

# VISUALIZE 2050

*National Capital Region Transportation Plan*

Agenda Item #9

## PLAN AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

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### Visualize 2050 & FY 2026-2029 TIP

Cristina Finch  
TPB Transportation Planner

TPB Meeting  
March 19, 2025



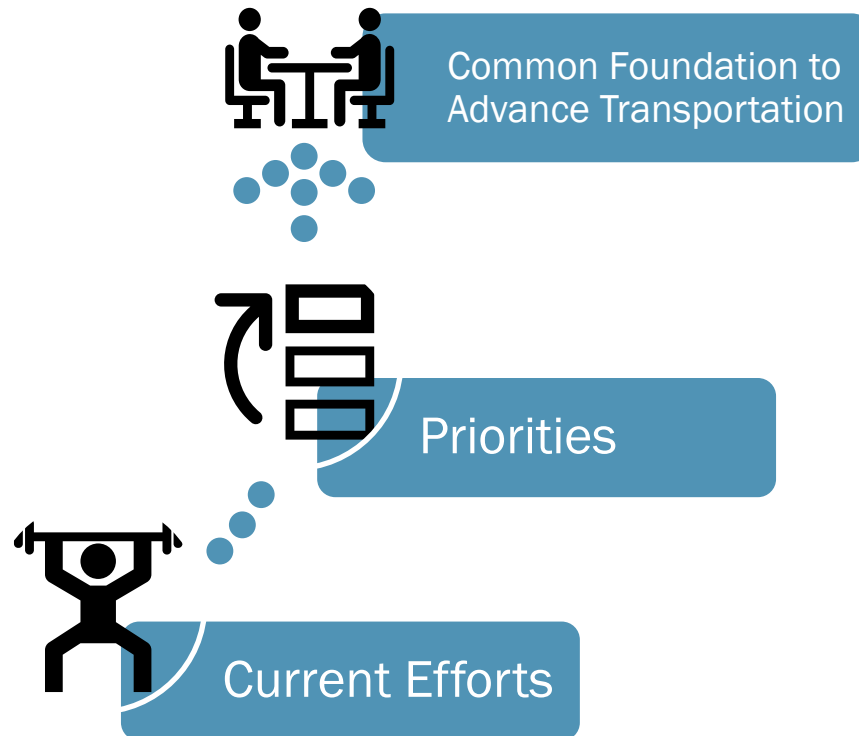
National Capital Region  
**Transportation Planning Board**

# Overview

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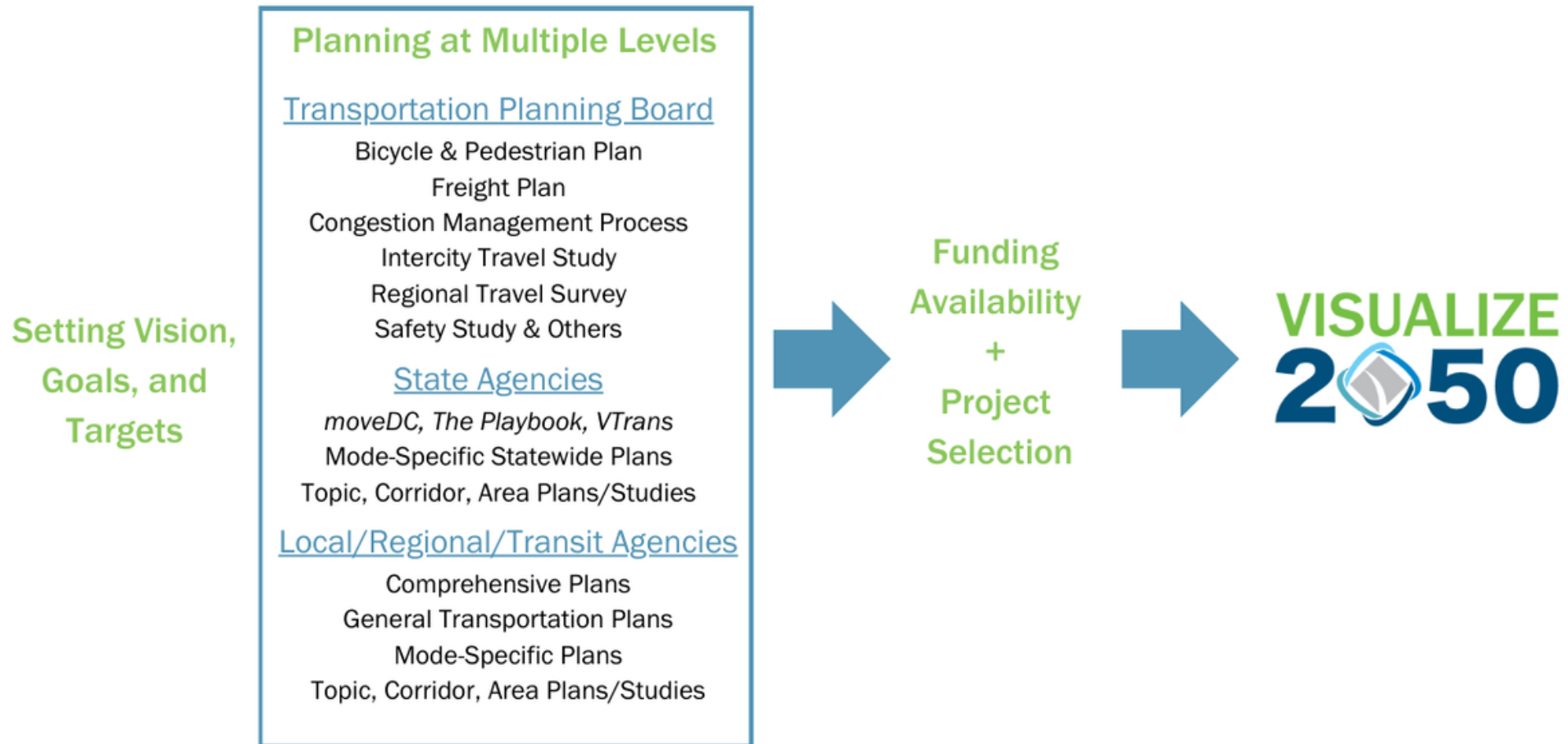
- Development of the National Capital Region Transportation Plan
- Overview of the Visualize 2050 Plan Contents
- Remaining Schedule
- New Visualize 2050 website

# Goal for National Capital Region Transportation Plan



To communicate current efforts and priorities to provide stakeholders with a common foundation for advancing transportation.

# NCR Transportation Planning Process



# What is the Transportation Plan?

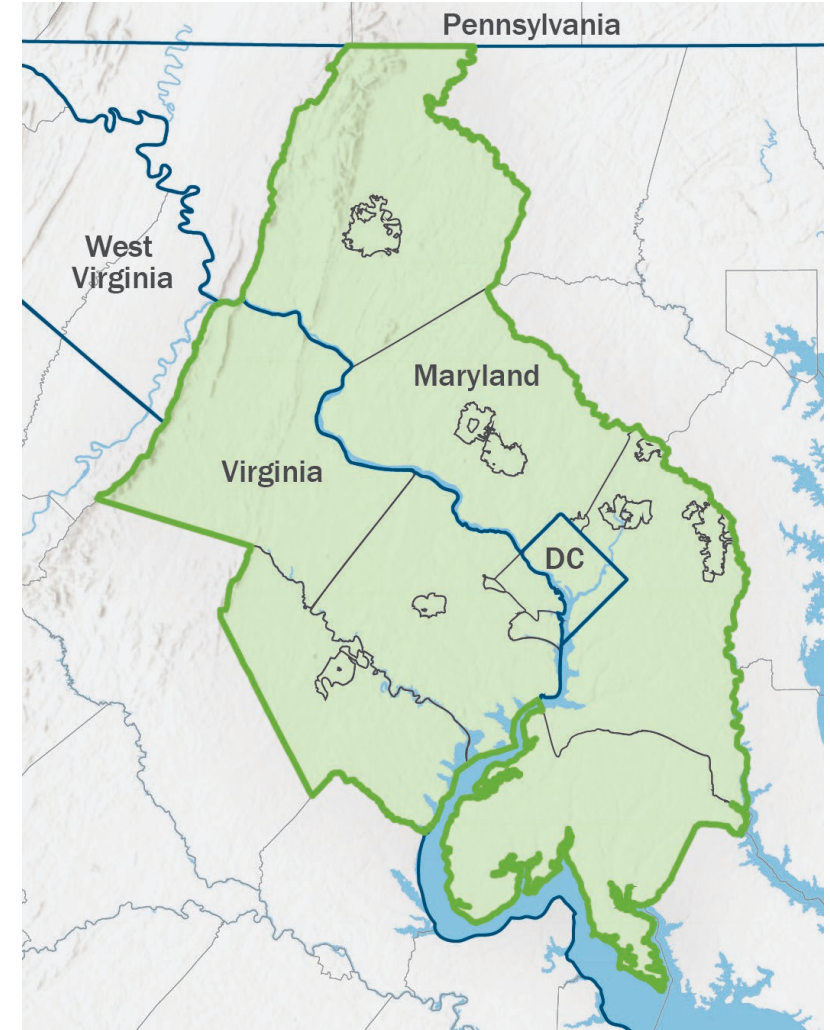
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- Transportation System Today
- Current System Performance
- Impacts / Interaction With Societal Topics
- Financial Plan – Capital & Operations
  - 2050 System and Performance
  - Challenges Beyond the Plan
  - Moving Forward

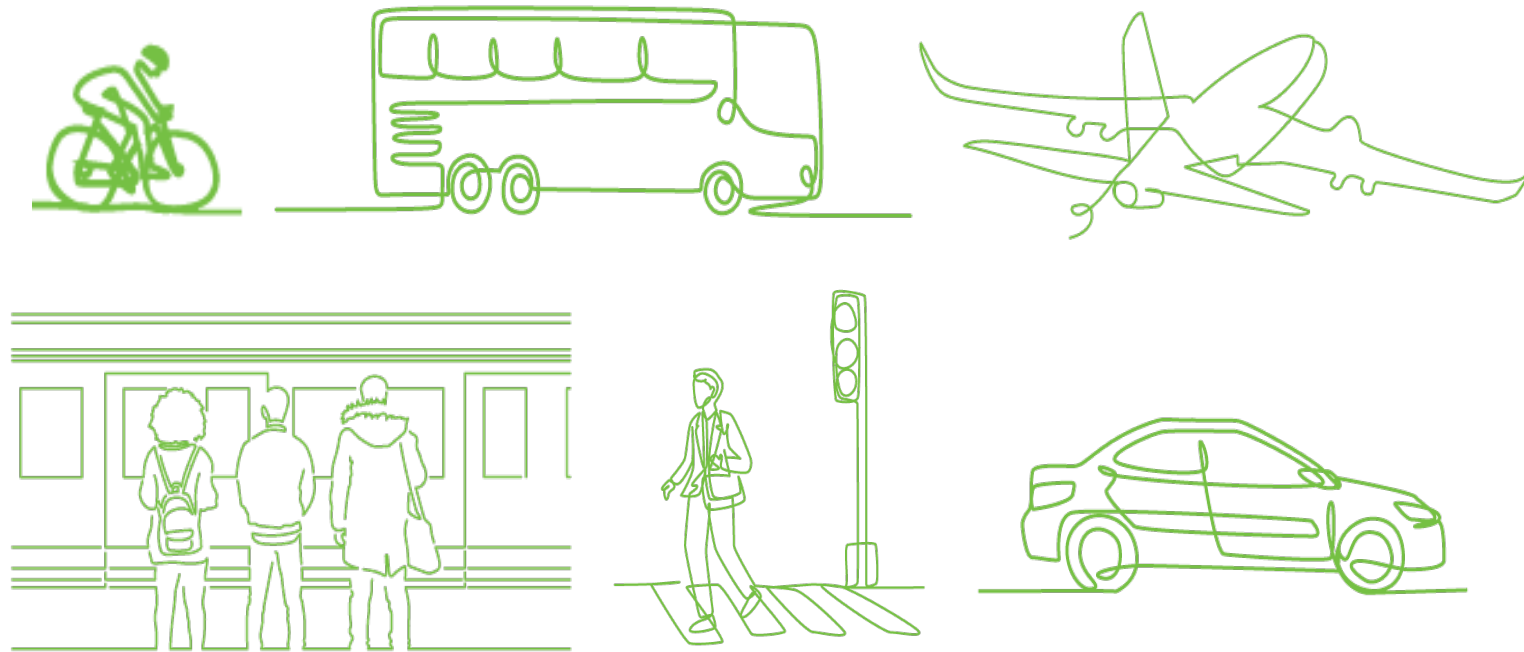
# The National Capital Region

- Acknowledging our Planning Area
- Explaining what is the National Capital Region Transportation Plan and Visualize 2050
- Stating the region's Transportation Vision, Principles and Goals



# Transportation Today

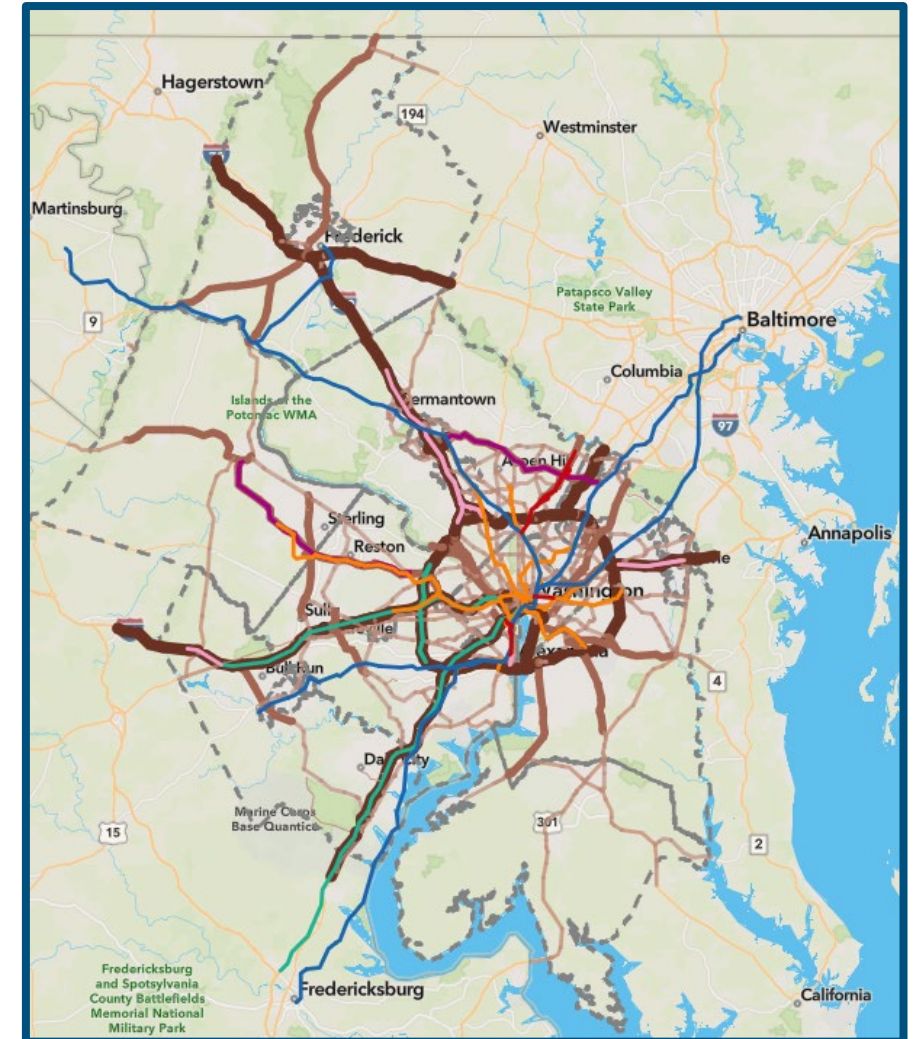
- Documenting the current multimodal transportation network as of 2023
- Reflecting on Roadways, Railways, Bus Transit, Pedestrians, Bicyclists and Micromobility, Transportation Demand Management, Surface Connection to Air, Pipelines, and Waterways





# Mapping the Current Transportation System

- Existing Transportation System Interactive Map: National Capital Region Existing Transportation System (2023)
- Overview of Contents:
  - Roadways & Managed Lanes
  - High-Capacity Transit Stations
  - Transit Routes & Stops
  - Bicycling Facilities



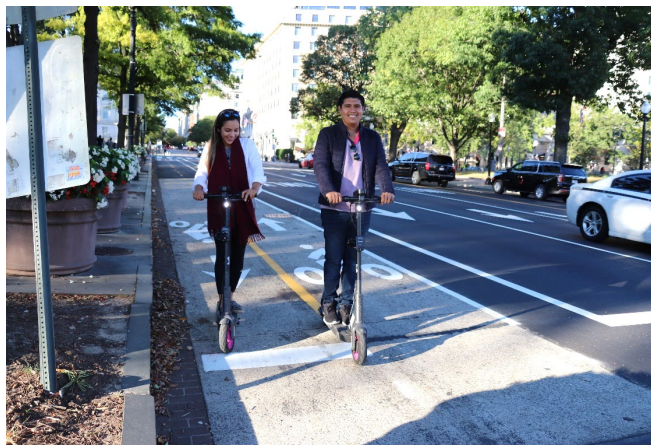


# How is the Current System Performing?

- Connecting the region's goals to its targets
- Building from 2023 system performance data
- Transportation Topics:
  - Reliability & Congestion, Safety & Security, Maintenance, System Management, and Access



I-270 at MD 28 (MDOT/[Flickr](#))



Couple on Scooters (Elvert Barnes/[Flickr](#))



Metro Conductor (Elvert Barnes/[Flickr](#))

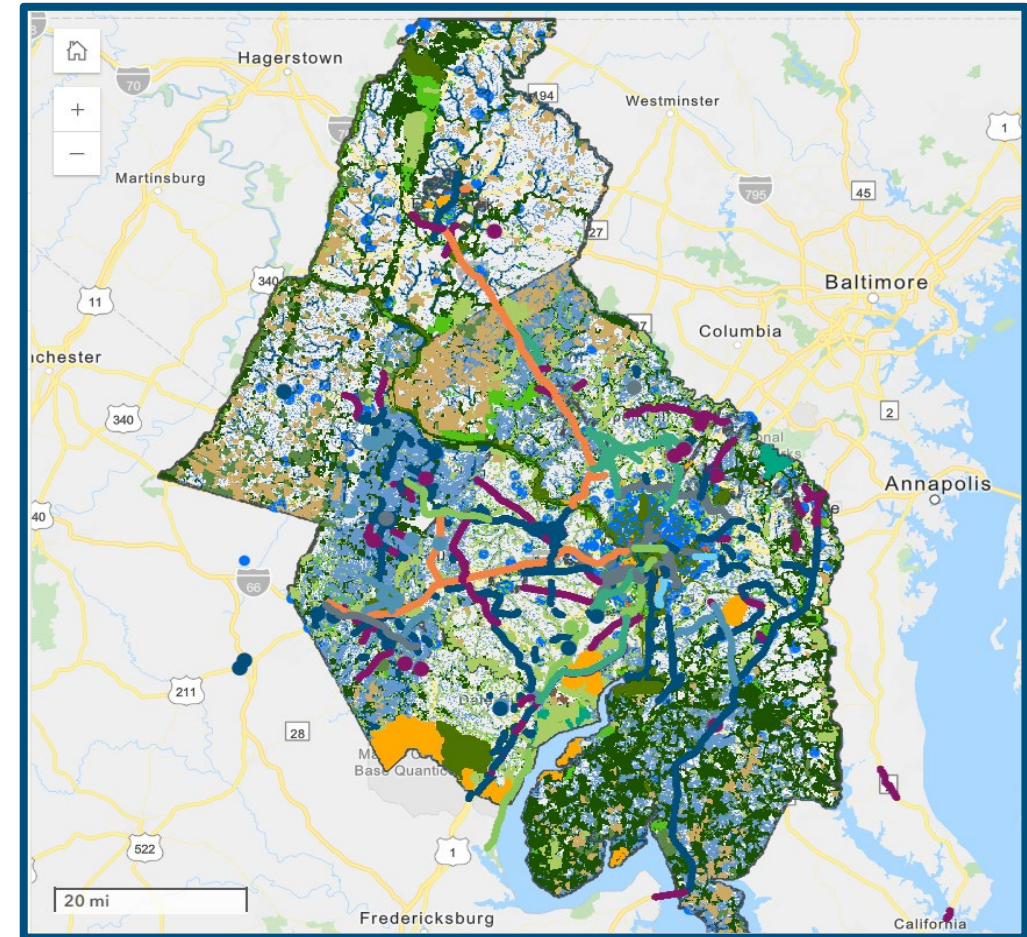
# Beyond Transportation to Related Societal Topics

- Acknowledging current state and future considerations of many societal topics related to the Economy, Community, Environment, Public Health, and Emerging Technologies



# Mapping Environmental Consultation and Mitigation

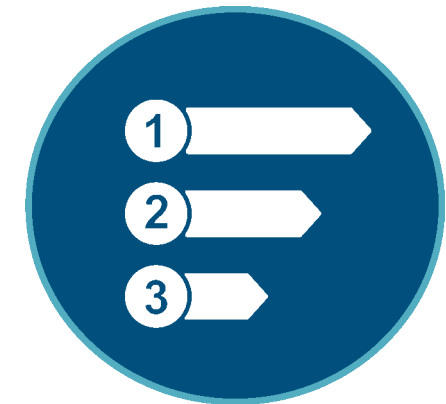
- Existing Transportation System Interactive Map: Visualize 2050: Environmental Consultation Environmental Inventory Map
- Overview of contents:
  - Protected Lands
  - Green Infrastructure
  - Floodplains
  - Wetlands
  - Historic Places





# Financial Plan

- Demonstrating how the transportation plan can be implemented financially
- Acknowledging the funding constraint
  - Forecast revenues reasonably expected to be available through 2050
  - Cover estimated costs of planned expenditures
- Reflecting the results of the Zero-Based Budgeting exercise
- Including currently funded projects/programs/services (through FY 2029) and future priority investments (FY 2030-2050) that align with TPB goals



# The Future Transportation System in 2050

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- Implementing projects and programs to improve transportation challenges
- Mapping the future system
- Highlighting major investments and policies



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# 2050 Transportation System Performance

- How will the region's transportation network perform in 2050 given anticipated growth and transportation investments?
- Travel demand model estimates future travel in the region
- Model inputs: Transportation networks and land use forecasts.
- Model outputs: Over twenty measures examining changes in accessibility, mobility, mode choice, and congestion and delay



# Air Quality Conformity

- Region is a designated air quality non-attainment area for ozone
- Must analyze the potential impacts of future major transportation activities
- Clean Air Act of 1990 - Required to Estimate Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) which are precursors to ground-level ozone
- Travel modeling and mobile emissions modeling takes ~9 months
- **Will the region meet future air quality standards given the planned improvements?**



US 29, Silver Spring, MD (mk30/Flickr)



# Challenges Beyond the Transportation Plan

- Reviewing future system performance
- Reflecting on major ongoing studies/initiatives
- Identifying continuing and unique challenges not resolved by the plan
  - Continuing challenges likely - congestion, safety, multimodal accessibility, and funding
  - Unique regional challenges may include site-specific locations and issues



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# Moving Forward

- Acknowledging shortcomings and desired performance outcomes associated with transportation goals
- Reinforcing priority strategies to address challenges and meet regional goals
- Committing to implement strategies to achieve the region's vision and goals



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# Final Products

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- Plan National Capital Region Transportation Plan (Transportation Plan), Visualize 2050, a point in time snapshot of the region's planning activities to deliver a better transportation system
- Program Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) lists planned financial obligations for the first four years of the Transportation Plan
- Process Ongoing work to improve transportation as shared in the plan & program
- Conformity Ensuring the region's planned activities meet air quality standards, both now and in the future

*Planning Together Today for  
Better Travel Tomorrow*



# Remaining Schedule: January - July

<b>January – April 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TPB staff and agencies complete zero-based budgeting exercise.</li><li>• TPB releases updated Technical Input Solicitation for TIP financial details on funding amounts by fiscal years between FY 2026-2029.</li><li>• TPB receives a briefing at the April meeting from VDOT on the I-495/95 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) project.</li></ul>
<b>May 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>All remaining ZBB activities including detailed FY 2026-2029 TIP financial inputs due <u>Friday, May 9, 2025</u>.</b></li><li>• TPB staff draft financial analysis for the plan and TIP.</li></ul>
<b>June 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TPB staff draft AQC and performance analysis for the plan and TIP.</li></ul>
<b>July 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TPB work session: Detailed presentation of the Air Quality Conformity Results, Financial Plan, and System Performance Assessment for both options – with and without the I-495/95 SEL project; VDOT SEL project update.</li><li>• TPB meeting: Briefing on draft results of the Air Quality Conformity, financial plan and system performance analyses for both options; VDOT SEL project update. TPB to pick one option at its September meeting. TPB briefed on the draft system level key challenges beyond the current transportation plan.</li></ul>

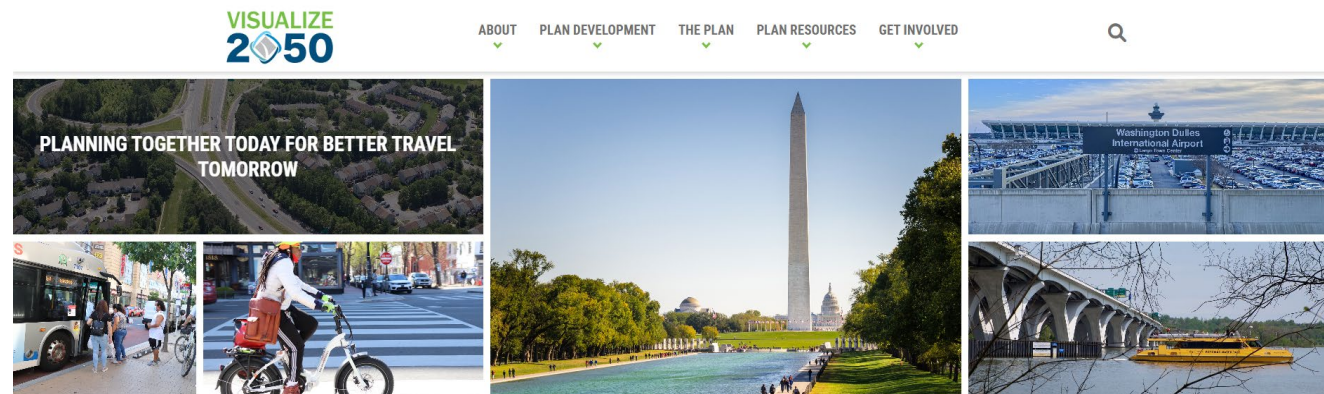
# Remaining Schedule: September–December

<b>September 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TPB votes to move forward with or without the I-495 Southside Express Lanes project for continuation in the plan development and air quality conformity processes.</li><li>• Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee (MWAQC-TAC) reviews draft results of AQC analysis for the updated plan and FY 2026–2029 TIP.</li><li>• Staff finalize the draft plan, TIP, and AQC documents, website, and advertise the comment period.</li></ul>
<b>October 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Public comment period on the draft plan, TIP, and the results of AQC analysis for the updated plan and FY 2026-2029 TIP (tentative dates: <u>Saturday, October 4 – Sunday, November 2, 2025</u>).</b></li><li>• TPB, TPB Technical Committee review the draft Visualize 2050 plan, FY 2026-2029 TIP, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report.</li></ul>
<b>November 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TPB and Technical Committee receive a summary of the comments received on the analysis, plan and TIP; the agencies sponsoring the projects will have the opportunity to provide responses to comments.</li></ul>
<b>December 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>TPB will be asked to approve the results of the AQC analysis and adopt the Visualize 2050 plan and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.</b></li></ul>



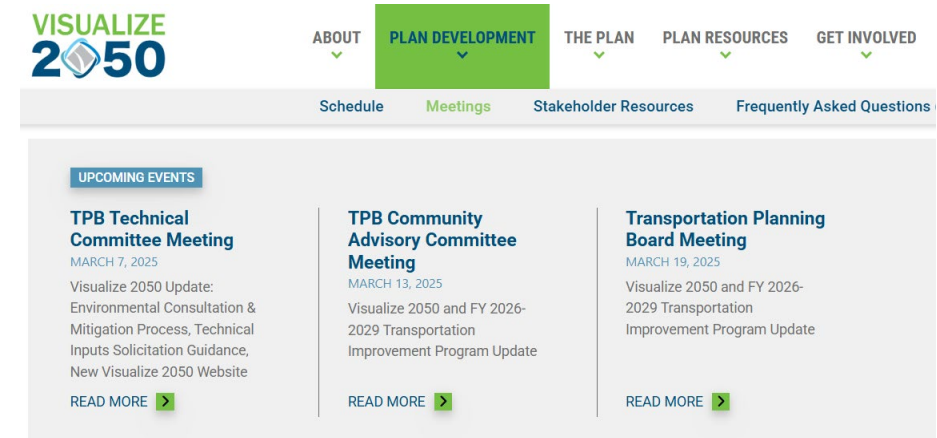
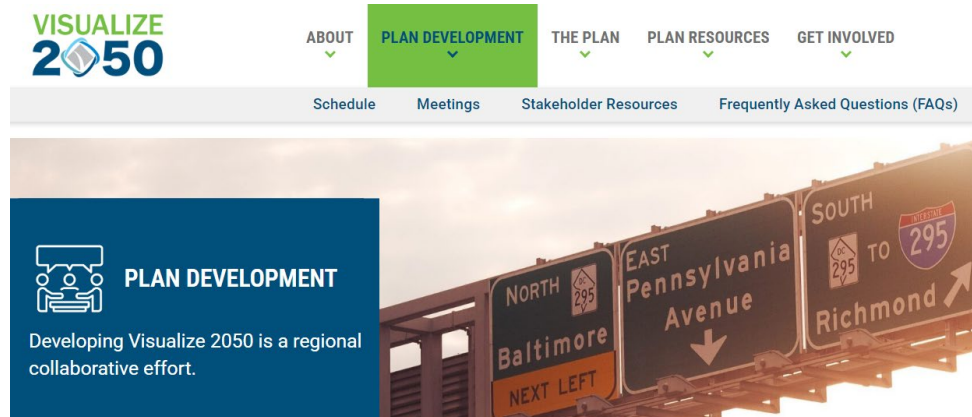
# Visualize 2050 Website

- Website link: [www.visualize2050.org](http://www.visualize2050.org)
- Explains the National Capital Region Transportation Plan development process
- Brings the printed plan to life through interactive maps and chapters
- Highlights recent developments
- Supports TPB members and community members through resources
- Serves as the gateway for public participation



# Navigation

- Fixed navigation menu has been simplified to **Home, About, Plan Development, The Plan, Plan Resources, and Get Involved**
- Pages include a sub-menu that links to a section of the page
- Example lower right: Click on Meetings and you will be directed to that location





# Key Content

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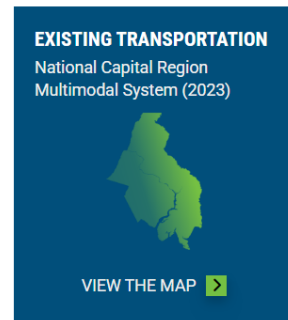
- **Home:** latest developments, plan goals, and schedule
- **About:** topics covered, federal planning and air quality requirements
- **Plan Development:** schedule, activities, meetings and stakeholder resources
- **The Plan:** principles, goals, and strategies; Visualize 2050 draft and final plan (late 2025)
- **Plan Resources:** Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report, and maps
- **Get Involved:** public comment, ambassador program, and social media



# New Features

- Accordions
- Flipbooks (Plan Development FAQs)
- Icons on the website will correspond with icons in the plan document
- Map gallery links to interactive maps
- Timelines

## MAPS



## VISUALIZE 2050 PLAN FAQs



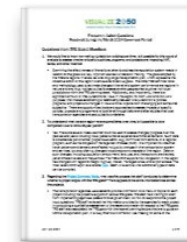
DOWNLOAD THE  
FAQ 

## MARYLAND EXPRESS LANES FAQs



DOWNLOAD THE  
FAQ 

## MARCH 2024 COMMENT PERIOD FAQS



DOWNLOAD THE  
FAQ 



# Resources

- **Stakeholder Resources:** glossary, policy framework, technical input guides, Visualize 2045 documents
- **Plan Resources:** Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report
- **FAQs:** TPB and state responses to inquiries
- **Maps:** Interactive maps of current conditions and the planned network
- **Newsletter:** Subscribe to *TPB News* and Visualize updates



Metrobus in Columbia Heights (Elvert Barnes/Flickr)

# Share the Website

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## Ahead of the comment period:

- Share on your websites, in newsletters, on social posts
- Share at public meetings and with community organizations

## During the comment period:

- Point to the draft plan, TIP, and Air Quality Conformity report
- Use the Ambassador Toolkit
- Use hashtag #Visualize2050
- Encourage comments!

**Think regionally.  
Act locally.**

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