

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

**RESOLUTION ON INCLUSION OF PROJECT SUBMISSIONS IN THE AIR  
QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS FOR THE CONSTRAINED ELEMENT OF VISUALIZE 2045  
AND THE FY 2019-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the metropolitan planning organization for the Washington metropolitan area, has the responsibility under the provisions of 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 Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning rule as published in the May 27, 2016 Federal Register by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires that the long-range transportation plan be reviewed and updated at least every four years; and

**WHEREAS**, the transportation plan, program and projects must be assessed for air quality conformity as required by the conformity regulations originally published by the Environmental Protection Agency in the November 24, 1993 Federal Register and with latest amendments published in April 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 15, 2014 the TPB adopted resolution R6-2015 to approve the last quadrennial update to the Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) which was developed as specified in the Federal Planning Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 16, 2016 the TPB adopted resolution R3-2017 determining that the 2016 CLRP Amendment and the FY 2017-2022 TIP conform with the requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and resolution R4-2016 approving the 2016 CLRP Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 18, 2017 the TPB issued the Technical Inputs Solicitation document for the constrained element and conformity analysis of Visualize 2045; and

**WHEREAS**, the transportation implementing agencies in the region have submitted inputs for the constrained element of Visualize 2045, which have been reviewed by the Technical Committee at its meetings on December 1, 2017 and January 5, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, on the evening of December 14, 2017, the submissions for the constrained element of Visualize 2045 were released for a 30-day public comment and interagency consultation period which ended January 13, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPB was briefed on the submissions for the constrained element of Visualize 2045 at its December 20, 2017 meeting, and at the January 17, 2018 meeting the TPB was briefed on the public comments received on the submissions and the responses provided to the comments; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of Visualize 2045 and the FY 2019-2024 TIP by the TPB is scheduled for October 17, 2018 upon completion of a 30-day public comment period including interagency consultation on the results of the regional air quality conformity analysis of Visualize 2045 and the FY 2019-2024 TIP; and

**WHEREAS**, the project submissions for the constrained element of Visualize 2045 have been developed to meet the financial constraint requirements in the Metropolitan Planning Rules and show the consistency of the proposed projects with already available and projected sources of transportation revenues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board approves for inclusion in the air quality conformity analysis of the constrained element of Visualize 2045 and the FY 2019-2024 TIP, the project submissions as described in the attached memorandum.

**Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board at its regular meeting on January 17, 2018.**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director  
**SUBJECT:** Projects Proposed for Inclusion in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045 and the and the FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program  
**DATE:** January 11, 2018

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The project submissions for inclusion in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045 and the FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program were released for public comment on December 14, 2017. The attached materials summarizing the major new projects and changes to existing major projects included in this year's submissions were presented to the board at its December 20 meeting. The board will be asked to approve the project submissions for inclusion in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045 and the FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program on January 17.

The public comment period ends on January 13. The board will be presented with a summary and compilation of the comments received and the responses provided by the implementing agencies and TPB staff. The comments and responses will be included in the formal documentation of Visualize 2045. Comments can be submitted and reviewed online at [www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment](http://www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment)

## CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS MADE TO PROJECT INPUTS

During the course of the 30-day comment and inter-agency review period, several implementing agencies have provided updates to project information and technical corrections to the Air Quality Conformity Network Inputs table:

- Benning Rd. Streetcar extension in DC (CONID 613) Change completion date from 2020 to 2023
- Union Station/Georgetown Streetcar in DC (CONID 610) – change completion date from 2028 to 2025
- DC Circulator Route Union Station to Georgetown- remove extension to National Cathedral
- DC Circulator Route Navy Yard – change project limits from “Union Station to Navy Yard Route” to “Navy Yard Route Realignment” and change completion date from 2017 to 2018
- DC Circulator route Rosslyn to Dupont Circle ext to U St/Howard University (CONID 794) – change completion date from 2017 to 2018
- DC Circulator Route Potomac Ave to Skyland- add realignment in 2018
- 16th St. Bus Priority Improvements in DC – change completion date from 2021 to 2020
- Monocacy Blvd widening in Frederick County (CONID 651) Change project completion date from 2017 to 2019
- 3 segments of MD 180 in Frederick (CONID 924 648 857) Change in project limits and completion dates
- Widen VA 638 Rolling Rd. in Fairfax County (CONID 302 | Project ID VSF10a) - change completion date from 2020 to 2025

- VA 7 interchange at VA 690 west of Leesburg (CONID 653) – change project from “study/ not coded” to “construct in 2025”

More information on these projects can be found in the Air Quality Conformity Network Inputs table.

## SUMMARY OF PROJECT SUBMISSIONS

This memo highlights fourteen new or updated significant projects with “at a glance” profiles and matrices detailing how the projects support regional transportation goals and federal planning factors. This memo also lists significant projects that have been reduced in scope or are proposed for removal from the Constrained Element. Complete project description forms and the Visualize 2045 Air Quality Conformity Network Inputs tables can be found online at [www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment](http://www.mwcog.org/TPBcomment).

In the **District of Columbia**, DDOT is proposing to expand its bicycle lane network with six additional segments. DDOT has also requested that three segments of the planned streetcar network be removed from the Constrained Element: the Anacostia Initial Line, Anacostia Extension and the M St. SE/SW line.

In **Maryland**, MDOT is proposing to add two elements of its Traffic Relief Plan which would add managed toll lanes to I-495 and I-270. MDOT has also proposed reconstruction and widening projects on US 301, MD 201, and MD 97. MDOT has also requested that the widening of MD 29 be reduced in scope and that a widening of MD 27 be removed from the Constrained Element. Montgomery County is proposing to add four segments to its Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network on Randolph Road, a North Bethesda Transitway, MD 355, and Veirs Mill Road.

In **Virginia**, VDOT is proposing to add a southbound auxiliary lane on I-95 and to widen US 15. VDOT is also proposing changes to the I-495 HOT Lanes project which has been in the long-range plan since 2005. The proposed changes would advance the completion date to 2025 and increase the number of HOT lanes in each direction between the George Washington Parkway and the American Legion Bridge from one to two to complement MDOT’s project over the bridge. VDOT has proposed to remove the planned Virginia Railway Express extension to Gainesville and Haymarket.

The **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority** has submitted a set of improvements that would add significant capacity to the Metrorail system by running 100% 8-car trains during the peak travel periods. This would require additional improvements to be made to stations in the core and some supporting infrastructure upgrades and facilities.

## REGIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT OF VISUALIZE 2045

The Technical Inputs Solicitation document encouraged agencies to consider regional goals, priorities and needs as they developed and selected projects to submit for inclusion in the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045. The project description form asked agencies to explain how their new projects support the goals laid out in the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP).

The agencies’ responses to those questions have been compiled in Table 1 on page 9 of the attachment, along with the agencies’ responses to how projects support the federal Planning Factors on Table 2. Additionally, staff developed individual project profile sheets that provide readers with “at a glance” information, as well as a narrative describing how the proposed major project supports the RTPP and other regional goals. A Project Profile has been created for each of the fourteen major projects proposed for inclusion or updating in the air quality analysis.

## MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following materials were released for public comment on December 14, 2017:

- Summary of RTPP Goals and Visualize 2045 project description form questions\*
- Table 1: Visualize 2045 Constrained Element Projects and the RTPP Goals\*
- Table 2: Visualize 2045 Constrained Element Projects and federal Planning Factors\*
- Profiles for the following projects:\*

  - DC Dedicated Bicycle Lanes on Multiple Street Segments Throughout City
  - I-270 Toll Lanes from I-495 to I-70/US 40
  - I-495 Toll Lanes from American Legion Bridge to Woodrow Wilson Bridge
  - US 301 Widening from Harry Nice Bridge to US 50/I-595
  - MD 201 Widening from I-495 to US 1 north of Muirkirk Road
  - MD 97 Reconstruction from 16<sup>th</sup> Street to Forest Glen Road
  - Randolph Road BRT from US 29 to MD 355
  - North Bethesda Transitway BRT from Montgomery Mall Transit Center to White Flint Metrorail Station
  - MD 355 BRT from Bethesda to Clarksburg
  - Veirs Mill Road BRT from MD 355 to MD 97
  - I-495 HOT Lanes Northern Extension from Old Dominion Drive to American Legion Bridge
  - I-95 Southbound construction of auxiliary lane from VA 123 to VA 294
  - US 15 Widening from Battlefield Parkway to VA 661
  - Metro Capacity Improvements

- Complete CLRP Project Description Forms for each project listed above†
- Draft Visualize 2045 Air Quality Conformity Network Inputs Table†
- Scope of Work for Air Quality Conformity†
  - \* Attached to this document
  - † Found online at: [www.visualize2045.org](http://www.visualize2045.org).

## NEXT STEPS

Following the TPB approval of the project inputs on January 17, the Air Quality Conformity Analysis will be conducted between February and August. Draft results will be published along with a plan performance analysis and assessment of regional goals in September at the commencement of a second public comment period. After that comment period, the TPB will be asked to approve the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045, and the FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program in October 2018.