



# 2026 GROUND ACCESS TRAVEL TIME STUDY (GATT)

## Status Update

Suraj Vujjini  
Transportation Data Analyst

Aviation Technical Subcommittee  
January 22, 2026



National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item # 5

# Project Overview

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- The CASP Program provides a process and systematic framework to support the planning, development and operation of airport and airport-serving facilities in the Washington-Baltimore region.
- The Ground Access Travel Time Study (GATT) has been conducted five times since 1988, with the most recent study published in 2024 on highway travel times from selected activity centers to the region's three commercial airports (BWI, DCA, and IAD).
- The GATT study specifically analyzes highway travel times from selected regional activity centers to the three major commercial airports in the region: BWI, DCA, and IAD.
- In all studies prior to 2011, physical probe vehicles were driven along the routes to manually measure speeds and congestion. Since 2017, vehicle probe data obtained from the Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory at the University of Maryland (CATT Lab) was used as the input to analyze travel routes.
- **Metric used - Travel Time Index**

It is a dimensionless quantity that compares travel conditions in the peak period to travel conditions during free-flow or posted speed limit conditions.



# Current Project Status and Next Steps

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- **GATT Memo:** The Draft Scope of Work Memo was shared with the subcommittee on **August 7, 2025**. Member feedback was reviewed, addressed, and fully incorporated into the Final Scope of Work, which was distributed to the subcommittee on **November 26, 2025**.
- **Route Selection:** Finalized the specific routes designated for analysis. (Routes info in the memo). The routes were selected based on the latest Round 10 Regional Activity Centers published in 2025.
- **Transit Methodology:** Evaluated big data platforms for transit travel times; due to data limitations, we are proceeding with the methodology used in the previous study.
- **Current Progress:** Travel time analysis is actively underway.
- **Next Steps:** Report generation will begin immediately upon completion of the analysis.



# List of Ongoing Tasks

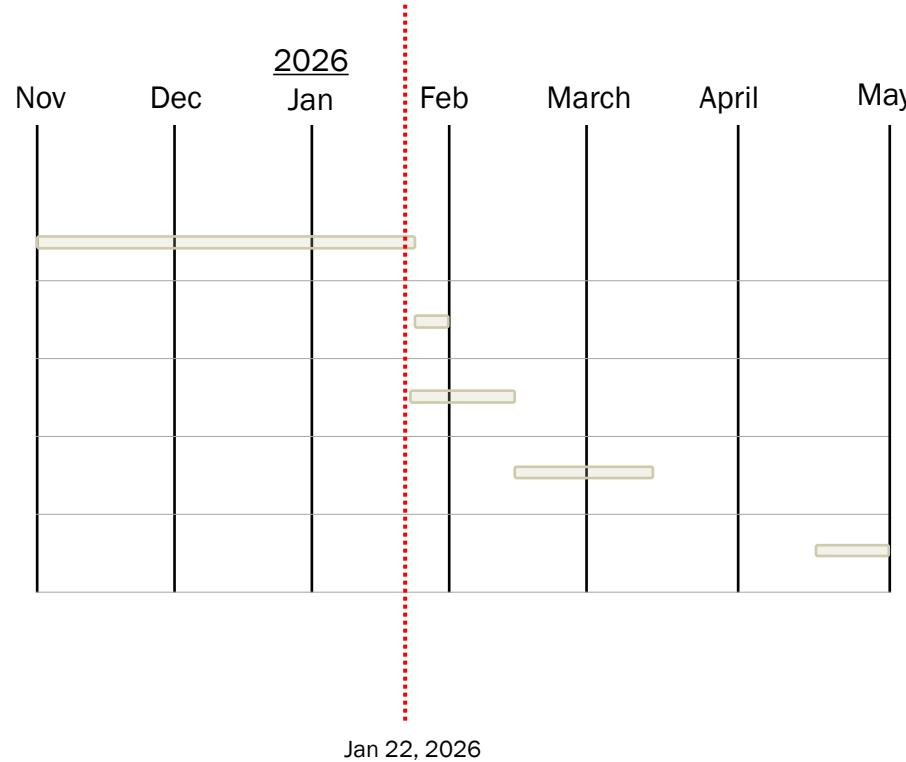
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- **Task 1:** Travel Time Data Collection and Analysis
- **Task 2:** Quality Assurance and Validation
- **Task 3:** Preparing the Draft Report and sharing with the subcommittee.
- **Task 4:** ATS Draft Review and Comment Solicitation
- **Task 5:** Comment Incorporation and Finalizing the Report



# Current Timeline

- Task 1:** Travel Time Data Collection and Analysis
- Task 2:** Quality Assurance and Validation
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- Task 4:** ATS Draft Review and Comment Solicitation
- Task 5:** Comment Incorporation and Finalizing the Report



NOTE: This is the current targeted timeline; exact dates have not yet been determined.



# Suraj Rana Vujjini

Transportation Data Analyst  
(410) 302-4676  
[svujjini@mwcog.org](mailto:svujjini@mwcog.org)

[mwcog.org/tpb](http://mwcog.org/tpb)

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



National Capital Region  
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Agenda Item #5: 2026 Ground Access Travel Time Study  
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