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## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### I. PLANS, PROGRAMS & COORDINATION

#### A. Unified Planning Work Program

Work continued on monitoring the FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

#### B. Transportation Improvement Program

At the July meeting, the Steering Committee approved three amendments to the FY 2004-2009 TIP as requested by MDOT and VDOT.

Staff updated the draft version of the FY 2005-2010 TIP document incorporating all project submissions provided by the implementing agencies. The new draft document was distributed for review at the July 9 Technical Committee meeting.

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

A brochure describing the 2003 CLRP was created, designed and printed. The 2003 CLRP document was drafted for review by the Technical Committee in September. Chapter 5 describing the performance of the plan in relation to the Vision was drafted. An appendix with maps of low-income and minority populations and the 2003 CLRP major improvements was created.

#### D. Operations, Coordination/Emergency Preparedness

##### *Management and Operations Activities*

Staff continued work, begun in FY2004, with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for contractor selection for and initiation of a feasibility study of 511 telephone traveler information services for metropolitan Washington, in conjunction with a Virginia statewide consultant contract. The 511 Steering Subcommittee of the Management, Operations, and Intelligent transportation Systems (MOITS) Technical Task Force met on August 2, 2004 addressing this topic.

Staff was interviewed on August 3 by VDOT contractor PB Farradyne, addressing how the 511 system would work together with the Regional Integrated Traveler Information System (RITIS), including potential key roles for the Capital Wireless Integrated Network (CapWIN) Project and the University of Maryland Center for Advanced

Transportation Technology. Staff supported and attended associated ad hoc RITIS steering committee meetings on July 14 and August 26.

*Emergency Transportation Coordination Planning Activities*

Staff continued work, begun in FY2004, to support stakeholder discussion of options for strengthening regional emergency communications and coordination in the transportation sector. These follow the recommendations of the revised Regional Emergency Evacuation Transportation Coordination (REETC) Annex of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan<sup>SM</sup>. This was a major focus of discussions at the July 13, 2004 MOITS Policy and Technical Task Forces joint meeting. Staff also supported and attended ad hoc committee meetings on July 15, July 19, and August 26 associated with implementing communications improvements, particularly addressing 1) technical systems integration and 2) procedures and operations improvements. The ad hoc committee meetings were in preparation for presentations of recommendations to the MOITS Task Forces and the TPB in September.

On July 16, staff attended a meeting with senior staffs of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and the region's transportation agencies, at the Greater Washington Board of Trade in Washington, D.C. The meeting addressed the topic of strengthening transportation communications and coordination during incidents, and examined the related functions of the New York City metropolitan area's TRANSCOM organization as well as metropolitan Washington's CapWIN Project.

On August 17, staff attended a meeting of the Baltimore Regional Operations Coordination Committee in Hanover, Maryland for the purpose of interregional coordination on operations topics.

E. Financial Plan

No work activities to report during the period.

F. Private Enterprise Participation

No work activities to report during the period.

G. Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

Staff Activities:

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- Reviewed revised final report for the Street Smart campaign. Worked with funding agencies to secure payment for FY 2004, submitted required reports.
  - Obtained and compiled ten years of data on regional bicycle and pedestrian deaths and injuries in the region from the DOT's to use in evaluating regional progress.
  - Input additional projects into the regional bicycle and pedestrian project database.
  - Updated the regional priority bicycle and pedestrian projects list.
  - Arranged for the Chair of the Bike/Ped Subcommittee to address the September meeting of WMATA's Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee on the possibility of a pedestrian/bicycle coordinator position at WMATA.
  - Produced a report on spending on bicycle and pedestrian projects in the FY 2004-2009 TIP.
  - Did preliminary planning for Fall and Winter professional development seminars. Contacted prospective speakers.

#### H. Access to Jobs Planning

COG/HSPPS staff performed the following tasks in July/August 2004:

In August, COG staff met with WMATA staff to plan future activities (possibly a meeting or a forum) for the next fiscal year. Staff was also briefed on WMATA activities and plans to encourage local partnership.

#### I. Public Participation

The CAC held its regular monthly meeting on July 15. The meeting focused on the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study, which will be the subject of CAC public meetings this fall. Bob Griffiths of the COG/TPB staff briefed the CAC on the first results of the study. The CAC also discussed improvements in the TPB's website postings of public comments.

A CAC subcommittee on outreach held a meeting on August 10 to further discuss outreach meetings on the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study. As a result of that meeting, the subcommittee decided to move forward on hosting 2-4 meetings this fall. The committee asked staff to develop a "citizen-friendly" PowerPoint presentation for use at the public meetings.

The "TPB News" newsletter was written and distributed.

### *Access for All Advisory Committee*

During the month of July, staff completed an analysis of commuter travel characteristics from the 2000 Census for low-income, minority and disabled populations. A series of maps and graphics were created for a PowerPoint presentation given at the AFA meeting in July. Other AFA activities included planning the TPB and AFA disability awareness event in conjunction with National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October. Staff began to organize travel teams for the October 20 event.

#### J. Annual Report

The 2003 annual report was printed and distributed.

#### 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 chaired a seminar on Congestion and Value Pricing at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Institute of Transportation Engineers in Orlando, Florida.
- The DTP Director participated with the COG Executive Director and COG Legal Counsel in meetings with COG Board and TPB members to design a blue ribbon panel to address WMATA funding issues.

Staff prepared on the TPB letter to Congress on tolling provisions in reauthorization. The letter was finalized after TPB reviewed and commented, and then e-mailed, faxed and mailed to the Conference Committee and members of the regional congressional delegation.

## II. FORECASTING APPLICATIONS

### A. Air Quality Conformity

Staff continued with work tasks for the conformity assessment of the 2004 CLRP and FY2005-10 TIP and provided briefings to the TPB and the TPB Technical Committee at their July meetings. Work tasks included production runs using the Mobile6.2 emissions

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factor model, review of draft validation and forecast results of the Version2.1D travel demand model, discussion with COG/HSPPS staff of potential impacts that the ICC

alignments may have on the Round 6.4 Cooperative Forecasts, participation in the July and August meetings of the Planning Directors, and the following network coding activities.

Staff completed network development steps for the 2015 and 2025 networks with both ICC Alignment 1 and ICC Alignment 2. This work for these four forecast networks included: coordinating with the GIS staff to produce highway link ascii files, updating the time-of-day files, producing four sets of peak and off-peak transit mode files, accuracy checking the built highway networks, and successfully building the transit lines through the built highway network for each scenario. Network development staff coordinated with GIS staff to create peak and off-peak walk-shed and walk-link files for each scenario. Staff began the network development steps for the 2030 forecast year networks.

Staff completed the preparation of the bus and rail fare matrix input files to reflect regional transit fare changes in place by July 1, 2004. Staff began development of a GIS bus fare zone map.

On July 19 and 20, staff participated in an air quality workshop in Ann Arbor, sponsored by the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, which addressed the EPA's 8-hour ozone standard conformity regulations and proposed regulations for PM 2.5. Staff worked to address conformity requirements for the 8-hour ozone standard. Staff developed a draft scope of work for the 8-hour conformity process and will present it to the Technical Committee at its September meeting. Staff sent an email to the TPB Technical Committee requesting review of project completion dates in the air quality conformity input table. The purpose of the request was to assure the accuracy of the project completion dates for the 2010 time-frame, in order to allow staff to develop a 2010 forecast year network as is required for the 8-hour ozone standard. Staff updated the conformity table with the resultant inputs from various jurisdictions.

In July and August COG/DEP staff worked with Dept. of Transportation Planning staff to develop MOBILE6.2 emissions factors for use in the conformity analysis for the FY 2005-2010 Transportation Improvement Program. DEP staff review inputs and output of MOBILE6 runs for 2015, 2025 and 2030. Staff discussed EPA's June 8-hour conformity guidance with DTP staff and DEP Air Quality staff attended training on the 8-hour

conformity guidance. Staff attended the TPB meeting and various committee meetings during July.

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 July TPB meeting and air quality conformity consultation elements.

B. Mobile Emissions Analysis

COG/DTP staff began technical work activities and coordination with DEP staff relating to requirements for the new 8-hour ozone standards. Staff participated in meetings of MWAQC, its Executive Committee, its Technical Advisory Committee, and in a conference call of technical staff on requirements associated with the 8-hour ozone standards. Staff also continued work on longer term research into refinements to inputs to Mobile6.

Staff met with the consultant who conducted the "State of Commute Survey" to discuss the refined definition for Telecommuting TERM and estimated the benefits from the TERM based on the refined definition. The results are to be presented at the September TPB Technical Committee meeting. Staff completed the documentation of the Transportation Emissions Reduction Measures (TERMs) that are under consideration for emissions mitigation if needed during the conformity assessment of the 2004 CLRP and the FY 2005-2010 TIP. Staff also updated the TERM Tracking Sheet based on inputs received from the implementing agencies.

The Travel Management Subcommittee meeting scheduled for July 2004 was cancelled. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for September 21, 2004.

C. Regional Studies

Staff reviewed the results of modeling the updated CLRP+ Scenario with the Round 6.4 growth forecasts and the five alternative land use scenarios at the July meeting of the Joint Technical Working Group.

Staff prepared a background briefing paper on the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study for the TPB in July. This briefing paper provided an overview of the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study, discussed the background and elements of the study, its organizational structure, the technical approach being undertaken and the work completed to date

Staff presented the first phase results of the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study to the TPB in July.

Staff made a presentation on the Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study to members of the COG Board and Policy Committees attending the COG Board Retreat in July.

Staff gave a detailed briefing on the first phase results of the Regional Mobility and Accessibility to a subcommittee of the TPB Citizen Advisory Committee in August.

D. Coordination of Cooperative Forecasting & Transportation Planning

Staff summarized the numerical changes in household and employment growth projected for two ICC build alternatives by members of the MD SHA-convened ICC Land Use Expert Panel and sent this information to the region's Planning Directors for their review in August.

Staff reviewed the household and employment growth projected for two ICC build alternatives by members of the ICC Land Use Expert Panel with the Planning Directors' Technical Advisory Committee at a special August meeting.

Staff reviewed draft Round 6.4a jurisdictional and TAZ-level land activity forecasts submitted by the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and Prince Georges's County. These updated land activity forecasts were in response to the fact that two ICC alternatives had been included this year's CLRP/TIP update and air quality conformity analysis, and, if approved, this facility would be expected to be built by 2010 and would likely have some effect on the growth forecasts for these jurisdictions.

Staff responded to questions on the draft Round 6.4 Cooperative Forecasts and the process and schedule for the approval of the Round 6.4a growth forecast update.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF NETWORKS AND MODELS

A. Network Development

During July/August, network development activities were focused on the development of highway and transit networks, and associated fare matrices based upon the new tariff, in support of the air quality conformity analysis of the FY2005-2010 TIP and 2004 CLRP. Documentation of these networks will take place in September, with a presentation to the TPB Technical Committee on October 1, 2004.

B. GIS Technical Support

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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, including the development of metadata for ArcSDE feature classes.

Staff completed the installation of ArcGIS 8.3 and Service Pack 3 on all workstations.

Staff reviewed the technical requirements for upgrading to ArcGIS 9.

Staff moved the ESRI License Manager from legacy Unix server to Windows 2000 Server.

Staff completed migration of remaining ArcInfo workstation data from the legacy Unix server to the Windows 2000 GIS server.

Staff continued refinement of the roll-out plan to assist GIS users in the migration of all GIS data to the Windows 2000 GIS Server.

Staff reviewed Commuter Connections GRH/CCRS migration project requirements and specifications.

Staff continued to provide technical assistance and instruction to the network development team in the coding of future year networks for this year's CLRP/TIP Update and Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

Staff began incorporation of MD SHA speed data into COG/TPB GIS Master Network database at the request of the models development team.

### C. Models Development

During July and August, staff continued refining the draft 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, 2003. Additional changes to the model were described at the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee meeting on July 23rd. At that meeting, the draft model known as Version 2.1 D #28 was released. Work is continuing on refinement of the draft Version 2.1 D model, with the next release to be presented to the

TFS at its meeting on September 17th. TPB staff are receiving training in the application of each release of the draft Version 2.1 D model.

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Staff has continued through FY2005 the services of Jeffrey Bruggeman of AECOM, and William Allen to advise the TPB staff as it implements upgrades to the travel demand

modeling procedures in response to the recommendations flowing from the TRB Committee's letter reports.

D. Software Support

Staff continued work on the updating of Version 2 travel demand model flowcharts to reflect the current operation and updates of the Version 2.1, Release D, Travel Demand Model. 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 indefinitely while work continues on travel model development. 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, continues the investigation of current direct access device technology. The investigation continues to focus on USB 2.0 DVD's. As new microcomputers are acquired they will be equipped with dual drives enabling the reading of DVD and CD's, and the writing of CD-R/RW's and DVD+/-RW's. The capability to write DVD's will also be incorporated in selected microcomputers currently in service which do not now have that capability. Staff also continues to evaluate portable hard drives as potential back-up devices, with one currently in service in that capacity.

IV. TRAVEL MONITORING

A. Cordon Counts

Preparation of External Truck Survey documentation continued through July/August. Processing of count data from the 2004 Regional HOV Facilities Monitoring project was begun.

B. Congestion Monitoring and Analysis

The final report on the FY 2004 Arterial Highway Travel Time/Speed Monitoring project was completed and has undergone internal review. The report will be presented at the September Travel Forecasting Subcommittee meeting.

C. Travel Surveys and Analysis

1. Household Travel Survey

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Temporary staff completed final geocoding of household travel survey data.

2. 2000 Census Journey to Work Analysis

Staff discovered problems with the CTPP Part 3 – Place of Residence by Place Work data by TAZ for the metropolitan Washington region and contacted Census Bureau to determine what had gone wrong in the processing of this data.

The Census Bureau confirmed errors identified by staff in the processing CTPP Part 3 data for the metropolitan Washington region. Staff continued to work with the Census Bureau in getting the errors corrected and the CTPP Part 3 data for the Washington re-run.

3. Regional Travel Trends Report

Staff continued analysis of new Census, WMATA, and other survey data for Regional Travel Trends report.

D. Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse

Staff completed development of new procedures to automatically update traffic volume information in the Data Clearinghouse upon the receipt of new traffic count data from the state DOTs.

V. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. District of Columbia

Program Development

Staff attended and participated in DDOT HPMS meetings.

Miscellaneous Services and Data Requests

No staff activities.

Database Automation and Application Development

No staff activities.

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Machine Traffic Counts

Staff is reviewing the counts received from the consultant for adequacy and reasonableness. Comparisons with the city line cordon count data were completed. Staff is in discussion with District of Columbia DOT staff regarding FY 2005 counts.

District of Columbia City Line Cordon Count

No activity during this reporting period.

B. Maryland

Program Development

Staff coordinated with MDOT and MD SHA staff regarding initiation of FY2005 work program activities.

Miscellaneous Services

Staff provided the Draft #28 version of the COG/TPB Travel Forecasting Model to the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and began work to provide the COG/TPB 2000 transportation analysis zone highway network in GIS format.

Staff completed work to provide the Draft # 28 version of the COG/TPB Travel Forecasting Model, forecasts of population, households and employment from Round 6.3 of the COG Cooperative Forecasting process and transportation analysis zone and district and jurisdiction boundary files in GIS format to a consultant for the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Staff provided the Draft #28 version of the COG/TPB Travel Forecasting Model to a consultant for the Maryland Department of Transportation.

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.

Subregional Studies

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### Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Study

Staff completed validation efforts, working with consultants and MD State Highway Administration. Managed lanes scenarios have been defined to include: No Build, 6+4 Alternative, and 8+2 Alternatives, for 2015 and 2030. The build scenarios include several runs with different toll assumptions.

Staff completed the 2015 and 2030 No Build alternatives. After completion of coding efforts for 2030, staff began modeling the build alternatives.

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

No activity during this reporting period.

### Intercounty Connector Study

Staff continued development and analysis of travel forecasts for 2010 and 2030 build alternatives including application of refined toll model procedures. Staff worked closely with SHA's consultants in executing the technical work activities and transmitted the model results to them for post-processing.

## C. Virginia Technical Assistance

### Program Development

At the request of the VDOT N.Va. office in July, staff prepared a three year summary of expenditures in the Virginia technical assistance account. During August, at the request of the VDOT N.Va. office, staff prepared a TIP amendment involving preliminary engineering for a VRE park/ride lot.

### Miscellaneous Services

There was no activity to report in July/August.

### Northern Virginia HOV Facilities Monitoring and Data Collection

There was no activity to report in July/August.

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Springfield Interchange Data Collection

There was no activity to report in July/August.

D. WMATA

Program Development

No work activity during this reporting period.

Miscellaneous Services

No work activity during this reporting period.

Parking Usage at Metrorail Stations

Staff is estimating occupancy of the parking lots and time of day when the lots fill up. Work is expected to be completed in early Fall 2004.

Transit Modeling Enhancements and Validation

No work activity during this reporting period.

VII. CONTINUOUS AIRPORT SYSTEM PLANNING (CASP) PROGRAM

A. CASP 19

- 1) Regional Air Passenger Origin/Destination Forecast Update the final draft report for the Regional Air Passenger Origin/Destination Forecast Update was presented to and approved by the Aviation Technical Subcommittee at their July meeting.

- 2) Ground Access Forecast Update

Staff conducted a literature review on recent ground access forecast studies for use in preparing a detailed project scope of work to update the Ground Access Forecasts.

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B. CASP 20

1) Process 2002 Air Passenger Survey

Staff continued the data processing phase of this project. This included geo-coding of the trip origin addresses to transportation analysis zones and assigning resident/non-resident status codes to the trip records.

2) Ground Access Travel Time Study

In July, staff revised the draft report for the Ground Access Travel Time Study and presented it to the Aviation Technical Subcommittee for review and comments. In August, staff revised the draft report in accordance with comments received from the Aviation Technical Subcommittee at and following the July meeting.

The **Aviation Technical Subcommittee** met Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at COG. Agenda items included:

- Update on CONAANDA Activities
- Present Final Draft Air Passenger Origin/Destination Forecast Update Report
- Present Revised Draft Ground Access Travel Study Update Report
- Status report on 2002 Air Passenger Survey
- Present Draft FY 2005-2009 ACIP

VI. OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Advanced Technology Vehicle Project

The program oversight committee met on July 29, 2004. The emissions reduction goals for the fiscal year have been satisfied. Three new fleets were added to the program. They are: United Parcel Service with 60 CNG powered delivery vehicles; Schwan's food delivery service with 31 propane powered delivery vehicles; and FedEx with 4 hybrid electric delivery vehicles. The Greenbelt CNG station is open. The next meeting of the oversight committee is scheduled for September 30, 2004.









