

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN

DC, MD, VA

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TPB Staff

March 13, 2025

Agenda Item #



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Overview

- The Ongoing Transportation Planning & Programming Process
- What is the National Capital Region Transportation Plan?
- Development of the Visualize 2050 Plan and Unique Activities
- Documentation and Requirements
- Public Engagement
- Website

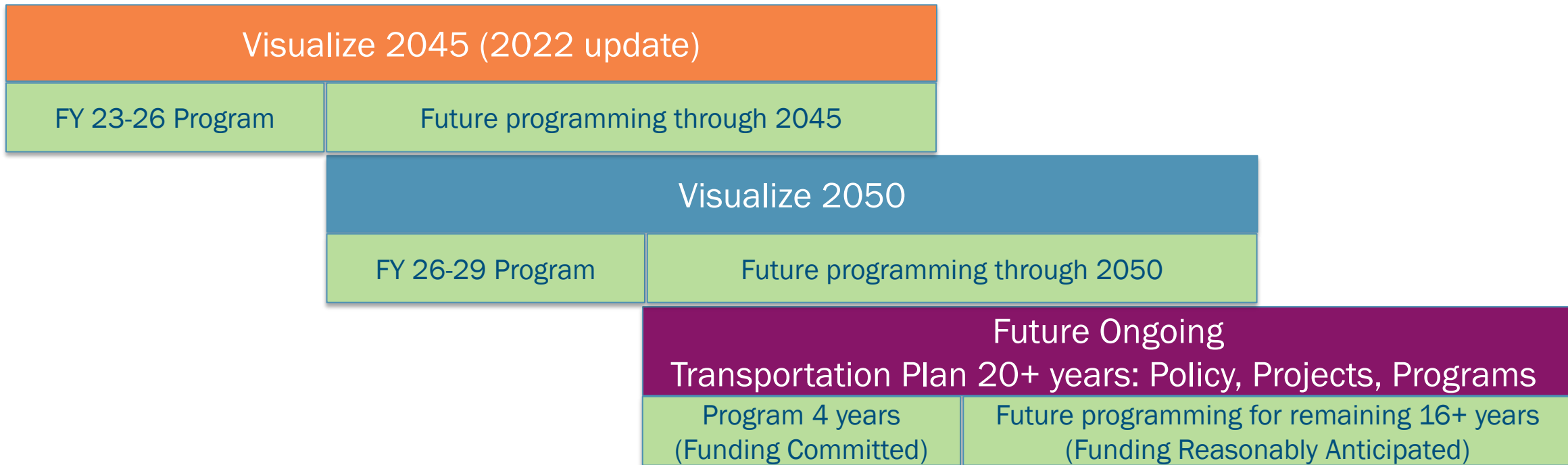


Visualize 2050 Planning Process



Ongoing Transportation Planning & Programming

- Transportation planning is constantly occurring at many agencies
- Programming of transportation investments is ongoing



This Transportation Plan documents a Point in Time



A Snapshot in Time (Joey Zanotti/[Flickr](#))



National Capital Region Transportation Plan (NC RTP)

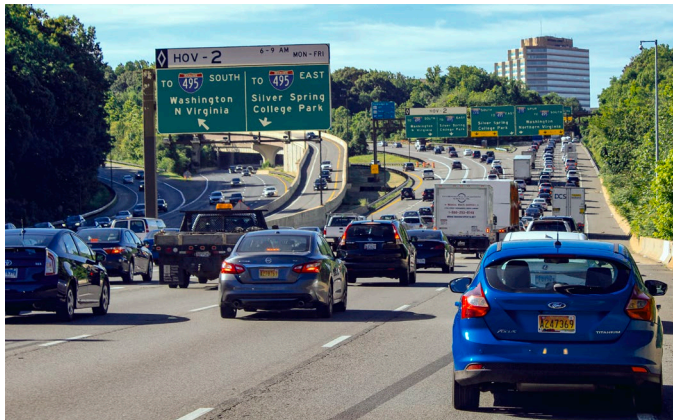
Elderly Assisted
Walking DC
(Mike
Maguire/[Flickr](#))



Sully Road at I-66,
Gainesville, VA
(Taber Andrew
Bain/[Flickr](#))



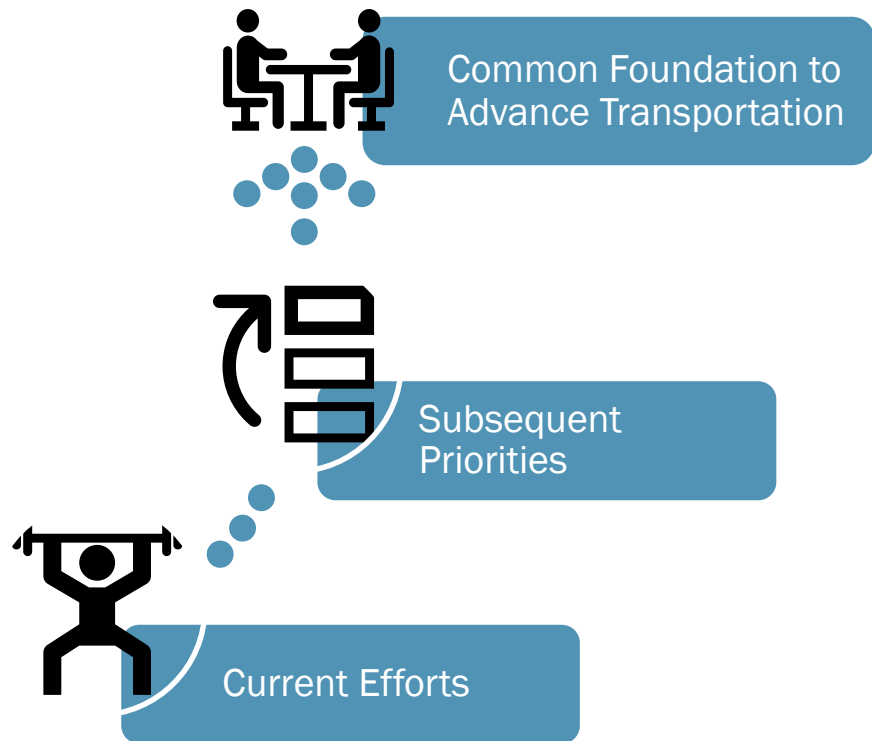
I-270 at I-495
(MDOT/[Flickr](#))



Metro
(Jess J/[Flickr](#))



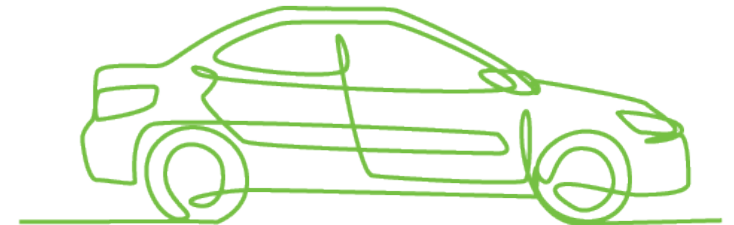
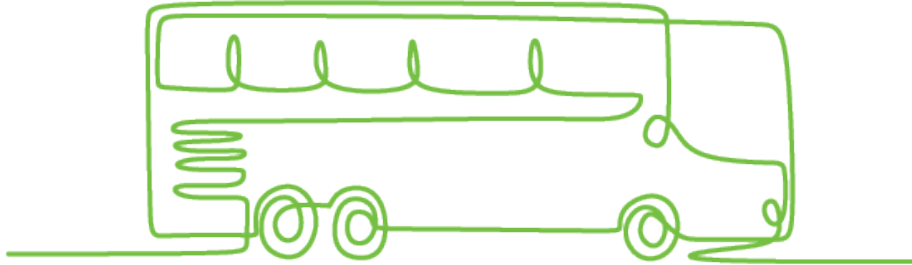
Goal for NC RTP Development



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



Many Travel Modes



Various Types of Transportation Issues



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



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



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



Numerous Societal Topics to Consider



WordItOut

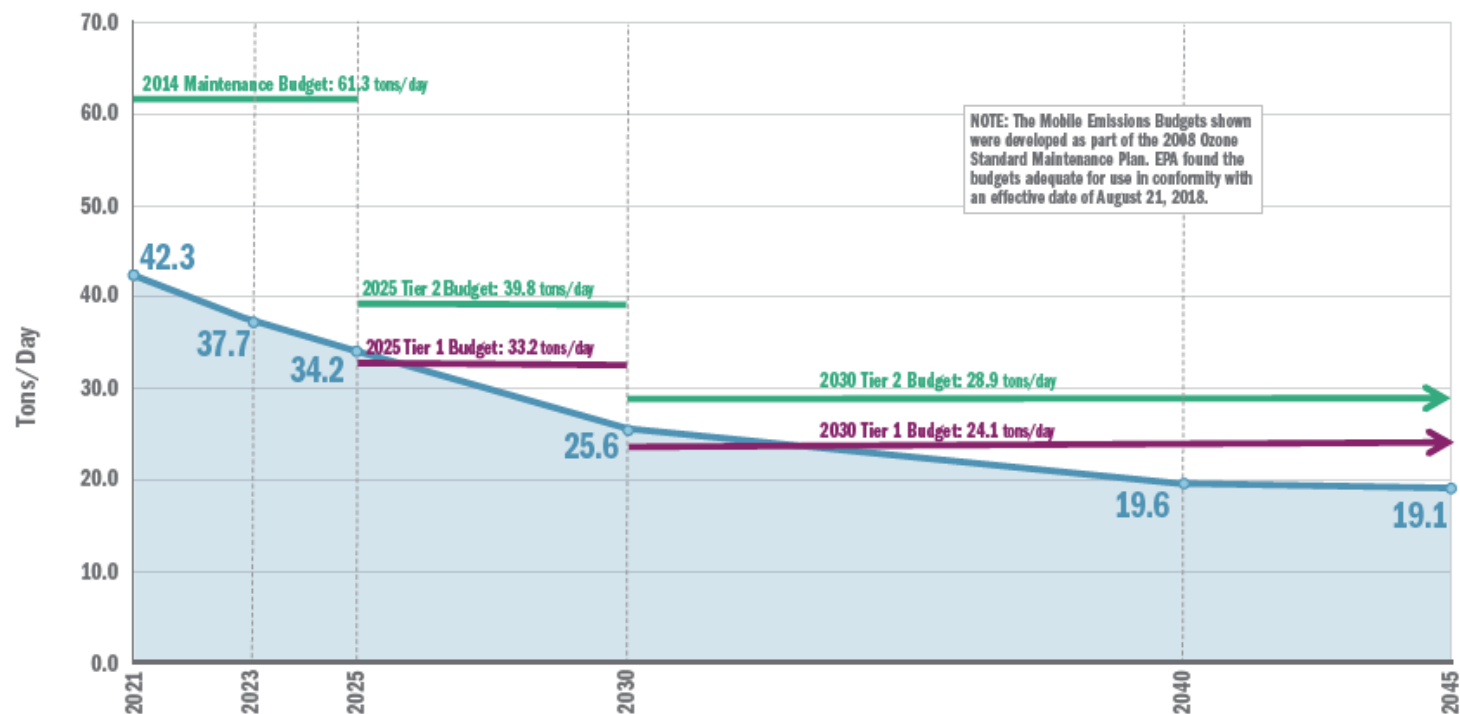


A Big Focus on Air Quality – Ozone (VOC and NOx)



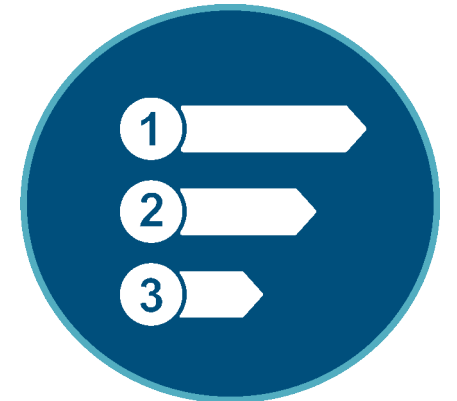
US 29, Silver Spring, MD (mk30/Flickr)

Figure 8.12: 2022 Update to Visualize 2045 Air Quality Conformity Mobile Source Emissions and Mobile Emissions Budgets Ozone Season VOC



NCRTP Financial Plan

- Demonstrate how the transportation plan can be implemented financially
- Limited funding availability
 - Forecast revenues reasonably expected to be available through 2050
 - Cover estimated costs
- Includes currently funded projects/programs/services (through FY29) and future priority investments (FY30-50)



Visualize 2050 Unique Activities

- Zero-Based Budgeting exercise
 - 10-month public input on current transportation investments
 - Agencies fully re-examine and re-submit proposed investments
 - TPB scrubbing clean the project database
- New use of public engagement tools
 - Map-based comment form for Air Quality Conformity inputs
 - New website to complement written plan
 - Interactive maps
- A second conformity analysis
- Greater explanation of the process informing the plan



Visualize 2050 Documentation

- Four Separate Documents:
 - **Visualize 2050** reflects the current state of transportation and the outcomes of the planning process for future transportation and related topics
 - **FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program** reflects the planned financial obligations for investments
 - **Visualize 2050 Planning and Programming Process** explains the activities to date which result in the plan and program, accompanies the self-certification statement approved by the TPB
 - **Air Quality Conformity Report for Visualize 2050 and the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program** documenting the air quality conformity analysis and results



Federal Requirements

- Plan is a minimum 20-year time horizon; Program is a 4-year period
 - Apply Performance-Based Planning and Programming (PBPP) & Aim for Future Performance Outcomes
 - Identify Short- and Long-Range Strategies
 - Include Congestion Management Strategies from the Congestion Management Process
 - Meet Regional Air Quality Goals
 - Include a Financial Plan applying Fiscal Constraint
 - Facilitate Public Participation
- Planning Process approved by the TPB via a Self-Certification Statement
- Conformity Report approved by the TPB and FHWA/FTA



Visualize 2050 Remaining Schedule: Jan. - July

January – April 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TPB staff and agencies complete zero-based budgeting exercise.• TPB releases updated Technical Input Solicitation for TIP financial details on funding amounts by fiscal years between FY 2026-2029.• TPB receives a briefing at the April meeting from VDOT on the I-495/95 Southside Express Lanes (SEL) project.
May 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All remaining ZBB activities including detailed FY 2026-2029 TIP financial inputs due <u>Friday, May 9, 2025</u>.• TPB staff draft financial analysis for the plan and TIP.
June 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TPB staff draft AQC and performance analysis for the plan and TIP.
July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• 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.



Visualize 2050 Remaining Schedule: Sept. – Dec.

September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• 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.• Staff finalize the draft plan, TIP, and AQC documents, website, and advertise the comment period.
October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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>).• TPB, TPB Technical Committee review the draft Visualize 2050 plan, FY 2026-2029 TIP, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report.
November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.
December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TPB will be asked to approve the results of the AQC analysis and adopt the Visualize 2050 plan and the FY 2026-2029 TIP.

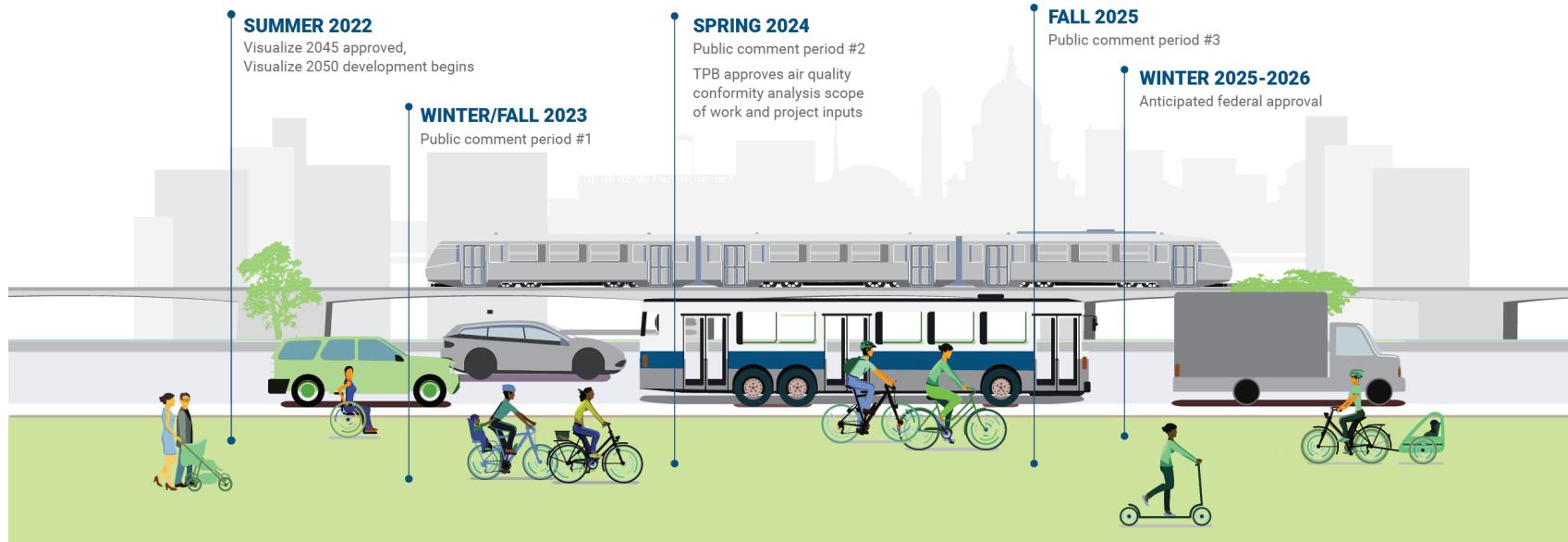


Public Engagement



Visualize 2050 Opportunities for Public Comment

- 2023 Comment on Visualize 2045 projects
- 2024 Comment on proposed Visualize 2050 capacity-related projects that are significant for the air quality analysis
- 2025 Comment on the draft Visualize 2050 plan (Coming this Fall!)



Responses to Public Comment

- 2023 and 2024 comment periods received responses from agencies
- Read more online at visualize2050.org/get-involved/

COMMENT PERIOD: FEBRUARY – NOVEMBER 2023

Between February 15 and November 30, there was a total of 997 project comments for the Visualize 2050 Initial Project List Feedback Form. Virginia received 514 comments, Maryland received 406 comments, and the District of Columbia received 77 comments. A total of 136 project suggestions were received, with 43 for Virginia, 40 for Maryland, and 10 for the District of Columbia. To learn more, visit the [December 20, 2023, TPB meeting page](#) to view the Public Comment Analysis Summary (Item 10A).



Response to Public Comments

The TPB and Technical Committee received the public comments monthly throughout the comment period and a summary of all comments in December 2023. As member agencies considered their project inputs to Visualize 2050, they had the opportunity to reflect on public comment throughout the year. Agencies then submitted their regionally significant for air quality project and technical inputs for consideration in Visualize 2050. These inputs were available for public comment during the March 2024 comment period.

The following letters from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia summarize the states' responses to a summary of public comments that the TPB received in 2023. These comments focused on the roadway and transit projects in TPB's Visualize 2045 plan that were reviewed by the TPB member agencies for re-submission to Visualize 2050.

- [District of Columbia DOT letter](#)
- [Maryland DOT letter](#)
- [Virginia DOT letter](#)



Learn more about Visualize 2050

- www.visualize2050.org
- Become an ambassador!
- Share on Social Media
#Visualize2050
@NatCapRegTPB

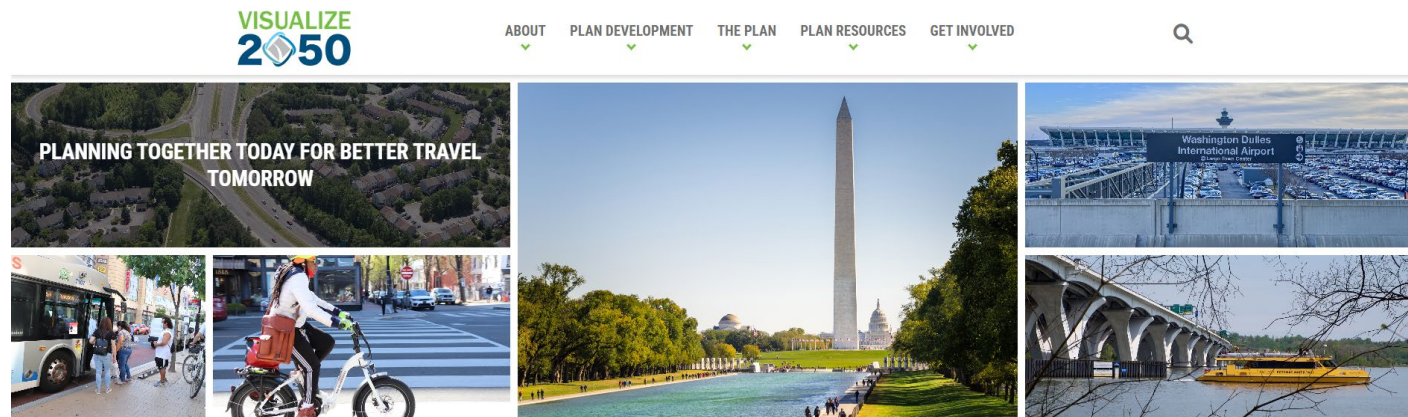


Visualize 2050 Website



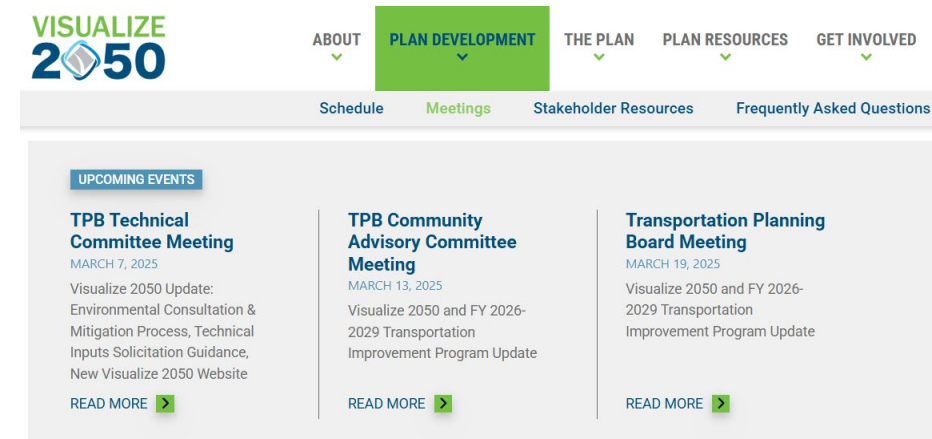
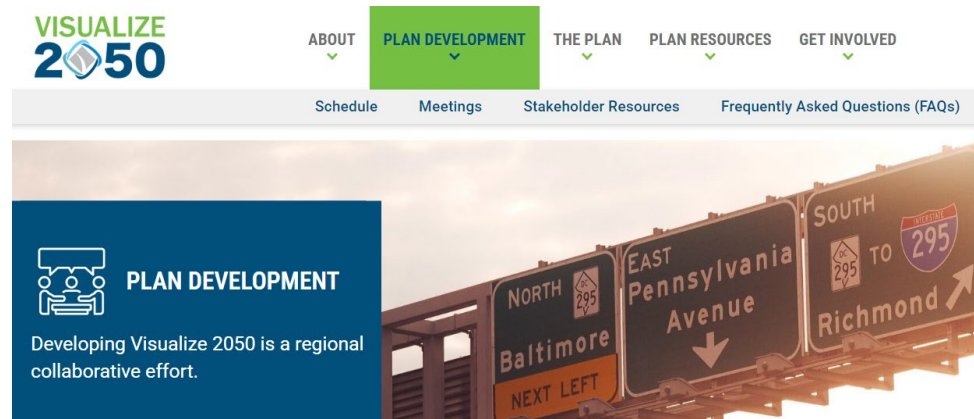
Visualize2050.org

- 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

- **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
- 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
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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

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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