



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director  
**SUBJECT:** Steering Committee Actions and Report of the Director  
**DATE:** May 11, 2017

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The attached materials include:

- Steering Committee Actions
- Announcements and Updates





## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director  
**SUBJECT:** Steering Committee Actions  
**DATE:** May 11, 2017

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At its meeting on May 5, the TPB Steering Committee approved the following resolutions to amend the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that are exempt from the air quality conformity requirement:

- SR21-2017: To include \$5.3 million in state funding and \$716,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant funding for planning, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of the MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement project in Frederick County; and \$6.5 million in state funding and \$15 million in STBG funding for planning, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of the MD 500 Urban Reconstruction project in Prince George's County.
- SR22-2017: To include \$8.25 million in Northern Virginia Transportation Authority "PayGo" funding for planning and engineering of the Soapstone Connector that will link Sunrise Valley Drive and Sunset Hills Drive over the Dulles Airport Access and Dulles Toll Roads in Reston.
- SR23-2017: To include \$6.7 million in advanced construction funding for planning, environmental, and multimodal study of the I-395 Northern Extension Express Lanes Study in Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, and Fairfax County.

The TPB Bylaws provide that the Steering Committee "shall have the full authority to approve non-regionally significant items, and in such cases it shall advise the TPB of its action."

### Attachments

- SR21-2017
- SR22-2017
- SR23-2017



**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD**  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2017-2022 TRANSPORTATION  
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY  
CONFORMITY REQUIREMENT, TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE MD 478 POTOMAC RIVER  
BRANCH BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND MD 500 URBAN RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS,  
AS REQUESTED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT)**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 16, 2016 the TPB adopted the FY 2017-2022 TIP; and

**WHEREAS**, in the attached letter of April 27, MDOT has requested that the FY 2017-2022 TIP be amended to include \$5.335 million in state funding and \$716,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding for planning/design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the MD478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement project (TIP ID 6591) in Frederick County, and \$6.521 million in state funding and \$14.956 million in STBG funding for planning/design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the MD 500 Urban Reconstruction project (TIP ID 6590) in Prince George's County, as described in the attached materials, and

**WHEREAS**, these projects are exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Regulations as of April 2012;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2017-2022 TIP to include \$5.335 million in state funding and \$716,000 in STBG funding for planning/design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the MD478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement project (TIP ID 6591) in Frederick County, and \$6.521 million in state funding and \$14.956 million in STBG funding for planning/design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the MD 500 Urban Reconstruction project (TIP ID 6590) in Prince George's County, as described in the attached materials.

**Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board Steering Committee at its regular meeting on May 5, 2017.**





**Maryland Department of Transportation**  
The Secretary's Office

**Larry Hogan**  
Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford**  
Lt. Governor

**Pete K. Rahn**  
Secretary

April 27, 2017

The Honorable Bridget Donnell Newton, Chair  
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300  
Washington DC 20002

Dear Chairman Newton:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) requests to amend the State Highway Administration (SHA) portion of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The request is to add two new projects from the recently approved construction program of MDOT's FY 2017-2022 Consolidated Transportation Program as described below and in the attached memo. As neither of these projects increases capacity, this action does not impact air quality conformity.

TIP ID#	Project	Phase	Amount of New Funding	Comment
6590	MD 500 Urban Reconstruction, Hyattsville/Chillum/Mount Rainer	PP/PE ROW CO	\$635,000 \$1,666,000 \$19,176,000	Add project with funding for planning/design, right-of-way and construction.
6591	MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement, Brunswick	PP/PE ROW CO	\$1,050,000 \$425,000 \$4,576,000	Add project with funding for planning/design, right-of-way and construction.

MDOT requests that these amendments be approved by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Steering Committee at its May 5, 2017 meeting.

The revised funding status will not impact scheduling or funding availability for other projects in the current TIP, which continues to be fiscally constrained. The cost does not affect the portion of the federal funding which was programmed for transit, or any allocations of state aid in lieu of federal aid to local jurisdictions.

My telephone number is \_\_\_\_\_  
Toll Free Number 1-888-713-1414 TTY Users Call Via MD Relay  
7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076

The Honorable Bridget Donnell Newton  
Page Two

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Should you have additional questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Kari Snyder at 410-865-1305, toll free 888-713-1414 or via e-mail at ksnyder3@mdot.state.md.us. Of course, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyson Byrne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tyson" and the last name "Byrne" clearly distinguishable.

Tyson Byrne  
Manager, Regional Planning  
Office of Planning and Capital Programming

Attachment

cc: Ms. Kari Snyder, Regional Planner, Office of Planning and Capital Programming,  
MDOT



Larry Hogan, **Governor**  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. **Governor**



Pete K. Rahn, **Secretary**  
Gregory Slater, **Administrator**

STATE HIGHWAY  
ADMINISTRATION

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** DIRECTOR HEATHER MURPHY  
PLANNING AND CAPITAL PROGRAMMING  
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**ATTN:** REGIONAL PLANNING MANAGER TYSON BYRNE  
REGIONAL PLANNER KARTSNYDER

**FROM:** CHIEF ERIC BECKETT *[Signature]*  
REGIONAL AND INTERMODAL PLANNING DIVISION  
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST TO AMEND THE FY 2017-2022 NATIONAL CAPITAL  
REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (TPB)  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM (TIP)

**DATE:** April 25, 2017

**RESPONSE**  
**REQUESTED BY:** N/A

**PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM**

To request the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Planning and Capital Programming approve and forward to TPB for its approval the following TIP amendments.

**SUMMARY**

The State Highway Administration (SHA) hereby requests amendment of the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP to reflect the following two actions.

TIP	Project	Phase	New Funding
6590	MD 500 Urban Reconstruction, Hyattsville/Chillum/Mount Rainier	PP/PE	\$635,000
		RW	\$1,666,000
		CO	\$19,176,000
6591	MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement, Brunswick	PP/PE	\$1,050,000
		RW	\$425,000
		CO	\$4,576,000

**Maryland Department of Transportation**  
**State Highway Administration**

707 North Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202  
410.545.0300 | TTY 800.735.2258 | roads.maryland.gov  
My telephone number/toll-free number is 410.545.5675/1.888.204.4828

## ANALYSIS

*MD 500 Urban Reconstruction (TPB 6590)* – This requested amendment reflects the addition of a new regionally significant project to and the addition of \$635,000 to planning/design, \$1,666,000 to right-of-way acquisition, and \$19,176,000 to construction funding in the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP. MDOT requests this amendment in order that the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP reflect MDOT's updated programmed expenditures in FY 2017-2022. MDOT anticipates advertising this project for construction in the Fall of 2017 and opening improvements to traffic in 2021.

*MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement (TPB 6591)* – This requested amendment reflects the addition of a new regionally significant project to and the addition of \$1,050,000 to planning/design, \$425,000 to right-of-way acquisition, and \$4,576,000 to construction funding in the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP. MDOT requests this amendment in order that the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP reflect MDOT's updated programmed expenditures in FY 2017-2022. MDOT anticipates advertising this project for construction in the Fall of 2017 and opening improvements to traffic in the Summer of 2019.

The attached Statewide TIP (STIP) reports document MDOT's requested amendments with respect to funding for the above projects. This requested actions will not impact scheduling or funding availability for other projects in the current STIP, which remains fiscally constrained. The amended funding does not affect the portion of federal funding programmed for transit or allocations of state aid to local jurisdictions in lieu of federal aid.

In addition, the Maryland Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) remains fiscally constrained. The TTF supports State transportation system operation and maintenance, MDOT administration, debt service, and capital projects. Semiannually, MDOT updates revenues and expenditures using two national forecasting companies' latest economic estimates. MDOT published funding details in the FY 2017-2022 Consolidated Transportation Program ([http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/Office\\_of\\_Planning\\_and\\_Capital\\_Programming/CTP/Index.html](http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/Office_of_Planning_and_Capital_Programming/CTP/Index.html)) and FY 2017-2020 Maryland STIP ([http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/newMDOT/Planning/STIP\\_TIP/Documents/2017\\_STIP\\_Draft\\_053116.pdf](http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/newMDOT/Planning/STIP_TIP/Documents/2017_STIP_Draft_053116.pdf)).

Please amend the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP and FY 2017-2020 Maryland STIP to reflect the funding information provided in the attachments. If you have any questions regarding MD 500 Urban Reconstruction (TPB 6590), please contact Mr. David Rodgers, SHA Regional Planner, at 410-545-5670 or via email at [drodgers1@sha.state.md.us](mailto:drodgers1@sha.state.md.us). If you have any questions regarding MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Replacement (TPB 6591), please contact Mr. Ted Yurek, SHA Regional Planner, at 410-545-5671 or via email at [tyurek@sha.state.md.us](mailto:tyurek@sha.state.md.us).

**ATTACHMENTS**

- FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP project 6590 report
- FY 2017-2020 Maryland STIP project 6590 report
- FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP project 6591 report
- FY 2017-2020 Maryland STIP project 6591 report

cc: Mr. Matt Baker, Regional Planner, SHA  
Ms. Samantha Biddle, Assistant Chief, Regional and Intermodal Planning Division, SHA  
Mr. John Concannon, Acting District 7 Engineer, SHA  
Ms. Kandese Holford, Assistant Regional Planner, SHA  
Mr. John Narer, Team Leader, SHA  
Ms. Tara Penders, Assistant Chief, Regional and Intermodal Planning Division, SHA  
Mr. David Rodgers, Regional Planner, SHA  
Mr. Jerry Smith, Assistant Regional Planner, SHA  
Mr. John Thomas, Deputy Director, Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering,  
SHA  
Mr. Kurt Walcott, Transportation Engineer, SHA  
Mr. Brian Young, District 3 Engineer, SHA  
Mr. Ted Yurek, Regional Planner, SHA

**SUBURBAN MARYLAND  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

FY 2017 - 2022

Source	Fed/Sl/Loc	Previous Funding	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Source Total
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**MDOT/State Highway Administration**

**Other**

**System Preservation Projects**

TIP ID: 6591		Agency ID: FR1021		Title: MD 478 Potomac River Branch Bridge Repalcement		Complete:	2019	Total Cost:	\$6,400
Facility:	MD 478 at Potomac River Branch	State	0/100/0	233 a	101 a	93 b	93 b	15 b	5,335
From:				38 b	93 b				
To:				961 c	3,615 c				
		STBG	100/0/0	311 a	405 a				716
<b>Total Funds:</b>									<b>6,051</b>

Description: Replacement bridge 10089 over a branch of the Potomac River.

**Amendment: Adding Planning/Design, Right-of-Way, and Construction Funding**

This amendment reflects the addition of a new regionally significant project to and the addition of \$1,050,000 to planning/design, \$425,000 to right-of-way acquisition, and \$4,576,000 to construction funding in the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP. Adding \$311,000 (STBG) and \$233,000 (State) to FY17 PP/PE and \$405,000 (STBG) and \$101,000 (State) to FY18 PP/PE. Adding \$38,000 (State) to FY17 RW, \$93,000 (State) to FY18 RW, \$93,000 (State) to FY19 RW, \$93,000 (State) to FY20 RW, \$93,000 (State) to FY21 RW, and \$15,000 (State) to FY22 RW. Adding \$961,000 (State) to FY17 CO and \$3,615,000 (State) to FY18 CO.

Approved on: 5/5/2017

TIP ID: 6590		Agency ID: PG3641		Title: MD 500 Urban Reconstruction		Complete:	2021	Total Cost:	\$23,500
Facility:	MD 500	State	0/100/0	2,111 a	465 b	465 b	116 b		6,521
From:	MD 208			155 b	980 c	1,121 c	446 c		
To:	Eastern Avenue			119 c					
		STBG	100/0/0	420 c	3,471 c	3,977 c	1,579 c		14,956
<b>Total Funds:</b>									<b>21,477</b>

Description: Construction of landscaped median with sidewalk and crosswalk improvements from MD 208 to Eastern Avenue.

**Amendment: Adding Planning/Design, Right-of-Way, and Construction Funding**

This amendment reflects the addition of a new regionally significant project to and the addition of \$635,000 to planning/design, \$1,666,000 to right-of-way acquisition, and \$19,176,000 to construction funding in the FY 2017-2022 TPB TIP. Adding \$635,000 (State) to FY17 PP/PE. Adding \$155,000 (State) to FY17 RW, \$465,000 (State) to FY18 RW, \$465,000 (State) to FY19 RW, \$465,000 (State) to FY20 RW, and \$116,000 (State) to FY21 RW. Adding \$420,000 (STBG) and \$119,000 (State) to FY17 CO, \$3,471,000 (STBG) and \$980,000 (State) to FY18 CO, \$5,509,000 (STBG) and \$1,554,000 (State) to FY19 CO, \$3,977,000 (STBG) and \$1,121,000 (State) to FY20 CO, and \$1,579,000 (STBG) and \$446,000 (State) to FY21 CO.

Approved on: 5/5/2017

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD**  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2017-2022 TRANSPORTATION  
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY  
REQUIREMENT, TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE SOAPSTONE CONNECTOR PROJECT,  
AS REQUESTED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT)**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 16, 2016 the TPB adopted the FY 2017-2022 TIP; and

**WHEREAS**, in the attached letter of April 27, VDOT has requested that the FY 2017-2022 TIP be amended to include \$8.25 million in FY 2017 using Northern Virginia Transportation Authority PayGo Bond (NVTA-PAYGO) funding for planning and engineering of the Soapstone Connector project in Fairfax County (TIP ID 6583), as described in the attached materials; and

**WHEREAS**, this project was determined by TPB staff to be "not regionally significant" for the purposes of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the 2016 CLRP Amendment and the FY 2017-2022 TIP;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2017-2022 TIP to include \$8.25 million in FY 2017 using NVTA-PAYGO funding for planning and engineering of the Soapstone Connector project in Fairfax County (TIP ID 6583), as described in the attached materials.

**Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board Steering Committee at its regular meeting on May 5, 2017.**





# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4975 Alliance Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030

CHARLES A. KILPATRICK, P.E.  
COMMISSIONER

April 27, 2017

The Honorable Bridget Newton, Chair  
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: National Capital Region FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments for the Soapstone Connector, Fairfax County, VA (UPC# T18907)

Dear Ms. Newton:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requests amendments to the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the Soapstone Drive Overpass in Fairfax County as a new project, and to add approximately \$8.25 million in local Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) funding for environmental assessment work and preliminary engineering.

This project, also known as the Soapstone Connector, is a new roadway between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston, near the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station. It will provide a crossing over the Dulles Toll Road corridor, with a four lane cross section, on-road bike lanes, sidewalks, and a shared use path. The Connector will address congestion on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway, will provide better access for transit buses to the Wiehle-Reston East Metro station, and will provide an improved bicycle and pedestrian crossing over the Dulles multi-modal corridor. We are submitting this amendment on behalf of Fairfax County. Attached is a letter from the County providing more information.

The Soapstone Drive Overpass is listed in the 2016 CLRP. The NVTA local funding is included in the 2014 CLRP Financial Plan. A review by the TPB staff determined that the project is not significant for air quality conformity analysis.

Ms. Bridget Newton  
April 27, 2017  
Page Two

VDOT requests that this amendment be placed on the agenda of the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2017; VDOT's representative will attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Helen Cuervo, P.E.  
District Administrator  
Northern Virginia District

Attachment

cc:

Mr. Tom Biesiadny, Fairfax County  
Ms. Ms. Rene'e Hamilton, VDOT-NoVA  
Ms. Maria Sinner, P.E., VDOT-NoVA  
Mr. Norman Whitaker, AICP, VDOT-NoVA





# County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

April 27, 2017

Ms. Helen Cuervo  
District Administrator  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
4975 Alliance Dr. Suite 4E-342  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Reference: Request For Transportation Improvement Program Amendment To Add Soapstone Drive Overpass At Dulles Toll Road Project

Dear Ms. Cuervo:

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) requests an amendment to the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new project and funding for the environmental analysis and preliminary engineering for the Soapstone Drive Overpass at Dulles Toll Road Project. The amendment is needed to include this project in the TIP with the anticipation that federal funding will be used for future phases of the project.

The project, as determined by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) staff, is exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations "40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Flexibility and Streamlining; Final Rule," issued in the May 6, 2005, Federal Register. The project is currently in the Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) as a study.

The TIP amendment includes approximately \$8.25 million in local Northern Virginia Transportation Authority funding for environmental assessment work and preliminary engineering. The purpose of the project is to provide additional multi-modal capacity on a new north-south alternative to mitigate congestion on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway in Fairfax County. Also known as the Soapstone Connector Project, it aims to provide a direct connection between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive crossing over the Dulles Toll Road (VA Route 267). The project is included in the Reston Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan, which was approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in February 2014.

Specifically, the project will address:

- The inability of Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway to accommodate current and forecasted traffic demand.

Fairfax County Department of Transportation  
4050 Legato Road, Suite 400  
Fairfax, VA 22033-2895  
Phone: (703) 877-5600 TTY: 711  
Fax: (703) 877-5723  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot)



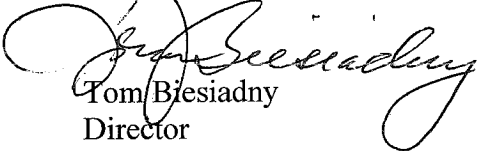
Ms. Helen Cuervo, P.E.  
April 27, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

- Delays on Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway at the intersections with Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive.
- Lack of direct access from the south for buses to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station without requiring travel on Wiehle Avenue.
- Lack of connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists from the south to the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, specifically from Soapstone Drive and Sunrise Valley Drive on the south and Sunset Hills Road on the north.

Fairfax County requests approval of this amendment by the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2017. Fairfax County and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) representatives will attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions about the amendment. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Mike Lake at (703) 877-5666, or [michael.lake@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:michael.lake@fairfaxcounty.gov).

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tom Biesiadny  
Director

cc: Kanti Srikanth, Director of Transportation, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)  
Lyn Erickson, Development and Coordination Program Director, Department of Transportation Planning, MWCOG  
Norman Whitaker, Transportation Planning Director, VDOT Northern Virginia District  
Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Hunter Mill District  
Supervisor Linda Smyth, Providence District  
Todd Wigglesworth, Chief, Coordination and Funding Division, FCDOT  
Eric Teitelman, Chief, Capital Projects and Traffic Engineering Division  
Audra Bandy, Transportation Planner, FCDOT  
Mike Lake, Transportation Planner, FCDOT



National Capital Region  
**Transportation Planning Board**

March 3, 2017

Mr. Mike Lake  
Fairfax County Department of Transportation  
4050 Legato Road  
Fairfax, VA 22033

Dear Mr. <sup>Mike</sup>Lake:

You requested information about the implications for air quality conformity of the Soapstone Drive Overpass at the Dulles Toll Road. It is our understanding that this project includes the extension of Soapstone Drive from Sunrise Valley Drive to Sunset Hills Road over the Dulles Toll Road. The new road will also provide access to Soapstone Drive from Association Drive and access to the Wiehle Metro station along the future extension of Reston Station Boulevard. After reviewing this project, we have determined that it is considered "not regionally significant", and may proceed without being included in the regional air quality conformity process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (202) 962-3331.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane A. Posey".

Jane Posey  
TPB Transportation Engineer

cc: Mr. Kanti Srikanth, COG Transportation Planning Director  
Ms. Lyn Erickson, Plan Development and Coordination Director  
Mr. Andrew Austin, TPB Transportation Planner

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

Source	Fed/St/Loc	Previous Funding	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Source Total	
<b>Soapstone Drive 4-Lane Overpass</b>										
TIP ID: 6583 Agency ID: T18907 Title: Soapstone Connector Project Cost: \$170,000 Complete: 2022										
Facility: Soapstone Connector										
From: Sunrise Valley Dr										
To: Sunset Hills Dr										
Description: New multimodal roadway between Sunset Hills Rd and Sunrise Valley Dr. in Reston. Near Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, includes crossing over the Dulles Corridor. Includes 4 lane cross section, on-road bike, sidewalk, and shared use path.										
<b>Amendment: Add New Project</b>										
Amend this project into the FY 2017-2022 TIP with \$8.25 million in NVTA-PAYGO funding for PE in FY 2017.										
			8,250 a							8,250
									<b>Total Funds:</b>	<b>8,250</b>
<b>Approved on: 5/5/2017</b>										

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD**  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2017-2022 TRANSPORTATION  
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY  
REQUIREMENT, TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE I-395 NORTHERN EXTENSION EXPRESS LANES  
STUDY, AS REQUESTED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT)**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 16, 2016 the TPB adopted the FY 2017-2022 TIP; and

**WHEREAS**, in the attached letter of May 1, VDOT has requested that the FY 2017-2022 TIP be amended to include \$6.7 million in FY 2017 using advanced construction funding for the I-395 Northern Extension Express Lanes Study (TIP ID 6506), as described in the attached materials; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for project studies are exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Regulations as of April 2012;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2017-2022 TIP to include \$6.7 million in FY 2017 using advanced construction funding for the I-395 Northern Extension Express Lanes Study (TIP ID 6506), as described in the attached materials.

**Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board Steering Committee at its regular meeting on May 5, 2017.**





# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4975 Alliance Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030

CHARLES A. KILPATRICK, P.E.  
COMMISSIONER

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Bridget Newton, Chair  
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: National Capital Region FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments for I-395 Northern Express Lanes Extension Study (UPC# 108103)

Dear Ms. Newton:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requests an amendment to the FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add funding for the I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension Study. This project is part of a larger effort to extend the I-95/ I-395 Express Lanes south to Route 17 near Fredericksburg and North to the vicinity of Eads Street near the Pentagon. The TIP amendment only addresses the Northern Virginia portion of the project.

This amendment, which reflects the latest plans and financial obligations of the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board, will add \$6.7 million in Advanced Construction (AC) funding to the Preliminary Engineering/Study phase in FY 2017. An additional \$5 million was obligated in the 2015-2020 TIP for FY 2016.

I-395 Northern Extension Express Lanes Study is included in the 2016 CLRP and Air Quality Conformity Analysis. The amendment will not impact the fiscal constraint findings of the TIP or CLRP.

VDOT requests that this amendment be placed on the agenda of the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2017. VDOT's representative will attend the meeting and will be available to answer any questions.

Ms. Bridget Newton  
May 1, 2017  
Page Two

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen Cuervo".

Helen Cuervo, P.E.  
District Administrator  
Northern Virginia District

Attachment

Cc: Ms. Rene'e Hamilton, VDOT-NOVA  
Ms. Wendy Thomas, VDOT  
Ms. Maria Sinner, P.E., VDOT-NOVA  
Mr. Norman Whitaker, AICP, VDOT-NOVA



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA**  
**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**  
**CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

FY 2017 - 2022

Source	Fed/St/Loc	Previous Funding	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Source Total		
<b>Interstate 395 - Study for Safety &amp; Traffic on NB Lanes - PE Only</b>											
TIP ID: 6506	Agency ID: 108313	Title: I-395 Northern Extension Express Lanes Study								Project Cost: \$11,700	Complete: 2016

Facility: I 395  
 From: Turkeycock Run Near Duke Street  
 To: Vicinity of Eads Street  
 Description: Planning, environmental, and multimodal study for the I-395 Express Lanes Project (Northern High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes) to extend the I-95 Express Lanes.

**Amendment: Add New Project**  
 Amend this project into the FY 2017-2022 TIP with \$6.7 million in advanced construction funding in FY 2017 for study.

Requested on: 5/5/2017

AC 0/100/0 5,000 d 6,700 d  
**Total Funds: 6,700**





**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director  
**SUBJECT:** Announcements and Updates  
**DATE:** May 11, 2017

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The attached documents provide updates on activities that are not included as separate items on the TPB agenda.





## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan development and Coordination Program Director  
**SUBJECT:** City of Laurel Joins Transportation Planning Board  
**DATE:** May 11, 2017

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The City of Laurel in Maryland will be the newest member of the Transportation Planning Board (TPB). The City's administrator communicated, via the attached letter, the City's decision to become a member of the Council of Governments, the TPB and other policy committees at COG. COG welcomed the City of Laurel as a new member at its April 26<sup>th</sup> COG Board of Directors meeting.

Laurel is a city in northern Prince George's County, Maryland, located between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore. Laurel's 5.5 square miles is home to more than 25,000 residents and more than 1,000 businesses. It is governed by a mayor and five city council members.

The City of Laurel has been part of the TPB's metropolitan planning area and as such the TPB's metropolitan planning activities and products (such as the CLRP, TIP, Conformity reports) have included all its applicable transportation projects and programs. The City's input to the planning process has been through the representatives of Prince George's County and the state of Maryland (MDOT). With the decision to become a member of the Council of Governments as well as the TPB, the city will now be able to directly provide its input to the TPB process.

The TPB Bylaws state that the TPB shall be composed of "One (1) elected member from each of the local governing bodies of the cities and counties in Maryland and Virginia participating in COG." Now that the City of Laurel is a member of COG, please join me in welcoming them to the TPB.

Addition of the City of Laurel to the Board will have no net affect the TPB's budget. The City's participation on the Board will mean an additional vote to the total number of voting members on the Board. It will also change the weight assigned to Prince George's county's vote when the Board uses the proportional voting process.

The TPB Bylaws, which define the voting procedures, provide for any voting member to request that the vote on any matter brought before the TPB be decided based on a weighted vote with the weights assigned proportional to the member jurisdiction's population. With Prince George's County representing the City of Laurel until now, the City of Laurel's population was factored into the Prince George's weighted vote. Now that the City of Laurel represents itself on the Board, the weight assigned to Prince George's vote will be appropriately revised.





**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL  
OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

8103 Sandy Spring Road • Laurel, Maryland 20707 (301) 725-5300  
Internet Address <http://www.laurel.md.us> • E- Mail – [cadmin@laurel.md.us](mailto:cadmin@laurel.md.us)  
Fax (301) 490-5068

April 25, 2017

Ms. Monica Beyrouti  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
Government Relations and Member Services Coordinator  
777 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002  
Phone: 202-962-3212  
[mbeyrouti@mwkog.org](mailto:mbeyrouti@mwkog.org)

Dear Ms. Beyrouti,

Attached to this letter is a listing of City of Laurel elected officials, senior staff members and employees who have been selected and approved to serve on the listed Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Committees.

Please forward these names to your committee staff support person so that these individuals can be added to the committee rosters. Additionally, I will continue working with you and the other MWCOG staff to identify any committees that we would want our personnel to participate with.

I have designated Stephen E. Allen, Sr., our Emergency Manager, as the point of contact between MWCOG and the City and please don't hesitate to contact him for anything that is needed regarding these committee assignments. Steve's numbers are (301) 725-5300 Ext. 2244 or at [SAllen@laurel.md.us](mailto:SAllen@laurel.md.us).

If you need anything from me, please don't hesitate to contact me at (301) 725-5300 Ext. 2216 or at [Mflemion@laurel.md.us](mailto:Mflemion@laurel.md.us).

Respectfully,

Martin A. Flemion  
City Administrator  
City of Laurel

# CITY OF LAUREL

## MWCOG COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

**COMMITTEE:**

**MEMBER**

COG Board of Directors:

Honorable Craig A. Moe, Mayor – Primary

Honorable Michael Leszcz – Alternate

National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board:

Honorable H. Edward Ricks– Primary

Honorable Donna Crary – Alternate

Metropolitan Washington Air  
Quality Committee:

Honorable Fred Smalls – Primary

Honorable Valerie Nicholas – Alternate

Region Forward Coalition:

Christian Pulley – Primary

Leigha Steele – Alternate

Human Services and Public  
Safety Policy Committee:

Lt. Robert DiPietro – Primary

Bill Goddard – Alternate

Climate Energy & Environmental  
Policy Committee:

Michele Blair – Primary

Ana ReWalt – Alternate



Chesapeake Bay & Water  
Resources Policy Committee: Honorable Michael Leszcz – Primary  
Joanne Hall-Barr – Alternate

Emergency Managers Committee: Stephen E. Allen Sr. – Primary  
Bryan Lau– Alternate

City Administrators Committee: Marty Flemion – Primary  
Bill Goddard – Alternate

Fire Chiefs Committee: Bill Goddard – Primary  
Vol. Chief DJ Hull – Alternate  
Vol. Chief M. Haggerty – Alternate

Police Chiefs Committee: Chief Rich McLaughlin – Primary  
Dep. Chief Keven Grey – Alternate





# City of Laurel joins Council of Governments as a new member

May 4, 2017



(City of Laurel Government/[Facebook](#))

COG welcomed the City of Laurel as a new member at the April COG Board of Directors meeting. Laurel is a city in northern Prince George's County, Maryland, located between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore. Laurel's 5.5 square miles is home to more than 25,000 residents and more than 1,000 businesses. It is governed by a mayor and five city council members.

In this Q&A, Mayor Craig A. Moe shares his perspective of Laurel and explains why the city decided to join COG.

## **Why did Laurel want to join COG, including short- and long-term goals?**

The city wanted to obtain a better understanding of regional issues affecting Laurel and the surrounding areas and to participate in coordinated efforts to address these issues. For the short term, the city desires to coordinate our public safety efforts with the region and share the resources available to enhance awareness and response to emergencies. The city's goals for the long term include continuing efforts relating to public safety improvements as well as effectively addressing economic development, environmental, regional planning, and transportation issues.

## **What makes Laurel unique?**

Laurel shares borders with Montgomery, Howard, and Anne Arundel Counties. The proximity of Laurel to these other jurisdictions makes us unique in that our community is very diverse with an educated and trained workforce available to address all forms of employment in the metropolitan Washington region.



Laurel is the site of many Prince George's County firsts, including the first public library, first public high school, and first national bank. Laurel can also boast of Prince George's County's oldest continuously operating volunteer fire department.

Laurel continues to grow, and its increasing diversity has brought it a rich community of new residents, and a variety of new businesses.

### **What do you enjoy most about living and/or working in Laurel?**

The ability for residents and business owners to be heard by the elected officials and have a close working relationship with the decision makers to help plan the city's future. Laurel is very responsive to the residents and business owners and very much focused on all things affecting the

quality of life. There are many opportunities for people to work in and around the city as well as a more than adequate stock of housing and recreational amenities enabling residents to live, work, and play in Laurel.

### **If someone was to visit Laurel for the first time, what would you recommend they do or visit?**

There are numerous restaurants, shops, and attractions in the City of Laurel along with many parks. The Riverfront Park provides more than a mile of scenic and serene pathways that follow the picturesque Patuxent River. The Granville Gude Park and Lakehouse provide many recreational activities and hosts the city's annual Fourth of July Celebration, which features one of the area's best fireworks displays. Laurel's Historic Main Street hosts the Annual Main Street Festival, an all-day event attended by thousands of area residents to enjoy arts and crafts, live music, delicious foods, and outdoor fun along the mile-long avenue.

**MORE:** [City of Laurel website](#)

Contact: **Laura Ambrosio**  
Phone: **(202) 962-3278**  
Email: [lambrosio@mwcog.org](mailto:lambrosio@mwcog.org)

Tags: [Member Profile](#)

[< Back to news](#)

## **Related News**

NEWS

**Q&A: Prince George's County Chief Administrative Officer Nicholas Majett**

April 18, 2017

Nicholas (Nick) Majett, Prince George's County Chief Administrative Officer, has been a COG member since May 2014, when he first joined Prince George's County...

# METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING IN THE WASHINGTON REGION

## Roles and Responsibilities of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Lyn Erickson  
Plan Development and Coordination Program Director

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee  
May 9, 2017

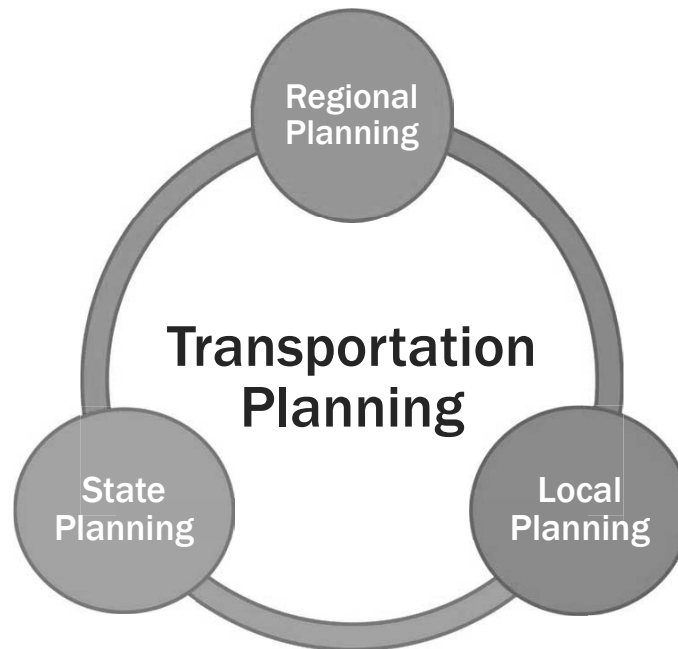


## Presentation Overview

- What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?
- What are the structures, functions, purposes and products of an MPO?
- What is the Transportation Planning Board?
- How does the TPB meet its federal requirements?
- What else does the TPB offer?

# Transportation Planning Process

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## What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

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- A federally-mandated and federally-funded transportation policy-making organization
- Made up of representatives from local governments and governmental transportation authorities
- Must follow the Federal Metropolitan Planning Process as regulated by the latest federal transportation authorization (FAST Act)

# Federal Requirements for MPOs

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- Serve as a representative group of local stakeholders of the region
- Carry out the “3C Process” – “Continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive” consultation process
- Lead the *REGIONAL* transportation planning process in cooperation with the state DOT(s) and transit operators
- Develop plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and support metropolitan community and economic development
- Work in conjunction with state air and transportation agencies to meet federal Clean Air Act standards

# Key MPO Products: Plans and Programs

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- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): The MPO budget. This lists all of the transportation studies and tasks to be performed by the MPO staff or a member agency during that fiscal year.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Each MPO develops a short 4-6 year program for project implementation.
- Long-Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan: Each MPO develops a LRP which serves as the vision for the region and includes all of the transportation improvements where funding is reasonably expected to be available over the next 20 years.

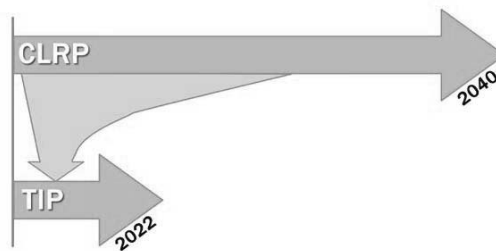
# Long-Range Plan and TIP

## CLRP

- Minimum 20-year span
- Current horizon is 2040
- Funding must be “reasonably expected to be available”
- Major update every four years, amended annually

## TIP

- Minimum 4-year span
- FY 2017-2022, 6 years
- Funding in first two years must be “available and committed”
- Major update every two years, amended weekly/monthly



# Additional Functions of an MPO

- Involve the public and establish a regional setting for fair and impartial decision making.
- Conduct planning studies and provide analysis to support local projects and priorities.
- In “non-attainment areas” (designated by EPA as not meeting air quality standards), MPOs are responsible for coordinating transportation and air quality planning, to make sure that projects and programs **conform** with the State’s Air Quality plan, known as the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

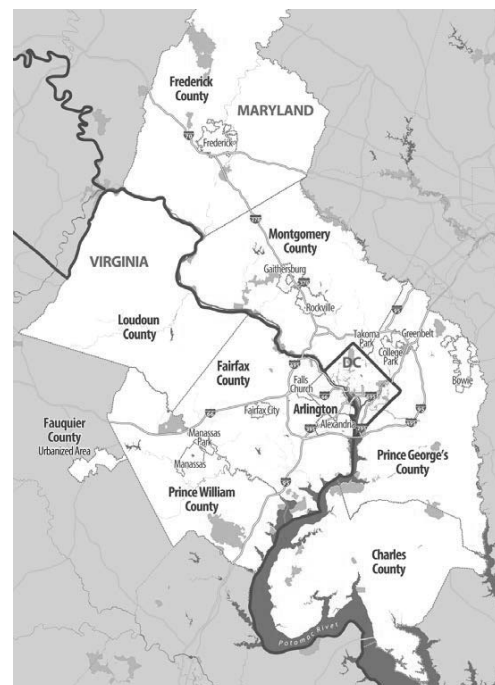


# The MPO Process: A condition to receive federal funding and project approvals

- **All federally funded projects and other regionally significant transportation projects must** be included in the CLRP and the TIP.
- **Financial constraint:** The CLRP and TIP may only include projects that can be “reasonably anticipated” to be funded.
- **Emissions impacts:** The CLRP and TIP must meet the limits established in the region’s air quality improvement plan. This is called a “conformity finding.”

## About the TPB and its Planning Area

- Federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Washington region
- 3,000 square miles in area
- Home to more than 5 million people and 3 million jobs
- Members include:
  - State transportation agencies
  - 22 local jurisdictions
  - State and DC legislatures
  - WMATA
  - Others



# TPB Roles and Responsibilities

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- Meets federal requirements as articulated in the FAST Act (Metropolitan Planning Process)
- Provides a forum for regional coordination
- Provides technical resources for decision-making

# TPB Project Authority: A Dose of Reality

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- **Who develops projects?**  
Project development typically occurs at the state and local levels. The TPB usually does not select and fund projects.
- **Who controls the money?**  
D.C., Maryland and Virginia each controls its own funding stream. Each has its own system for moving projects forward.
- **Influence of the TPB process is often indirect.**  
Regional policies and federal transportation planning requirements exert an influence on the types of projects that are developed and submitted by the states and locals to the TPB.

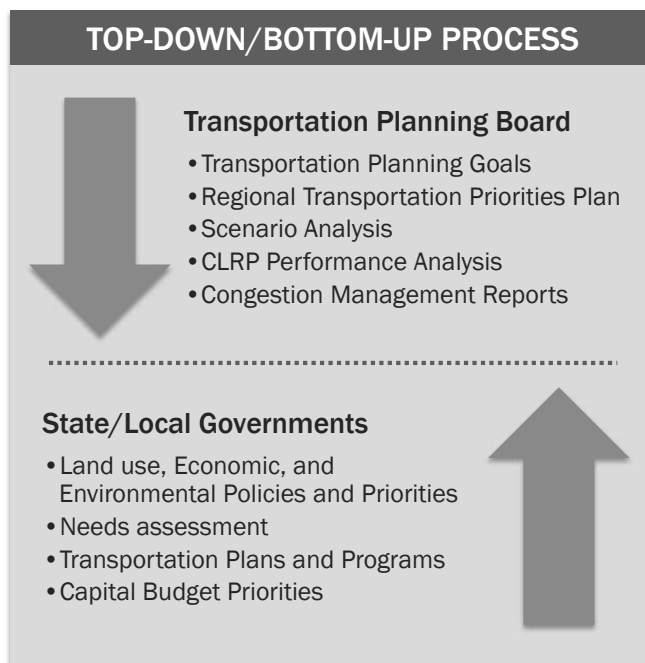
# TPB Policy Framework



Think Regionally, Act Locally: Consider regional needs when developing local projects and programs for funding and implementation.

- Provide a Comprehensive Range of Transportation Options
- Promote Dynamic Activity Centers
- Ensure System Maintenance, Preservation, and Safety
- Maximize Operational Effectiveness and Safety
- Protect and Enhance the Natural Environment
- Support Interregional and International Travel and Commerce

# TPB Long-Range Planning Approach



# A Forum for Regional Coordination

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- Scenario planning
- Long-Range Plan Task Force
  - Among other activities, the Task Force and staff are charged with identifying approximately 6-10 projects, policies, or programs that make significantly better progress towards achieving the goals laid out in the TPB and COG's governing documents...for concerted TPB action in 2018 and beyond...and ultimately including them in future CLRP updates.



# Forum for Regional Coordination

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- Improving Transportation/Land Use Coordination
  - Regional Activity Centers
  - Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program
- Emergency Preparedness and Management & Operations
  - MATOC coordination center
- Promoting Transportation Alternatives
  - Commuter Connections
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs



# Technical Resources for Decision-Making

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- Travel monitoring
- Travel forecasting
- Changing federal landscape
- Multimodal initiatives
- Greater emphasis on performance



## Lyn Erickson

Plan Development and Coordination Program Director

(202) 962-3319

lerickson@mwkog.org

[mwkog.org/tpb](http://mwkog.org/tpb)

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002







## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Eric Randall, TPB Transportation Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** TPB Annual Private Providers Forum on Public Transit - Highlights  
**DATE:** May 11, 2017

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This memorandum provides highlights of the 2017 Annual Private Providers Forum on Public Transit held on May 9. Convened under the auspices of the TPB's Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee, the purpose of the annual forum is to bring together representatives from the private transportation sector and local jurisdictions to discuss mutual regional transportation interests. Over 40 persons attended, including representatives from local jurisdictions, public bus operators, and private providers of public transportation, including taxicab, paratransit, and bus companies.

### **FORUM AGENDA ITEMS**

The agenda featured two keynote addresses, followed by a roundtable discussion among the attendees on regional projects and business opportunities.

The first keynote address was given Robin Phillips, of the National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP). She discussed innovation and coordination in local transit, including ways public private partnerships can enhance transportation in rural and small urban areas, and the connections to a national public transportation network of intercity buses and rail.

The second keynote address was given by Prachi Vakharia, Director of Engagement at RideAmigos. She discussed the proliferation of new commuting options and the implications for local application. Ongoing projects in other cities in the nation were reviewed, focusing on mobility-on-demand projects and new business models among interfacing public and private providers.

There were three briefings by TPB staff:

- Arianna Koudounas presented the findings of the TPB Intercity Bus Count Survey, the region's first survey of intercity bus operations and ridership.
- Eric Randall reviewed new federal requirements for metropolitan planning, including intercity bus consultation and consideration of intercity bus and intermodal terminals. Preparations for the 2018 update of the region's constrained long-range transportation plan were also discussed.
- Wendy Klancher briefed the attendees on the solicitation for the TPB's Enhanced Mobility Grant Solicitation under the revised Section 5310 grant program.

The forum concluded with the roundtable discussion of transit plans and prospects. Each jurisdiction and transit operator in turn highlighted recent events and upcoming plans and projects for public transportation. In particular, potential business opportunities for the private sector were discussed.

All documents for the meeting are available on the MWCOC website, available at:  
<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2017/5/9/annual-private-providers-forum-on-public-transit/>







# Officials call on area residents to obey traffic laws, look out for one another as bike safety month approaches

Apr 25, 2017



Langley Park, MD – With warmer weather upon us and summer around the corner, Washington-area officials are calling on people who travel around the region to be extra alert for one another on roadways. May is Bicycle Safety Month, and transportation officials from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia gathered in Langley Park today to remind commuters in cars, on bikes and on foot to be cautious and follow all traffic laws.

The event kicked off the spring Street Smart public awareness and enforcement campaign. This campaign will target areas with high crash rates in an effort to focus the attention of travelers in especially dangerous locations. In addition, police departments throughout the D.C. area will support the campaign with increased enforcement of traffic safety laws in these “pedestrian alert zones.”

“Pedestrians and bicyclists are very vulnerable roadway users,” said Maryland Motor Vehicle Administrator and Governor Larry Hogan’s Highway Safety Representative Christine E. Nizer. “More people will be outside enjoying the warmer weather, and it’s critical to be aware of your surroundings, whether you’re driving, biking, or walking. Safety on our roads is our top priority, and we need everyone to look up and look out for one another.”

Through May 14, regional law enforcement will step up efforts to identify and ticket drivers,

pedestrians, and bicyclists who break safety laws, particularly in high-risk areas. Violations such as failing to stop for people in crosswalks, not signaling, or jaywalking can result in fines up to \$500, and drivers may receive points on their driver record.

According to preliminary data for 2016, 71 pedestrians and 10 bicyclists lost their lives, accounting for 29 percent of the 279 total traffic fatalities in the Washington region. This is an increase in the region overall, with some municipalities showing significant decreases and others with increased fatalities over 2015. The Governors' Highway Safety Association (GHSA) estimates that the number of pedestrians killed nationally in 2016 increased by 11 percent compared with 2015.

"Officers from throughout the area are committed to enforcing laws to protect pedestrians and bicyclists," said Chief Hank Stawinski of Prince George's County Police Department. "We write tickets to change behavior that we know results in injury and death. Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and always give bicyclists at least three feet of clearance. When crossing the street, use the crosswalk, and wait for the walk signal. Together we can save lives."

The spring Street Smart campaign launch took place at the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center, a multi-modal transit hub for pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus riders. The Transit Center opened in December and provides service to 12,000 passengers daily, and is planned to provide a transfer point to the future Purple Line.

"Our roads and streets are shared by a diverse group of travelers," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker. "Pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists are all moving quickly and focused on their destinations. We all have to be more aware and consider the safety of others as we move about our neighborhoods and communities."

Street Smart is a public awareness campaign for commuters in the Washington, D.C., suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia area dedicated to preventing deaths and injuries of people walking and biking in those areas. The campaign offers safety tips for all travelers and joins media and law enforcement to encourage all drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians to stay alert and follow safety laws when they travel throughout the region.

To learn more about Street Smart, visit [BeStreetSmart.net](http://BeStreetSmart.net) and follow us on [twitter.com/COGStreetSmart](https://twitter.com/COGStreetSmart).

Contact: **Jeff Salzgeber**

Phone: (512) 743-2659

Email: [jeffs@sherrymatthews.com](mailto:jeffs@sherrymatthews.com)

Tags: [Bicycling](#), [Commuting](#), [Street Smart](#), [Walking](#)

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## Related News

