



# NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

### Meeting Notes

#### MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (MOITS) TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 29, 2014 – **Rescheduled Date As Previously Announced**

**TIME:** 12:30 PM

**PLACE:** COG, First Floor, Meeting Rooms 4/5

**CHAIR:** Jean Yves Point-du-Jour, Maryland State Highway Administration

#### **Attendance:**

Jose Dory – M-NCPPC Montgomery County (phone)  
Warren Henry – Jacobs Engineering/SHA  
Keith Jasper – NVTA  
Greg Jordan – Skycomp, Inc.  
Will Kasper – Skycomp, Inc.  
Deborah Matherly – Louis Berger  
Amy Tang McElwain – VDOT  
Jean Yves Point-du-Jour – SHA  
Robert Winick – Motion Maps, LLC

#### COG Staff:

Amanda Campbell – DEP  
Maia Davis – DEP  
Andrew Meese – DTP  
Erin Morrow – DTP  
Wenjing Pu – DTP  
Jon Schermann – DTP  
Daivamani Sivasailam – DTP  
Marco Trigueros – DTP

#### 1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Notes**

Participants introduced themselves. There were no comments on the meeting notes from the previous meeting.

2. **Presentation on the National Cooperative Highway Research Program Study “Regional Transportation Planning for Disasters, Emergencies and Significant Events”**  
Deborah Matherly, Louis Berger

Ms. Matherly, principal investigator, briefed MOITS on this NCHRP study, spoke on principles for planning for emergencies, and making use of examples and case studies to illustrate successful application of these principles. The objective of the research is to develop a guide to coordinate across different agencies and levels of government. The focus was on positive examples of where this type of planning is working – where people are working across boundaries and breaking down silos.

Examples of success stories highlight those agencies that have set up a unique framework of multi-jurisdictional cooperation, identifying interdependencies across different systems; building a case for a joint solution to a common problem; in terms of informative planning, RITIS was highlighted as a good example. Coordinated planning for planned events sets the stage for coordination during emergencies, and good examples in the region include planning for 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities or Presidential Inauguration.

The principles state that a plan should be coordinated, inclusive, exercised, flexible, and continuous.

Multi-jurisdictional planning is happening, including in the DC area, though there may also be some areas of improvement as well.

In response to a question regarding the origin of the collaborative planning, is it project-specific or process oriented, Ms. Matherly noted that the goal is to evaluate the processes but that it can begin as a response to specific problems.

In response to a question regarding resource constraints, especially among smaller jurisdictions, Ms. Matherly noted that in these cases, collaboration and cooperation becomes particularly helpful so that resources can be combined; for example, finding multiple stakeholders who can benefit from a project to pool resources as was done between Hoboken and New Jersey Transit.

Mr. Meese asked that Ms. Matherly present in the future to the MOITS and RESF-1 participants who were unable to attend today’s meeting.

3. **Update on Spring 2014 Freeway Congestion Monitoring Using Aerial Surveying**  
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/TPB Staff  
Greg Jordan, Skycomp, Inc.

Mr. Jordan gave an overview the Time Lapse Aerial Photography (TLAP) program and what can be expected from COG’s 1-second TLAP pilot program. The program uses helicopters to take photographs of an area over time. Photographs are snapped once per second to observe driver behavior and congestion. Origin-destination studies are possible where individual vehicles are tracked to determine where they are coming from or going to. For the COG pilot project, aerial photography could be used to calibrate the transportation model. Staff will pick 6 to 9 congested areas in the region and have 15 minutes of photographs done to sample the data that this tool could provide.

4. **Announcement of the Finalized 2014 Congestion Management Process (CMP) Technical Report and Presentation of the Draft National Capital Region Congestion Report for Traffic Conditions in the 1st Quarter, 2014**  
Wenjing Pu, COG/TPB Staff

Mr. Pu noted that the 2014 CMP Technical Report was finalized at the June 27 TPB Technical Committee meeting and has been posted at [www.mwcog.org/cmp](http://www.mwcog.org/cmp).

Mr. Pu went over the Congestion Report for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2014. The Top 10 bottlenecks are listed and compared to their ranking in the previous quarterly report. The spotlight focused on the impact of the cold weather on congestion along freeways and arterials. Once finalized, the report will be posted at [www.mwcog.org/congestion](http://www.mwcog.org/congestion).

It was suggested the scale of the congestion maps be changed to provide more clarity – similar to the map on page 3. Staff will evaluate the request to determine whether this is feasible.

Ms. McElwain suggested looking at before and after for the I-495 express lanes. Mr. Pu noted that Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation produced a before and after program that found that volumes and speeds have gone up in the section of the Beltway with no noticeable impact to the arterials, and the increased volumes have affected congestion in Maryland.

To a question the directionality of the bottlenecks, Mr. Pu clarified that the bottlenecks are directional and represent all occurrences during the three month period, not specific to AM or PM peak. The group discussed the benefits and drawbacks of counting congestion along the peak direction of a facility even if this means adding the bottlenecks on opposite directions at different times of the day. Consideration will be taken into account but is not currently the focus of this report.

5. **Update on Vehicle Probe Data Activities** – Wenjing Pu, COG/TPB Staff

Mr. Meese gave a summary of the recompetition process for vehicle probe data for the VPP Suite. Virginia is currently weighing the decision to purchase additional probe data from INRIX, Here, or TomTom. Maryland is looking to order data from all three providers for a period of time to evaluate the benefits of each.

Mr. Jordan noted that Skycomp can provide a method to evaluate each of the three data sources against existing conditions as captured with aerial photography.

Mr. Pu announced that the new VPP Users Group will be scheduled for early October. Membership will be prioritized for member jurisdictions.

6. **Regional Emergency Support Function #1 (RESF-1) Emergency Transportation Committee Update** – Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/TPB Staff

Mr. Sivasailam noted RESF-1 has been busy organizing the evacuation tabletop exercise scheduled to take place August 21. Staff also convened a meeting with the participants of the UASI power backup grant.

7. **Update on Traffic Signals-Related Activities** – Marco Trigueros, COG/TPB Staff

The subcommittee was briefed on the recent traffic signals-related activities. The subcommittee has shown interest in having a regional traffic signals forum this upcoming spring to discuss regional policies and emerging technologies. The group suggested several topics for inclusion in the forum: 2070 controller upgrade benefits; adaptive traffic control study by Virginia; on-street running of transit; backplate technology; alternative power source for signal operations (not just during emergencies). The group noted that ITS Virginia has a springtime date so as to not have a conflict.

8. **Brief Updates**

a. **Proposed MAP-21 Regulations**

Mr. Meese noted that there has been an announced delay for the federal issuance of the system management performance measure rule.

b. **Regional ITS Architecture**

Mr. Sivasailam noted that Warren Henry has agreed to chair the subcommittee and it will meet after a hiatus. Ms. McElwain noted that the contact for VDOT will be Paul Szatkowski from the Richmond office.

c. **Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Activities**

Mr. Meese noted that there was an upcoming DDOT training on TIM, and he will report back to MOITS on any items of interest.

d. **Federal Section 1201/Real-Time System Management Information**

There was no update to present at this time on this item.

9. **Other Business**

Mr. Meese noted the naming of the training center in the honor of Ronald Kirby and the announcement of Kanti Srikanth as COG's Director of Transportation Planning.

10. **Adjourn**