
TPB TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

May 2, 2025

1. WELCOME, VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES, AND MEMBER ROLL CALL PROTOCOL

Staff described the procedures and protocols for the virtual meeting and conducted a roll call. Meeting participants are documented in the attached attendance list.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING RECAP FROM THE APRIL 4, 2025 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

There were no questions or comments regarding the March Technical Committee meeting. The summary was accepted as final.

ITEMS FOR THE BOARD AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF FY 2026 TLC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

Ms. Victoria Caudullo briefed the Committee on the projects recommended for funding under the fiscal year 2026 cycle of the Transportation-Land Use Connections program (TLC).

Ms. Caudullo presented on the projects recommended by the TLC's Technical Selection Committee to receive technical assistance in fiscal year 2026. The TLC program was established and funded by the TPB in 2007. The program provides funding for small planning projects that promote mixed-use, walkable communities and support a variety of transportation alternatives. This year, sixteen applications requesting a total of \$1,310,000 in technical assistance were received.

A selection panel consisting of industry experts from the Institute for Transportation Engineers, National Capital Planning Commission, and Transportation Research Board, as well as TPB staff convened in April to recommend that the TPB approve the following four projects at its May 21 meeting:

- District of Columbia, Curbless Street Design Specification (\$100,000)
- Montgomery County, Montgomery County Capital Bikeshare Improvement Plan (\$80,000)
- City of Alexandria, Beauregard Trail Feasibility Study (\$80,000)
- Fairfax County, Westpark Drive Safety Project (\$100,000)

The consultant selection process for these projects is expected to begin in June 2024, and the projects are expected to begin in Fall 2025.

Following Ms. Caudullo's presentation, Mr. Kanti Srikanth clarified that this year's funding differs from previous cycles, due to changes in funding provided by state DOTs and asked Ms. Caudullo to provide additional information. Ms. Victoria Caudullo shared that state DOTs can utilize their Technical Assistance funds to fund additional projects and noted that \$20,000 in UPWP Core funding is unallocated due to the funding amounts for each of the four selected projects. Ms. Caudullo noted that should MDOT or VDOT provide additional technical assistance, additional projects would be funded.

Mr. Kanti Srikanth also clarified that if state DOTs would like to fund additional projects, they should notify the TPB in the next few weeks so staff can incorporate it into the program. Ms. Kari Snyder (MDOT) noted that MDOT typically provides additional funding to the TLC program from their Technical Assistance funds and was delayed this year in determining the funding amount. Ms. Snyder indicated that she will soon discuss this with MDOT leadership.

4. APPROVAL OF FY 2026 REGIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

Ms. Nham and Ms. Caudullo briefed the Committee on the status of various ongoing TPB safety activities, as well as the projects recommended for funding under the fiscal year 2026 cycle of the Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP).

Ms. Nham presented on the implementation status of several safety actions proposed during the 2024 Regional Roadway Safety Summit and outlined in a subsequent workplan developed by staff in December 2024. One action, for the TPB to join the USDOT Allies in Action campaign, was completed in early 2025. Three additional actions - various safety-related studies, including two focused on automated traffic enforcement reciprocity – are undergoing consultant procurement or pending grant funding. Ms. Nham also outlined additional recent activities executed by TPB staff in recent months such as the Street Smart campaign and RRSP.

Ms. Caudullo presented on the projects recommended by the RRSP's Technical Selection Committee to receive technical assistance in fiscal year 2026. The RRSP was established and funded by the TPB in 2020. The program promotes the TPB's roadway safety priorities. This year, eleven applications requesting a total of \$890,000 in technical assistance were received. A selection panel consisting of safety officials and staff from District Department of Transportation (DDOT), Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the TPB convened in April to recommend that the TPB approve the following four projects at its May 21 meeting:

- City of Alexandria, *Braddock Road Safety Improvements* (\$80,000)
- Fairfax County, *Central Annandale Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Tom Davis Drive* (\$80,000)
- Prince William County, *High School Pedestrian Safety Improvements Study* (\$80,000)
- City of Rockville, *Rollins-Twinbrook Complete Street Feasibility Study* (\$80,000)

The consultant selection process for these projects is expected to begin in June 2024, and the projects are expected to begin in Fall 2025.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. VISUALIZE 2050

Ms. Sara Brown provided an update on Visualize 2050 and TIP Status Report. Ms. Brown started by reviewing the zero-based budgeting activity steps and noted agency progress towards each step. She mentioned that TPB subject matter experts have reviewed DC and Virginia's remaining PIT fields and are currently working on Maryland's. She noted that she would be reaching out to any agency who might need to clarify some of the remaining PIT fields. Ms. Brown provided a summary of the TIP Financial Details step for the ZBB process. She mentioned that TPB staff hosted two informational sessions as well as hosted two Q&A sessions for any questions regarding this step and that there would be one more Q&A session being held. She stated that the due date for the completion of all the ZBB activities is May 9, 2025.

There were no follow-up questions for Ms. Brown.

6. WMATA BETTER BUS UPDATE

Mr. Bob Spellman, WMATA, gave an update on the upcoming implementation of the Better Bus restructuring of the regional Metrobus network on June 29. After a brief introduction by Eric Randall, TPB Staff, the history of this effort was reviewed, representing two years of work by WMATA and regional transit staff and consultants, including extensive public outreach. Mr. Spellman noted that this is the largest ever coordinated implementation of a bus network restructuring. Information and maps are being installed now to ensure customers and employees are ready on June 29, while permanent signs, maps and stop improvements will roll out in the coming year. New route names and signs will make the new network easier to ride. Customers are being educated through multiple channels, and there will be ambassadors on the street on implementation day. Spellman closed with a list of all the ways local partners can help with information, including at public events, disseminating the information, and public service announcements.

Mr. Victor Weissberg noted this mammoth scale of this effort and noted that Prince George's County is also restructuring its bus service in coordination with WMATA. He praised the work of the County and WMATA staff and consultant teams in the work done to date and the preparation for the June 29 implementation date.

Mr. Kanti Srikanth also noted the scale of the effort including the public outreach that was undertaken. He suggested that COG Commuter Connections also get this briefing.

7. CLEAN DATA DETERMINATION

Mr. Robert d'Abadie provided an overview of recent EPA rulemaking regarding air quality in the region. On April 4, 2025, the EPA confirmed that the region had met the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. The rulemaking consisted of three actions. First, an exceptional event waiver was granted for the McMillan Reservoir monitor, where high readings on June 29th, 2023, were determined to be the result of wildfire smoke and not indicative of local air quality. Second, the region was granted a clean data determination, meaning that the air quality monitor data shows that for the 2023 Ozone season, the region achieved the 2015 Ozone NAAQS. Finally, the region was granted a determination of attainment by the attainment date, confirming the region had demonstrated attainment of the 2015 Ozone NAAQS by the deadline of August 3, 2024. Going forward, the region can proceed to develop a Redesignation Request and a Maintenance Plan for the region, which the state air quality agencies will, in turn, submit to the EPA to request redesignation of the region to maintenance status.

Dan Malouff asked a question regarding Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program funding and whether the clean data determination will impact it. Mr. Kanti Srikanth responded that all three states receive CMAQ funding from the USDOT via a formula grant and that CMAQ funding must be used in nonattainment and maintenance areas. Regions must submit maintenance plans for 10 years, followed by a second maintenance plan for the next 10-year period. It is anticipated that the region will continue to receive CMAQ funding to aid in maintaining the standard. Mr. Srikanth noted that all funding is up for federal reauthorization by Congress. The deadline for a new bill is October 1, 2026. It is unclear what changes will be made to all funding programs, including CMAQ.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Vicki Caudullo shared a reminder that the TPB will open its application period for the Transit Within Reach Program in early June until early August. The program funds design and preliminary engineering projects for up to approximately \$80,000 to help improve bike and walk connections to existing High Capacity Transit Stations with an emphasis on projects that improve access in TPB Transit Access Focus Areas (TAFAS).

Mr. Dan Sheehan shared Bike to Work Day will take place on May 15. He shared that there will be 100 pit stops, and free T-shirts. He shared where participants can sign up.

Mr. Kanti Srikanth shared an update on recent federal actions and TPB Reauthorization Principles submission. He thanked members for the inputs received to update the TPB Reauthorization Principles and shared how the principles have been updated.

Ms. Laura Bachle shared an update on the Access for All Advisory Committee. She said that she received a total of 35 applications for the committee. 20 members in total and 10 are new to the committee. She said that there are 13 Ex-Officio members and three are new to the committee. She said that there was good coverage among all the traditionally underserved communities. She said that the first meeting will take place on Monday, June 23.

Mr. Erin Morrow shared how COG is leading in the development of a comprehensive climate action plan under EPA's carbon pollution reduction. She explained how COG is convening a group of stakeholders to participate in a series of listening sessions as well as to review the input received and this will all take place this summer.

Ms. Lyn Erickson shared how the items presented at the Technical Committee meeting in April that will be on the TPB agenda in May, which include the Activity Center Update and Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Activities.

Ms. Amanda Lau presented a memo with a brief paragraph on the Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee and shared the upcoming subcommittee dates for May.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT	
Amy Garbarini – DRPT – V	Brittany Sumpter – VRE – V
Alyssa Beyer NVTA – V	Brent Riddle – Fairfax County – V
Chloe Delhomme – City of Manassas– V	Maria Sinner – VDOT – V
Corey Pitts – MCDOT – V	Leo Pineda – VDOT – I
Dan Malouff – Arlington County – V	Naomi Cohen-Shields – DDOT – V
Douglas Smith – City of Gaithersburg – V	Nick Ruiz – VRE – V
Kari Snyder – MDOT – V	Victor Weissberg – Prince George’s County - V
Melissa Kim – WMATA – V	Regina Moore – VDOT – V
Meagan Landis – Prince William County – V	Silas Sullivan – City of Alexandria – I
OTHERS / MWCOG STAFF PRESENT	
Amanda Lau – I	Mark Moran – V
Lyn Erickson – I	Janie Nham – I
Kanti Srikanth – I	Charlene Howard – V
Andrew Austin – I	Cristina Finch – V
Sergio Ritacco – I	Dusan Vuksan – V
Sara Brown – I	Ian Newman – V
Vicki Caudullo – I	Jamie Bufkin – V
Tim Canan – I	Katherine Rainone – V
Greg Goodwin – I	Sunil Kumar – V
Dan Sheehan – I	Erin Morrow – V
Mike Farrell – I	Feng Xie – V
Laura Bachle – I	Ken Joh – V
Rachel Beyerle – I	Bob Spellman – WMATA – I
Eric Randall – V	