



TPB AFFIRMS GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GOALS SUPPORTS JOINT WORKING GROUP TO IDENTIFY VIABLE REDUCTION STRATEGIES

The TPB in December officially affirmed its support for regional greenhouse gas reduction goals adopted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) five years ago. The goals call for emissions reductions of 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020, and 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050.

The TPB affirmed the goals in a formal resolution at its meeting on December 17. In the resolution, the Board also expressed its support for a new joint working group, to be convened by COG, that will examine

potential greenhouse gas reduction strategies across the major sectors responsible for greenhouse gas emissions in the region—energy, land-use, the built environment, and transportation.

The new COG-led working group will be made up of professionals from the energy, environment, transportation, and land-use agencies at the local, state, and regional levels. With assistance from COG staff and outside consultants, the group will work to identify viable, implementable local, regional, and state actions

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TPB RECOGNIZES GRADUATES OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Recent graduates from the November 2014 Community Leadership Institute (CLI) attended the December TPB meeting to receive certificates and recognition for completing the program. CLI provides an opportunity for community leaders to learn about and discuss how transportation decisions are made in the region.

At the meeting, John Swanson of TPB staff briefed the board on the history of the program. He said that the program was developed as a way to educate community

leaders about the region’s long-range transportation plan and to provide guidance on how the public can get involved in the planning process at the local level.

Swanson said that since 2006 the TPB has hosted 13 CLI sessions and that more than 250 people from across the region have participated. He added that several TPB members, including 2014 Chair Patrick Wojahn and Todd Turner, participated in the program, as have nine members of the 2014 Citizens Advisory Committee.

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Upcoming meetings and items of interest:

TPB Meeting: January 21, 2015

- Approval of the Update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region
- Approval of the CY 2014 Projects Funded by the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program

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REGIONAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN NEARS FINAL APPROVAL

The latest four-year update of a regional bicycle and pedestrian plan identifying hundreds of major improvements planned across the region through 2040 will be up for final TPB approval on January 21.

At its meeting on December 17, the Board was briefed on the final draft of the plan, which also includes recommended best practices and data on regional traffic safety trends and growing use of bicycling and walking.



Workers paint green bike lane in Clarendon. Photo by BeyondDC/Flickr.

According to Jim Sebastian, who briefed the Board, the plan includes more than 4,000 miles of planned new or upgraded bicycle lanes or shared-use paths, compared to a little more than 700 miles of such facilities today.

In his presentation, Sebastian told Board members, “The plan focuses on projects that will have a regional impact, and also achieve other goals, like providing access to transit stations and Activity Centers, and improving safety for travelers.”

Sebastian chairs the TPB’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee and manages the active transportation branch at the District

of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT).

Following the briefing, Board members focused on how the TPB will use the plan going forward.

Kanti Srikanth, the TPB’s staff director, explained, “This plan serves at the policy level to help identify where the gaps are, where the focus should be. For example, the plan shows that to realize all of the improvements that have been planned in the region, we would need to increase our investment from about 2 percent of all spending to 6 percent.”

Board member Jay Fisette, who represents Arlington County, emphasized the need to focus on key regional projects. “I think we should be looking for the key projects, those that actually provide some increased interconnectivity,

for example, and that have benefit across borders,” he said.

Allison Davis, who was representing WMATA at the December 17 meeting, urged staff and the subcommittee that worked on the plan to incorporate some of the key unfunded bicycle and pedestrian projects in a larger list of unfunded highway and transit projects that staff will be developing early in 2015.

The TPB is scheduled to consider the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for final approval at its January 21 meeting. ♦

TPB APPOINTS OFFICERS FOR 2015



**2015 TPB
Chair**

Phil Mendelson,
District of
Columbia



**2015 TPB
First Vice-
Chair**

Timothy Lovain,
City of
Alexandria



**2015 TPB
Second Vice-
Chair**

Bridget
Donnell
Newton,
City of
Rockville

At its December 17 meeting, the TPB unanimously approved its new officers for 2015. Phil Mendelson, from the District of Columbia, will serve as TPB Chair. Mendelson will be joined by Timothy Lovain, from Alexandria, who will serve as the First Vice-Chair, and by Bridget Donnell Newton, of Rockville, who will serve as Second Vice-Chair.

The 2015 officers were recommended by a Nominating

Committee comprised of former TPB chairs Scott York and Todd Turner, and by Sam Zimbabwe. The TPB officers will serve a year-long term, which begins in January and ends in December.

Outgoing TPB officers are Chair Patrick Wojahn, from College Park, and Vice-Chair Tommy Wells, from the District of Columbia. Wojahn will continue to serve on the TPB. ♦

TPB RECONSTITUTES REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

The TPB's Regional Bus Subcommittee has been reconstituted as the Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee, expanding its membership to include representatives from all public transportation agencies and providers in the region, as well as human services and private transportation providers.

TPB staff briefed the Board on the changes to the subcommittee on December 17. The staff briefing also included details about the reconstituted subcommittee's new mission statement and planned activities.

Among the planned activities are developing MAP-21 performance targets for safety and state of good repair, increasing public transportation providers' participation in TPB activities, and addressing providers' issues and interests.

The changes to the subcommittee come in response to

new MAP-21 requirements for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), such as the TPB, released by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) earlier this year. The MAP-21 requirement is that public transportation providers must be represented on the policy boards of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). The TPB already meets that requirement, but the new subcommittee enhances the existing process used to identify, discuss, and coordinate action on issues affecting providers of public transportation.

In addition to requiring public transportation representation on MPO policy boards, the MAP-21 requirement also says that the MPOs must coordinate with providers of public transportation on establishing performance targets related to safety and state of good repair, and that MPOs must demonstrate progress in meeting those targets. The first meeting of the TPB's Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee will be January 27, 2015. ♦

BOARD RECOGNIZES CLI GRADUATES

(Continued from page 1)

Kathy Porter, who moderated the recent CLI, also spoke. She said that the CLI is, “one of the most important things that the TPB does,” because it is both an effective way to engage the public and it also helps to create a knowledgeable, constituency who understand the regional perspective on transportation planning. Porter is a former TPB member and current member of the WMATA Board.

Nearly two-dozen community leaders from the Washington region participated in the most recent CLI. Among them were elected members of local advisory boards, staff of local governments and elected officials, representatives of business and advocacy organizations, and graduate students from area universities.

Participants engaged in experiential learning activities and reflection to share ideas and build a greater understanding of regional transportation issues. Presentations from TPB staff and discussions with Wojahn and TPB Vice-Chair Timothy Lovain empha-

sized the crucial link between transportation and land use. They also highlighted the challenges the region may face as it plans to accommodate future growth.

Recent CLI graduate Alex Tremble also spoke at the December TPB meeting. He said he was impressed by the diversity of perspectives shared during CLI, and that activities helped open his eyes to how he can get involved in his community.



Several recent CLI graduates receive a certificate of recognition from TPB Chair Patrick Wojahn.

The next CLI will take place in Spring 2015. For more about the Community Leadership Institute, visit: www.mwcog.org/CLI ♦

TPB Acronyms

AFA	Access for All Advisory Committee	FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee	MDOT	Maryland Department of Transportation
CLRP	Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan	TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments	VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
DDOT	District Department of Transportation	WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GOALS, WORKING GROUP

(Continued from page 1)

in each of the four sectors, quantify benefits, costs, and implementation timeframes, and jointly develop an action plan for the region. The group will also explore specific greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, measures, and/or targets, along with reductions in other air pollutants as a co-benefit, for the four sectors.

The TPB was originally briefed on the creation of the working group at its November 2014 meeting, following discussions and an official request from two other COG committees—the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC).

OTHER DECEMBER AGENDA ITEMS

The TPB's December 17 meeting also included the following item:

- Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to Revise the Budget and Work Elements ♦

UPCOMING JANUARY AGENDA ITEMS

The January TPB meeting is expected to include the following items:

- Approval of Funding and Transmittal Letter for TPB's 2015 Membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Approval of Appointments to the TPB Citizens Advisory Committee for the Year 2015
- Approval of the Update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region
- Approval of the CY 2014 Projects Funded by the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program
- Briefing on Project Submissions for the 2015 CLRP Update
- Briefing on Draft Scope of Work for the Air Quality Conformity Assessment for the 2015 CLRP and the FY 2015-2020 TIP
- Review of Outline and Preliminary Budget for the FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) ♦

In 2010 the TPB conducted a study, called "What Would it Take?", that examined the types of projects that would be needed to achieve the regional greenhouse reduction goals within the transportation sector alone. The working group being convened by COG now includes participation by MWAQC and will examine greenhouse reduction strategies in all sectors, not just transportation.

At the November meeting, COG Deputy Director Stuart Freudberg told Board members that the joint working group is expected to begin its work in January 2015. An interim report is anticipated by September 30. ♦

WOJAHN RECOGNIZES OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

During the December TPB meeting, Chair Patrick Wojahn took a moment to recognize the elected officials that serve on the TPB that will not return for 2015.

District of Columbia

Tommy Wells
Muriel Bowser

Maryland

Paul Smith, Frederick County
Derrick Davis, Prince George's County
Jennie Forehand, Maryland Senate
Galen Claggett, Maryland House of Delegates

Virginia

Barbara Comstock, Virginia House

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are at COG unless otherwise indicated. If you are in need of special assistance to participate in meetings, please call (202) 962-3315 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Bicycle racks are located in the parking garage at 777 North Capitol St., NE (Enter from First St., NE).

January 2015

- 6 Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Technical Subcommittee (12:30 pm)
- 9 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 9 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 14 Bike to Work Day Steering Committee (10 am)
- 15 Citizens Advisory Committee (6pm)
- 20 Employer Outreach Committee (10 am)
- 20 Commuter Connections Subcommittee (noon)
- 20 Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 21 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 22 Aviation Technical Subcommittee (10:30 am)
- 23 Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 27 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)
- 29 Access for All Advisory Committee (noon)

February 2015

- 5 Freight Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 6 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 6 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 12 Vehicle Probe Data Users Group Meeting (1 pm)
- 12 Citizens Advisory Committee (6pm)
- 18 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 19 Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force (noon)
- 24 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)
- 25 Regional Taxicab Regulators (1 pm)

March 2015

- 6 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 6 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 11 Bike to Work Day Steering Committee (10 am)
- 11 Car Free Day Steering Committee (11:30 am)
- 12 Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force (12:30 pm)
- 13 Citizens Advisory Committee (6pm)
- 17 Commuter Connections Ridematching Committee (10 am)
- 17 Commuter Connections Subcommittee (noon)
- 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 17 Regional TDM Marketing Group Meeting (2 pm)
- 18 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 20 Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 24 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)
- 26 Aviation Technical Subcommittee (10:30 am)

Dates and times subject to change.

Please visit our website at

www.mwcog.org

for up-to-date information.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Bryan Hayes at (202) 962-3273 or bhayes@mwkog.org, or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Please allow seven working days for preparation of material.

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