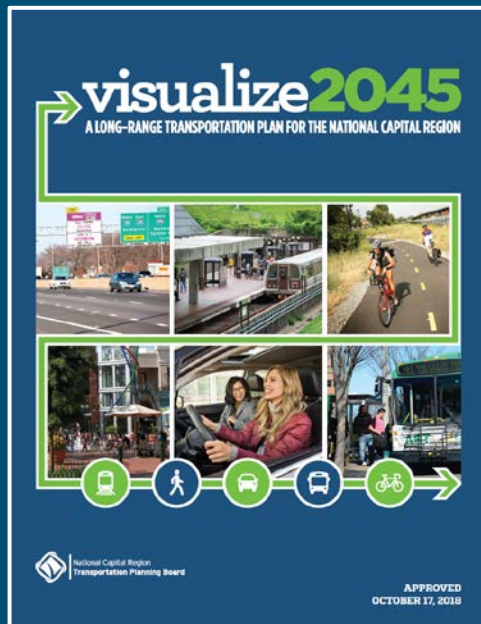


Implementation of the TPB's Long Range Plan: Visualize 2045



TPB Technical Committee
May 1, 2020
Agenda Item 7

visualize2045

A LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Presentation Overview

1. TPB staff site visit meeting series overview & objectives
2. Common discussion themes from the site visits – what we heard from you
3. Staff recommendations – how can we help?
4. Discussion
5. Next steps



1. Site Visit Meetings Overview & Objectives

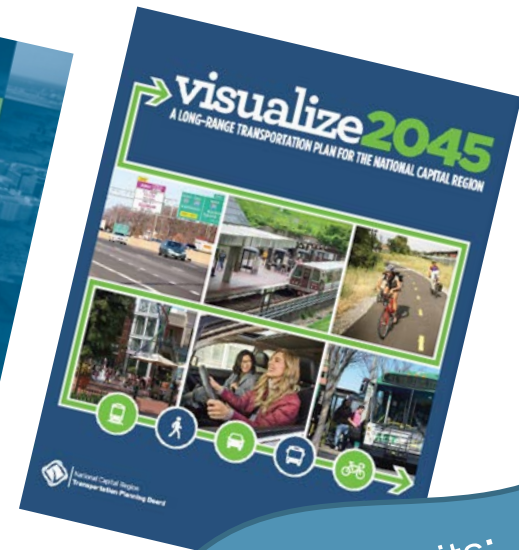
Meeting Objectives:

- Provide overview of the MPO function and role
- Review TPB Policy Framework and discuss common priorities
- Prepare together for the 2022 long-range plan update:
 - Identify and discuss opportunities for advancing TPB member jurisdiction projects, programs and policies that align with TPB policies and priorities
 - Discuss how TPB can support its members
 - Share information about recent TPB activities that support implementation



TPB's Policy Framework

Think Regionally, Act Locally: *Local decision-making process to consider regional needs.*



and its:
Aspirational Initiatives



2. TPB's Site Visits – Common Discussion Themes

- Transportation and Land Use
- BRT/Transitways/Cost Effective Transit
- Improve Bike/Walk Connectivity and Transit Access
- Congestion Reduction: Express Lanes and Telecommuting
- Safety and Quality of Life
- Communications Needs
- Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV)



Common Themes:

Land Use and Transportation Coordination

- Land use and transportation coordination is a priority for TPB member agencies:
 - Transit-oriented development
 - Small/sub area plans
 - New housing types that are mixed office and residential
- Rethinking parking requirements/housing affordability impacts
- Identified a need to coordinate timing for transportation and land use changes to minimize congestion and increase safety/modal options
- Neighborhood concerns over change



Common Themes: Expand BRT, Transitways & Other Cost-Effective Transit


- Broad support for continued investment in Metrorail
- Looking for ways to quickly and cost-effectively move existing bus services faster and more reliably
- BRT-type services and bus transit signal prioritization
- Feasibility studies and implementation
- Interest in bus on shoulder or express buses on highways
- Micro-transit connections to replace low-rider routes/hours



Common Themes: Expand BRT, Transitways & Other Cost-Effective Transit (cont.)

- Challenges with concerns of reducing auto travel lanes or parking, other community changes
- Need to 'make the case' to public and raise awareness of enhanced features and options
- Regional coordination is necessary for corridors that serve multiple jurisdictions
- May be opportunity to make better use of existing systems
- Scenario planning studies for future transit/land use



An aerial photograph of a city street scene, showing a sidewalk, a road with cars, and a building with a 'STAPLES' sign. A large blue semi-transparent rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text. The text is a title and a list of bullet points. The background image shows a busy urban environment with pedestrians, a cyclist, and a yellow canopy.

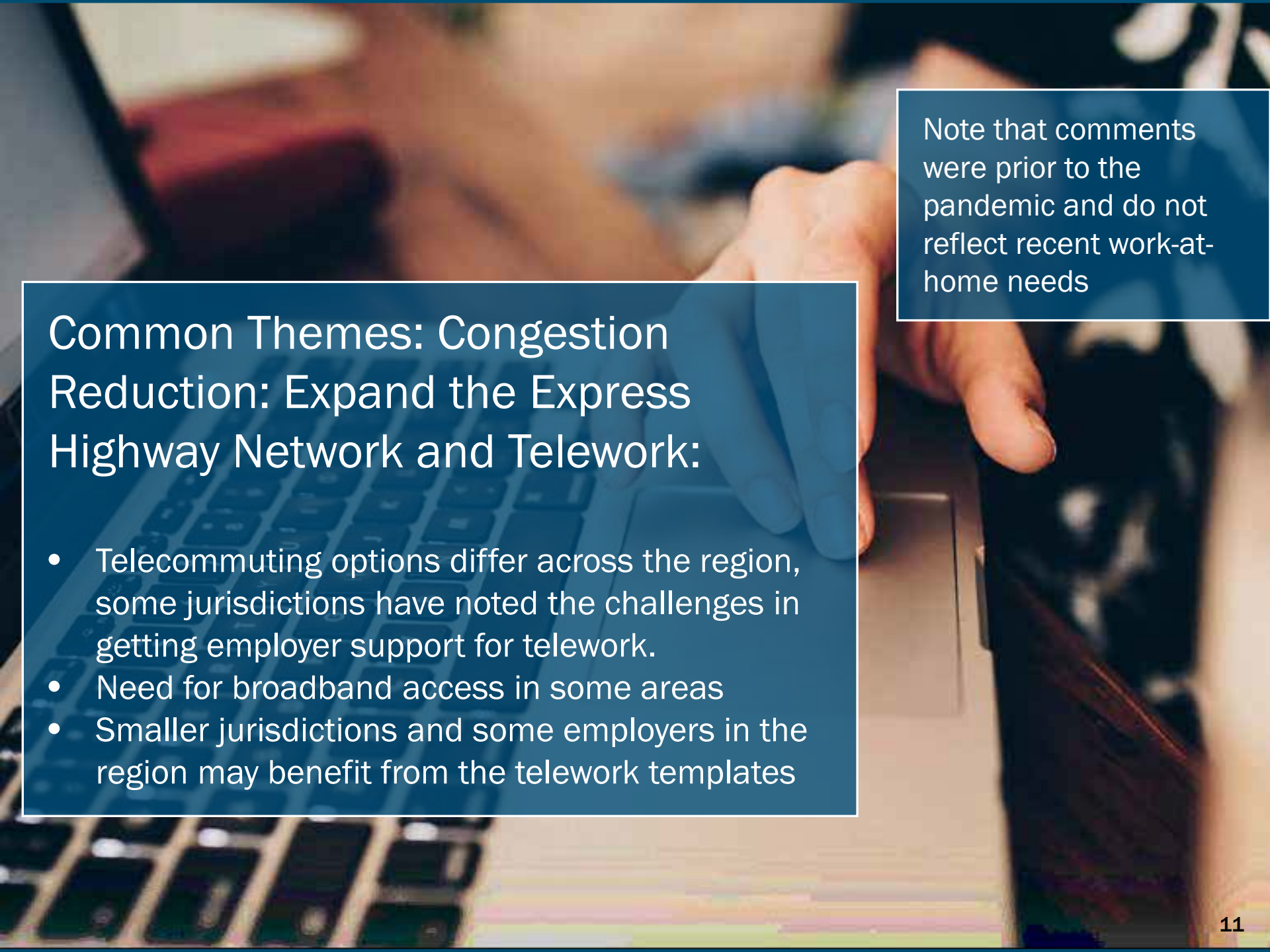
Common Themes: Improve Bike/Walk Connectivity and Transit Access

- Through small area plans, inner and outer suburbs are focusing on internal circulation and transit-oriented developments near commuter rail or new Metro stations.
- Safety and placemaking are priorities.
- Access to transit, internal circulation, and regional connections are three areas of focus.
- Member agencies are investing in transit-oriented development and bicycle and pedestrian improvements that provide access to Metro
- Member agencies are supportive of the National Capital Trail Network concept and are investing in trail links that connect to a larger network, that provide circulation and that connect to transit.

Common Themes: Congestion Reduction: Expand the Express Highway Network and Telework

- Virginia jurisdictions noted the success of the Express Lane model and noted that carpool/vanpool ride free and transit on Express Lanes is widely supported, this requires public and political will
- Member agencies noted numerous opportunities and regional benefits that might be achieved if commuter/express buses were able to move at 45 miles per hour down the Maryland express lanes that are being planned





Common Themes: Congestion Reduction: Expand the Express Highway Network and Telework:

- Telecommuting options differ across the region, some jurisdictions have noted the challenges in getting employer support for telework.
- Need for broadband access in some areas
- Smaller jurisdictions and some employers in the region may benefit from the telework templates

Note that comments were prior to the pandemic and do not reflect recent work-at-home needs

Common Themes: Safety and Quality of Life

- The issue of safety is increasingly prominent across the region. Many local jurisdictions have endorsed Vision Zero, and are seeking to advance policies, programs, and projects that increase safety.
- Member agencies noted that through-traffic is a challenge to the quality of life and that they are placing emphasis not on moving cars but on moving people.
- Many smaller jurisdictions find that they have a lot of cost/other burdens to bear to address the impacts of through-traffic.

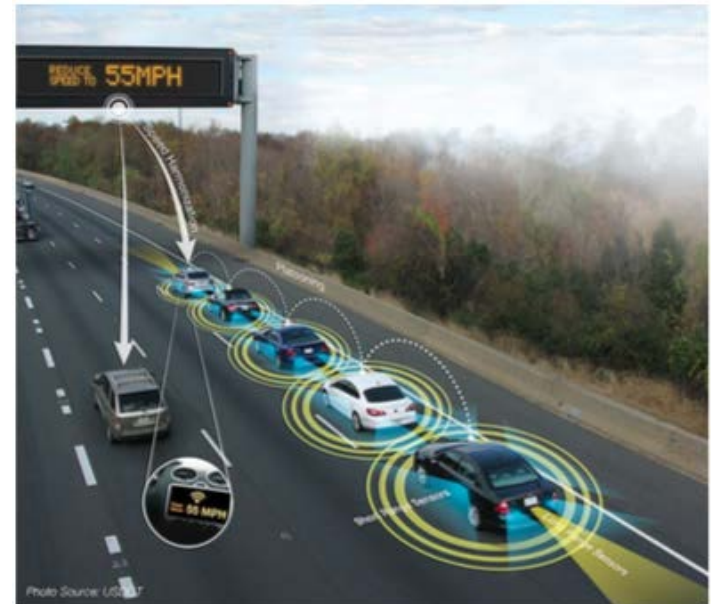


- Some jurisdictions are still needing to ‘make the case’ for maintenance of the existing transportation system



Common Themes: Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV)

- Member jurisdictions expressed an interest in or outlined their participation in CAV pilots, studies and discussions
- Some member agencies expressed a need for further technology and procurement coordination for any new investments related to CAV
- Member agencies also recognized the need for interjurisdictional coordination regarding data and the 'connected' aspect of CAV



Common Themes: Communication

- Member agencies asked if TPB might be able to help make the regional connection to the projects, programs and policies in the in the local jurisdictions and how they address regional issues
- Need for better tools for communicating about local actions and regional priorities/issues/challenges
- Member jurisdictions are using social media to communicate, and that there is less need for paper products and brochures



4. How can TPB help?

- TPB staff have considered the common themes from the TPB staff site visits
- TPB staff have suggested potential opportunities to enhance the staff work program, and other ways that TPB and its staff might be able to support its members.



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Communications

- Include an implementation section in the 2022 LRP about the Aspirational Initiatives
- Develop a biennial LRP implementation update (document or website)
- Develop communications materials that TPB and its member agencies could use that speak to regional transportation goals and issues. (*Underway as of February 2020*).
- Lead a social media campaign to raise awareness about the successes and value that local projects bring to the region.



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Communications

- Give awards to recognize projects for the best realization of TPB's adopted principles
- Provide a presentation once a year or more (at Tech and via webinar) about TPB resources to support our members (technical assistance, data, subcommittees)
- Provide flyer with information about TPB resources to support our members (such as TLC and UPWP technical assistance, TPB data clearing house, subcommittees)



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Coordination

- Conduct more visits to implementation projects in the field, possibly through subcommittees
- Provide a forum for small, outer suburb or other 'like' jurisdictions meet once a quarter to discuss common challenges/opportunities or that TPB arrange for 'matchmaking' between two comparable jurisdictions
- Identify major corridors that serve multiple jurisdictions and serve as a forum for coordination of transportation policies/services along those corridors
- Create a Covid-19 recovery coordination task force for transit



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Data

- To support TPB member agencies' origin/destination analysis, communicate results of the TPB Big Data study as to what types of data might support TPB member agencies in planning BRT/transitways and other transit projects
- Improve coordination through data: explore ways to strengthen transit data sharing at the local/regional level to gain insights on operational experiences of transit that could improve regional planning.



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Technical Assistance/Studies/Analysis*

- Encourage technical assistance requests for studies of BRT/transitways, and for studies of corridors that cross jurisdictions

** Requests for TPB UPWP Technical Assistance should demonstrate that they are of value to more than one member of the region, should help advance a project or program in the region, and should advance regional priorities.*



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Technical Assistance/Studies/Analysis* (cont.)

A few examples of study ideas brought up by TPB member agencies include the following:

- Conduct a study to identify opportunities related to reverse commutes.
- Conduct research that presents examples of Bus Transit Signal Priority (TSP) applications, benefits, and challenges. Develop regional guidelines to encourage consistency of operations in the region for topics such as boarding, turning, off-board fares payment, and enforcement.
- Conduct analysis to identify areas throughout the region where transit experiences significant delay and to identify key areas throughout the region where TSP (or BRT) could greatly improve speed/time/service for disadvantaged communities.



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Technical Assistance/Studies/Analysis* (cont.)

Further examples of study ideas brought up by TPB member agencies include the following:

- Conduct a traffic signal inventory, which could benefit procurement coordination, transit operations (TSP) and potentially help prep for CAV.
- Conduct a parking requirements /right sized parking study for the region using typologies.
- Conduct research as to the mode share/switch for activity centers and other areas with a high amount of transportation options.



Staff Ideas for Potential Activities

Information Exchange

- Conduct workshops/webinars about best local and peer practices for topics. A few examples of study ideas brought up by TPB member agencies included:
 - bike facility implementation and maintenance
 - BRT/transitways implementation
 - bus prioritization and quick/low cost improvements for buses
 - curb space management (note TPB is planning such as workshop)
 - transportation impact analysis
 - communication tools for connecting with the public about transportation topics



Next Steps

- TPB Technical Committee feedback on TPB staff recommendations
- Ongoing TPB staff discussions to advance the most feasible/desired ideas within resources
- Share prioritized actions with the Board



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