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**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

February 16, 2022

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Charles Allen, TPB Chair – DC Council  
Ella Hanson – DC Council  
Christina Henderson – DC Council  
Kristin Calkins – DC Office of Planning  
Mark Rawlings – DDOT  
Lezlie Rupert – DDOT  
Reuben Collins – Charles County  
Patrick Wojahn – College Park  
Denise Mitchell – College Park  
Mark Mishler – Frederick County  
Kelly Russell – City of Frederick  
David Edmondson – City of Frederick  
Neil Harris – Gaithersburg  
Dennis Enslinger – Gaithersburg  
Emmett V. Jordan – Greenbelt  
Rodney Roberts – Greenbelt  
Brian Lee – Laurel  
Gary Erenrich – Montgomery County Executive  
Evan Glass – Montgomery County Legislative  
Victor Weissberg – Prince George’s County Executive  
Bridget Donnell Newton – Rockville  
Kacy Kostiuk – Takoma Park  
R. Earl Lewis, Jr. – MDOT  
Canek Aguirre – Alexandria  
Takis Karantonis – Arlington County  
Dan Malouff – Arlington County  
Dan Meyer – City of Fairfax  
Walter Acorn – Fairfax County - Legislative  
James Walkinshaw – Fairfax County Legislative  
David Snyder – Falls Church  
Adam Shellenberger – Fauquier County  
Robert Brown – Loudoun County  
Kristen Umstattd – Loudoun County  
Pamela Sebesky – Manassas  
Jeannette Rishell – Manassas Park  
Ann B. Wheeler – Prince William County  
Victor Angry – Prince William County  
John Lynch – VDOT  
Allison Davis – WMATA  
Julia Koster, NCPC  
Tammy Stidham, NPS

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**MWCOG STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT**

Kanti Srikanth  
Chuck Bean  
Lyn Erickson  
Mark Moran  
Tim Canan  
Andrew Meese  
Nick Ramfos  
Paul DesJardin  
Tom Gates  
Leo Pineda  
Stacy Cook  
Sergio Ritacco  
Bryan Hayes  
Andrew Austin  
John Swanson  
Dusan Vuksan  
Deborah Etheridge  
Jon Schermann  
Erin Morrow  
Eric Randall  
Jeff King  
Rachel Beyerle

Ashley Hutson - CAC  
Amir Shapir - VDOT  
Kari Snyder - MDOT

Audio and video of the meeting, and materials referenced in the minutes can be found here:  
[mwcog.org/events/2022/2/16/transportation-planning-board/](http://mwcog.org/events/2022/2/16/transportation-planning-board/)

**1. VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES, MEMBER ROLL CALL, AND VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Chair Sebesky called the meeting to order and reminded the board that the meeting was being recorded and broadcast. She said the process for asking questions and voting would be the same as at previous meetings. After each item, members would be asked for comment or to vote by jurisdiction.

Ms. Erickson conducted a roll call. Members that were present are listed on the first page of the minutes.

Ms. Erickson said that two comments were submitted by email. The first comment from Mr. Schwartz of the Coalition for Smarter Growth was an invitation to an event hosted by the MetroNow Coalition. The second from Ms. Montemarano, linked to a Greater Greater Washington article. The full comments can be found in the memo for this item.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made, by Mr. Karantonis, to approve the minutes from the January 2022 TPB meeting.

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Mr. Jordan seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

### **3. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Reporting on behalf of Mr. Arcieri, Ms. Erickson said that the Technical Committee met on February 4. At the meeting the committee was briefed on all of the items on today's TPB agenda. She said the committee was also briefed on draft inputs for the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region. There was also an update on the TPB Resiliency Study. More detail can be found in the report for this item.

### **4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ACCESS FOR ALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Hutson said that the Community Advisory Committee met on February 10. At the meeting the committee was briefed on the TPB Resiliency Study and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region. She said the committee also discussed priorities for the year. She said that the CAC expressed a desire to meet with TPB officials from their jurisdictions so they can learn the priorities of their elected officials and share their concerns. More detail can be found in the report for this item.

Chair Sebesky said that she will direct staff to work together to find time to bring CAC and TPB members together.

Mr. Aguirre said that the Access for All Advisory Committee met on February 11. He said the committee was briefed on 21 projects selected for funding under the 2021 Enhanced Mobility Solicitation and the 2022 Update of the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan for the National Capital Region. The committee was also briefed on the TPB Climate Mitigation Study and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region. More detail can be found in the report for this item.

### **5. STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Srikanth said that the Steering Committee met on February 4. At the meeting the committee approved two amendments from Maryland. Details can be found on pages 4 to 21 of the report. He said that page 23 of the report is a letter from COG's executive director to Maryland Delegate Carr regarding establishment of a reciprocity agreement between the District, Maryland and Virginia, for automated traffic enhancement citations. On page 28 there was a memo about the results of the TPB's public outreach campaign, Aspiration to Implementation. Page 53 is a summary of various campaigns launched by Commuter Connections to bring people back to ridesharing and transit. He reminded the board that the deadline for applications for the Transportation and Land-Use Connections program is March 18.

Ms. Kostiuk encouraged TPB staff to think about how they can engage residents of the region younger than 18 during future outreach.

Mr. Srikanth said that staff will look into how to engage younger residents.

### **6. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Chair Sebesky said that the TPB is scheduled to meet in person in March. She said that staff will monitor the situation and if necessary, make the decision about reverting to an online-only meeting. She apologized for adjourning the January meeting after 2:00 p.m. She acknowledged that members have tight schedules. She asked staff to make sure memos include all of the relevant information and encouraged board members to submit questions via the chat function to help the meeting run on time.

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## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **7. APPROVAL OF FY 2023 AND FY 2024 TAP FUNDING FOR PROJECTS IN VIRGINIA**

Mr. Swanson provided some context on the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and how it supports implementation of regional priorities around pedestrian and bicycle access to transit, safety for vulnerable populations, and access to economic opportunities. He said that Virginia selects TAP projects every two years. He said that about \$7 million will be awarded to eight projects in northern Virginia. He acknowledged the role of Commonwealth Transportation Board District Member Mary Hynes. More detail on the projects selected for the FY 2023 and 2024 TAP can be found in the presentation and memo for this item.

Chair Sebesky made a motion to adopt Resolution R9-2022 to approve projects for funding under the Federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program for FY 2023 and 2024 for Virginia TPB jurisdictions.

Ms. Rishell seconded the motion. She asked if security cameras were located on the trail system, particularly near schools.

Mr. Swanson said he did not know and would get back to her. He also encouraged her to consult with the jurisdiction on more information about specific projects.

Mr. Wojahn said he was glad to see a high-level of engagement from Virginia. He said that last year Maryland did not use all of its allocated funds. He asked if there were lessons learned to increase participation in the future.

Mr. Swanson said that the DOTs do share information and learn from each other. He said that Virginia's application period is extensive. It is also a two-year process which means there is double the money.

Ms. Umstattd said she was glad to see that there are two projects in Loudoun. She said she things they will make a huge difference for residents.

Mr. Srikanth acknowledged Mr. Karantonis's comment from the chat about the additional work that jurisdictions will have with receiving federal funds for local projects. He said that since the TAP program uses federal money, the jurisdictions are then subject to federal compliance, oversight, and review. He said that does add additional administrative responsibilities to the local jurisdiction.

The board voted on the motion. It was approved unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **8. BRIEFING ON THE DRAFT FY 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

Ms. Erickson briefed the committee on the Draft FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). She said the UPWP demonstrates how the TPB carries out its MPO activities. She described the funding allocations that make up the \$18.9 million budget. She referenced Tables 1, 2, and 3 from pages 33 to 35 and said that they are the most important pages in the UPWP for the board to become familiar with. She described the ten core activities of the TPB and provided more information on the actual work planned for FY 2023. More information can be found in the Draft FY 2023 UPWP and the presentation for this item.

Ms. Erickson said that in March the board will be asked to take three actions: amend the FY 2022 UPWP, carry over unused funding to the FY 2023 UPWP, and approve the FY 2023 UPWP.

Mr. Roberts asked how rising sea levels will impact the region.

Ms. Erickson said that the document was written to be flexible, so there is room to pivot. She said a whole new section was added to the UPWP covering resiliency.

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Mr. Srikanth said that federal MPO regulations require organizations like the TPB to look at resiliency at the regional level and that the work program does include activities associated with transportation resiliency.

## **9. BRIEFING ON THE DRAFT FY 2023 COMMUTER CONNECTIONS WORK PROGRAM**

Mr. Ramfos briefed the committee on the Draft FY 2023 Commuter Connections Work Program (CCWP). He shared Commuter Connections strategic plan. He shared the benefits of Commuter Connections to jurisdictions, employers, and workers. He shared a map of the program's coverage area and noted it is larger than the TPB's planning area. He described Commuter Connections programs covered by the CCWP and provided more detail on how Commuter Connections plays a role in the regional congestion management and air quality goals. More information can be found in the Draft FY 2023 CCWP and the presentation for this item.

## **10. PERFORMANCE-BASED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING: DRAFT TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT TARGETS**

Mr. Randall briefed the committee on the 2022 regional targets for transit asset management (TAM). He provided information about the federal requirements for setting TAM targets and reviewed the four TAM performance measures. He shared a summary table for targets established by member agencies and the draft targets for the region. More information can be found in the memo and presentation for this item.

## **11. CLIMATE CHANGE ELEMENTS IN THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN – SEEKING MEMBER INPUT ON SPECIFICS**

Mr. Srikanth referenced materials that were shared with the board prior to the meeting. He provided a brief overview of the process for adding climate change elements to Visualize 2045. He said that since 2020 the TPB has been clear that it intends to add climate change considerations into the list of planning priorities for the 2022 update to Visualize 2045. He said that before the plan is adopted in June the board has to identify exactly what it wants to add to the plan document and to make sure that the climate change considerations become part of the TPB's future planning processes. He said that the board reviewed the TPB's Climate Change Mitigation Study. At the January meeting the board was briefed on a memo from the TPB chair and vice-chairs that outlined two proposed climate change elements. The first is a greenhouse reduction goal for the on-road transportation sector. Second, is a set of multimodal, multi-path strategies that when implemented would reduce on-road greenhouse gas emissions. He said that the board wishes to make sure each of the 44 members has time to study the elements and provide input into which should be adopted.

Mr. Srikanth said that a questionnaire will be sent to board members who will have five weeks to review, consult, and provide input. He referenced his memo and said that page 4 lists a schedule. He said pages 6 to 13 display the draft questionnaire. He encouraged the board to provide input on the draft. He said that there are three parts to the questionnaire. Part A is about the TPB adopting greenhouse gas reduction goals for just the on-road transportation sector. Part B is about including goals into local transportation decision-making processes. Part C includes 15 different proposed strategies that were analyzed as part of the TPB Climate Change Mitigation Study. He said that once members submit their input, TPB staff will host a work session before the April TPB meeting to share results.

Mr. Roberts asked when the survey would be sent.

Mr. Srikanth said the plan is to send it by the end of February.

Mr. Lewis said that Maryland has had greenhouse reduction laws in place from 2006. He asked if staff will discuss questionnaire results before the work session.

Mr. Srikanth acknowledged that the board is working with a very tight timeframe. He said that in

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between the time the questionnaires are received and the work session, staff will analyze the results and determine majority feedback. Once the results are analyzed, staff will develop recommendations for the TPB to adopt.

Mr. Srikanth said that Mr. Erenrich submitted a question via chat about estimates of greenhouse gas reductions being available before the TPB's action from only those strategies selected by the board. He responded by saying that there is not enough time to have that data available by the action in May. He said that the new UPWP has money set aside to analyze the reductions from the strategies adopted by the TPB.

Chair Sebesky asked Mr. Srikanth to explain the significance of putting climate change strategies into the long-range plan.

Mr. Srikanth said that the TPB's long range plan has a policy component and includes the board-approved 1998 Vision document and the subsequent 2014 Regional Transportation Priorities Plan and more recently the Aspirational Initiatives. He said that while these documents reference environment sustainability neither of these explicitly state actions for mitigating climate change. He said that putting these strategies into the plan provides more specific information on actions to be taken which can inform local decision-making.

Ms. Rishell asked if the link to the questionnaire would be accompanied by a document that can be shared with governing bodies.

Mr. Srikanth said yes.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **12. ADJOURN**

No other business was brought before the board. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.