



2025 GROUND ACCESS TRAVEL TIME STUDY (GATT)

Status Update

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Aviation Technical Subcommittee
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National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item # 4:Ground Access Travel Time Study

Purpose of Presentation

- Summarize the Ground Access Travel Time (GATT) study and share updates on the forthcoming 2025 GATT study.
- Present key methodological changes from previous studies.
- Present methodology overview and draft report structure.
- Solicit subcommittee input and feedback.

Study Background

- Purpose of the study: To measure highway travel times between regional activity centers and the three major airports: **BWI, DCA, and IAD**
- This study is part of the Continuous Airport System Planning (CASP) program.
- The GATT study has previously been conducted in 1988, 1994, 2003, 2011, 2015, and 2024.
- Studies from 1988 through 2011 used probe vehicles to measure travel speeds and congestion.
- Since 2015, vehicle probe data from UMD's CATT Lab has been utilized.



Key Enhancements and changes in 2025 Update

- **Bidirectional Analysis:** Includes travel to and from the airports (previously focused only on to the airports)
- **Updated Reference Years:**
 - The 2024 study used **2019, 2020, and 2023 data** to analyze pandemic impacts.
 - The 2025 update will use **2019, 2023, and 2025 data** to reflect full pre-pandemic, post-pandemic and post return-to-work order conditions.
- **Interactive Dashboard:** A web-based dashboard will display select GIS maps for online viewing.
- **Expanded Scope:** Potential expansion of transit analysis using data from a big-data platform.
- The 2025 study will exclude Planning Time Index (PTI)



Methodology Overview

Period Analyzed: Spring – April 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day in 2019, 2023 and 2025.

Travel Time Index

- Analyzing data from three time periods:
 - Spring 2019: Base period (pre-pandemic)
 - Spring 2023: Partial pandemic recovery
 - Spring 2025: Latest conditions (post return-to-office orders)
- Summarizing data by day of week:
 - Weekdays: (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday),
 - Weekends: (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday)
- For each day of week, data aggregated into six time periods:
 - 12 Midnight to 5 A.M. (AM before 5)
 - 5 A.M. to 6 A.M. (AM 5 to 6)
 - 6 A.M. to 9 A.M. (AM Peak)
 - 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. (Midday)
 - 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. (PM Peak)
 - 7 P.M. to 11:59 P.M. (PM after 7)



Draft Report Structure

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Organization of the Report
- Methodology
 - Highway Network
 - Transit
 - Demographic Changes
- Findings
 - Travel Time Index - **Auto**
 - Observations from Spring 2019
 - Observations from Spring 2023
 - Observations from Spring 2025
 - Congestion
 - Savings in Travel Time By Using Managed Lanes
- Conclusion



Next Steps

- Incorporate subcommittee feedback and share draft scope of work memo by July 31.
- Solicit subcommittee feedback on the memo by **Friday, August 29, 2025.**
- Start 2025 study (data collection + analysis) later this year.

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