



MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Planning Board
FROM: Tom Harrington, TPB Multimodal Planning Program Director
SUBJECT: Transportation System Management and Operations – Coordination Activities
DATE: March 12, 2026

The TPB's planning process supports the regional coordination of transportation systems management and operations (TSMO) of the multiple transportation agencies within the National Capital Region (NCR) planning area. TSMO encompasses:

Integrated strategies to optimize the performance of existing infrastructure through the implementation of multimodal and intermodal, cross-jurisdictional systems, services, and projects designed to preserve capacity and improve security, safety, and reliability of the transportation system; and the consideration of incorporating natural infrastructure.¹

TPB's TSMO work activity is accomplished in partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's (COG) Transportation Emergency Preparedness Committee, Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF-1), and the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program. TPB staff actively participate in coordination activities and provide technical and administrative support of both programs, although the primary funding source of both programs is outside of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

The Board will be briefed on the roles, responsibilities and activities of these two entities:

The **Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program** is a joint operations program between DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, and WMATA to improve inter-agency information sharing and coordination. TPB helped facilitate the formation of MATOC in 2009, and the TPB is an ex officio member of the MATOC Steering Committee. MATOC monitors the transportation system conditions in real-time and serves as an information clearinghouse for the region's operators. MATOC focuses on incidents or events that may impact multiple jurisdictions or transportation modes, including special events. The TPB will be briefed on the overall mission of MATOC and will hear about some recent coordination events, such as the January 2026 winter storm.

The **NCR RESF-1 Transportation Committee** was established in 2006 to plan for and address transportation's role regarding emergency response, coordination, and recovery before, during and after a regional incident or emergency. The committee serves an important regional forum for transportation officials to discuss emergency response and coordination requirements and to provide a voice for transportation in the larger NCR Homeland Security Program. Traffic incident management (TIM) is an important component of the RESF-1 work plan.

¹ 23 USC 101 (a) (32) (A)

In addition to hearing an overview of the RESF-1 functions, the TPB will receive a briefing on mutual aid operations. The 2005 NCR Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) allows for the provision of public safety and other emergency response services across jurisdictional boundaries, increasing the ability to preserve the safety and welfare of the entire National Capital Region. The 2023 Transportation Mutual Aid Operations Plans (TMAOP) provides a detailed framework on the methods and procedures to put the MAA into action for transportation agencies in the region. All transportation/transit agencies in the NCR are strongly encouraged to become signatories to the MAA and the TMAOP.