

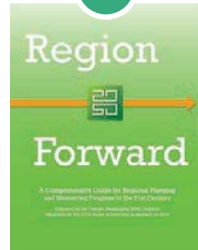
# TPB Regional Policy Framework

## Evolution of The TPB Policy Framework

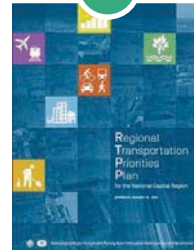
1998



2010



2014



2017



The TPB policy framework is a culmination of a 20-year evolution that began with a visioning process in 1998. This framework includes comprehensive strategies that promote a strong regional economy and help improve quality of life for all residents.

The policy statements and documents that make up the framework encourage the region's transportation agencies to consider regional goals, priorities, and needs when developing and selecting projects to fund and implement. The policy framework consists of the TPB Vision, the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan, the Region Forward vision adopted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), and the seven aspirational initiatives recently endorsed by the TPB.

More information about the regional policy framework can be found at [mwcog.org/TPBpolicy](http://mwcog.org/TPBpolicy).

## THE TPB VISION

The TPB Vision, adopted in 1998, provides a comprehensive set of policy goals, objectives, and strategies that guide transportation planning and investment decisions in the Washington region. The Vision was developed by TPB members and technical staff from throughout the region through a collaborative effort that involved consideration and inclusion of the transportation, land-use, environmental, and economic sectors.

### TPB Vision Statement

*"In the 21st Century, the Washington metropolitan region remains a vibrant world capital, with a transportation system that provides efficient movement of people and goods. This system promotes the region's economy and environmental quality, and operates in an attractive and safe setting—it is a system that serves everyone. The system is fiscally sustainable, promotes areas of concentrated growth, manages both demand and capacity, employs the best technology, and joins rail, roadway, bus, air, water, pedestrian and bicycle facilities into a fully interconnected network."*

### THE VISION GOALS

1. The Washington metropolitan region's transportation system will provide reasonable access at reasonable cost to everyone in the region.
2. The Washington metropolitan region will develop, implement, and maintain an interconnected transportation system that enhances quality of life and promotes a strong and growing economy throughout the entire region, including a healthy regional core and dynamic regional activity centers with a mix of jobs, housing and services in a walkable environment.
3. The Washington metropolitan region's transportation system will give priority to management, performance, maintenance, and safety of all modes and facilities.
4. The Washington metropolitan region will use the best available technology to maximize system effectiveness.
5. The Washington metropolitan region will plan and develop a transportation system that enhances and protects the region's natural environmental quality, cultural and historic resources, and communities.
6. The Washington metropolitan region will achieve better inter-jurisdictional coordination of transportation and land use planning.
7. The Washington metropolitan region will achieve an enhanced funding mechanism(s) for regional and local transportation system priorities that cannot be implemented with current and forecasted federal, state, and local funding.
8. The Washington metropolitan region will support options for international and inter-regional travel and commerce.

# REGION FORWARD: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE FOR REGIONAL PLANNING AND MEASURING PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY (2010)

COG developed Region Forward in 2010 to guide local and regional decision making. It spells out nine broad goal areas, one of which is transportation, and numerous objectives and targets for assessing progress toward achieving each of the goals.

## Region Forward Goals that Guided Aspects of Visualize 2045

- We seek a broad range of public and private transportation choices for our region which maximizes accessibility and affordability to everyone and minimizes reliance upon single occupancy use of the automobile.
- We seek a transportation system that maximizes community connectivity and walkability, and minimizes ecological harm to the region and world beyond.
- We seek transit-oriented and mixed-use communities emerging in regional Activity Centers that will capture new employment and household growth.
- We seek a significant decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, with substantial reductions from the built environment and transportation sector.
- We seek a diversified, stable, and competitive economy, with a wide range of employment opportunities and a focus on sustainable economic development.
- We seek to minimize economic disparities and enhance the prosperity of each jurisdiction and the region as a whole through balanced growth and access to high-quality jobs for everyone.

## THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES PLAN (2014)

The TPB adopted the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP) in January 2014. It focuses the region's attention on a handful of transportation priorities and strategies with the greatest potential to advance regional goals rooted in the TPB Vision. The strategies are meant to be "within reach" both financially and politically. Pursuing the priorities outlined in this plan will lead to greater economic vitality and a higher quality of life for those that live in the metropolitan Washington region.

### Priorities Identified in the RTPP

- 1. Meet Our Existing Obligations:** Funding for maintenance and state-of-good-repair needs should continue to be prioritized over system expansion.
- 2. Strengthen Public Confidence and Ensure Fairness:** Efforts to increase accountability and address the needs of historically transportation-disadvantaged populations should be considered in all stages of project planning, design, and implementation.
- 3. Move More People and Goods More Efficiently:** Improvements to the transportation system should seek to do more with less—to make more efficient use of existing infrastructure and promote greater use of more efficient travel modes for both people and goods.

### RTPP Goals

1. Provide a comprehensive range of transportation options
2. Promote a strong regional economy, including a healthy regional core and dynamic Activity Centers
3. Ensure adequate system maintenance, preservation, and safety
4. Maximize operational effectiveness and safety of the transportation system
5. Enhance environmental quality, and protect natural and cultural resources
6. Support inter-regional and international travel and commerce

## VISUALIZE 2045 AND THE ASPIRATIONAL INITIATIVES (2017 & 2018)

In 2017 and 2018 the TPB identified seven initiatives that have potential to improve the performance of the region's transportation system compared to previously adopted long-range transportation plans. The projects, policies, and programs that make up these initiatives were identified based on their ability to make more progress toward achieving the goals laid out in previously adopted TPB and COG governing policy documents.

### The Aspirational Initiatives are:

- Bring jobs and housing closer together
- Expand bus rapid transit and transitways
- Move more people on Metrorail
- Increase telecommuting and other options for commuting
- Expand the express highway network
- Improve walk and bike access to transit
- Complete the National Capital Trail