

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202 TDD: (202) 962-3213

Meeting Notes

MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (MOITS) POLICY TASK FORCE AND MOITS TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 12, 2008

TIME: 12:30 PM

PLACE: COG, First Floor, Meeting Room 1

CHAIRS: Hon. David Snyder, City of Falls Church, Chair, Policy Task Force

Amy Tang McElwain, Virginia Department of Transportation, Chair,
Technical Subcommittee

VICE CHAIRS: Pete Buckley, Montgomery County Ride On
Yanlin Li, District of Columbia Department of Transportation
Mark Miller, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

ATTENDANCE:

Brien Benson, George Mason University
Tad Borkowski, Fairfax County DOT
Scott Cowherd, VDOT
Gary Euler, Telvent Farradyne, Inc.
Craig Franklin, Trichord, Inc.
Noah Goodall, PB
Al Himes, Alexandria Transit
Tom Jacobs, University of Maryland
Sean Kennedy, WMATA
Amy Tang McElwain, VDOT
Greg McFarland, NVTDC
Mark Miller, WMATA
Frank Mirack, FHWA
Michael Pack, University of Maryland CATT
Richard Steeg, VDOT
Jason Tao, DDOT
Phil Tarnoff, University of Maryland
Alex Verzosa, City of Fairfax

COG Staff Attendance:

Karin Foster
Andrew Meese
Melanie Wellman
Jim Yin

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1. Welcome and Review of Notes from the January 8, 2008 Meeting

Participants introduced themselves. Ms. McElwain made opening remarks, noting the active, energized discussions that MOITS had in years past, which she would like to bring back this group.

2. Discussion of MOITS 2008 Activities

Mr. Meese reviewed a number of topics noted on the agenda regarding potential MOITS 2008 activities, and welcomed suggestions of other potential activities.

- **Strategic Planning**

An effort years ago to develop an ITS Strategic Plan for the region was suspended when MOITS turned its attention to a number of post-9/11 emergency transportation-related focus areas, as well as a number of specific activities related to development of the MATOC Program. Now that the separate RESF-1 Committee is the focus of emergency transportation, and MATOC effort is underway, there is an opportunity to return to the topic of MOITS strategic planning as part of MOITS' role to advise the TPB and the region on technology and operations.

Ms. McElwain and others made comments in support of undertaking a new strategic planning effort.

Mr. Tarnoff recommended including a focus on performance measurement.

Mr. Steeg, with the support of others, recommended development of an inventory of projects as part of the effort.

Mr. Meese noted the need for cooperation by member agencies to provide information necessary to develop a regional strategic plan and inventory, which had been a challenge during the pre-9/11 strategic planning effort, but also agreed development of such an inventory would be helpful and that staff would look into it.

- **Identifying Regional Projects; Earmark Funding**

Ms. McElwain recommended that MOITS identify and recommend the next important regional MOITS projects, which might utilize earmark or other special funding. Mr. Meese noted the need to work with Mr. Snyder as the Chairman of MOITS Policy Task Force to help ensure policy-level buy-in of any recommendations developed. The Regional ITS Architecture could provide a framework for developing such project recommendations, such as through identification of regional gaps, as well as providing a source of project listings for a regional inventory. The Regional ITS Architecture Subcommittee also could help advise the effort. Mr. Jacobs recommended coordination of this with the MATOC Steering Committee, which may have a role in implementing future regional projects of this type.

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- **Survey of Participants**

Staff was continuing to develop a survey of MOITS participants, as recommended by the Subcommittee at the February meeting. The survey was anticipated to be distributed soon.

- **Coordination with Other Committees and Programs**

Ms. McElwain stated that coordination with other committees and program would continue.

- **Inventorying/Keeping Track of Jurisdictional Activities**

Participants noted some agency or jurisdictional activities.

- Ms. McElwain reported major activities in NOVA. NOVA created a telecommunication IP Ethernet network. NOVA would complete the ring soon and would migrate CCTV onto the ring. The next phase would be the migration of the DMS and detection devices and other ITS devices. NOVA has already moved to the Public Safety Transportation Operation Center (PSTOC) in Fairfax, co-located with Fairfax county police and fire; Virginia State Police will move to this PSTOC in late summer. The Smart Traffic Center was renamed to Traffic Management Center (TMC). Also TMC was to move to the PSTOC. New ATMS software was currently under development. A number of ITS planning activities were underway, such as master planning on DMS, CCTV, and detectors. NOVA just initiated several new ITS projects, such as Shoulder Traffic Management, Variable Speed Limits, and Queue Warning System.
- Mr. Tao of DDOT reported that DDOT finished the Concept of Operations of the CapTOP system. Currently, DDOT was in the second phase of DMS development which included 26 DMS signs. Ongoing projects included the implementation of a fiber communication network which would connect field devices and the TMC. Also, DDOT will install 100 traffic counter stations in DC.
- Mr. Tarnoff reported on behalf of Maryland activities. SHA has started the statewide 511 project. Also SHA has contracted to expand the CHART system. In response to a question, Mr. Tarnoff noted that the CHART long range plan included integration of the state's signal system into CHART.
- Mr. Miller of WMATA reported completion of the rail operations program. WMATA was in the process working with FTA on models of emergency management organization for transit agencies.

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- Mr. Himes of Alexandria Transit reported that DASH was working on their Real Time Transit Information System.
- Mr. Verzosa of the City of Fairfax reported that City was expanding the city fiber communication network and was working on their city bus real-time information system.

3. Update on the Congestion Management Process

Ms. Wellman spoke to the handout regarding the status of congestion management process. Ms. Wellman briefly reviewed the final federal metropolitan planning rule excepts addressing the Congestion Management Process (CMP), and the print-out of the CMP portions in the Web-based CLRP approved by the TPB on January 16, 2008.

Although MOITS personnel may not be involved in developing or submitting Constrained Long-Range Plan/Transportation Improvement Program (CLRP/TIP) paperwork, CMP documents related to this were presented for information, because some of the information involved operations management. A sample CMP document form for the CLRP/TIP was reviewed. CMP forms are required for single-occupant-vehicle (SOV) capacity-increasing projects being proposed for the CLRP/TIP. A generic information form had been developed at the recommendation of the Travel Management Subcommittee to aid agencies filling out the forms, especially since the programming personnel filling out the forms may not be familiar with operational management strategies that might have been considered or were being pursued in conjunction with or in the vicinity of the proposed SOV project. Ms. Wellman also briefed on another document being developed listing as a reference ongoing demand management and operations management activities. The example at this point only showed Maryland; similar information was also being developed for D.C. and Virginia.

4. Program Updates

- **Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program**

Mr. Meese reported that the last of the state funding authorizations was received on January 28, 2008 from MDOT, and thus enabled COG to enter the contract with contractor and begin work for the MATOC steering committee. A status briefing on the MATOC program was to be given to the TPB at its February 20, 2008 meeting.

- **Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS)**

Mr. Pack reported that the RITIS development team was working on the integrating system with VDOT, Maryland, and DDOT. RITIS continues receiving data from VDOT, including incident

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detector data, and data from CHART. Also, RITIS has now successfully received speed information data from DC. Progress was made on arranging to get incident data from DDOT and WMATA.

- **CapWIN**

Mr. Jacobs reported that there was an average of 500 mobile computers linked to the system. An average 60 incidents per day were created into the system.

- **Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) – 1 Committee**

There was no update at this time.

- **Traffic Signals Activities**

Mr. Yin reported the status of the traffic signal activities. The Traffic Signals Subcommittee met last month. Staff currently was collecting data from each jurisdiction about the signalized intersections to put intersection performance data such as Level of Services (LOS) on a regional GIS map. This was also part of the CMP process. In response to a question from Ms. McElwain regarding discussions within the signals subcommittee about next generation technology, Mr. Yin noted that the subcommittee has hosted vendor presentations on new technology and products.

- **Regional ITS Architecture**

Mr. Yin reported the updated the Regional ITS Architecture was undergoing final editing and improvements to the Regional ITS Architecture Web site. Ms. McElwain suggested that the ITS Architecture Subcommittee might look more at operation concepts for the region. Mr. Meese recommended this also be a focus of the main MOITS Technical Subcommittee, since most architecture subcommittee activities and discussions to date have been on describing the existing situation rather than recommending changes.

- **Traveler Information**

There was no update at this time.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.