

# Visualize 2045

## Initial Opinion Survey Results and Preview of Focus Groups

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TPB Technical Committee

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Agenda Item #9

**visualize**  
**2045** A long-range  
transportation plan  
for the National  
Capital Region

# Background on the Survey

## Objective:

- to gain insights on:
  - the impacts of the pandemic on transportation planning
  - preferred transportation improvements (relative to TPB policy priorities)
  - future / external factors to be considered

## Overview:

- Conducted fall 2020; more than 2,400 responses
- Statistically significant for TPB planning area and 10 subareas
- Supported by consultant with survey expertise
- Conducted largely online, in English and Spanish

# Survey Contents

- Travel during COVID-19 pandemic
  - general travel
  - job related travel
  - deliveries
- **Our transportation future** (thinking 1 year after end of pandemic)
  - transportation system improvement
  - development and congestion
  - ways to increase use of alternative travel modes
- Future & External factors
  - climate change
  - equity
  - autonomous vehicles

# High-level Findings Related to TPB Policy Priorities

*More details later*

# System Improvements

## System satisfaction (meet needs)

- 55% said "well" or "very well"
- 21% said "poorly" or "very poorly"
- 24% said "neither well nor poorly"

## More likely to take bus

- 40% chose "if buses arrived on a reliable schedule"
- 40% chose "if buses traveled more quickly"
- 71% support dedicated bus lanes; 54% supported such bus lanes, even if a lane of on-street parking was removed

## More likely to take rail

- 40% chose "if trains came more frequently"
- 35% chose "if trains were less crowded"

# Development And Congestion

## Land Use

- When asked where they believe future development should be encouraged, the most popular responses were “in existing core cities” (35%) and “in older suburbs” (31%).
- When asked where they’d prefer to live, responses were more evenly divided: new suburbs (27%), older suburbs (27%), existing core cities (25%), rural areas (21%).

## Congestion

- The vast majority of respondents (83%) said that traffic congestion is a concern
- Less than half (44%) said it is a significant concern that impacts their quality of life.

# Alternative Travel Modes

## Ped/bike station access

- What would make respondents more likely to walk, bike, or use an e-powered device to transit?
  - 36% chose “if there were sidewalks & safe crossings all the way there”
  - 27% chose “if my route to the train or bus was quicker or more direct”

## Climate change (potential motivator)

- 88% agree that human actions contribute to climate change; 73% strongly agree
- 84% agreed that elected officials need to consider the impacts of climate change when planning for the future, 72 % strongly agree.

## Next Steps: Focus Groups



# Focus Groups: Purpose

- Supplement the data from the public opinion survey
- Contextualize and supplement transportation issues
- Incorporating equity considerations
  
- Three themes guiding the discussion:
  - Equity
  - Climate Change
  - Safety

# General Information

- January 5-30, 2021
- Partnered with ICF to recruit participants
  - Social media, craigslist, convenience sampling
- 10 virtual focus groups (*hosted via Zoom*)
  - Geographic location (*Core, Inner & Outer Suburbs*)
  - Demographics (*Age, Race/Ethnicity, Income, Spanish language*)

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