

EMPLOYER OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Notes from the January 19, 2021 meeting

AGENDA ITEM 1 - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting began with self-introductions of those in attendance. (See attached list)

AGENDA ITEM 2 – REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING (10/20/20) NOTES

The Committee reviewed and approved the meeting notes as presented.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – FINAL FIRST QUARTER OF FY 2021 AND DRAFT SECOND QUARTER 2021 CONFORMITY VERIFICATION STATEMENTS

Mark Hersey, COG/TPB staff, distributed and reviewed the final first Quarter FY 2021 and the draft second Quarter FY 2021 conformity verification statements.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – COMMUTER SURVEY APPLICATION UPDATE

Nat Grier and Dan Wheeler of VHB presented the latest updates for the commuter survey database application. A new feature is the express excel export. There has been significant data clean-up of the jurisdictional surveys to ensure compatibility.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – SECOND CAPITAL COVID RETURN TO WORK SURVEY RESULTS

Representatives from the Greater Washington Partnership presented their second survey results to the committee. The survey was conducted from November 11, 2020 to December 11, 2020. There were 172 employer responses representing 139,000 employees in the region. There is a strong interest in returning to the office and with vaccines becoming more available there is extra incentive for some employers to re-open. Telework is considered to be now a permanent fixture in employee commute benefits, however, transit use confidence has been growing as opposed to the previous survey. Eight of ten employers are not planning to make changes to their office locations and/or size of their office spaces.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – MOOVIT

Michael Funaro of Moovit presented their company's application for real-time transit and monitoring how riders' behavior and how they're working to use transit. Moovit was founded in 2012 as a mobility app for smart phones. The app's features are based on offering riders a true MaaS experience with an on-demand tracker. It provides first mile/last mile options with transit options for commuters. Committee members were encouraged to reach out to COG/TPB staff for further discussions with Moovit on potential solutions that could be explored for their respective employers with local transit operators.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – DMV FLEXIBLE WORK AND RECOVERY AGREEMENT

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD, 777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E., SUITE 300,
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239

THE COMMUTER INFORMATION SOURCE FOR MARYLAND, VIRGINIA AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Geoffrey King of Connected DMV presented to the group the effort to have employers pledge that their flexwork commuting benefits programs continue and also expand options. A two part approach for the pledge by employers in the agreement is to promote economic recovery and social equity. Connected DMV is very encouraged by the responses from the region's employers and asked for the outreach members for their input and assistance in getting the word out about the pledge. Several committee members mentioned that participation in setting up programs or expanding current transportation benefit options has been challenging. The Commuter Connections Flexwork agreement is working in tandem with the DMV's pledge.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – EMPLOYER ROUNDTABLE

Douglas Franklin, COG/TPB staff, informed the committee of the employer awards nomination deadline of January 29 for the June 2021 recognition awards. An email blast was sent in mid-December and a reminder email will be sent out on January 25. The date of the ceremony is June 29th.

George Clark of Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland told the committee about recent efforts working the local chambers of commerce with presentations and a 30 second TV ad on Commute with Confidence.

Brandan Stuckey of Bethesda Transportation Solutions spoke of the virtual information room for the Montgomery County's climate action plan.

Mark Sofman of Montgomery County informed the committee of the recent webinars for employers on flexwork/telework/back to the office.

Paul Gatons of Montgomery County told the committee of the County's accessibility for all program focusing on handicapped commuters.

Stacey King of Prince George's County mentioned the new transit routes available that target employer worksites.

Christie Holland of the City of Alexandria informed the committee of the new email marketing effort to employers and maintaining contact with current clients.

Marie Cox of Arlington Transportation Partners updated the committee on the champions recognition program with 188 employers being invited from Arlington County.

Nicholas Robb of Fairfax County mentioned the upcoming Best Workplaces for Commuters awards event set for mid-February. There are six awardees.

Judy Galen of Loudoun County informed the committee on the latest efforts to work with the local SHRM chapters and partnering with Fairfax on the Best Workplaces for Commuters program.

Holly Morello of PRTC mentioned the efforts working with the local chambers of commerce in Prince William. There is also an upcoming presentation in February at the Prince William business awards event on the TDM future of region.

Antoinette Rucker of WMATA mentioned the testing of the new Smartpay app with Android phones.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – OTHER BUSINESS

Nicholas Ramfos, COG/TPB staff mentioned that the employer data from the FY2018 – FY 2020 regional TDM Evaluation Analysis Report is available upon request. Those interested should contact Mark Hersey.

The next Employer Outreach Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.