

TPB TRANSIT DATA NEEDS AND REQUEST PROCESS

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Agenda

- Purpose
- Transit Data Needs at TPB
- Current Process for Requesting/Accessing Data
- Potential DMVMoves Data Needs
- Next Steps
- Discussion



Purpose

- TPB has significant and widely varying needs for data from transit agencies across the region
- Some data requests are periodical but others are one-time or for special projects
- Agencies vary in size and staff flexibility and service data requests from a broad group of partners and interests
- Delivery timing of any requested data can depend on available staff bandwidth and the difficulty of the request
- Need to balance response time demand with burden on members



Transit Data Needs at TPB

GIS Team

- Have historically sent requests directly to contacts at agencies independently

Needs

- Monthly ridership data, particularly from VRE and MARC
- Ridership by route
- NOTE: Data must be provided in a consistent format across agencies



Transit Data Needs at TPB

Mobility Analytics Program

- Expansion and rebrand of TPB's Travel Monitoring Program
- Leading development of an internal and regional data hub

Needs

- Bus and rail reliability
- Total boardings, VRE and MARC
- Metro modes: total boardings
- Garage usage
- Local transit agencies' boardings
- Transit VHT and VMT
- Avg. transit operators' speeds, per service



Transit Data Needs at TPB

Multimodal Team - RPTS

- Primary convener and means of communication between TPB and transit agencies for regional transit planning activities

Needs

- State of Public Transportation
 - Agency Asset/Service Statistics
 - Modes operated
 - Operating/Capital Exp
 - Revenue data
 - Fleet, Route, Facility, Stop totals and conditions
- PBPP
 - Transit Safety Targets and Supporting Data
 - Transit Asset Management Targets and Data



Transit Data Needs at TPB

Travel Forecasting and Modeling Program

- Unique among TPB program areas because it requires data for transit agencies across the extended modeled area (reaching WV and the Baltimore area), not just for TPB members
- Transit information system to setup the transit networks for the LRTP and AQ

Needs

- Ideally all 28 operators would provide their info in GTFS format, but only about 2/3 do that – used to build aggregated transit information
 - Avg. runtime and avg. headway
 - Total stops (and through nodes)
 - Boardings by route and time of day (4 time of day periods for weekdays)



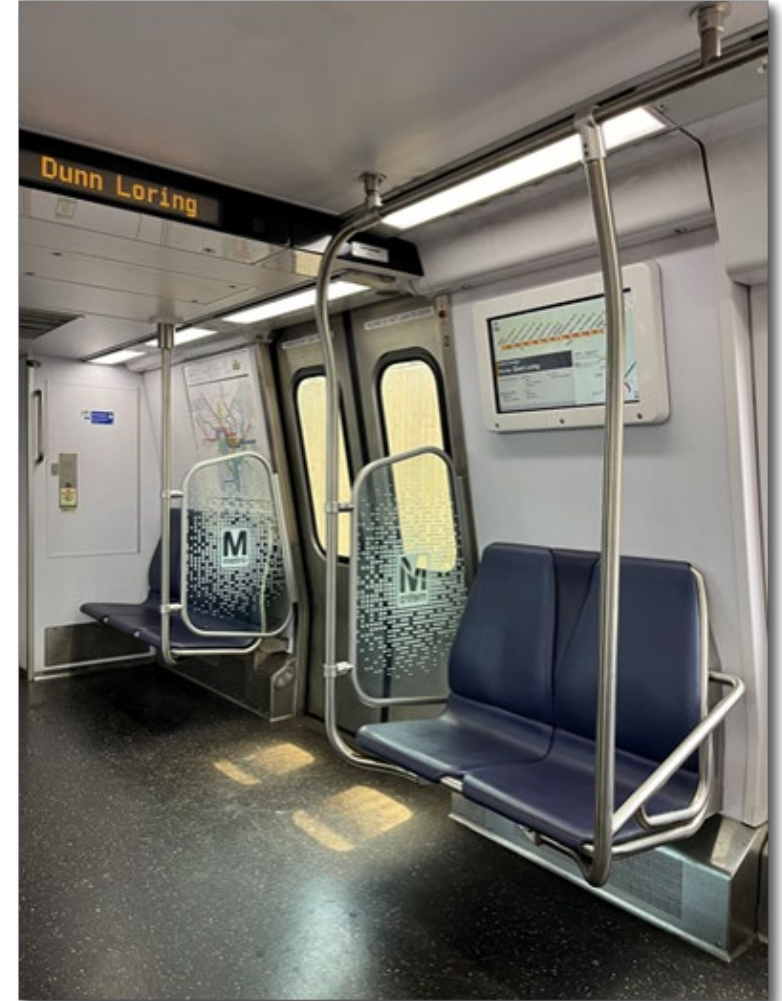
Transit Data Needs at TPB

Transportation Planning and Data

- Responsible for on-board survey coordination between TPB and local agencies
- Currently working directly with agencies on an ongoing project

Needs

- TBD
- Access/egress to transit



Current Data Request Processes/Possibilities



Current

- Direct E-mail requests (Response via e-mail)
- SurveyMonkey/Google Forms
- Excel/Other Templates (Returned via e-mail or a cloud service)
- Online open sources (NTD, DRPT, publications, agency websites, various dashboards, etc)

Potential

- Annual reporting to NTD, DRPT, others results in simultaneous copy to TPB
- Universal request formatting or platform
- Most TPB data requests are sent from RPTS staff rather than from multiple teams



Performance Data Reporting Post-DMVMoves



- A Regional Integration Action Plan recommendation is regional reporting of transit agency performance using a common set of metrics (as applicable per transit mode and collected in a similar manner)
- COG/TPB is the suggested reporter of regional performance. Annual reporting would be incorporated into the annual TPB State of Public Transportation report
- The final set of metrics would be discussed at and decided by TPB's Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (RPTS)
- TPB staff will assemble a preliminary list of metrics to consider for inclusion





Next Steps

- Discuss how TPB data request processes can be improved for TPB/transit agencies:
 - What is possible?
 - What format/platform works best for sending/receiving data requests?
 - Should requests be sent to specific contacts?
- Fall/Winter: Continue discussion via e-mail and 1:1 conversations as necessary
- 2026: Implement an updated and streamlined means of data requests to/from transit agencies



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