



NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

TPB FREIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE WEB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS **TOPIC: REVIEW OF OCTOBER 21 TPB FREIGHT POLICY WORK SESSION AND** **DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS**

The TPB Freight Subcommittee met via web conference on November 5, 2015 at COG. Highlights of the meeting are described below.

Status Update and Discussion on Freight Policy Aspects to be Included in the National Capital Region Freight Plan

At the October 21 Work Session, facilitated by TPB First Vice Chairman Timothy Lovain, participants—Board members, freight stakeholders, and jurisdiction staff—discussed many policy issues related to freight in the Washington region, including transport of hazardous materials, the shared use of freight rail lines by both passenger and freight trains, and the interrelationship of land use and freight transportation. The group reviewed a draft list, prepared by staff, of potential policy topic areas for which policy statements could be prepared for later Board review and approval.

During his closing comments, Mr. Lovain provided the following list of underlying principles discussed during the work session:

- Maximizing public safety in our freight planning activities
- Facilitating land use compatibility and coexistence with respect to freight transportation
- Prioritizing freight infrastructure investments, especially those related to activity centers and intermodal facilities
- Serving the region's economic development goals, including those in the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan
- Protecting the environment

A briefing on the work session to the Board during the afternoon meeting was planned but not executed due to time constraints.

Next steps for staff are to draft a set of policy statements based on the input received at the work session and from other sources, present them to the freight subcommittee and the TPB technical committee for review and comment, and make relevant revisions. It is unclear when these will go back to the board, but it will likely be sometime during the next calendar year.

Next TPB Freight Subcommittee Meeting: January 7, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Bowden, Maryland Department of Transportation
Ed Daniel, Montgomery County Police
Douglas Estrada, Walmart
Christopher Lamm, Cambridge Systematics
L' Kiesha Markley, Maryland State Highway Administration
Chip Millard, Federal Highway Administration
Michael Onder, CDM Smith
Laura Richards, District Department of Transportation
Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express
Kari Snyder, Maryland Department of Transportation
Rahul Trivedi, Virginia Department of Transportation

MWCOG STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Andrew Meese, MWCOG-DTP
Jon Schermann, MWCOG-DTP