

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: TPB Technical Committee

FROM: Eric Randall
Department of Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: Update on the Activities of the TPB Bus On Shoulder (BOS) Task Force

DATE: March 29, 2013

At the July 18, 2012 meeting of the Transportation Planning Board (TPB), it was requested that a task force be established to identify promising locations in the region to operate buses on the shoulders of highways. The proposed membership, work plan, and schedule were approved at the September 19 TPB meeting.

The first meeting of the BOS Task Force was held on October 17, 2012 and the second meeting on January 23, 2013. Meetings included presentations from VDOT, SHA, and TPB staff, followed by roundtable discussion of common issues in implementing BOS operations. Highlights of each meeting have been prepared. In addition, two technical memos have been completed; the first summarizes highlights of local and national experience with BOS, and the second reviews conditions on the three corridors selected for preliminary analysis. Study corridors include the MD 5/US 301 corridor in Prince George's and Charles Counties and the I-270 corridor from City of Frederick to the Capital Beltway, both in Maryland; and the I-66 Inside the Beltway Pilot Project taking place in Virginia.

All materials of the BOS Task Force are available online at: <http://www.mwcog.org/bostf>

Task Force Meeting #3

The third and final meeting of the BOS Task Force is scheduled for April 17, 2013, at 10:00 am in COG Meeting Rooms 4&5 (prior to TPB that day). The proposed agenda for the meeting includes:

- An update on VDOT's I-66 Inside the Beltway pilot project and steps to implementation.
- Additional information from SHA on the feasibility of BOS on the I-270 and MD-5/US-301 corridors.
- An overview of a planning-level BOS benefit-cost analysis model, with preliminary findings and sensitivity analysis results – also to be published in a technical memorandum.
- Discussion of preparation of final report.

As called for in the approved work plan for the task force, a final report summarizing findings from the technical memorandums and discussion from the three meetings will be completed in June.

At the April 17 TPB meeting, the Task Force Co-Chairs will update the Board on the results of the final meeting.