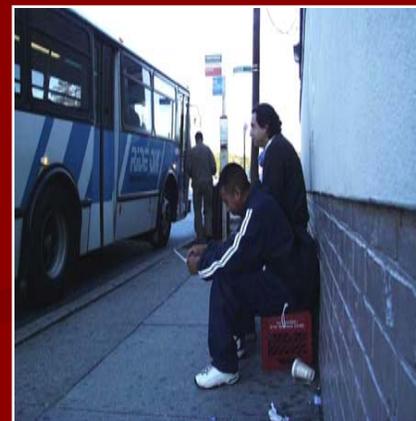


# Significant Gaps in Transportation: Major Themes



TPB Human Service Transportation  
Coordination Task Force

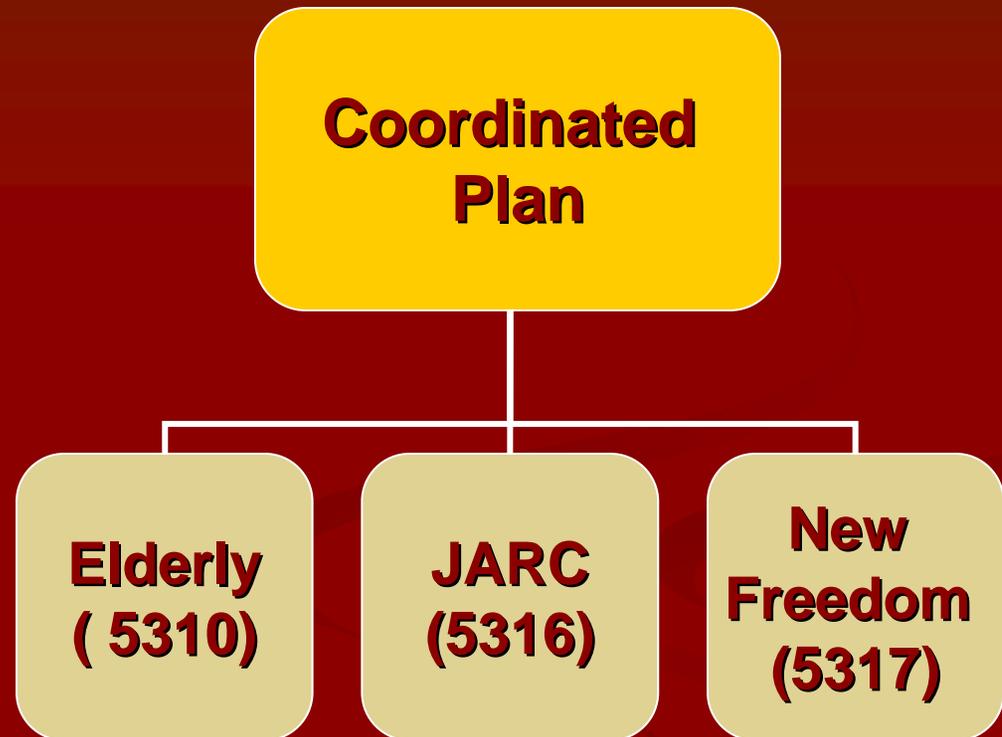
November 9, 2006

# What is the Purpose of the Task Force?

- To oversee the development of a Human Service Transportation **Coordinated Plan**
  - TPB will review and approve
- To work towards greater coordination in the region

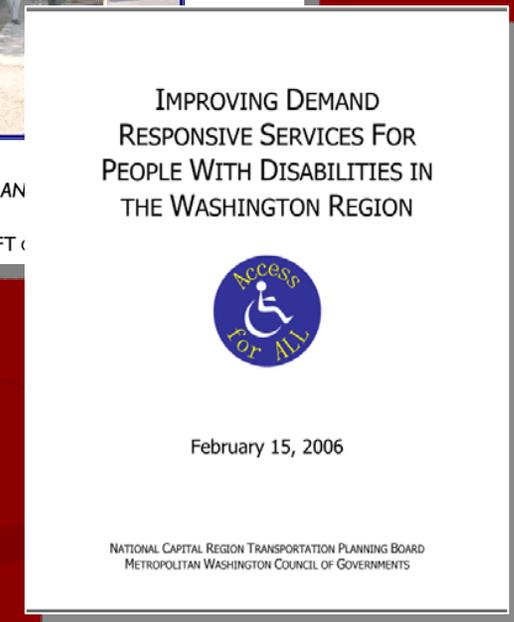
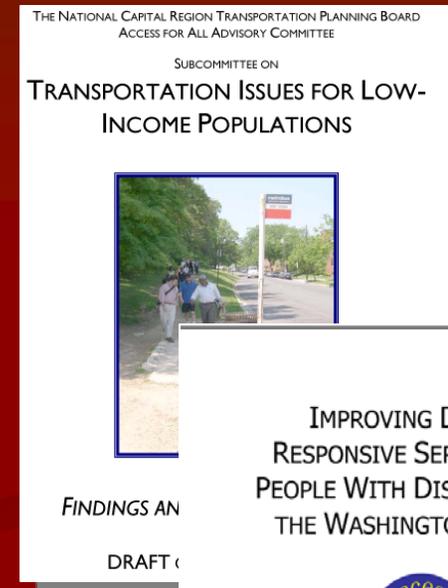
# SAFETEA-LU Program Requirements

- A "locally developed coordinated plan" must be drafted with stakeholder involvement by July 2007
- Projects for the three programs must be derived from the plan
- Projects for JARC and New Freedom must be selected on a competitive basis



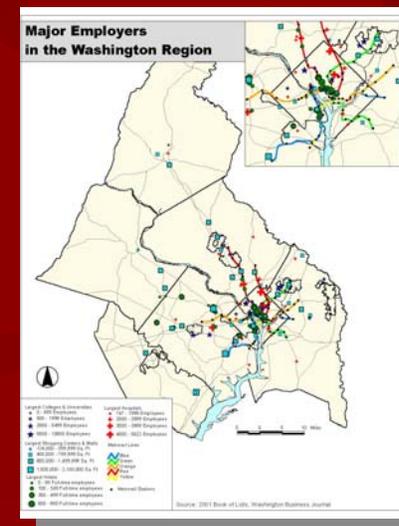
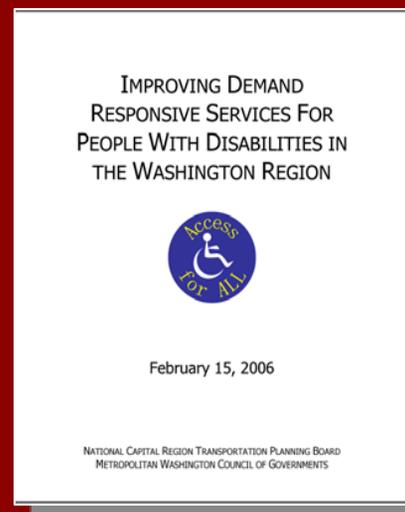
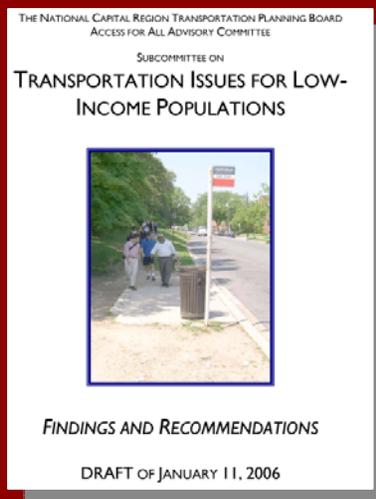
# Elements of the Plan

1. **Assessment of transportation needs (gaps)** for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and persons with limited incomes
2. **An inventory of available services**
3. **Strategies** to address the identified gaps in service
4. **Identification of coordination actions** to reduce duplication in services and use existing resources more efficiently
5. **Prioritization** of implementation strategies



# TPB Work to Draw Upon

- Regional Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Plan, 1999
- AFA Report on Transportation Issues for Low-Income Populations, 2006
- TPB Study: Improving Demand Responsive Services for People with Disabilities 2006



# October 5 Group Discussion

- From your point of view, what is the **most significant gap** in transportation for low-income workers and/or persons with disabilities?

# Need for a Customer Focus

- Transportation services are not tailored to responding to individual needs
- A greater awareness is needed about how various types of disabilities impact people's ability to travel
- Need for improved pedestrian access, safety and signage at bus stops and rail stations
- **Potential Strategies:** Training programs for transit providers, accessible taxi service, door-through-door service, Hot line for users to call to identify pedestrian access problems which would help prioritize improvements
- **Potential Funding:** New Freedom, existing transit budgets, other?

# Need for Better Information

- Information on existing specialized services and user-friendly fixed-route information is lacking
  - This includes but is not limited to non-native English speakers
- **Potential Strategies:** Regional Clearinghouse of specialized services, work with transit agencies to provide better information
- **Potential Funding:** JARC, New Freedom; existing transit agency budgets, other?

# Lack of Reliability

- Reliability of paratransit services is a major concern
- Bus and rail transit is not always accessible
- **Potential Strategies:** “Guaranteed Ride Home” Program for Low-Income Workers and People with Disabilities
- **Potential Funding:** JARC, New Freedom, other?

# Need for Additional Funding and Transportation Choices

- Need for expanded evening, weekend service, door-to-door, and door- through-door service
- Infrequent transit service for non-traditional work hours
- Limited eligibility for specialized transit
- Affordability for users is a concern
- Lack of funding for transportation
- **Potential Strategies:** Accessible cabs, “Guaranteed Ride Home” program, low interest loans for workers to purchase cars, disability awareness event to highlight the need for more funding, use existing funding creatively (match requirement)
- **Potential Funding:** JARC, New Freedom, other?

# What is the Targeted Timeline?

## 2006

**October to Dec.:** Task Force meets monthly to oversee the development of the Coordinated Plan

## 2007

**February** Task Force Presents Draft Coordinated Plan to the TPB for Approval

**March/April:** TPB Approves Coordinated Plan and Reviews Framework for Competitive Selection Process

**May/June:** TPB Oversees Competitive Selection Process

**July/September:** TPB Approves Selection for Inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)