

VISUALIZE 2050



National Capital Region Transportation Plan

Action Item 8

OVERVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED & MATERIALS FOR TPB APPROVAL

Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report,
Visualize 2050 and FY 2026-2029 TIP,
and Self-Certification

Cristina Finch
TPB Transportation Planner

Laura Bachle
TPB Transportation Planner

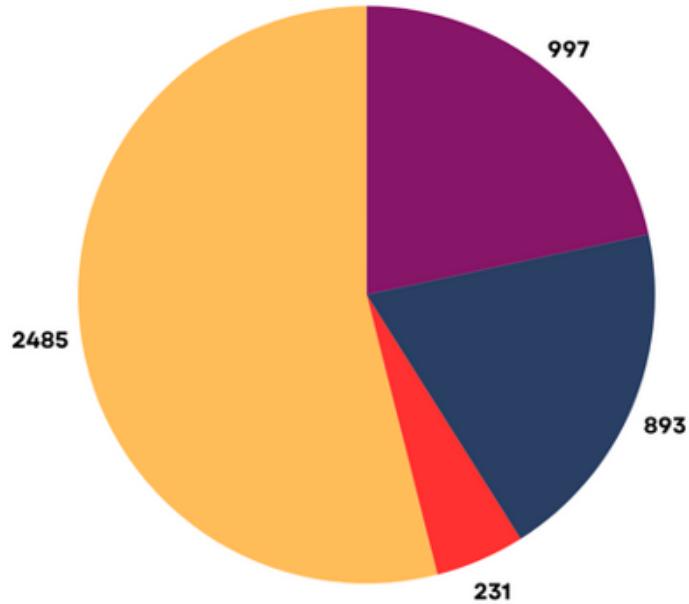
TPB Meeting
December 17, 2025



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Visualize 2050 Public Participation Overview

- TPB staff held three comment periods and received comments at many monthly TPB meetings over the last three years



2023

Initial Project List - February 15 to November 30, 2023.

2024

Air quality conformity inputs - March 1 to 30, 2024.

2025

Full Plan, Air Quality Analysis, and TIP - October 23 to November 21, 2025.

TPB MEETING COMMENTS

Ongoing monthly public comments and oral testimony outside formal comment periods between June 2024 and November, 2025.

Read the
Comments
Summary

available on the
Visualize 2050
website

Final Visualize 2050 Comment Period Advertising

- TPB staff advertised the public comment period via:
 - Visualize2050.org website
 - TPB, Visualize 2050, and COG newsletters
 - TPB committee communications
 - TPB member jurisdictions and partner agencies
 - TPB and COG social media, including boosted Facebook posts
 - Washington Post, Washington Hispanic, and AFRO news ads
 - Media outlets including Fairfax County Times, Frederick News-Post, and WJLA ABC-7 news

Conducted from
October 23 –
November 21, 2025



Comment Period – Website Highlights

- Visualize 2050 website highlights*
 - **Visualize2050.org** received 15,951 views during the fall campaign
 - The **Plan Resources** page (TIP, AQC Report, Maps) had 1,414 views during the fall campaign
 - The **Plan** page had 1,129 views during the fall campaign
 - Visitors took time to read and scan the plan and resources. (57% engagement rate for Plan Resources page; 79% engagement rate for The Plan page)
 - Website engagement reflect the URL being shared across email blasts, partner websites (e.g., COG, OmniRide), media coverage, and social media posts



* The highlights reflect engagement October 1 – November 24, 2025.

Comments Received – Key Takeaways

Context: Last public comment period in a long planning process.

Total number of comments: 231

The comments received included:

- 1 comment from Hon. Kenny Boddye, Prince William County Board of Supervisors
- 1 comment from COG Boards (MWAQC)
- 2 comments from member jurisdictions (Fairfax County, City of Falls Church)
- 5 comments from non-profit advocacy groups
- 86 comments from email campaigns
- 136 comments from individuals

Major Public Comment Categories

- Request for a more ambitious plan
- Rail/Bus/Bike/Pedestrian Expansion
 - Increase rail
- Roadway widenings
 - Opposition in general and toll lanes in particular
- Public Health/Safety
- Climate change
- Technical comments



Major Public Comment Highlights

- Generally, support the draft Visualize 2050 plan
- Urge more ambitious goals to get greater reduction in car and SOV trips
- Reallocate highway expansion and toll lane funding to transit
- Expand schedules, invest in track improvements and travel times, offer express transit services and coordinate local jurisdiction to improve quality
- Ensure safety outcomes carry equal weight to congestion reduction in project selection and funding
- Pursue emissions reduction activities more aggressively
- Work to avoid using safety margins to meet motor vehicle emissions budgets by pursuing public transit, ride-sharing, bike/ped and TDM strategies

Public Comment Categories Examples

“Our view is that the Visualize 2050 plan is insufficient to address the climate emergency our region is facing, and different actions need to be taken to help us navigate the challenges.” The Climate Mobilization

“The Chevy Chase DC, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne neighborhoods of upper NW DC would benefit greatly from enhanced and more frequent bus service. It's an area with a sizable senior population, some of whom find it difficult to drive.” -TPBComment Email

“But nobody will be inspired if we limit our imagination. We have lots of examples around the world to draw from. Let's take the best of the best and give the people of this region, and of this country, something to be proud of that truly revolutionizes the way people navigate a greater metropolitan area.”
- Online form submittal

“The toll lanes will not alleviate traffic congestion. Instead they will make travel on these major highways inequitable, only offering routes with less traffic to drivers who can afford to pay high toll prices.” – Online form submittal

“I urge TPB to ensure that implementation truly reaches all corners of our metropolitan region, including the communities that anchor the outer ring of its workforce and economy.”

-Kenny A. Boddye

Document Edits following Public Comment Period

- Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report
 - Technical edits to record and conformity ID references
- Visualize 2050 Plan
 - Technical corrections and minor content adjustments
- FY 2026-2029 TIP
 - Updates to funding amounts by source and fiscal year, total cost estimates, conversion between long-range (CE) and Transportation Improvement Program (T) records

TPB 12/17 Agenda Item #3

- The TPB will be asked to take the following actions:
 - Adopt resolution R3-2026 finding that Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP conform with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990
 - Adopt resolution R4-2026 approving Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP
 - Adopt resolution R5-2026 endorsing the Statement of Certification that self-certifies that the TPB is following the metropolitan transportation planning process



SeanPavonePhoto/iStock

Resolution R3-2026 to Approve Air Quality Conformity Determination

TPB staff recommend that the TPB take the following action:

- Adopt a resolution finding that Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 TIP conform with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990



Visualize 2050 and the TIP meet the federal Air Quality Conformity requirements:

Mobile source VOC and NO_x emissions associated with the plan/TIP are below EPA approved motor vehicle emissions budgets.

Resolution R4-2026 to Approve Visualize 2050 and FY 2026-2029 TIP

TPB staff recommend that the TPB take the following action:

- Adopt a resolution approving the Visualize 2050 plan and FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)



The Visualize 2050 National Capital Region long-range transportation plan and the TIP meet the federal requirements for fiscal constraint, and all other federal requirements.

Resolution R5-2026 to Approve Self-Certification

TPB staff recommend that the TPB take the following action:

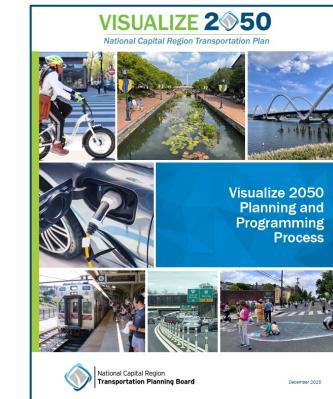
- Self-certify that the TPB is following the metropolitan transportation planning process

References the Visualize 2050 Planning and Programming Process Documentation

- 27 parts available on visualize2050.org
- Covers much of the TPB's 3C performance-based transportation planning process
- Includes a compliance checklist that shows how Visualize 2050 meets the federal requirements



The TPB carries out a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive performance-based multimodal transportation planning process consistent with federal regulations (23 CFR § 450)



Cristina Finch

TPB Transportation Planner

(202) 962-3335

cfinch@mwcog.org

mwcog.org/tpb

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



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Action Item 8: Comments Received and Materials for Approval
December 17, 2025