenarios.

The "CLRP+" transit networks depicting peak and off-peak services were completed in March. Staff made presentations to the transportation scenarios subgroup and the Joint Technical Working Group.

D. Coordination of Cooperative Forecasting & Transportation Planning

Staff attended the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICC Land Use Expert Panel.

---

Staff presented draft Round 6.4 Cooperative Forecasts with the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee and analyzed changes in these draft forecasts compared to the adopted Round 6.3 Cooperative Forecasts. The Metropolitan Development Policy Committee approved these draft forecasts for use in this year's CLRP/TIP air quality conformity analysis.

### III. DEVELOPMENT OF NETWORKS AND MODELS

#### A. Network Development

Transit line files depicting peak and off-peak service for the year 2003 have been completed. Other maintenance activities continued with the updating of the highway network database to reflect the latest TIP and Plan elements. This provides the backdrop for beginning development of networks for use in the FY2005-2010 TIP and the 2004 CLRP.

#### B. GIS Technical Support

Staff continued to monitor the performance of ArcGIS and Oracle 9i databases.

Staff continued research on upgrading the GIS database server to Oracle 10g and ArcSDE 9.0.

Staff began the redesign of the comprehensive data model to take advantage of new ArcGIS features and more efficiently manage COG/TPB GIS databases.

Staff continued to migrate remaining ArcInfo workstation data from the legacy Unix server to the Windows 2000 GIS server.

Staff recovered and restored lost master network GIS data files from archived back-ups.

Staff continued installation of Hummingbird software on individual workstations in response to user requests.

Staff continued modification of GIS application programs to enable additional highway link splits for base year and intermediate year networks in the GIS Master Network database.

---

Staff provided technical assistance and instruction to the network development team in preparation for the update of the GIS Master Network database as part of this year's CLRP/TIP Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

C. Models Development

During March, staff completed a first draft of the Version 2.1 D travel demand model, incorporating elements which address upgrades to the modeling process in the short term, as detailed in the multi-year "straw man" work program transmitted to the TRB Committee on December 24<sup>th</sup>. The updated model was reviewed with the TPB Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (TFS) at its meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Additional changes to the model are in preparation and will be reviewed with the TFS at its meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Two consultant contracts were awarded to Jeffrey Bruggeman of AECOM and to William Allen. Mr. Bruggeman has been retained to advise staff on transit modeling improvements that are being undertaken. Mr. Allen has been retained to advise staff about data collection to support development of a new set of commercial vehicle and truck models.

D. Software Support

Staff continued work on the revision of Version 2 travel demand model flowcharts, making adjustments in the creation of appropriate flowcharts to reflect the current operation and updates of the Version 2.1, Release C, Travel Demand Model, work being done as part of the air quality conformity process. Development of a file naming convention to enable the identification of files with respect to conformity year and alternative within a given year has been deferred. Investigation of the feasibility of a less-detailed chart of the application process and other types of illustration of the process continues.

Staff, in coordination with the COG Information Technology System, continued the investigation of current direct access device technology which may be applicable as a microcomputer hard drive back-up system to replace the tape back-up system currently in use. The investigation continues to focus on USB 2.0 DVD's and portable hard drives with the addition of snap drives. Currently, a portable hard drive is in use and continues under evaluation.

IV. TRAVEL MONITORING

A. Cordon Counts

---

At the end of March, staff had largely completed the geo-coding and processing of survey data obtained in the 2003 truck external roadside survey. Remaining work includes merging all data into one dataset, reasonableness checking, and factoring of survey records.

Travel time runs for the 2004 Regional HOV Facilities Monitoring project were started and will continue into April. Count field work will start in April, after Easter and Passover holidays are completed.

B. Congestion Monitoring and Analysis

Staff completed data collection on all of the arterial highways that are being studied during this fiscal year as part of the arterial travel time data collection project. Data analyses are under way and the project is on schedule with a draft report available for internal review by the first week of May 2004. The Travel Monitoring Subcommittee has been disbanded and its responsibilities have been assumed by the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee.

Travel Surveys and Analysis

1. Household Travel Survey

Staff continued prep of the 2003 household travel survey data for geocoding.

2. Census Journey to Work Analysis

Staff continued to review of CTPP 2000 Part 2 – Place of Work data by TAZ received in January.

Staff began an analysis of the CTPP 2000 Part 2 – Place of Work data by jurisdiction and TAZ compared to Cooperative Forecasting base year employment estimates for 2000.

3. Regional Travel Trends Report

No staff activities.

D. Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse

Staff continued assembly of new traffic count data for Virginia and review of Census data to be included in the update of Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse.

Staff completed initial incorporation of 2003 AADT data in to the Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse.

V. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. District of Columbia

Program Development

Staff attended and participated in DDOT's monthly HPMS meeting.

Miscellaneous Services and Data Requests

Staff continued to provide advice to the U.S. DOT / Volpe Center on the D.C. Motor Carrier Management and Threat Assessment Study.

Database Automation and Application Development

No staff activities.

Machine Traffic Counts

Staff prepared a request for proposals' document and sent it to transportation planning consultants. Staff visited the 96 locations where 48 hour traffic volume counts are to be obtained for location review. A pre-proposal meeting was held on March 30. Proposals are due on April 13, 2004.

District of Columbia City Line Cordon Count

There was no activity during March.

B. Maryland

Program Development

Staff continued coordination with MDOT and MD SHA staff regarding ongoing work program activities.

---

### Miscellaneous Services

Staff continued work to provide data and summary files in electronic format from corridor locations in Montgomery County, Maryland, surveyed in the Arterial Highway System Performance Monitoring Project to the Montgomery County Department of Parks and Planning, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Staff completed work to provide all input data required to execute the COG/TPB Travel Forecasting Model Version 2.1/TP+, Release C, for three time periods for the simulation years 1994, 2000, and 2025, and for simulation years 2005, 2015, 2025 and 2030 from the 2003 CLRP/FY 2004-09 TIP Air Quality Conformity modeling process and Round 6.3 land use from the COG Cooperative Forecasting process to the following organizations:

1. Maryland Department of Planning.
2. Baltimore Metropolitan Council.

Staff completed work to provide Round 6.3 land use from the COG Cooperative Forecasting process to a consultant to the Maryland Department of Transportation.

### **MEETINGS**

Staff attended the following meeting:

1. Maryland SHA I-95/I-495 Greenbelt Metro Access Study meeting of the study team to select an alternative, discuss the results of comments received from the Location/Design Public Hearing, discuss environmental impacts and select enhancement opportunities to recommend for the Indian Creek which is located in the study area. The meeting was held on March 11, 2004.

### MD SHA / MTA Technical Support

Staff reviewed documentation reports, e.g., draft environmental impact study, alternatives retained for detailed study, for various project planning studies in Maryland. Staff performed work on the ICC project, as described below.

---

## Subregional Studies

### Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Study

Staff attended a Capital Beltway meeting at Maryland State Highway Administration in Baltimore. Staff also met with project team staff to discuss validation efforts required for the study. The study team is in the process of defining managed lane scenarios assumptions to be modeled by staff using the latest modeling methods consistent with the ICC Study.

### I-270 & US 15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study

Staff finalized the assumptions for the I-270 Managed Lanes Analysis and began travel demand modeling work for 'Alternative 5' using the modeling methods employed in the

ICC Study. Staff completed the network coding step and began the travel demand modeling efforts.

### Intercounty Connector Study

Staff continued development and analysis of travel forecasts for 2030 build alternatives. Staff forwarded model output computer files and summary data to SHA's consultants for their work in postprocessing (peak hour volumes and levels of service analysis) the forecast year alternatives. Staff worked closely with SHA's consultants in executing the technical work activities. Staff also participated in a meeting of the ICC Travel Demand Task Force on March 19<sup>th</sup>. These work activities are funded under the Maryland Technical Support project, listed above.

## C. Virginia Technical Assistance

### Program Development

Staff discussed proposed technical assistance work activities for FY2005 with VDOT. Staff prepared modifications to the FY2004 UPWP to delete the Springfield Interchange Data Collection project and carry funds forward into FY2005 under the miscellaneous services account.

### Miscellaneous Services

---

Staff processed a data request for VDOT.

#### Northern Virginia HOV Facilities Monitoring and Data Collection

Processing of all data was completed and transmitted to VDOT in February. This project has been completed.

#### Springfield Interchange Data Collection

At the request of VDOT, this project was deleted from the FY2004 work program, with monies carried forward into FY2005, effective with the TPB action taken on March 17th.

#### D. WMATA

##### Program Development

At WMATA's request, staff reprogrammed funding from two existing projects (see below) to establish a new project, Parking Usage at Metrorail Stations.

##### Miscellaneous Services

At the request of WMATA, this project was deleted from the FY2004 work program to make available funds for other projects. The package of changes to the work program was approved at the TPB meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

##### Fare Study and Fare Policy Study

At the request of WMATA, this project was deleted from the FY2004 work program to make available funds for other projects. The package of changes to the work program was approved at the TPB meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

##### Regional Transportation Financing Plan

This project has been deleted at the request of WMATA to provide funding for a study of near term regional transportation funding needs and availability and project/program priorities. By action of the TPB Program Committee on October 3, 2003 (resolution TPB PR8-2003), \$150,000 was transferred to I.E Financial Plan to conduct the study at a level of \$201,000 (previously programmed in the FY2004 UPWP at \$51,000). The remaining

---

balance of \$20,000 in this WMATA account was transferred to WMATA Miscellaneous Services, increasing its budget from \$8,125 to \$28,125.

### Parking Usage at Metrorail Stations

The request for proposals to count traffic entering and existing paid metrorail parking lots is under preparation.

At the request of WMATA, this project was established through action of the TPB on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The project scope is to obtain usage data from 48-hour tube counts at all entry and exit points of all Metrorail park-and-ride lots.

## VII. CONTINUOUS AIRPORT SYSTEM PLANNING (CASP) PROGRAM

### A. CASP 19

#### 1) Regional Air Passenger Origin/Destination Forecast Update

Staff revised the draft report documenting procedures used to develop forecasts of local originating air passenger trips from each Aviation Analysis Zone to each of the three major commercial airports in the Baltimore/Washington region to include the updated forecasts for Baltimore/Washington International Airport.

#### 2) Ground Access Forecast Update

There was no staff activity during this reporting period.

### B. CASP 20

#### 1) Process 2002 Air Passenger Survey

Staff continued the data processing phase of this project.

#### 2) Ground Access Travel Time Study

Staff continued to review the preliminary study results.

---

The **Aviation Technical Subcommittee** met Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at COG. Agenda items included:

- Update on CONAANDA Activities
- Status report on Air Passenger Origin/Destination Forecast Update
- Status report on Ground Access Travel Study Update
- Status report on 2002 Air Passenger Survey

#### VI. OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

##### Advanced Technology Vehicle Project

The program oversight committee did not meet during March 2004. The contract with Schwan's Food service was finalized and is awaiting signature. The next meeting of the oversight committee will be scheduled for April 2004.

