



Metropolitan Area Transportation
Operations Coordination

Item #14

Briefing on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program

Presentation to the Transportation Planning Board

Michael Zezeski
Maryland State Highway Administration
Chair, MATOC Steering Committee

November 17, 2010



"Working together to reduce incident-related travel delays through improved coordination, cooperation, and information-sharing."



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About MATOC

- Established in 2008, MATOC is a joint program of the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia DOTs and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)
 - Mission: regional situational awareness of transportation conditions and incidents
 - Goals: improve traveler safety and reduce transportation delays
- MATOC activities include:
 - Monitoring and communicating reliable information during major incidents
 - Enabling operating agencies and the traveling public to make effective, coordinated and timely decisions
 - Maintaining a web-based transportation information system
 - Facilitating standard operating procedures among transportation agencies



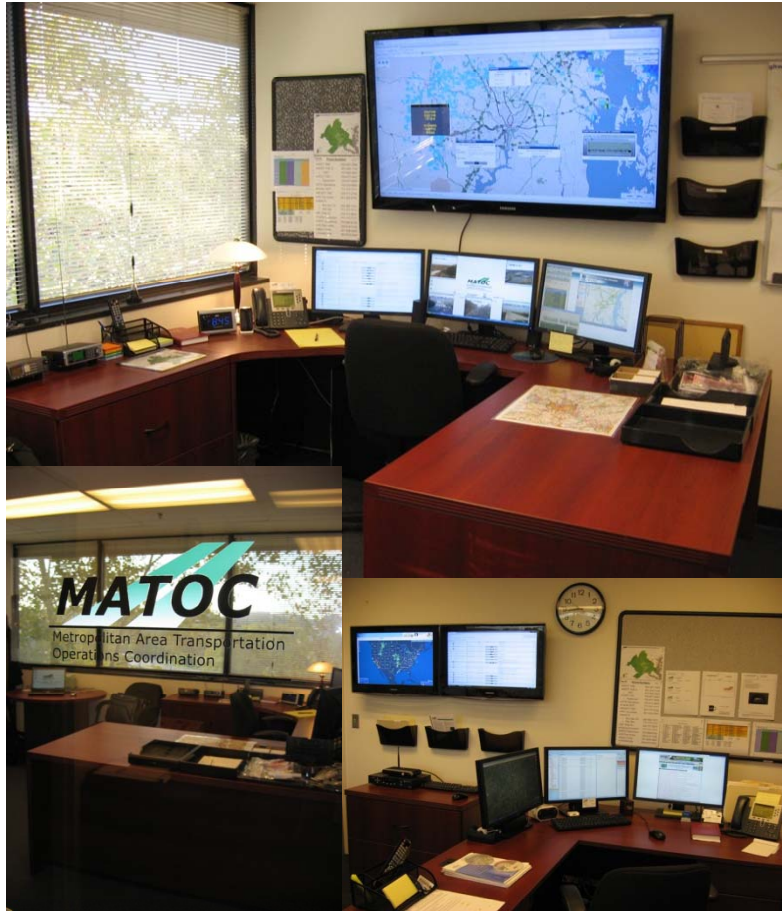
Organization and Funding

- University of Maryland is the organizational home of MATOC, collocated with the University's CapWIN program in Greenbelt
- FY2011 MATOC Work Plan approved by MATOC Steering Committee – work underway
- Funding: **\$1.24 million** committed for FY2011, sufficient to maintain MATOC core work program (changes vs. Sept. presentation noted in **bold**)
 - MD SHA - \$400,000 – flowing
 - DDOT - \$400,000 – agreement / contracting in process
 - VDOT/NVTA - **\$150,000** – **reflects additional \$50K commitment by VDOT**, agreement / contracting in process
 - FTA Earmark - \$200,000 – agreement / contracting in process
 - COG/TPB - \$90,000 – flowing



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MATOC Operations Floor (Collocated with CapWIN Offices)



Hours of Operation

- Monday-Friday
 - 4:30am-8:00pm
- After hours: On-Call Schedule

Staff

- 1 Facilitator, 2 Operators

Applications

- RITIS, CAPWIN, RICCS, WebEOC, VIPER, Trafficland, Google Maps/Earth

Monitor

- Public Safety & Media Scanners, Regional / Statewide Alerts, Commuter Bus & Rail Operations, weather



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Notifications and Coordination

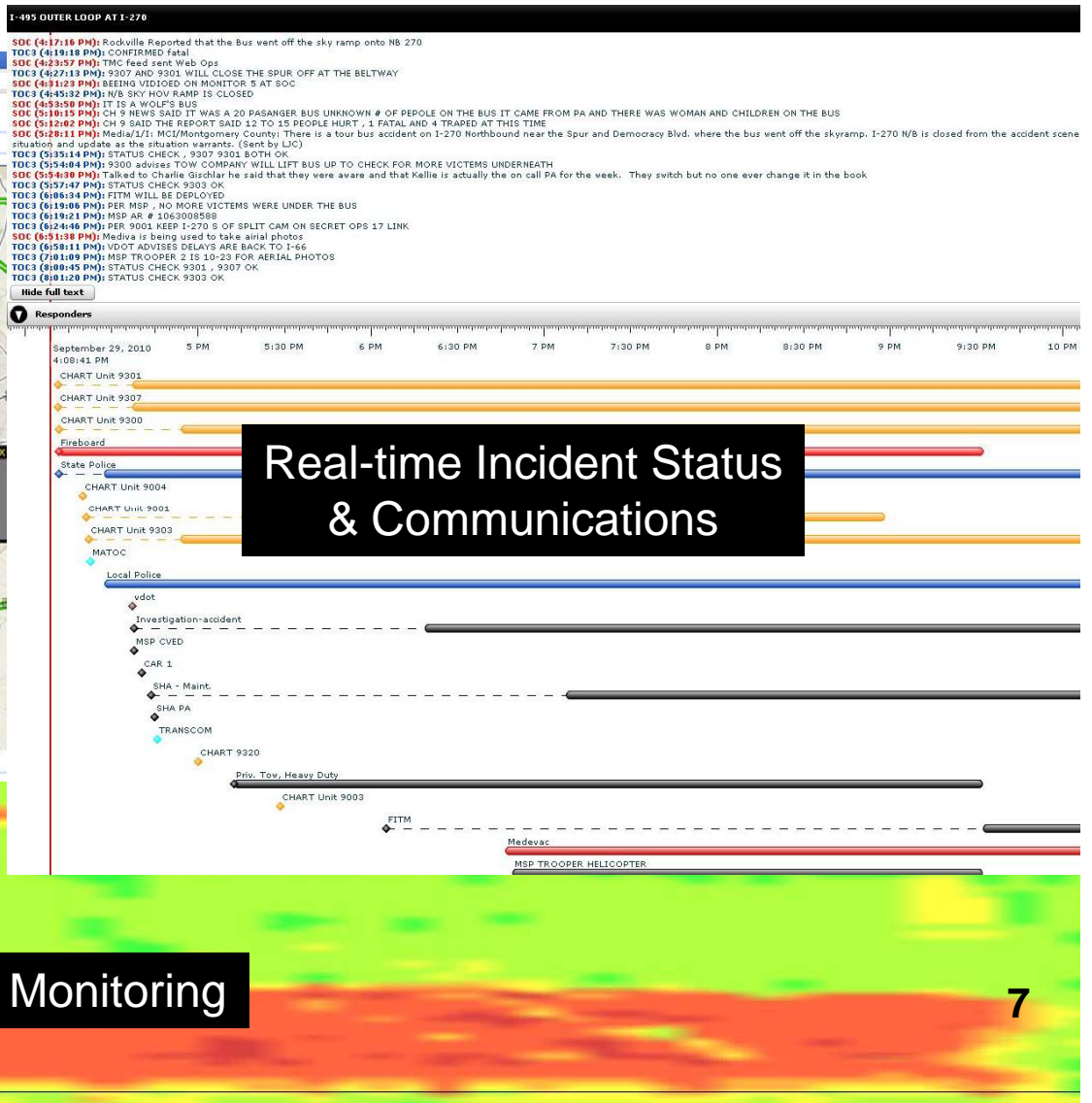
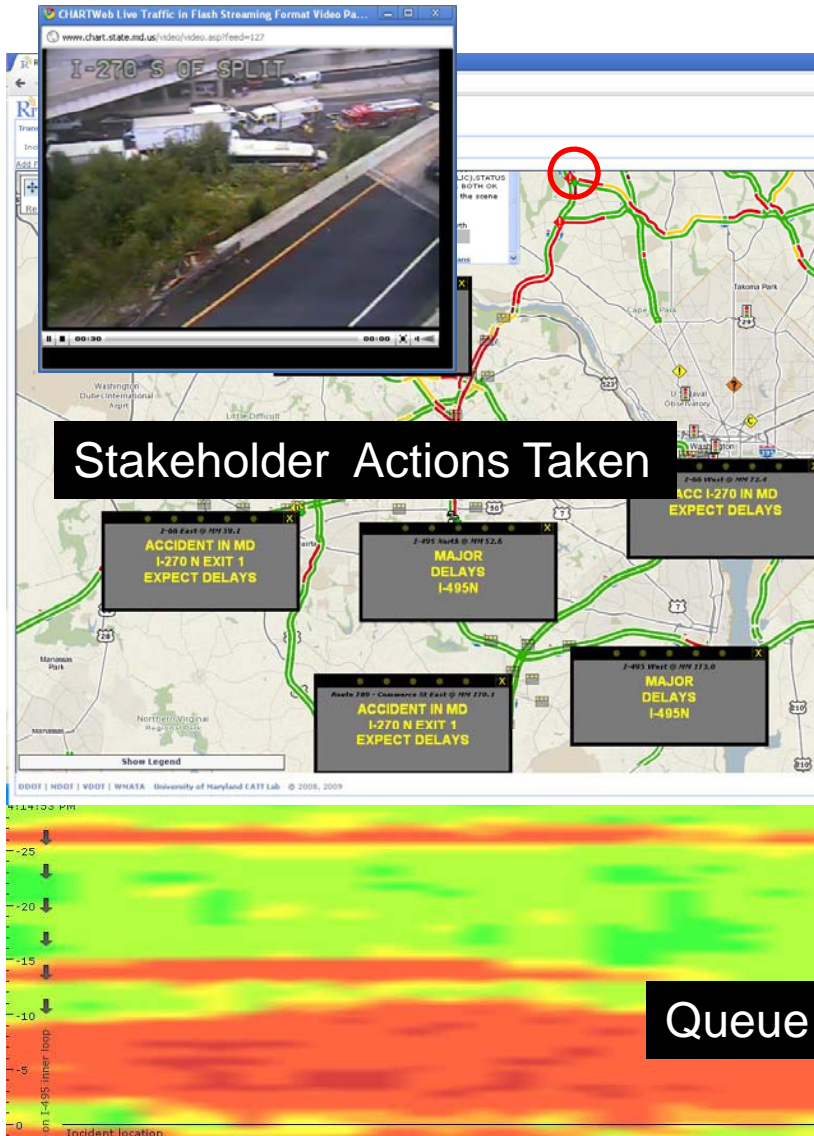
- MATOC Operations Staff is now providing incident notifications to more than 3 dozen traffic, transit, and public safety operations stakeholder agencies / offices
 - DDOT, MDOT, and VDOT operations
 - WMATA and local transit agencies
 - Police, homeland security, and emergency management agencies
- MATOC provided notifications for 58 incidents in October
 - Estimated \$1 million of delay reductions and other benefits regionally, benefit – cost ratio > 10:1
 - 70% of incidents on freeways, 30% on non-freeways (including transit)
 - The number of notifications has been increasing over time due to enhanced efforts and expanded hours

MATOC Involvement in Regional Coordination – Example Major Incidents

- Wednesday, September 29
 - Building fire, 16th St. NW in DC between Harvard St. and Park Rd., street blockage, bus and traffic detours (morning rush)
 - Charter bus crash (driver medical emergency), I-270 West Spur north of Democracy Blvd., Montgomery Co., extended road closure and backups (evening rush)
- Wednesday, October 13
 - Freight train stopped after pedestrian crash
 - Disruption of afternoon rush hour MARC Brunswick Line service, and blockage of Randolph Rd
- Major Rallies
 - Labor rally Saturday, October 2; Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear Saturday, October 30
 - MATOC staff on duty, monitored situation and made notifications as necessary, including on the key Metro parking facilities becoming full (October 30)
- In all cases, MATOC:
 - Sent out notifications to transportation agencies as soon as confirmed information was available regarding the incidents; monitored situations as they evolved
 - Provided ongoing incident update notifications regarding road closures, detours, transit impacts, or incident close-outs
 - Through its notifications, aided agency decision making on transportation management

Situational Awareness Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS)

September 29th I-270 Bus Accident





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MATOC Notifications

Situational Awareness Alert (Email)

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2010 4:21 PM
Subject: MATOC Situational Awareness Alert: Bus Accident - ROAD
CLOSED, I-270 Spur Northbound, north of Democracy Blvd,
Montgomery County, MD

MATOC Stakeholders,

For your situational awareness;

Location: I-270 Spur Northbound, (north of Democracy Blvd),
Montgomery County, MD

Incident: Bus Accident–Overturned with injuries, MAJOR ACCIDENT

An overturned bus has closed the I-270 Spur Northbound,
north of Democracy Blvd. I-495 Northbound traffic cannot
access I-270 Northbound. I-270 Southbound HOV lane is
partially blocked by emergency vehicles. Alternate routes are
advised, stay away from this area.

MATOC will update this incident as the situation changes.

Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2010 1:10 PM
Subject: MATOC Situational Awareness Report: Washington DC
Events for Saturday, October 30th.

MATOC Stakeholders,

For your situational awareness;

Location: Washington DC

Incident: Special Events for Saturday, October 30

UPDATE: 1:00PM
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- Incident at Martin Luther King Ave and Howard Road has cleared, roadway reopened.
- Chain Bridge is closed due to schedule construction, scheduled to reopen on Monday at 5am.

MARYLAND

- Metro Parking Lots at Greenbelt & New Carrollton are reported at capacity, traffic being turned away, stations remain open. SHA assisting with highway signage.

VIRGINIA

- Heavy Congestion, I-66 Eastbound, Exit 62, significant delays to exit onto Nutley Street towards Vienna Metro Station

MATOC will provide hourly updates until 6pm.





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MATOC Involvement

9/1/10 – Discovery Communications Incident

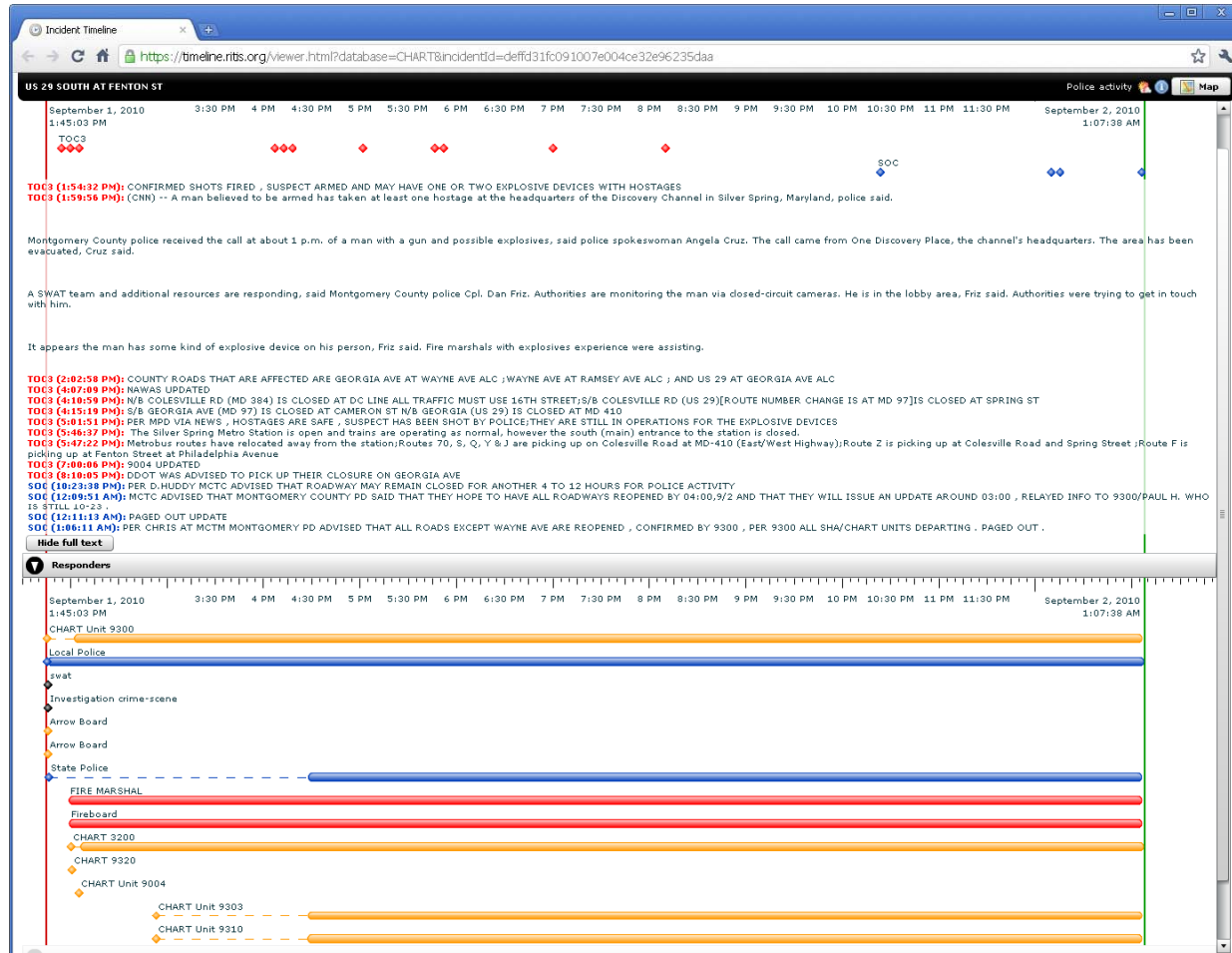
- 1:20PM** Incident Detection via police/fire scanner. Media reports of a “situation in Downtown Silver Spring”
- CCTV visual of Georgia Avenue & Fenton Avenue shows police vehicle blocking roadway
- 1:30PM** Confirmed with MD SHA: “Police Activity closing will be Georgia Avenue completely”
- Sending CHART assets to asses situation, planning to assist county with closures
- 1:45PM** **MATOC Situational Awareness Alert:** *“Due to police activity in downtown Silver Spring, Georgia Avenue is closed in both directions between Colesville Road and Wayne Avenue. Traffic is being detoured away from this area. Please avoid traveling near or through downtown Silver Spring”*
- 2PM-3PM**
Road closure perimeter quickly expanding, main entrance of Silver Spring METRO Station closed
DDOT TMC requesting more information from MATOC
- Will deploy Traffic Control Officers & Variable Message Signs to assist MD SHA & County
MD SHA advises CHART units in place. Will retime signals on alternates routes for PM Rush
HSEMA pages RICCS “Transportation Incident”
DDOT issues Traffic Advisory: Use Eastern Ave to 16th Street or Piney Branch Road as an alternate
Metrobus routes detoured away from Silver Spring Metro Station, modify pickup/drop off points
- 3PM-4PM**
Road closures, detours, and signal timing are in place
Outbound traffic flowing steadily around Downtown Silver Spring without incident





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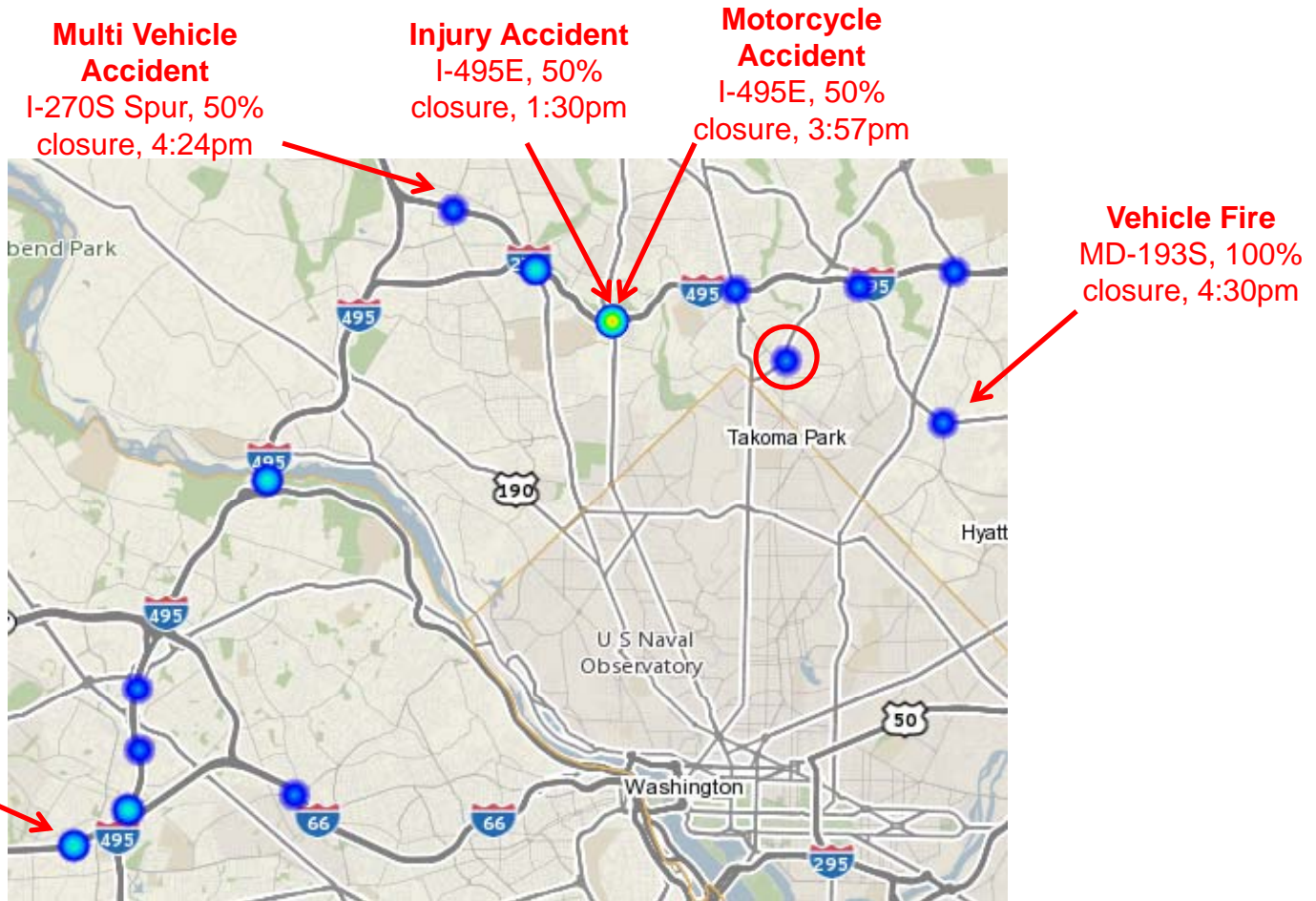
9/1/10 – Discovery Communications Incident Timeline from RITIS Software





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9/1/10 – Discovery Communications Incident Meanwhile...



- MATOC continues to engage transit agencies / staffs in activities and notifications
 - Subcommittee participants have included WMATA, PRTC reps; all agencies welcome
- Attention to transit incidents as well as traffic incidents that may impact bus routes
- Notification agency list includes a wide range of transit agencies
 - WMATA (numerous departments/offices), Alexandria DASH, Arlington Co. Transit, Fairfax Connector, Fairfax Cue, Loudoun Co. Transit, Montgomery Co. Ride On, MTA, PRTC, Prince George's The Bus, commuter bus services

- Ongoing coverage / notifications for the National Capital Region
- Continue to build relationships between the MATOC operations staff and regional stakeholders
 - Further efforts to strengthen county-level and transit agency involvement
 - Continuing MATOC Facilitator outreach activities / site visits to stakeholder agencies
 - Gathering information / feedback from agencies on how MATOC information aided in agency decision making during the incidents in which MATOC staff participated
- Additional benefit / cost analyses focusing on urban and transit issues (early 2011)
- Development of a public MATOC website (mid-2011)