



APPENDIX E
Interagency Consultation and
Public Involvement Process
**Air Quality Conformity
Analysis**



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

TPB Public Comment Procedures and Opportunities Related the Air Quality Conformity Planning Process

As described in the 2020 update to the *TPB Participation Plan* (see Appendix A of the plan), it is the policy of the TPB to carry out the following public involvement activities with respect to air quality conformity regulations governing TPB plans and programs.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS

Public comment periods will be governed by the following procedures:

- For federally required plans and programs, including the Long-Range Transportation Plan (currently known as Visualize 2050), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Public Participation Plan, associated air quality conformity analyses, and other documents, the following procedures are conducted, per federal requirements, at a minimum:
 - The length of public comment periods will be as follows:
 - A period of at least 45 days prior to the approval of the Public Participation Plan;
 - A period of at least 30 days prior to the approval of all other federally required plans and programs.
 - Development and consideration of written responses to comments received.
 - The TPB shall provide an additional opportunity for public comment if the final Long- Range Transportation Plan or TIP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the TPB and raises new material issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts.
 - When significant written and oral comments are received on the draft Long-Range Transportation Plan and TIP (including the financial plans) as a result of the participation process in this section or the interagency consultation process required under the EPA transportation conformity regulations (40 CFR part 93), a summary, analysis, and report on the disposition of comments shall be made as part of the final Long-Range Transportation Plan and TIP.
- For major regional plans and policy documents that are not specifically governed by federal requirements, the following procedures are followed:
 - Public comment period of at least 30 days prior to the approval of documents.
 - Development and consideration of written responses to comments received.
 - The TPB shall provide an additional opportunity for public comment, if the final plan or policy document differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the TPB and raises new material issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts.
- For other Action Items before the TPB, the following participation procedures will be conducted at a minimum:
 - Materials will be posted electronically (on the TPB website and announced by email notification) six days before the TPB meeting.
 - Materials will be reviewed at the TPB Technical Committee by representatives from regional jurisdictions.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES TO COMMENT

For other items and activities, the TPB provides an opportunity for public comment via mail, email, and on the TPB website. The TPB also provides access to documents in advance of all meetings to provide an opportunity to comment.

To ensure that reasonable public access is provided to technical and policy information used in the TPB process, members of the public will be invited to review reports and other technical information (other than proprietary software or legally confidential data).

The TPB will encourage dissemination of information through the following means:

- Post all publicly available TPB documents on the TPB website, and otherwise seek opportunities to make suitable reports and technical information available through the TPB website.
- Distribute relevant reports and technical information free of charge at meetings of the TPB and its committees and subcommittees.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS

The TPB will invite members of the public to participate in the review of technical work programs and analysis through attendance at meetings of the TPB Technical Committee and other TPB subcommittees, and at regular monthly meetings of the TPB.

To provide opportunities for public participation at these meetings, the TPB will use the following methods:

- A period of time will be dedicated at the beginning of each TPB meeting for public comment on transportation issues under consideration by the TPB and provide follow-up acknowledgment and response as appropriate.
- At least one formal public meeting will be conducted during the development process for the TIP.
- When possible, all meetings will occur at the MWCOG offices located at 777 N. Capitol St NE. These facilities are ADA-compliant, provide assisted hearing technology, and are accessible by fixed-route transit.
- Meetings may also be held online, or in a hybrid in-person / online format. When a meeting has an online component, information needs to be made available describing how the public can join the meeting and documentation provided before or during the meeting needs also to be available online. Such online meeting opportunities may become particularly necessary in times of national crisis, such as the pandemic of 2020.

TPB Consultation and Public Comment Opportunities for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of Visualize 2050 and the FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The following lists TPB consultation and public comment opportunities during the air quality conformity analysis:

- January 6, 2023 TPB Technical Committee presentation on the Technical Inputs Solicitation Policy Guide and Process used by the TPB covering project submissions for Visualize 2050 and the FY2026-2029 TIP, including the project inputs for the conformity analysis.
- February 3, 2023. TPB Technical Committee final presentation of the Draft Technical Inputs Solicitation and Plan Development Kickoff. By June 30, 2023 preliminary inputs for Visualize 2050 and Air Quality Conformity analysis are due for review and internal coordination.
- February 15, 2023 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- February 15, 2023 – At the TPB monthly meeting, the Visualize 2050 technical inputs solicitation containing the process and schedule for the plan (including conformity) was approved.
- April 19, 2023 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- April 19, 2023 – At the TPB monthly meeting, an updated schedule for Visualize 2050, including conformity, was presented and approved by the board.
- November 11, 2023 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- November 11, 2023 – At the TPB monthly meeting the board was briefed on the development of Visualize 2050, including conformity.
- December 15, 2023, monthly conformity consultation email referenced an information item in which the Board will be briefed on a summary of the outcomes of the February 15-November 30, 2023 public engagement conducted in preparation for Visualize 2050. In addition, the Visualize 2050 schedule was changed due to uncertainties with a few of the major projects in our region - the express lanes system in Maryland and the WMATA transit system.
- December 20, 2023 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- December 20, 2023, At the TPB monthly meeting, the board will receive a briefing summarizing the outcomes of the February 15-November 30, 2023 public engagement conducted in preparation for Visualize 2050.

- March 1, 2024 TPB Technical Committee presentation and memorandum on the Public Comment Materials Package for projects proposed for inclusion in the Air Quality Conformity analysis of Visualize 2050 and Air Quality Conformity Analysis Scope of Work. Public comment period was March 1 – 30.
- March 1-30, 2024 - A MetroQuest public comment form is made available to facilitate public engagement and input for the Air Quality Conformity Public Comment Period.
- March 1, 2024 - Washington Post newspaper ad was published announcing the public comment period.
- March 2, 2024 - The AFRO News newspaper ad was published announcing the public comment period.
- March 1, 2024 - The Washington Hispanic newspaper ad was posted in Spanish. announcing the public comment period.
- March 1 - 30, 2024 – Comment form was available on the homepage of the Visualize 2050 website. In addition to the homepage, the form was mentioned on the following pages of the Visualize 2050 website: About Visualize 2050, Comment, Ambassador Kit, Plan Goals, and Plan Development.
- March 1-30, 2024 - Links to the comment form and instructions on how the public can comment by form, email, phone, or letter were added to the Visualize 2050 website. A link to the comment form was available on each webpage through a sitewide banner.
- March 1-30, 2024 – Visualize 2050 (including conformity) updates were posted daily from one or more of the TPB accounts: Bluesky, Facebook, Instagram, and X/Twitter. Both English and Spanish messages were posted using the Visualize 2050 logo or a specialized graphic with the visualize2050.org URL and #Visualize2050. TPB staff boosted a Facebook post regarding the comment period with a link to the Visualize 2050 website. The boosted post was targeted to Facebook users within a 30-mile radius of the District of Columbia.
- March 1-30, 2024 – Posts were shared from the COG LinkedIn account using the Visualize 2050 logo.
- News about the comment period was shared in mid-October through the COG Connections, TPB News, and Commuter Connections newsletters, with a total delivery reach of over 26,000 subscribers.

- March 1-30, 2024 - The following TPB members and partner organizations posted or shared comment period materials:
 - Arlington County
 - Arlington County Dept. Environmental Services
 - Bike Arlington
 - DASH Bus (Alexandria)
 - Fairfax County
 - Fairfax County Transportation
 - Fredericksburg Area MPO
 - City of Greenbelt
 - Greater Washington Board of Trade
 - Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
 - Virginia DOT - Northern Virginia
 - Virginia Railway Express
- March 15, 2024, monthly conformity consultation email referenced an information item in which the Board will be briefed on project inputs and the draft scope of work for the air quality conformity analysis for the Visualize 2050 national capital region transportation plan and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and work session recap.
- March 19, 2025 - Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- March 21, 2024 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- March 21, 2024 – A TPB work session was held, and a presentation given at the TPB monthly meeting discussing the draft technical inputs for the air quality conformity analysis of Visualize 2050 and FY 2026-2029 transportation improvement program.
- April 5, 2024—The TPB Technical Committee received a presentation and memorandum on the Visualize 2050 March Comment Period Summary and Updates for Air Quality Conformity. This included an overview of the public comments and changes made to the draft regionally significant for Air Quality Conformity (RSAC) project list.
- April 12, 2024, monthly conformity consultation email referenced an information item which the Board will be brief on a summary and all the comments in response to the technical inputs submitted for inclusion in the Visualize 2050 Air Quality Conformity (AQC) process.
- April 17, 2024 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- April 17, 2024 – At the TPB monthly meeting, a briefing was given on the comments received during the March 1-30 public comment period on the draft project inputs and scope of work for the air quality conformity analysis of Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.
- May 3, 2024 - TPB Technical Committee presentation that included updates to Air Quality Conformity Project Inputs Table and to the Air Quality Conformity Scope of Work.
- May 10, 2024, monthly conformity consultation email referenced a Board action is adoption of Visualize 2050 Plan and FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), upon completion of the air quality conformity and system performance analysis.
- May 15, 2024 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.

- May 15, 2024 – At the TPB monthly meeting, the Board approved the project inputs for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP, electing to remove the I-95/I-495 Southside Express Lanes Project from R12-2024 to allow more time to consider this project's inclusion in the analysis.
- June 14, 2024, monthly conformity consultation email referenced an action item in which the Board will act on R13-2024 to approve the inclusion of the I-95/I-495 Southside Express Lanes in the analysis.
- June 20, 2024 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- June 20, 2024 – At the TPB Monthly Meeting, a resolution was passed that amended the Air Quality Conformity Analysis Scope of Work and directing staff to conduct two alternative sets of regional air quality conformity analysis: one without the I-495 Southside Express Lanes project and a second set including the project. The TPB will take action to approve the air quality conformity analysis and adopting Visualize 2050 and FY 2026-2029 TIP at its December 17, 2025, meeting.
- March 19, 2025 – At the TPB Monthly Meeting, a presentation was given on Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP providing an overview and status of key activities, the structure and basic contents of the plan and related documents, the remaining schedule through plan adoption, and the redesigned Visualize 2050 website. This included an update on the conformity effort and schedule.
- April 15, 2025 – at the TPM Monthly Meeting an update on the I-495 southside express lanes (SEL) project was provided.
- July 2, 2025 - TPB Technical Committee presentation on the draft findings of the air quality conformity analysis and the implications of including/not including the I-496 Southside Express Lanes project.
- July 11, 2024, the conformity consultation email announced that TPB staff would present the air quality conformity analysis results with and without the I-495 southside express lanes project in June 2024, as directed by the TPB.
- July 16, 2025 - Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- July 16, 2025 – At the TPB Monthly Meeting, a presentation was given that included the finalization of project inputs for the air quality conformity analysis and the technical analysis results for the air quality conformity analysis.
- On September 12, 2025, the draft conformity results with and without the I-495 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) were presented to MWAQC-TAC.
- On September 24, 2025, the draft conformity results with and without the I-495 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) were presented to MWA.
- October 17, 2025 - The Washington Hispanic newspaper ad was posted in Spanish. announcing the public comment period for the Conformity Report, Visualize 2050, and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.
- October 22, 2025 - The Visualize 2050 website (the site for the metropolitan transportation plan update) was updated and included a copy of the draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report of Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP for public comment.

- October 23, 2025 & November 6, 2025 - Washington Post newspaper ads were published announcing the public comment period for the Conformity Report, Visualize 2050, and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.
- October 24, 2025 - The AFRO News newspaper ad was published announcing the public comment period for the Conformity Report, Visualize 2050, and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.
- October 23 – November 21, 2025 – A comment form, email address and phone number were made available on the Visualize 2050 website to allow for comments from the public to be received. In addition to the homepage, the form was mentioned on the following pages of the website: About Visualize 2050, Comment, Ambassador Kit, Plan Goals, and Plan Development.
- October 23 – November 21, 2025 – Visualize 2050 updates have been posted daily from one or more of the TPB accounts: Bluesky, Facebook, Instagram, and X/Twitter. TPB staff boosted a Facebook post discussing the comment period with a link to the Visualize 2050 website. The boosted post was targeted to Facebook users within a 30-mile radius of the District of Columbia
- Mid-October - News about the comment period was shared through the COG Connections, TPB News, and Commuter Connections newsletters, with a total delivery reach of over 26,000 subscribers.
- November 5, 2025 – A TPB News Release publicized the public comment period for the conformity document, along with the Visualize 2050 plan and the FY 2026-2029 TIP
- November 14, 2025 – A TPB mail blast was sent inviting the public to share feedback on the following draft documents: VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN, FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), and the AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS OF VISUALIZE 2050 & FY 2026-29 TIP
- December 17, 2025 – Opportunity for the public comment at the TPB meeting.
- December 17, 2025 – At the TPB Monthly Meeting, a resolution was adopted finding that Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP conform with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990

SAMPLE: TPB Monthly Consultation Memo

From: [Robert d'Abadie](#)
To: [Robert d'Abadie](#)
Bcc: **Subject:** TPB Conformity Consultation
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 12:05:00 PM
Attachments: [image-001.png](#)
[image-002.png](#)

This is the monthly letter relating to air quality conformity consultation with respect to TPB plans and programs. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please email Robert d'Abadie at rdabarie@mwcog.org with your request.

Below is the July 2025 Consultation letter regarding TPB plans and programs.

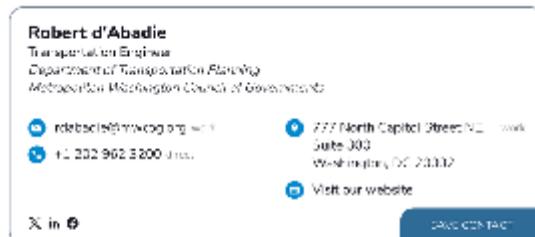


This memo transmits the [agenda](#) for the TPB meeting, which is relevant to the TPB consultation regarding air quality conformity.

The July TPB agenda items relevant for transportation conformity and consultation are identified below.

Item 7 is an informational item in which TPB staff will present information to assist the TPB with their decision in October to finalize the regionally significant project inputs for Visualize 2050. In June 2024, the Board requested two sets of conformity analysis be conducted, one without and another with the I-495 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) project. TPB staff will highlight what has been approved thus far, the results of the air quality conformity analyses, other mobile source emissions analyses, and some measures from the 2050 system performance analysis. Additionally, VDOT staff will present information on the I-495 SEL project, the preferred alternative, and the next steps in the environmental review process. In October, the TPB will vote on which set of conformity analysis will be included, with or without the SEL project.

You are welcome to watch and listen to live video of the TPB meeting and access meeting materials at <https://www.mwcog.org/events/2025/7/16/transportation-planning-board/>.





TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, July 16, 2025
12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

In-Person Meeting

AGENDA

12:00 P.M. 1. PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES, MEMBER ROLL CALL, AND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
James Walkinshaw, TPB Chair
Interested members of the public will be given the opportunity to make brief comments on transportation issues under consideration by the TPB. For any member of the public who wishes to address the board on the day of the meeting, they may do so by registering to attend and speak in person, by emailing written comments to TPBcomment@mwcog.org with the subject line "Item 1 Public Comment Opportunity", or by calling and leaving a phone message at (202) 962-3315. Comments will be summarized and shared with TPB members as part of their published meeting materials. These statements must be received by staff no later than 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 to be relayed to the board at the meeting.

12:15 P.M. 2. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 18, 2025 MEETING MINUTES
James Walkinshaw, TPB Chair

12:20 P.M. 3. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT
Victor Weissberg, TPB Technical Committee Chair

12:25 P.M. 4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT AND ACCESS FOR ALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
Daniel Papiernik, CAC Chair
Laura Bachle, TPB Transportation Planner

12:35 P.M. 5. STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR
Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director
This agenda item includes Steering Committee actions, letters sent/received, and announcements and updates.

12:45 P.M. 6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS
James Walkinshaw, TPB Chair

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
Visit www.mwcog.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NE, SUITE 300, WASHINGTON, DC 20002 MWCOG.ORG/TPB (202) 962-3200

NOTICE ITEM

12:50 P.M. 7. VISUALIZE 2050 FINALIZATION OF PROJECT INPUTS FOR THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS AND A PRESENTATION FROM VDOT ON THE I-495 SOUTHSIDE EXPRESS LANES PROJECT PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Cristina Finch, TPB Transportation Planner

Rob d'Abadie, TPB Transportation Engineer

Sergio Ritacco, TPB Transportation Planner

Michelle Shropshire, VDOT Megaprojects Director

TPB staff will present information to assist the TPB with their decision in October to finalize the regionally significant project inputs for Visualize 2050. In June 2024, the Board requested two sets of conformity analysis be conducted, one without and another with the I-495 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) project. TPB staff will highlight what has been approved thus far, the results of the air quality conformity analyses, other mobile source emissions analyses, and some measures from the 2050 system performance analysis. Additionally, VDOT staff will present information on the I-495 SEL project, the preferred alternative, and the next steps in the environmental review process. In October, the TPB will vote on which set of conformity analysis will be included, with or without the SEL project.

2:00 P.M. 8. ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday October 15, 2025**.

MEETING VIDEO

Watch and listen to live video of TPB meetings and
listen to the recorded video from past meetings at:

www.mwcog.org/TPBmtg

Afro-American March 1, 2024

COMMENT ON DRAFT REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS AND AIR QUALITY ANALYSIS SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM THROUGH MARCH 30, 2024. The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is developing the next National Capital Region Transportation Plan, Visualize 2050, and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). On Friday, March 1, 2024, the TPB released for public comment the draft regionally significant projects proposed for Visualize 2050 and the TIP along with the draft Air Quality Analysis Scope of Work. The 30-day public comment period will close at midnight on Saturday, March 30, 2024. The TPB will be asked to approve the draft regionally significant projects and the Air Quality Analysis scope of work including the noted land use inputs at their meeting on May 15, 2024, as a key milestone in the TPB's transportation planning and programming process. These materials are available for review online at www.mwcog.org/tpbcomment and more information about this effort is available at www.visualize2050.org. The financial plan of Visualize 2050 and the TIP includes a subset of transportation projects in the region that use federal funding or any projects of regional significance that may impact the attainment of air quality standards with respect to the air quality requirements under the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Regionally significant projects that may impact air quality mainly relate to roadway or transit capacity such as roadway widenings, extensions, or lane reductions, new high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) or express toll lanes, and transit capacity expansion. Minor roadway/bicycle/pedestrian/transit improvements are not included in the air quality analysis and are not part of this comment period. These projects will be implemented using revenue sources that are already committed, available, or reasonably expected to be available in the future. Comments may be submitted by any of the following means: Online: www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment Write: Christina Henderson, Chair National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002 Email: TPBComment@mwcog.org subject line: March 2024 Public Comment on Visualize 2050 Telephone: (202) 962-3774 to leave a 3-minute voice mail The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) operates its programs without regard to race, color, and national origin and fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in all programs and activities. For more information, to file a Title VI related complaint, or to obtain information in another language, visit www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination or call (202) 962-3300.

Washington Hispanic March 1, 2024

COMENTARIO SOBRE LOS PROYECTOS SIGNIFICATIVOS REGIONALES Y EL ALCANCE DEL ANÁLISIS DE CALIDAD DEL AIRE PARA EL TRABAJO EN EL PLAN DE TRANSPORTE DE LA REGIÓN DE LA CAPITAL NACIONAL VISUALIZE 2050 Y EL PROGRAMA DE MEJORAMIENTO DEL TRANSPORTE PARA EL AÑO FISCAL 2026-2029 HASTA EL 30 DE MARZO DE 2024. La Junta de Planificación de Transporte de la Región de la Capital Nacional (TPB) está desarrollando el próximo Plan de Transporte de la Región de la Capital Nacional, Visualize 2050, y el Programa de Mejoramiento del Transporte (TIP) para el año fiscal 2026-2029. El viernes 1 de marzo de 2024, la TPB publicó para comentarios del público los proyectos significativos regionales propuestos para Visualize 2050 y el TIP junto con el borrador del Alcance del Análisis de Calidad del Aire. El período de comentarios públicos de 30 días se cerrará a medianoche el sábado 30 de marzo de 2024. Se pedirá a la TPB que apruebe los proyectos significativos regionales y el alcance del análisis de calidad del aire, incluyendo las entradas de uso del suelo señaladas en su reunión del 15 de mayo de 2024, como un hito clave en el proceso de planificación y programación del transporte de la TPB. Estos materiales están disponibles para revisión en línea en www.mwcog.org/tpbcomment y más información sobre este esfuerzo está disponible en www.visualize2050.org. El plan financiero de Visualize 2050 y el TIP incluye un subconjunto de proyectos de transporte en la región que utilizan fondos federales o cualquier proyecto de importancia regional que pueda impactar el logro de los estándares de calidad del aire con respecto a los requisitos de calidad del aire bajo las Enmiendas de la Ley de Aire Limpio de 1990. Los proyectos significativos regionales que pueden impactar la calidad del aire se relacionan principalmente con la capacidad de carreteras o tránsito, como ensanches de carreteras, extensiones o reducciones de carriles, nuevas vías para vehículos de alta ocupación (HOV) o carriles de peaje exprés, y expansión de la capacidad de tránsito. Las mejoras menores de carreteras/bicicletas/peatones/tránsito no están incluidas en el análisis de calidad del aire y no son parte de este período de comentarios. Estos proyectos se implementarán utilizando fuentes de ingresos que ya están comprometidas, disponibles o que se espera razonablemente que estén disponibles en el futuro. Los comentarios pueden ser enviados por cualquiera de los siguientes medios: En línea: www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment Escribir a: Christina Henderson, Presidenta Junta de Planificación de Transporte de la Región de la Capital Nacional Consejo Metropolitano de Gobiernos de Washington 777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300 / Washington, DC 20002 Correo electrónico: TPBComment@mwcog.org Asunto: Comentario Público de Marzo 2024 sobre Visualize 2050 Teléfono: para dejar un mensaje de voz de 3 minutos (202) 962-3774 El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) opera sus programas sin tener en cuenta la raza, el color, y el origen nacional y cumple con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados que prohíben la discriminación en todos los programas y actividades. Para más información, presentar una queja relacionada con el Título VI, u obtener

Washington Post March 1, 2024

COMMENT ON DRAFT REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS AND AIR QUALITY ANALYSIS SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM THROUGH MARCH 30, 2024.

The National Capital Region transportation Planning Board (TPB) is developing the next National Capital Region Transportation Plan, Visualize 2050, and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). On Friday, March 1, 2024, the TPB released for public comment the draft regionally significant projects proposed for Visualize 2050 and the TIP along with the draft Air Quality Analysis Scope of work.

The 30-day public comment period will close at midnight on Saturday, March 30, 2024. The TPB will be asked to approve the draft regionally significant projects and the Air Quality Analysis scope of work, including the noted land use inputs at their meeting on May 15, 2024, as a key milestone in the TPB's transportation planning and programming process.

These materials are available for review online at www.mwcog.org/tpbcomment and more information about this effort is available at www.visualize2050.org.

The financial plan of Visualize 2050 and the TIP includes a subset of transportation projects in the region that use federal funding or any projects of regional significance that may impact the attainment of air quality standards with respect to the air quality requirements under the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Regionally significant projects that may impact air quality mainly relate to roadway or transit capacity such as roadway widenings, extensions, or lane reductions, new high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) or express toll lanes, and transit capacity expansion. Minor roadway/bicycle/pedestrian/transit improvements are not included in the air quality analysis and are not part of this comment period. These projects will be implemented using revenue sources that are already committed, available, or reasonably expected to be available in the future.

Comments may be submitted by any of the following means:

Online: www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment

Write: Christina Henderson, Chair
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
111 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002

Email: TPBComment@mwcog.org subject line: March 2024 Public Comment on Visualize 2050

Telephone: (202) 962-3774 to leave a 3-minute voice mail

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) operates its programs without regard to race, color, and national origin, and fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in all programs and activities. For more information, to file a Title VI related complaint, or to obtain information in another language, visit www.mwcog.org/non-discrimination or call (202) 962-3300.

El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) opera sus programas sin tener en cuenta la raza, el color, y el origen nacional, y cumple con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados que prohíben la discriminación en todos los programas y actividades. Para más información, presentar una queja relacionada con el Título VI, u obtener información en otro idioma, visite www.mwcog.org/non-discrimination o llame al (202) 962-3300.

TPB News- January 2023 TPB Meeting Recap: FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program and Visualized 2050

February 1, 2023

NOTICE ITEM



Visualize 2050: Draft Technical Inputs Solicitation

Lyn Erickson presented information on the Visualize 2050 Technical Inputs Solicitation (TIS). The TIS defines the process and schedule for upcoming long-range transportation plan development, air quality analysis, and development of the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The board will be asked to approve the draft [TIS document](#) at its February 15 meeting.

Upon February approval, the Visualize 2050 plan process begins with the following steps:

- February 15, 2023 – TPB publishes a list of exempt (funded) and non-exempt (current project list reorganized) projects. Public comment on the projects will be forwarded to the agencies submitting projects.
- Spring 2023 – TPB staff will facilitate meetings with TPB board members and technical agency staff to discuss potential inputs.
- June 30, 2023 – Preliminary inputs are due to TPB staff for the Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan and the Air Quality Conformity analysis
- September 2023 – Public comment period on plan inputs/air quality analysis and Air Quality Conformity scope of work

Sakina Khan, District Office of Planning Deputy Director for Citywide Strategy & Analysis, asked how Visualize 2050 is different from Visualize 2045 and what aspect of the plan is being updated. Srikanth responded that the financially constrained element of the plan is being updated at this time. He said that this update of Visualize 2045 would be different and new because it includes a reexamination of all projects and repopulation of the plan with projects more reflective of the TPB's policy priorities and findings of its previous scenario analysis. Srikanth commented that Visualize 2050 would represent extension of the horizon year of the plan to 2050 and use a new round of Cooperative Forecast, 10.0. He said that newer policy priorities such as the current TPB-adopted Aspirational Initiatives and climate change strategies will carry over to Visualize 2050.

Committee Reports

TPB Technical Committee, TPB Community Advisory Committee, Steering Committee, and Director's reports from January are available on the [January TPB meeting page](#).

The TPB recognized Ashley Hutson for serving as TPB Community Advisory Committee Chair from 2021-2022. In thank you remarks to the board, Hutson said that she is "hopeful that the connections between the TPB and the CAC will continue to strengthen in the coming years."

Director's Report

TPB Staff Director Kanti Srikanth announced that the [application period](#) is open through March 3 for the Transportation Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program and the Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP). Both programs have the same application timelines and one application form. New for this year is that planning projects are now eligible to receive up to \$80,000 in technical assistance, an increase of \$20,000 from previous years.

Srikanth also shared an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) final rulemaking "Control of Air Pollution from New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards." This final rule adopts new, stronger emissions standards to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions from heavy-duty vehicles and engines beginning with Model Year 2027. The rule, supported by a TPB letter to the federal docket, is the first of three major actions being taken under EPA's "Clean Trucks Plan." According to a TPB staff memo, the EPA estimates that by 2045, heavy-duty Nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions will be almost 50 percent lower than they would have been without the new rule.

Also in the Director's Report is a list of 2023 TPB Board, TPB Technical Committee, and TPB Steering Committee meeting dates. 2023 TPB board meetings currently scheduled for virtual format are the February, September, and November meetings.

Srikanth welcomed new COG Executive Director [Clark Mercer](#). It is anticipated that Director Mercer will address the TPB at its March meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for February 15 at 12:00 P.M. The February meeting will be virtual. A YouTube livestream option is available for all TPB board meetings.

[January 2023 TPB meeting recap: Community Advisory Committee appointments, FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program, and Visualize 2050 - TPB News - News | Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments \(mwcog.org\)](#)

TPB News- January 2023 TPB Meeting Recap: Visualize 2050 February 1, 2023

NOTICE ITEM



Visualize 2050: Draft Technical Inputs Solicitation

Lyn Erickson presented information on the Visualize 2050 Technical Inputs Solicitation (TIS). The TIS defines the process and schedule for upcoming long-range transportation plan development, air quality analysis, and development of the 2025–2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The board will be asked to approve the draft [TIS document](#) at its February 15 meeting.

Upon February approval, the Visualize 2050 plan process begins with the following steps:

- February 15, 2023 – TPB publishes a list of exempt (funded) and non-exempt (current project list reorganized) projects. Public comment on the projects will be forwarded to the agencies submitting projects.
- Spring 2023 – TPB staff will facilitate meetings with TPB board members and technical agency staff to discuss potential inputs.
- June 30, 2023 – Preliminary inputs are due to TPB staff for the Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan and the Air Quality Conformity analysis
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TPB News- TPB Launches Visualize 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Update

February 14, 2023



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

MEDIA ADVISORY

TPB to launch Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan update

Plan update occurring two years early to align with goals related to climate change, equity

Washington, D.C. (February 14, 2023) – At its upcoming meeting on February 15, officials on the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) will launch the process to update its long-range transportation plan (LRTP) and shift the region's focus from its current long-range plan, Visualize 2045 to Visualize 2050.

Through the approval of a Technical Inputs Solicitation (TIS) document, the process will begin for jurisdictions to submit projects, programs, and policies for potential inclusion in the plan. The planning process will also include a re-examination of current projects and policies for the update.

Federal regulations require an update to the LRTP every four years, with the last update to Visualize 2045 approved by the TPB in June 2022. Visualize 2050 will be undertaken ahead of this schedule and is anticipated to be complete by December 2024. The TPB is urging its member transportation agencies to re-examine the current list of projects planned for implementation and make changes to better advance the region's goals and priorities -- including its aspirational initiatives, equity, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The federal government requires that the TPB, as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), ensures its long-range transportation plan demonstrates both the financial viability of projects and conformity with federal air quality standards.

MORE:

For the agenda, a live video stream, and other meeting materials, visit the [event page](#).

WHAT:

Monthly meeting of the Transportation Planning Board

WHEN:

Wednesday, February 15, 2023
12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

WHERE:

This meeting will be held virtually and live-streamed on the [event page](#).

WHO:

Reuben Collins, TPB Chair; Charles County Commissioner President;
Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director;
Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director

CONTACT:

Lindsey Martin: lmartin@mwcog.org, (202) 962-3209

The Transportation Planning Board at COG is the regional transportation planning organization for the Washington region. It includes local governments, state transportation agencies, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and members of the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies.

TPB Twitter-The Officially Kicked Off Visualize 2050-The Region's Long-Range Transportation Plan Update

February 15, 2023



COG Retweeted

 **TPB** @NatCapRegTPB · Feb 15

...
The TPB has officially kicked off Visualize 2050 - the region's long-range transportation plan update! Find out more about the plan update and development of the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program. Visit visualize2050.org #Viz2050



[\(3\) COG \(@MWCOG\) / Twitter](#)

TPB News- TPB Meeting recap on Visualize 2050 March 15, 2023

TPB NEWS

February 2023 TPB meeting recap: Visualize 2050, TPB and Commuter Connections Work Programs

Mar 15, 2023

[f](#) [t](#) [p](#)



Alexandria, Virginia viewed from the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (Ben Schumin/Flickr)

On February 15, the TPB approved the TPB's Technical Inputs Solicitation document to kick off visualize 2050, the long-range transportation plan update to visualize 2045. In addition, the board received briefings on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the draft FY 2024 Commuter Connections program, and a presentation on the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) Military Installation Resiliency Review Program.

[Meeting agenda, materials, and recording](#)

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

TPB Chair Reuben Collins II commented on development of the long-range transportation plan and noted that the plan has a transparent process that listens to concerns to the member agencies, provides an opportunity to further discuss what the plan looks like, and opportunity for members to participate in what they would like the plan to be. All agencies will be asked to reexamine every project and resubmit projects that will better advance the region's goals of improving mobility, increasing transit ridership, advancing equity, and addressing climate change. Chair Collins stated, "With today's action, the process of updating the plan will begin."

ACTION ITEM

visualize 2050

Visualize 2050: Technical Inputs Solicitation Approval

The TPB Board unanimously approved the TPB's draft Technical Inputs Solicitation (TIS) document that kickstarts the long-range plan update process. With the approval of the TIS, TPB staff will provide a list of current plan projects, programs, and policies to TPB member agencies for their re-examination and resubmission for the Visualize 2050 plan after the agencies evaluate whether projects are consistent with the TPB's regional planning priorities. More details about the Visualize 2050 process and the Technical Inputs Solicitation is available in the TPB News feature "TPB kicks off Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan update with Technical Inputs Solicitation process."

The TPB's complete Q and A discussion of the Technical Inputs Solicitation begins at the 51:30 mark of the posted YouTube recording of the February 15 meeting.

The Visualize 2050 plan process begins with the following steps:

February 15, 2023 – The TPB published a list of exempt (funded) and non-exempt (current project list reorganized) projects. Public comment on the projects will be forwarded to the agencies submitting projects.

March 2023 – TPB staff will schedule listening sessions with TPB board members and technical agency staff to discuss potential inputs. A project feedback form is available for those who would like to provide input on individual projects. Provide feedback.

June 30, 2023 – Preliminary inputs are due to TPB staff for the Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan and the Air Quality Conformity analysis.

[February 2023 TPB meeting recap: Visualize 2050, TPB and Commuter Connections Work Programs - TPB News - News | Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments \(mwcog.org\)](#)

Public Comment Period March 1, 2024 to March 30, 2024

VISUALIZE 2050

National Capital Region Transportation Plan

March 1-30, 2024, Public Comment Opportunity

Supplementary Material to Explain Draft Regionally Significant for Air Quality Projects (to be completed in 2026 or later)
for Inclusion in Air Quality Analysis of Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program as Provided by TPB Member Agencies

TPB Project Title	Cost	Completion Year	Project Type	Safety	Maintenance	Reliability	Affordable and Convenient	Efficient System Operations	Environmental Protection	Resilient Region	Livable and Prosperous Communities
Viers Mills Road New BRT Expansion from Montgomery College, Rockville to Wheaton Metro Station	\$167,358,000	2030	New BRT Expansion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Virginia											
Alexandria Passenger Rail Track Expansion	\$185,000,000	2026	Rail Expansion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Broad Run Track Expansion	\$130,464,180	2027	Rail Expansion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Crystal City Transitway Expansion from Crystal City Metro Station to Pentagon City Metro Station	\$25,336,000	2026	BRT Expansion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
DASH Service Expansion throughout the City of Alexandria	\$36,000,000	2030	Bus Expansion/Service Improvements								
Duke Street Transitway New Bus Lane from King Street Metro to Fairfax County Line	\$87,000,000	2028	New Bus Lane Expansion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Franconia to Occoquan Passenger Rail Track Expansion	\$555,000,000	2028	Rail Expansion		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fredericksburg and Manassas VRE Lines Service Improvements	\$1,500,797,857	2035	Rail Service Improvements		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
I-66 Multimodal Improvements (Inside the Beltway)	Not currently available	2050	Managed lanes/HOV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Landmark Transit Center New BRT at Duke Street and Van Dorn Street	\$12,997,000	2027	New Transit Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

VISUALIZE
2050

DRAFT 3-4-24

Page 3

Introduction

We need your feedback on Visualize 2050!

The Transportation Planning Board (TPB) wants to hear from you! On May 15, 2024, the TPB will vote on [regionally significant highway/transit project inputs and the scope of work for air quality analysis](#) (including the COG approved and land use forecasts) for the next National Capital Region Transportation Plan, Visualize 2050.

Español

Visualize 2050 Public Comm...

X

→ Next

Please take a moment to share your feedback about the proposed project inputs for Visualize 2050 and how the TPB plans to measure air quality impacts.



○ ○ ● ○

What does air quality have to do with projects? The federal government requires TPB to test the air quality impact of all the proposed regionally significant projects including land use and population/employment forecasts in the National Capital Region Transportation Plan. This test estimates emissions from the region's future transportation system. A region passes the test if the estimation does not exceed emissions budgets.

Transportation & Our Region's Air Quality

Proposed Project Inputs

Proposed Project Inputs

Wrap Up



Public Comment Period March 1, 2024 to March 30, 2024

Visualize 2050 Feedback Form Updated

Share

Click the comment bubble in the top right corner of this page to give any additional feedback. Please share this with others and help us get everyone involved!



More at:

<https://www.visualize2050.org>

Visualize 2050 Public Comment Opportunity

Please take a moment to share your feedback about the proposed project inputs for Visualize 2050 and how the TPB plans to measure air quality impacts.



As part of the Visualize 2050 plan update, TPB staff are gathering public comments. Click the links above to review the materials or scroll through to read more about what is open for public comment.

What are project inputs? The proposed project inputs available for comment at this time are regionally significant for air quality highway and transit projects that the National Capital Region plans to invest in over the next 25 years. The projects are presented generally in the following maps and in detail via the link above. Smaller-scale roadway/bike/pedestrian/transit projects are not included here nor in the air quality analysis.

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How will we use your comments? TPB staff will share your comments with the Transportation Planning Board (TPB). The TPB will consider public comments before their vote on the project inputs, air quality analysis scope of work, and land use inputs. We need your feedback on Visualize 2050! The Transportation Planning Board (TPB) wants to hear from you! On May 15, 2024, the TPB will vote on regionally significant highway/transit project inputs and the scope of work for air quality analysis (including the COG approved and land use forecasts) for the next National Capital Region Transportation Plan, Visualize 2050.

[Español](#)

[Next](#)

Introduction

Visualize 2050 Public Comment Opportunity

Make your voice heard! March 1 - 30, 2024

1

Transportation & Our Region's Air Quality

2

Proposed Project Inputs

3

Proposed Project Inputs

4

Wrap Up

5

Public Comment Period March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024

Mas en:

<https://www.visualize2050.org>

Visualize 2050 oportunidad de comentario público

Tómese un momento para compartir sus comentarios sobre las entradas de proyectos propuesto para Visualize 2050 y cómo la TPB planea medir los impactos en la calidad del aire.



Como parte de la actualización del plan Visualize 2050, el personal de TPB está recopilando comentarios del público. Haga clic en los enlaces de arriba para revisar los materiales o desplácese para leer más sobre lo que está abierto al comentario público.

¿Qué son los insumos del proyecto? Las entradas del proyectos propuesto para comentarios son proyectos de tránsito y carreteras regionalmente significativos para calidad del aire que la planea invertir en los próximos 25 años. Los proyectos se presentan de forma general en los siguientes mapas y en detalle a través del enlace de arriba.

Proyectos de menor escala no se incluyen aquí ni en el análisis de la calidad del aire.

¿Qué tiene que ver la calidad del aire con los proyectos? El gobierno federal requiere que TPB pruebe el impacto en la calidad del aire de todos los proyectos de importancia regional, incluidos el uso de suelo y los pronósticos de población/empleo en el Plan de Transporte. Esta prueba estima las emisiones del futuro sistema de transporte. Una región pasa la prueba si la estimación no excede los presupuestos de emisiones.

¿Cómo usaremos sus comentarios? El personal de TPB compartirá sus comentarios con la Junta de Planificación del Transporte (TPB). El TPB considerará los comentarios públicos antes de su votación sobre los aportes del proyecto, el alcance del trabajo del análisis de la calidad del aire y los aportes sobre el uso de la tierra.

¡Necesitamos sus comentarios sobre Visualize 2050! La Junta de Planificación del Transporte (TPB) quiere saber de usted! El 15 de mayo de 2024, la TPB votará sobre las entradas de proyectos de carreteras/tránsito de importancia regional y el alcance de análisis de la calidad del aire (incluidos los pronósticos de uso del suelo aprobado por el COG) para el próximo Plan de Transporte de la Región de la Capital Nacional, Visualize 2050.

English

Próximo

Introducción

Visualize 2050 oportunidad de comentario público

¡Haz oír tu voz! 1 - 30 de marzo de 2024

1

Transporte y calidad del aire de nuestra región

2

Entradas de proyectos propuesto

3

Entradas de proyectos propuesto

TPB News- April 2023 TPB Meeting Recap Visualize 2050 Schedule Update **March 16, 2023**

Visualize 2050 Updated Schedule

The TPB approved an update to the Visualize 2050 planning process schedule to allow member jurisdictions additional time to reexamine and resubmit projects for inclusion in the plan update. TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director Lyn Erickson presented a revised schedule (table below) that adds six months to the original schedule adopted in early 2023. Under the new schedule, project inputs will be due at the end of 2023, and a 30-day public comment will take place in March 2024 in addition to the current rolling comment period on project inputs. Learn more about [Visualize 2050](#). To provide feedback on DC, MD, or VA projects in the long-range plan, visit the Get Involved page at visualize2050.org.

Visualize 2050 Development Major Tasks

Constrained Element Tasks	Timing
1. Re-examination of Projects/Programs/Policies <i>Current approved Plan and TIP</i>	Now through December 29
2. Financial Plan Revisions (Plan and TIP)	Now through March 2025
3. Submission of Projects/Programs/Policies <i>For Regional Air Quality Conformity Analysis</i>	Now through December 29
4. Public Comment on Project Inputs and Air Quality Conformity (AQC) Scope of Work	March 1 – March 30, 2024
5. Board approval of Project Inputs and AQC Scope of Work	May 2024
6. AQC Analysis <i>Using updated Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets</i>	May 2024 through February 2025
7. TIP Inputs due	January 26, 2025
8. Board approval of AQC Analysis, Visualize 2050 and FY 2026-2029 TIP	June 2025

April



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #9 – Schedule Approval
April 19, 2023

www.mtcog.org

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TPB News- TPB Kick Off Visualize 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Update

March 16, 2023



On February 15, the TPB approved the launch of [Visualize 2050](#), which updates the current approved plan, *Visualize 2045*. The update gets underway with the Visualize 2050 Technical Inputs Solicitation and inputs to the Fiscal Year 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

As part of the Technical Inputs Solicitation, the public is welcome to comment on the current long-range plan projects and offer feedback on whether projects should remain in the plan or be altered. The current list of plan projects for the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, along with a feedback form, are available online. Visit the [Visualize 2050 Get Involved](#) page to learn more and complete the feedback form.

What are the initial steps in the plan update?

Spring 2023 actions center around the **Technical Inputs Solicitation**, which focuses on the plan's Constrained Element and the air quality conformity project inputs. Information on the solicitation is available on the [Visualize 2050 webpage](#). Key steps in this process include:

TPB Staff Roles

- Prepare preliminary project lists from the current plan organized into two groups to get the conversation started: "funded/committed" projects (under construction or have received funding) or "developmental stage" projects.
- Forward public input on the projects to TPB member jurisdictions.
- Coordinate meetings with board members and their technical agency staff to discuss potential projects and project updates.

TPB Member Roles

- Re-examine all projects, programs, and policies in the current plan and TIP and resubmit projects for the new plan after evaluating whether projects are consistent with the TPB's regional planning priorities.
- Update financial forecasts for the planning horizon.
- Propose new projects and project costs.

June 30 is the deadline for TPB members to complete submission of project conformity inputs for the *Visualize 2050* update. Once TPB staff receives the projects, staff will review and coordinate [TPB kick](#) for next steps.

[opolitan](#)

[Washington Council of Governments \(mwcog.org\)](#)

TPB Kicks off Visualize 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Update March 16, 2023

TPB NEWS

TPB kicks off Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan update

Mar 16, 2023



Crystal City Metroway BRT Stop in Arlington County, Virginia (Beyond DC/[Flickr](#))

visualize 2050

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June 30 is the deadline for TPB members to complete submission of project conformity inputs for the *Visualize 2050* update. Once TPB staff receives the projects, staff will review and coordinate for next steps.

Why is the Technical Inputs Solicitation important?

The Technical Inputs Solicitation is important because it communicates what types of projects, programs and policies are federally required to be included for the update of the region's long-range transportation plan. The solicitation also communicates the types of projects that the region would like to see planned and funded in the future, to help achieve our shared regional goals of:

- Safety
- Maintenance
- Reliability
- Affordable and Convenient
- Efficient Systems Operations
- Environmental Protection
- Resiliency
- Building Livable and Prosperous Communities

How will Visualize 2050 satisfy federal requirements?

Federal regulations require an update to the long-range transportation plan every four years, with the last update to Visualize 2045 approved by the TPB in June 2022.

Visualize 2050 will be undertaken in two years rather than four to provide an opportunity for board members to revisit the plan's projects, programs, and policies to see if changes should be made to align the plan with TPB's policy priorities and findings from various TPB scenario studies, performance analysis, and other TPB focus areas.

The federal government requires that the TPB, as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), ensures its long-range transportation plan demonstrates both the financial viability of projects and conformity with federal air quality standards.

TPB gathers all the inputs (projects, programs, and policies) necessary for TPB staff to test for **fiscal constraint** and **air quality conformity**—two federal requirements designed to ensure that the region's long-range transportation plans are financially feasible and that they support long-term air quality improvement goals.

What is meant by fiscal constraint and air quality

conformity? Fiscal/Financial Constraint

Financial constraint means that each project must be capable of being completed using revenue sources that are already committed, available, or reasonably expected to be available in the future.

TPB's member agencies are responsible to maintain, operate and expand the transportation infrastructure and services. Agencies are also required to identify the operations and maintenance programs that are needed to keep the planned transportation system in a state of good repair. This includes major rehabilitation or replacement of aging roadways, bridges, railcars, transit stations and stops, and other infrastructure as it nears the end of its useful lifespan. Expansion programs generally entail adding roadway, trail, and/or transit capacity and at times reducing capacity by changing current infrastructure or service.

An estimate of the total costs for such operations, maintenance and expansions programs is required to be included in *Visualize 2050*. Funding for day-to-day operations and maintenance activities, like repaving roadways, inspecting, and maintaining transit vehicles, installing safety-related infrastructure, and paying train and bus operators, must also be identified.

Air Quality

Air Quality Conformity refers to whether the financially constrained element of the long-range transportation plan projects collectively contribute to the air quality improvement goals embodied in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. If the LRTP is found by the TPB to meet regional air quality goals, federal agencies certify that the plan is "in conformity."

Projects that add or remove roadway or transit capacity could affect air quality. These include system expansion projects like new or widened roadways, new transit lines or bus only lanes, or expanded transit service on existing lines. Because of that effect, they are required to be in *Visualize 2050* and part of the air quality conformity test.

Another key required input is transit service and fare assumptions—the **policies** that will affect the operation of the transportation system and could therefore affect travel patterns and air quality. This includes new or updated route, frequency, and fare policy information for the region's rail and bus systems, as well as new or updated lane restrictions and hours of operation for HOV and HOT facilities.

How do long-range projects further regional priorities?

Projects, programs, and policies in the *Visualize 2050* plan update should:

- Reflect the TPB's priorities, uphold the TPB's principles, advance one or more TPB goals, and implement one or more of the TPB's priority strategies, as documented in the TPB Synthesized Policy Framework.
- Consider and apply other insights gained through public opinion research and public comment, performance, and air quality analysis, and more.

In 2022, the TPB emphasized its principles, goals, strategies, and performance measures in the TPB's [Synthesized Policy Framework](#). At its core, the Policy Framework explains the region's values, what the TPB as an MPO aims to accomplish, how its goals will be accomplished, and how the TPB will determine the impact of its planned strategies.

As TPB member jurisdictions review and resubmit projects for the Visualize 2050 long-range plan update, their staff will compare projects to TPB's principles and goals to ensure that projects further regional priorities illustrated in the graphic below.



What happens next with the inputs?

The public is welcome to comment on the long-range plan projects. The current list of plan projects for the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, along with a feedback form, are available online. Visit the [Visualize 2050 Get Involved](#) page to learn more.

The deadline for TPB member agencies to submit their inputs for the long-range plan and Air Quality Conformity Analysis is June 30, 2023.

Follow the progress of Visualize 2050 through one or more of the following: (1) Visit [visualize2050.org](#), (2) Check this COG website for periodic updates, (3) Follow @NatCapRegTPB on Twitter and Facebook, and 4) [Subscribe](#) to the TPB News monthly e-newsletter.

Contact: **Rachel Beyerle**

Phone: **(202) 962-3237**

Email: rbeyerle@mwcog.org

Tags:

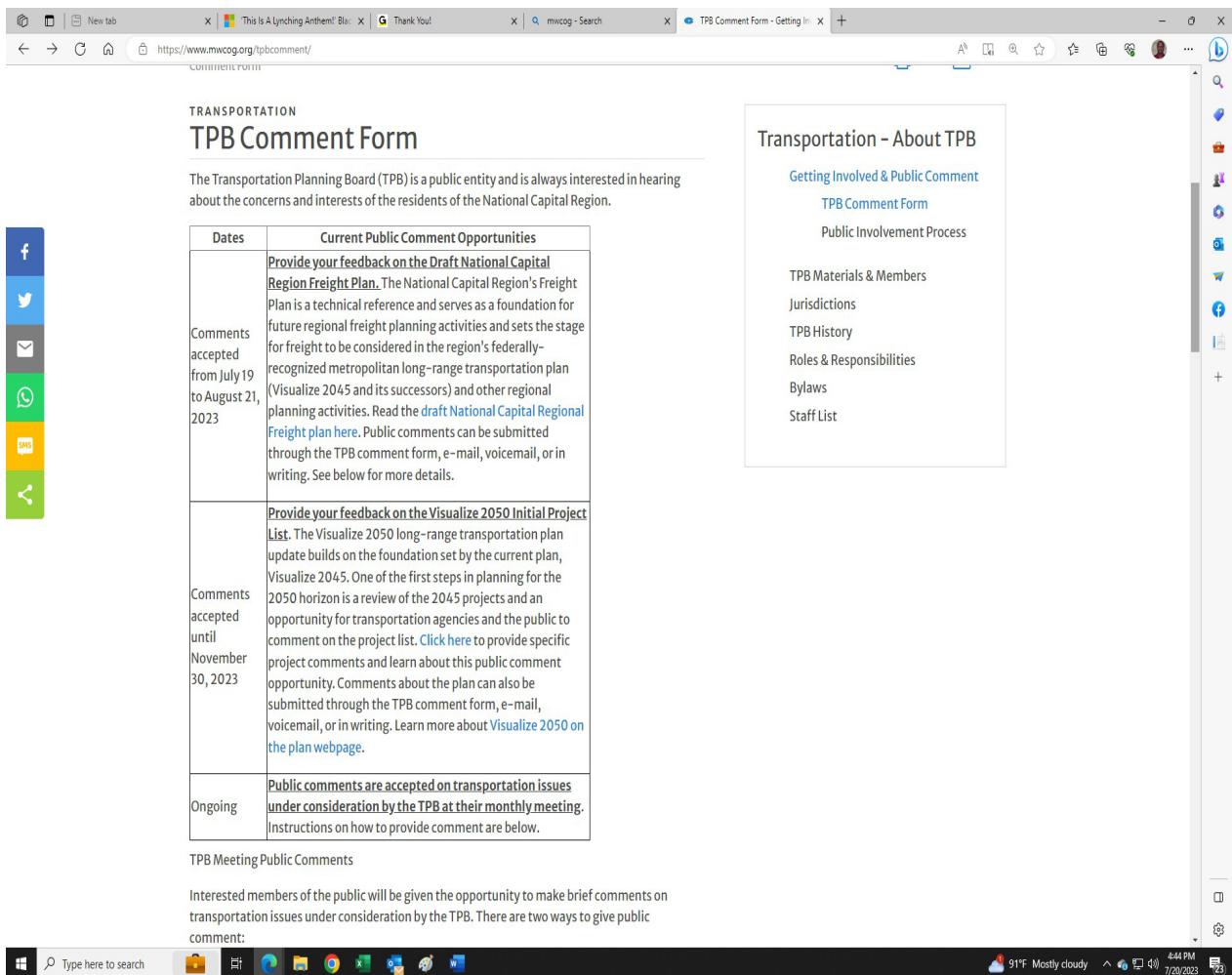
[Public Comment](#) [TPB](#) [Visualize 2045](#) [Visualize 2050](#)

[Back to news](#)

TPB News- April 2023 TPB Meeting Recap Visualize 2050 Schedule

Update

May 16, 2023



TRANSPORTATION

TPB Comment Form

The Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is a public entity and is always interested in hearing about the concerns and interests of the residents of the National Capital Region.

Dates	Current Public Comment Opportunities
Comments accepted from July 19, 2023, to August 21, 2023	Provide your feedback on the Draft National Capital Region Freight Plan. The National Capital Region's Freight Plan is a technical reference and serves as a foundation for future regional freight planning activities and sets the stage for freight to be considered in the region's federally-recognized metropolitan long-range transportation plan (Visualize 2045 and its successors) and other regional planning activities. Read the draft National Capital Regional Freight plan here . Public comments can be submitted through the TPB comment form, e-mail, voicemail, or in writing. See below for more details.
Comments accepted until November 30, 2023	Provide your feedback on the Visualize 2050 Initial Project List. The Visualize 2050 long-range transportation plan update builds on the foundation set by the current plan, Visualize 2045. One of the first steps in planning for the 2050 horizon is a review of the 2045 projects and an opportunity for transportation agencies and the public to comment on the project list. Click here to provide specific project comments and learn about this public comment opportunity. Comments about the plan can also be submitted through the TPB comment form, e-mail, voicemail, or in writing. Learn more about Visualize 2050 on the plan webpage .
Ongoing	Public comments are accepted on transportation issues under consideration by the TPB at their monthly meeting. Instructions on how to provide comment are below.

TPB Meeting Public Comments

Interested members of the public will be given the opportunity to make brief comments on transportation issues under consideration by the TPB. There are two ways to give public comment:

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[TPB Comment Form - Getting Involved & Public Comment | Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments \(mwcog.org\)](#)

TPB NEWS

TPB takes key step in development of Visualize 2050 plan

May 16, 2024



National Capital Region Transportation Plan

On May 15, the Transportation Planning Board made a key decision in the development of Visualize 2050, the next National Capital Region Transportation Plan (NC RTP), and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), by approving the scope of work and project inputs for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis. Before the vote, the board opted to remove one project, I-495 Southside Express Lanes, from the list of project inputs agreeing to discuss further its inclusion during the June 20 TPB meeting. All major transportation projects must be included in Visualize 2050 to receive federal funding and approvals.

The board's action comes after two public comment periods and an extensive review conducted by TPB member agencies, including the District of Columbia DOT, Maryland DOT, and Virginia DOT. TPB staff will now begin the air quality conformity analysis to ensure the projects collectively contribute to the air quality improvement goals of the region. The analysis takes approximately ten months to complete.

Air Quality Conformity Analysis in Brief

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Federal Clean Air Act and subsequent amendments require that the NC RTP and TIP are consistent with air quality goals and progress towards achieving and maintaining federal air quality standards. The TPB performs a mobile source emission analysis for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and Nitrogen Oxides (NOx). The analysis must demonstrate that the region's planned transit and highway capacity-related projects are within limits outlined in state air quality implementation plans.

Looking Ahead

Once the air quality conformity analysis is concluded, the TPB will hold a third comment period on the draft Visualize 2050 plan and FY 2026-2029 TIP. The projects approved for the air quality analysis are just a portion of the projects that will be included in the draft plan. For example, the TPB has received numerous comments and questions about bicycle and pedestrian projects. The final Visualize 2050 plan will incorporate a number of active transportation projects funded along with maintenance, operations and other transit or roadway improvements to be completed by the year 2050.

The Washington Hispanic, October 17, 2025

PERÍODO DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS SOBRE EL PLAN DE TRANSPORTE REGIONAL VISUALIZE 2050, EL PROGRAMA DE MEJORAS DE TRANSPORTE FY 2026-2029 Y EL INFORME RELACIONADO DE ANÁLISIS DE CONFORMIDAD DE CALIDAD DEL AIRE

La Junta de Planificación del Transporte de la Región de la Capital Nacional (TPB, por sus siglas en inglés) es la organización designada de planificación metropolitana (MPO) para la región metropolitana de Washington, responsable de la planificación de transporte regional exigida por el gobierno federal para el Distrito de Columbia, los suburbios de Maryland y Virginia.

La TPB iniciará un período de comentarios públicos de 30 días el **23 de octubre de 2025** sobre el borrador del **Plan de Transporte Regional Visualize 2050**, el **Programa de Mejoras de Transporte (TIP) FY 2026-2029**, y el **Informe de Análisis de Conformidad de Calidad del Aire**, los cuales estarán disponibles para su revisión en <http://visualize2050.org>. Este período de comentarios se extenderá hasta el **viernes 21 de noviembre de 2025**. Se espera que estos documentos sean aprobados en la reunión de la TPB el **17 de diciembre de 2025**.

El TIP incluye todos los proyectos, programas y estrategias que las agencias de transporte de la región planean implementar entre los años fiscales 2026 y 2029. El **análisis de conformidad de calidad del aire** evalúa el plan y el programa con respecto a los requisitos de calidad del aire establecidos en las Enmiendas de 1990 de la Ley de Aire Limpio. El proceso de comentarios del TIP también se utilizará para recibir opiniones sobre el programa regional de proyectos financiados por la **Administración Federal de Tránsito (FTA)** (incluidos los proyectos financiados por el Programa de Fórmula para Áreas Urbanizadas) y la **Administración Federal de Carreteras (FHWA)**.

Para el **TIP FY 2026-2029**, se llevará a cabo un **foro público el 13 de noviembre de 2025, de 6:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m.**, en el **Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG)**, ubicado en **777 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20002**. En el foro del TIP, la TPB, los Departamentos de Transporte del Distrito de Columbia, Maryland y Virginia, así como la **Autoridad de Tránsito del Área Metropolitana de Washington (WMATA)**, compartirán información sobre los proyectos con fondos programados para su implementación en la Región de la Capital Nacional durante los próximos años.

Visualize 2050 es el plan de transporte metropolitano exigido por el gobierno federal para la Región de la Capital Nacional. El plan constituye un hito en el proceso continuo de planificación del transporte que destaca las inversiones previstas en la región hasta el año 2050 para abordar los problemas de movilidad y alcanzar los objetivos regionales. El plan se desarrolla en colaboración con las agencias de transporte del Distrito de Columbia, las ciudades y condados de los suburbios de Maryland y Virginia, las agencias estatales y locales, y la **WMATA**. Estas agencias asociadas planifican y financian los proyectos de transporte incluidos en el plan, que abarcan desde la construcción de carreteras hasta los servicios de autobús y tren, así como instalaciones para bicicletas y peatones.

El público puede enviar comentarios sobre estos tres documentos en línea a través de <https://visualize2050.org>, por correo electrónico a

TPBcomment@mwcog.org, o por teléfono al **(202) 962-3774**. Los comentarios escritos pueden enviarse por correo postal a:
Presidente de la TPB, Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington, 777 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20002.

*El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) opera sus programas sin tener en cuenta la raza, el color o el origen nacional, y cumple plenamente con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados que prohíben la discriminación en todas las programas y actividades. Para más información, para presentar una queja relacionada con el Título VI, o para obtener información en otro idioma, visite www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination o llame al **(202) 962-3300**.*

The Washington Post, October 23 and November 7, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE DRAFT VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN, THE FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, AND THE RELATED AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS REPORT

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is the metropolitan Washington region's designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO), with responsibility for federally required regional transportation planning for the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. The TPB will initiate a 30-day public comment period on October 23, 2025, for the draft *Visualize 2050 National Capital Region Transportation Plan*, the draft *FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*, and the draft *Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report* which will be available for review at <http://visualize2050.org>. This comment period will extend through Friday, November 21, 2025. These documents are scheduled to be approved at the December 17, 2025, TPB meeting.

The TIP includes all projects, programs, and strategies that the region's transportation agencies plan to implement between FY 2026 and FY 2029. The air quality conformity analysis assesses the plan and program with respect to the air quality requirements under the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. The comment process on the TIP is being used to obtain comments on the region's program of projects that are funded by the Federal Transit Administration (including projects funded by the Urbanized Area Formula Program) and the Federal Highway Administration.

For the FY 2026-2029 TIP, a public forum will be held on November 13, 2025, from 6:00-7:00 P.M. at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20002. At the TIP forum, the TPB, the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia DOTs, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) will share information about projects with programmed funding scheduled for implementation in the National Capital Region over the next few years.

Visualize 2050 is the federally mandated metropolitan transportation plan for the National Capital Region. The plan is a milestone of an ongoing transportation planning process highlighting the region's planned investments through the year 2050 to address transportation issues and achieve regional goals. The plan is developed in partnership with transportation agencies in the District of Columbia, the cities and counties in suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia, state, and local agencies, and WMATA. These partner agencies plan and fund transportation projects contained in the plan ranging from roadway construction to bus and rail transit service, to bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Members of the public may submit comments on these three documents online at <https://visualize2050.org>, by email to TPBcomment@mwcog.org, or by phone at (202) 962-3774. Written comments can be mailed to: TPB Chair, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20002.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) operates its programs without regard to race, color, and national origin and fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in all programs and activities. For more information, to file a Title VI related complaint, or to obtain information in another language, visit www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination or call (202) 962-3300.

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The AFRO News, October 24, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

ON THE DRAFT VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN, THE FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, AND THE RELATED AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS REPORT

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Feedback Form on the Visualize 2050 Website for October 23- November 21, 2025 Public Comment Period

Comment on Visualize 2050

The Transportation Planning Board is a public entity and is always interested in hearing about the concerns and interests of the residents of the National Capital Region.

Comments may be submitted by:

- Using the online form below (Please upload files for comments longer than 1,000 characters.)
- Sending an email to: tpbcomment@mwcog.org
- Leaving a voicemail at (202) 962-3774 (up to 3 minutes in length)
- Writing to the TPB Chair at:

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

This comment is being submitted on behalf of:

An Individual A Governmental Body A Non-profit Organization
 A Business

Name (optional)

Zip Code

This comment pertains to:

Draft Visualize 2050: National Capital Region Transportation Plan
 Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)
 Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis All of the Above

Subject

Comment

Subject

Comment

ABC
▼

999 characters left

Comments longer than 1,000 characters in length may be submitted by uploading a Word or PDF document below.

File Upload

No file chosen

Do you have any other comments that you want to share with the TPB?

Other Comments

How did you hear
about this
engagement
opportunity?

- Email
- News or Media
- Newsletter
- Social Media
- Website Other



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TPB News Release, November 5, 2025



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

NEWS RELEASE

Public comment period open for Visualize 2050 National Capital Region Transportation Plan

Public invited to comment through November 21

Washington, DC (November 5, 2025) – The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) invites the public to visit visualize2050.org and provide comments on three documents, ahead of the TPB's review of and action on the plan this fall.

- Visualize 2050 National Capital Region Transportation Plan
- FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Air Quality Conformity Analysis of Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP

The [comment](#) period is open through November 21, 2025. Comments inform how the region can best meet roadway, transit, and other mobility needs through operations, state of good repair, and system expansion investments.

The [Visualize 2050 Plan](#) highlights the region's planned investments through the year 2050 to address transportation issues and achieve regional goals. The plan includes transportation and infrastructure programs and projects that will help people traveling in DC, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia enjoy safe, affordable, and reliable mobility options.

The [FY 2026-2029 TIP](#), available on the Visualize 2050 website's Plan Resources page, is a four-year blueprint of the transportation projects in the plan that will receive funding from federal, state, local, and other sources.

The [Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report](#), also available on the Visualize 2050 website's Plan Resources page, assesses how regionally significant highway and transit projects and future land use changes in the region meet regional air quality standards.

Watch the [Visualize video](#) or visit Visualize2050.org to learn more, read the documents, and comment.

CONTACT:

Sydney Wright; swright@mwcog.org; (202) 962-3209

The Transportation Planning Board at COG is the regional transportation planning organization for the Washington region. It includes local governments, state transportation agencies, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and members of the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies



MWCOG.ORG

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20002



Sample Twitter/X Postings regarding Visualize 2050 and Air Quality – Also posted on Bluesky, Instagram, and Facebook

TPB
@NatCapRegTPB

Did you know that the TPB adopts transit safety and performance targets to help ensure that rail & bus systems in the DMV are consistently safe, reliable, and well maintained? Learn more in Chapter 3 of [#Visualize2050](#) and share your feedback on the plan. visualize2050.org/the-plan/

VISUALIZE 2050
National Capital Region Transportation Plan

more efficient and convenient commutes



Share your thoughts on the region's transportation plan.
Comment by November 21, 2025.

Visualize 2050 is the National Capital Region Transportation Plan for the Washington DC, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia region.

Learn more & comment!
visualize2050.org

tpbcomment@mwcog.org (202) 962-3774 #Visualize2050

ALT National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board 777 N. Capitol Street NE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002 Metro (p2 r2/Flickr)

 Metro Forward

3:32 PM · Oct 27, 2025 · 178 Views



TPB

@NatCapRegTPB



Transportation projects in the region's [#Visualize2050](#) plan show that the DMV will meet federal air quality goals. Learn more about how the region is planning for a better, and cleaner travel tomorrow:



youtube.com

Visualize 2050: Meeting Federal Air Quality Goals

Enjoy the videos and music you love, upload original content, and share it all with friends, family, and the world on YouTube.

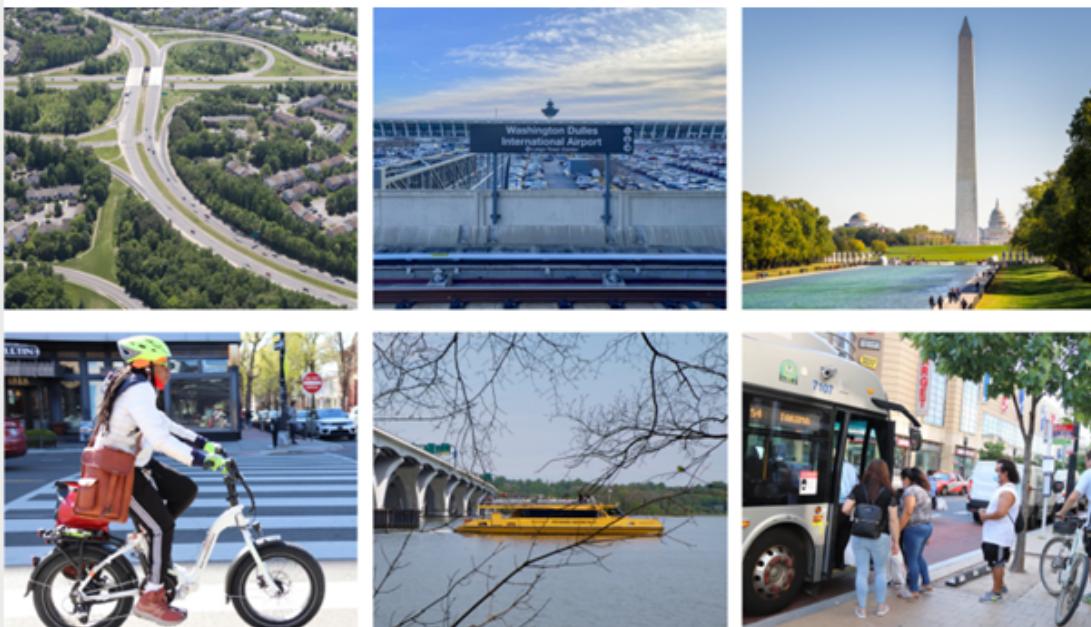
11:10 AM · Nov 5, 2025 · **290** Views

TPB Email Blast, November 14, 2025

Comment period open through November 21

VISUALIZE 2050

National Capital Region Transportation Plan



ONE WEEK LEFT TO COMMENT!

The public is invited to share feedback on the following draft documents:

- **VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN**
- **FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**
- **AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS OF VISUALIZE 2050 & FY 2026-29 TIP**

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is accepting public comments on the Visualize 2050 plan, TIP, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report as part of the TPB's transportation planning process.

Comments inform how the region can best meet multimodal transportation needs through operations, state of good repair, and system investments.

The Visualize 2050 National Capital Region Transportation Plan highlights the region's planned investments through the year 2050 to address transportation issues and achieve regional goals. The plan includes transportation and

infrastructure programs and projects that will help people who live in DC, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia enjoy safe, affordable, and reliable travel options.

The **FY 2026-2029 TIP** is a four-year blueprint of the transportation projects in the plan that will receive funding from federal, state, local, and other sources.

The **Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report** assesses how regionally significant highway and transit projects and future land use changes in the region meet regional air quality standards.

Visit Visualize2050.org to read the documents, watch a short [video](#) about the plan, explore resources, and comment.

Comments received by November 21 will be shared with the TPB and the jurisdictions sponsoring projects in the Visualize 2050 plan.

SPREAD THE WORD

Receive updates on **#Visualize2050** by following TPB on social media. The Visualize 2050 [Ambassador Toolkit](#) includes ideas for spreading the word about the comment period in the week ahead.

VISUALIZE2050.ORG

Visualize 2050 outlines the region's planned transportation investments over the next 25 years. As the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the DC-MD-VA area, the TPB's approval of the plan is required for transportation projects to receive federal funding.

Images: Fairfax County Parkway (VDOT), Metrobus and Bicyclist (Elvert Barnes/Flickr), Water Taxi (Emma K Alexandra/Flickr), Monument and Dulles Metro (Shutterstock)



VISUALIZE2050.ORG

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