

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. Welcome and Approval of Minutes from the March 3 Technical Committee Meeting

Minutes were approved as written.

2. Review of Project Submissions for the 2006 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) and FY 2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Kirby spoke to the materials that had been released for public comment in March and distributed at the TPB meeting. A Board member had asked about the funding for the widening of Kenilworth Avenue in Prince George's County. Mr. Weissburg said it was his understanding that the project was being paid for by a combination of private sources including the University of Maryland and developers. Mr. Kirby said that the financial plan would require a breakdown of those funding sources. Ms. Posey discussed changes to the Air Quality Conformity Table. The completion date of the Anacostia Area Streetcar project had been changed from 2011 to 2008, per a comment made by Ms. Pourciau at the TPB meeting. There was still some question as to whether this date should be 2007 or 2008. Mr. Rybeck said the completion date should probably be 2007. Mr. Austin stated that no public comments pertaining to any projects had been received.

3. Review of Comments Received to Date on the Draft Scope of Work for Conducting the Air Quality Conformity Assessment of the 2006 CLRP and FY2007-12 TIP

Mr. Clifford spoke to the mailout items, which contained three separate components: 1) "Air Quality Conformity Assessment: 2006 Constrained Long Range Plan Amendments and FY2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program – Draft Scope of Work", dated 3/8/06. 2) A letter from MWAQC to the TPB, dated 3/22/06, and 3) A letter from Mr. Desjardin to Mr. Clifford, dated 3/31/06.

The Committee then discussed the topic including: Will Round 7a land use forecasts be used for the upcoming 2008 SIP development? No, the SIP development procedures require that we use the most recently adopted planning assumptions, which would be Round 7.0. Round 7a is being tested with the conformity update, but will not be formally adopted until adoption of the CLRP and TIP, which is scheduled for October, 2006. This question was also discussed at the previous MWAQC meeting; changes to land use forecasts associated with development in the vicinity of the proposed RFK stadium are on the order of a few hundred jobs, thus, associated impacts to forecasted VMT are expected to be miniscule on a regional level.

4. Review of the Draft FY2007 Commuter Connections Work Program (CCWP)

Mr. Ramfos stated that the draft FY 2007 Commuter Connections Work Program was released for public comment at the March 15, 2006 TPB meeting and the comment period will end on April 15th. He also stated that comments were received from VDOT, Loudoun County, and Arlington County and that the comments submitted were reflected in the updated version of the document that was released. Mr. Ramfos also said that the Commuter Connections Subcommittee reviewed the draft document at their March 14th meeting.

Ms. Ashby asked if responses to Arlington County were made. Mr. Ramfos stated that a response was forthcoming and that any comments submitted would be reflected in the current draft document.

5. Update on the 2006 CLRP Financial Analysis

Mr. Kirby briefed the Committee on the status of the financial analysis for the plan, which was based upon the April 4 meeting of the working group for the analysis. He said that Virginia revenue and expenditure forecast data through 2030 is still under development and is delayed because there are major revenue proposals under debate in the state legislature. He explained that Cambridge Systematics Inc (CSI) was asked to produce a draft financial analysis with place holder numbers for Virginia and the data provided by DDOT and MDOT, and WMATA. He said that the WMATA data include the requests for local revenues with and without the federal funds envisioned in the Davis Bill. He said that the Virginia jurisdictions will be working to finalize their revenue and expenditure forecasts during April and that the entire financial analysis must be completed by June 30 when the CSI contract ends.

Mr. Kirby then briefed the Committee on the handout presentation given at the March 15 TPB meeting on the financial analysis for the 2006 CLRP. He reviewed what the financial constraint requirement means, its importance, and how it is applied to the plan and TIP. He highlighted the status of the financial analysis and the funding identified for the five significant projects proposed for the 2006 CLRP. He noted that because the prospects for additional funding in Virginia are still uncertain that any new Virginia projects affecting conformity would be identified for the 2007 CLRP update. He said that the financial analysis will be updated each year on the web.

Mr. Kirby explained that unless new WMATA funding beyond the recent Metro Matters commitments is identified, the transit capacity on Metrorail ridership into and through the core area for 2020 and 2030 will be constrained at 2010 levels. Mr. Tangirala commented that this constraint will have a significant impact on air quality. Mr. Kirby said that the draft revised scope of work for the air quality conformity analysis includes

the option to remove the constraint and to estimate emissions if funding is identified by September.

Mr. Kirby explained that he briefed the TPB on how it could support the promising longer-run land use and transportation strategies that have been identified in the TPB Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study. He said this could include, perhaps, adapting three existing MPO programs that support planning studies for promising land use initiatives such as transit oriented development (TOD). After summarizing the three "Transportation for Livable Communities" programs, he asked the Committee to think about such a program for this region and recommended that staff take some months to look into and report on how the programs work and how effective they are. He noted that the sources of funding and decision making for such a program in this three state region will be challenging. He also said that staff will review the many TOD examples in this region and examine how such a program would have been helpful in their development.

Several members identified locations of TOD or where planning studies were involved. Mr. Mokhtari said that MDOT provided planning funds to help develop the Prince George's County TDZ plan. Mr. Rybeck said that DDOT has some planning study funding in the current TIP. Mr. Moss mentioned the Rockville Town Center and the Silver Spring Transit Center projects. Ms. Ashby identified the Columbia Pike project. Ms. White mentioned the Eisenhower development and the Braddock Metro area. Mr. Biesiadny identified the Metro West development and the work of the Tysons Corner Task Force. Mr. Kirby asked members to e-mail him information on these or other examples. He commented that the region has many good TOD examples so we have to ask what could be added by introducing a new program to support planning studies.

Chair Canizales said that Prince William County has a study for the Route 1 corridor. He commented that the details about any new planning study program's operation and funding will be important. While this is a three state region, the Virginia jurisdictions are very sensitive about the STP and CMAQ funds that are allocated to Northern Virginia and each jurisdiction has its priorities.

6. Briefing on the TPB Transportation Planning Process Certification Summary Report

Ms. Jackson said that as required by federal regulations, the Federal Highway and Transit Administrations conducted a Certification Review of the TPB transportation planning process on September 19 - 20, 2005. She briefed the Committee on the summary report on the certification review and highlighted nine commendations and sixteen recommendations. She thanked the TPB staff for their help and the jurisdictions' staff for their assistance with the review. Mr. Kirby said that it was a well managed and thorough review.

In response to Mr .Mokhtari, Ms. Jackson explained that the recommendation for financial planning calls for more details on how the operations and maintenance cost estimates are made.

There were several questions about the recommendation that the TPB and the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO) should work to reach a resolution on the allocation of FTA regional funds. Mr. Kirby explained the history and complex issues involved in the discussions held over the past months with FAMPO on its proposals for changing the designated recipient and current allocation of these funds. Ms. Ashby and Chair Canizales commented that they were unaware of these proposals and that these funds are needed for VRE. Mr. Biesiadny suggested that the NVRTA should be informed about this. Mr. Kirby said that he would provide the current information on the FAMPO proposals to the Northern Virginia jurisdictions. Ms. Jackson said that efforts should continue to reach an agreement.

In response to Ms. Haldeman, Ms. Jackson said that the recommendation calls for TPB to work with the transit operators in the region to establish a formal written agreement specifying roles and responsibilities and how transit planning is being carried out in the region. Mr. Biesiadny said that there are agreements for bus route planning and for the Dulles rail projects and other transit activities. Mr. Kirby said that the TPB process needs to better document the transit planning process.

Ms. Jackson said that TPB needs to address the recommendations and that some MPOs received corrective actions that must make changes or lose funding. She stated that overall this was a very good planning certification.

7. Briefing on 2006 Street Smart Program

Mr. Farrell gave the Committee a PowerPoint presentation on the on-going "Street Smart" Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Campaign.

Ms. Haldeman, who chairs the bicycle and pedestrian subcommittee, introduced Mr. Farrell, and thanked him for his work on the draft bicycle and pedestrian plan.

Ms. Pardo asked why the campaign concentrated on males aged 18 to 34. Mr. Farrell explained that younger male drivers are disproportionately involved in pedestrian collisions. The pedestrians being hit are likely to be older than the drivers, closer to forty.

Ms. Pardo asked what federal funds were being used for the program. Mr. Farrell replied that 402 safety funds from the Maryland Office of Highway Safety and the Virginia DMV were being used.

Mr. Mokhtari asked about the distribution of pedestrian fatalities by time of day. A campaign that tells people to stop for pedestrians might not be relevant if people are getting killed at night when motorists can't see them. Mr. Farrell replied that the peak hour for injuries serious enough to require hospitalization was evening rush hour, around 6 p.m. He promised to look into the distribution of fatalities by time of day. Injuries, however, are a major problem. A campaign that tells pedestrians to look before they cross is relevant for night-time conditions.

Mr. Mokhtari asked if, given that the amount of funds contributed for the program in the region was less than what had been requested, the table of suggested contributions would be revised. Mr. Farrell replied that it would not be revised downwards, because to do so would mean asking for less funding from the major local funding agencies than they are currently providing.

8. Briefing on Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capitol Region

Mr. Farrell spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Draft Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Mr. Rybeck asked if there were census tracts that had walk to work mode shares as high as 84%. Mr. Farrell replied that there were military bases and college campuses that have very high pedestrian mode shares.

Mr. Moss asked whether high bicyclist mode share was a sign of available trails. Mr. Farrell replied that it often was. Mount Pleasant is a good example of a neighborhood with a lot of bicycling.

Mr. Mokhtari asked if the map could be made to show funded versus unfunded projects. Mr. Farrell replied that it could be done, though many projects have only a partial funding commitment.

Mr. Meese said that it would be helpful if comments could be sent to Mr. Farrell by April 12. Mr. Canizales said that to give the Committee a full week to review the document, comments should be sent to Mr. Farrell by April 14.

Mr. Canizales asked if the plan reflected projects in the VDOT 2020 plan. Mr. Farrell replied that it did. Mr. Canizales noted that in Prince William County many bicycle and pedestrian projects are funded with bonds and do not appear in the TIP. Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are often subsumed within larger projects. Mr. Farrell suggested that any additional projects submitted for the plan be at least one mile in length or greater than \$300,000 in cost. Mr. Meese added that in the case of sidewalk projects it might be best just to list the County-wide programs.

9. Discussion of Current Air Quality Planning Activities

Mr. Clifford spoke to the mailout item, which included draft results of VIN decoded registration data, monthly versus seasonal emissions analysis, and a schedule for the 8-hour ozone SIP. Mr. Clifford also spoke to two handout items: 1) Attachment 1A (missing from mailout item VIN decode memo) 2) A list of vehicle types from Mobile 6 guidance.

The Committee discussed the topic including: Is COG/DTP using Mobile 6 default age distribution fractions only for transit bus and school bus vehicle types? Yes.

10. Briefing on Federal Guidance on Annual Listing of TIP Projects with Federal Obligations

Deferred to May 2006.

11. Other Business

None.

12. Adjourn

**TPB TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES
ATTENDANCE - April 7, 2006**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DDOT Rick Rybeck

MARYLAND

Frederick Co. Denis Superczynski

Gaithersburg -----

Montgomery Co. David Moss

Prince George's Co. Vic Weissberg

Rockville -----

M-NCPPC

Montgomery Co. -----

Prince George's Co. Faramarz Mokhtari

MDOT Lyn Erickson

Shiva Shrestha

VIRGINIA

Alexandria Maria White

Arlington Co. Tamera Ashby

City of Fairfax -----

Fairfax Co. Tom Biesiadny

Robert Owolabi

Falls Church -----

Loudoun Co. Arthur Smith

Manassas -----

Prince William Co. Rick Canizales

NVTC -----

PRTC Anthony Foster

VRE -----

VDOT Valerie Pardo

VDRPT -----

NVPDC -----

VDOA -----

WMATA

WMATA Kristin Haldeman

FEDERAL/OTHER

FHWA-DC Sandra Jackson

FHWA-VA -----

FTA -----

NCPC -----

NPS -----

MWAQC Rama Tangirala

COG Staff and Others

Ronald Kirby, COG/DTP

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP

Gerald Miller, COG/DTP

Mark Pfoutz, COG/DTP

Michael Freeman, COG/DTP

Andrew Meese, COG/DTP

Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP

Nicholas Ramfos, COG/DTP

Jim Hogan, COG/DTP

Bob Griffiths, COG/DTP

Anant Choudhary, COG/DTP

Jane Posey, COG/DTP

Andrew Austin, COG/DTP

Paul DesJardin, COG/HSPPS

Greg Goodwin, COG/HSPPS

Darren Smith, COG/DTP

Don McAuslan, COG/DTP

Michael Farrell, COG/DTP

Keisha Ransome, COG/DTP