

**2020  
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS (CMP)  
TECHNICAL REPORT**

**July 10, 2020**

**FINAL**

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

The preparation of this report was financially aided through grants from the District of Columbia Department of Transportation; Maryland Department of Transportation; Virginia Department of Transportation; U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, under the Federal Transit Act. The material herein does not necessarily reflect the views of the sponsoring agencies.

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>TITLE:</b><br><br>2020 Congestion Management Process<br>(CMP) Technical Report  | <b>Date:</b> July 10, 2020  |
|  | <b>Number of Pages:</b> 280 |
| <b>AUTHORS:</b><br><br>Jan-Mou Li, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments<br>Andrew J. Meese, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments   |                             |
| <b>AGENCY:</b><br><br>The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is the regional organization of the Washington area’s major local governments and their governing officials. COG works toward solutions to such regional problems as growth, transportation, the environment, economic development, and public safety. The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) conducts the continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process for the National Capital Region under the authority of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, as amended, in cooperation with the states and local governments. |                             |
| <b>ABSTRACT:</b><br><br>This report provides technical details and documents the Congestion Management Process in the National Capital Region. It contains updated congestion information and congestion management strategies on the region’s transportation systems, as well as the process integrating the Congestion Management Process into the region’s Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan.  |                             |
| <b>ORDER COPIES FROM:</b><br><br>Metropolitan Information Center<br>Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments<br>777 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 300<br>Washington, D.C., 20002-4290<br>(202) 962-3200<br><br>Electronic copy of this report can be found on the MWCOC website <a href="http://www.mwcog.org">www.mwcog.org</a>   |                             |

### **COG/TPB Staff**

Kanti Srikanth, Director, Department of Transportation Planning  
Andrew J. Meese, Systems Performance Planning Director  
Jan-Mou Li, Transportation Engineer

\*\*\*

### **Technical Oversight**

Transportation Planning Board Technical Committee  
Kyle Nembhard, Chair

advised by  
Systems Performance, Operations and Technology Subcommittee (SPOTS)  
Commuter Connections Subcommittee

\*\*\*

### **Acknowledgements**

The report authors would like to acknowledge and thank all who provided input to this document.

## CONTENTS

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....   | 11     |
| <i>Background</i> .....   | 11     |
| <i>Components of the CMP</i> .....  | 11     |
| <i>Congestion on Highways</i> .....   | 11     |
| Regional Congestion Trends, 2010-2019 .....   | 11     |
| Regional Travel Time Reliability Trends, 2010-2019 .....                            | 13     |
| Congestion Monthly Variation.....   | 13     |
| Congestion Day of Week Variation .....  | 13     |
| Top Bottlenecks.....  | 14     |
| Major Freeway Commute Routes .....  | 19     |
| Congestion on Arterials.....  | 19     |
| Traffic Signals.....  | 19     |
| <i>Congestion on Transit and Other Systems</i> .....                                | 19     |
| Transit.....  | 19     |
| Managed Lanes Facilities.....   | 20     |
| Park-and-Ride Facilities .....  | 20     |
| Airport Access.....   | 20     |
| Freight.....  | 20     |
| <i>Future Congestion</i> .....  | 20     |
| <i>National Comparison of the Washington Region’s Congestion</i> .....              | 21     |
| <i>Congestion Management Strategies</i> .....                                       | 21     |
| Demand Management Strategies .....  | 21     |
| Operational Management Strategies.....  | 22     |
| Integrated/Multi-Modal Strategies.....  | 23     |
| Additional System Capacity .....  | 24     |
| <i>Assessment of Congestion Management Strategies</i> .....                         | 24     |
| Assessment of Implemented Strategies.....   | 24     |
| Assessment of Potential Strategies Through Scenario Planning .....                  | 24     |
| <i>Compiling Project-Specific Congestion Management Information</i> .....           | 25     |
| <i>Key Findings of the 2020 CMP Technical Report</i> .....                          | 25     |
| <i>Recommendations for the Congestion Management Process</i> .....                  | 26     |
| <br>MAIN REPORT .....   | <br>29 |
| 1. INTRODUCTION .....   | 29     |
| 1.1 <i>Need for a CMP Technical Report</i> .....                                    | 29     |
| 1.2 <i>The Institutional Context of the CMP in the Washington Region</i> .....      | 30     |
| 1.3 <i>Coverage Area of the CMP</i> .....   | 31     |
| 1.4 <i>Components of the CMP</i> .....  | 32     |
| 1.5 <i>Highlights of the 2020 Update of the CMP Technical Report</i> .....          | 33     |
| 2. STATE OF CONGESTION .....  | 35     |
| 2.1 <i>Regional Travel Trends</i> .....   | 35     |
| 2.2 <i>Congestion on Highways</i> .....   | 36     |
| 2.2.1 <i>I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project Traffic Monitoring</i> ..... | 36     |
| 2.2.2 <i>Airport Ground Access Travel Time Studies</i> .....                        | 67     |
| 2.2.3 <i>Freight Movement and Congestion</i> .....                                  | 67     |
| 2.2.4 <i>Traffic Signals</i> .....  | 69     |
| 2.2.5 <i>Safety and Congestion</i> .....  | 70     |
| 2.3 <i>Congestion on Transit Systems</i> .....                                      | 73     |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 2.3.1 Impacts of Highway Congestion on Transit Systems.....   | 73  |
| 2.3.2 Congestion within Transit Facilities or Systems .....   | 80  |
| 2.4 Other Congestion Monitoring and Data Consolidation Activities .....   | 84  |
| 2.4.1 Household Travel Surveys .....  | 85  |
| 2.4.2 Special Surveys and Studies .....   | 86  |
| 2.4.3 The Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse .....  | 88  |
| 2.5 National Comparison of the Washington Region's Congestion .....   | 90  |
| 2.6 Performance and Forecasting Analysis of the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045.....                                | 91  |
| 3. CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES .....   | 98  |
| 3.1 Overview of Congestion Management Strategies.....   | 98  |
| 3.2 Demand Management Strategies.....   | 99  |
| 3.2.1 Commuter Connections Program .....  | 99  |
| 3.2.2 Local and Other Transportation Demand Management and Traffic Management Activities .....                            | 105 |
| 3.2.3 Transit Systems.....  | 123 |
| 3.2.4 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation .....   | 125 |
| 3.2.5 Dockless Micromobility .....  | 129 |
| 3.2.6 Car Sharing and Ride Hailing.....   | 130 |
| 3.2.7 Land Use Strategies in the Washington Region .....  | 131 |
| 3.3 Operational Management Strategies .....   | 134 |
| 3.3.1 Managed Lanes/Facilities/Systems .....  | 134 |
| 3.3.2 Variably Priced Lanes/Systems.....  | 137 |
| 3.3.3 Traffic Management.....   | 139 |
| 3.4 Integrative/Multi-Modal Strategies.....   | 145 |
| 3.4.1 Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS).....   | 145 |
| 3.4.2 Bus Priority Systems .....  | 146 |
| 3.4.3 Regional ITS Architecture.....  | 148 |
| 3.4.4 Integrated Corridor Management (ICM).....   | 148 |
| 3.4.5 Evaluating Significant Transportation Projects (Virginia).....  | 148 |
| 3.4.6 Mobile Devices and Social Media .....   | 149 |
| 3.5 Additional System Capacity.....   | 150 |
| 3.5.1 Documentation of Congestion Management for Additional System Capacity.....  | 150 |
| 3.5.2 Where Additional System Capacity Is Needed and How the Additional System Capacity Will be Managed Efficiently ..... | 151 |
| 3.6 Project-Related Congestion Management.....  | 151 |
| 4. STUDIES OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.....   | 153 |
| 4.1 Review of Performance Measures.....   | 153 |
| 4.1.1 Introduction to Performance Measures .....  | 153 |
| 4.1.2 MAP-21/FAST Act Performance Measures.....   | 154 |
| 4.1.3 Traveler-oriented CMP Performance Measures .....  | 156 |
| 4.2 Review of Congestion Management Strategies .....  | 157 |
| 4.2.1 Introduction .....  | 157 |
| 4.2.2 Descriptions of Strategies .....  | 158 |
| 4.3 Examples of Strategies Studies .....  | 161 |
| 4.3.1 Analysis of Transportation Emissions Reduction Measures (TERMs).....  | 161 |
| 4.3.2 Scenario Planning .....   | 161 |
| 4.3.3 MATOC Benefit-Cost Analysis .....   | 163 |
| 4.3.4 MOITS Strategic Plan .....  | 163 |
| 5. HOW RESULTS OF THE CMP ARE INTEGRATED INTO THE LONG-RANGE PLAN.....  | 164 |
| 5.1 Components of the CMP Are Integrated in Visualize 2045.....   | 164 |
| 5.2 Demand Management in Visualize 2045.....  | 164 |
| 5.3 Operational Management in Visualize 2045 .....  | 165 |
| 5.4 Capacity Increases in Visualize 2045 and Their CMP Components .....   | 165 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 6. CONCLUSIONS .....  | 167 |
| 6.1 Key Findings of the 2020 CMP Technical Report .....   | 167 |
| 6.2 Recommendations for the Congestion Management Process .....   | 168 |
| APPENDICES .....  | 171 |
| Appendix A – 2019 Peak Hour Travel Time Index .....   | 172 |
| Appendix B – 2019 Peak Hour Planning Time Index.....  | 191 |
| Appendix C – 2010 and 2017-2019 Travel Times Along Major Freeway Commute Corridors.....   | 210 |
| Appendix D – 2014 Performance of High-Occupancy Vehicle Facilities on Freeways in the Washington Region<br>229                      |     |
| Appendix E – Summary of Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM) Analysis report FY 2015-2017<br>235                        |     |
| Appendix F – Sample CMP Documentation Form.....   | 242 |
| Appendix G – Review of Congestion Management Strategies.....  | 244 |
| Appendix H-1 – Freeway Aerial Photography Survey .....  | 255 |
| H-1.1 Lane Miles of Congestion .....  | 256 |
| H-1.2 Improvements Observed in the Spring 2014 Survey.....  | 258 |
| H-1.3 Degradation Observed in the Spring 2014 Survey .....  | 258 |
| H-1.4 Summary Congestion Maps of the Spring 2014 Survey.....  | 261 |
| H-1.5 Top 10 Congested Locations in the Spring 2014 Survey.....   | 263 |
| H-1.6 Longest Delay Corridors in the Spring 2014 Survey.....  | 264 |
| Appendix H-2 – Arterial Floating Car Travel Time Study.....   | 266 |
| Appendix H-3 – HOV Facility Surveys.....  | 267 |
| Appendix H-4 - Cordon Counts .....  | 270 |
| Appendix H-5 - Park-and-Ride Facilities.....  | 273 |
| Appendix H-6 - Traffic Management Activities Associated with Defense Base Closure and Realignment<br>Commission (BRAC) Actions..... | 275 |
| H-6.1 Walter Reed.....  | 275 |
| H-6.2 Mark Center.....  | 275 |
| H-6.3 Fort Belvoir .....  | 276 |
| Appendix H-7 – Performance Measures in the 1994 CMS Work Plan.....  | 277 |
| H-7.1 How Performance Measures/Indicators Were Selected For The 1994 CMS Work Plan.....   | 277 |
| H-7.2 Selected CMP Performance Measures from the 1994 CMS Work Plan.....  | 278 |

## LIST OF FIGURES

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Figure E-1: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks.....   | 12  |
| Figure E-2: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks .....                                 | 12  |
| Figure E-3: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks.....   | 13  |
| Figure E-4: 2019 Monthly Variation of Congestion: Total AM and PM Peaks .....  | 14  |
| Figure E-5: Time of Day and Day of Week Variation of Congestion in 2019 .....  | 14  |
| Figure E-6: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time.....   | 17  |
| Figure E-7: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods.....   | 18  |
| Figure E-8: Major CMP Strategies .....   | 23  |
| Figure 1-1: TPB Planning Area .....  | 32  |
| Figure 2-1: Population, Employment, Weekday VMT and Transit Ridership, and Peak Period Travel Time Index in the TPB Planning Area..... | 35  |
| Figure 2-2: The I-95 Vehicle Probe Project/INRIX Data Coverage in the Washington Region .....  | 37  |
| Figure 2-3: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks.....   | 39  |
| Figure 2-4: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: AM Peak.....   | 39  |
| Figure 2-5: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: PM Peak.....   | 40  |
| Figure 2-6: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks .....  | 41  |
| Figure 2-7: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: AM Peak .....  | 42  |
| Figure 2-8: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: PM Peak .....  | 42  |
| Figure 2-9: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks .....                                 | 43  |
| Figure 2-10: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: AM Peak.....   | 44  |
| Figure 2-11: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: PM Peak.....   | 44  |
| Figure 2-12: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: Total AM and PM Peaks.....   | 45  |
| Figure 2-13: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: AM Peak .....  | 46  |
| Figure 2-14: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: PM Peak .....  | 46  |
| Figure 2-15: Time of Day and Day of Week Variation of Congestion in 2019 .....   | 47  |
| Figure 2-16: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time .....   | 51  |
| Figure 2-17: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods .....   | 52  |
| Figure 2-18: Major Freeway Commute Routes .....  | 54  |
| Figure 2-19: Sample of Travel Times along Major Freeway Commute Routes .....   | 55  |
| Figure 2-20: Travel Time Index on Selected NHS Arterials during 8:00-9:00 am on Middle Weekdays in 2019                                | 63  |
| Figure 2-21: Travel Time Index on Selected NHS Arterials during 5:00-6:00 pm on Middle Weekdays in 2019                                | 64  |
| Figure 2-22: National Capital Region Congestion Report (First Page).....   | 66  |
| Figure 2-23: Transit-Significant Roads in the TPB Planning Area .....  | 74  |
| Figure 2-24: Peak Period Travel Time Index and Planning Time Index of Transit-Significant Roads .....                                  | 75  |
| Figure 2-25: Percentage Change for Transit-Significant Roads Compared to All Roads.....  | 76  |
| Figure 3-1: Major CMP Strategies.....  | 98  |
| Figure 3-2: 2013 Regional Activity Center Map.....   | 133 |
| Figure 3-3: TIGER Grant Supported Regional Priority Bus Network and Transit Center.....  | 147 |

## LIST OF TABLES

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Table E-1: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time.....  | 15  |
| Table E-2: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods.....  | 16  |
| Table 2-1: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time.....  | 49  |
| Table 2-2: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods.....  | 50  |
| Table 2-3: Major Freeway Commute Routes.....   | 53  |
| Table 2-4: Time on Major Freeway Commute Routes in AM Peak Hour (8:00-9:00 am).....  | 56  |
| Table 2-5: Travel Time on Major Freeway Commute Routes in PM Peak Hour (5:00-6:00 pm).....   | 57  |
| Table 2-6: Arterial Travel Time Study Routes.....  | 61  |
| Table 2-7: Cost of Congestion for Trucking by Metropolitan Area - 2018.....  | 68  |
| Table 2-8: Highway Safety Performance Measures Summary.....  | 72  |
| Table 2-9: Future Station Capacity Improvement Plan.....   | 81  |
| Table 2-10: Metrorail System Peak Period Capacity by Line without Fleet Expansion.....   | 84  |
| Table 3-1: Ongoing State Local Jurisdictional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategies.....   | 106 |
| Table 4-1: Performance Measures in the final rule on "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program"..... | 155 |
| Table 4-2: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Demand Management Strategies Criteria.....  | 159 |
| Table 4-3: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Operational Management Strategies Criteria.....   | 160 |



## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|       |  |            |  |
|-------|--|------------|--|
| AADT  | Annual Average Daily Traffic                                 | MPSTOC     | McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center                           |
| ACS   | American Communities Survey                                  | MTA        | Maryland Transit Administration  |
| ART   | Arlington Transit  | MWAA       | Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority   |
| ATIS  | Advanced Traveler Information Systems                        | MWCOG      | Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments   |
| ATM   | Active Traffic Management                                    | MWRITSA    | Metropolitan Washington Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture       |
| ATRI  | American Transportation Research Institute                   | NCHRP      | National Cooperative Highway Research Program  |
| AVL   | Automatic Vehicle Location                                   | NCR        | National Capital Region  |
| BRAC  | Base Closure and Realignment Commission                      | NEPA       | National Environmental Policy Act  |
| BWI   | Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport | NGA        | National Geospatial Agency   |
| CAFE  | Corporate Average Fuel Economy                               | NHS        | National Highway System  |
| CAV   | Connected and Autonomous Vehicle(s)                          |            |  |
| CATT  | Center For Advanced Transportation Technology                | NOx        | Nitrogen Oxides  |
| CCTV  | Closed-Circuit Television                                    | NPMRDS     | National Performance Management Research Data Set                                      |
| CHART | Coordinated Highway Action Response Team                     | NPRM       | Notice of Proposed Rulemaking  |
| CLRP  | Constrained Long-Range Plan                                  | NTOC       | National Transportation Operations Coalition   |
| CLV   | Critical Lane Volume   | NVRC       | Northern Virginia Regional Commission  |
| CMP   | Congestion Management Process                                | NVTC       | Northern Virginia Transportation Commission  |
| CMS   | Congestion Management System                                 | PBPP       | Performance-Based Planning and Programming   |
| CNG   | Compressed Natural Gas                                       | PM         | Particulate Matter   |
| CO    | Carbon Monoxide  | PRTC       | Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission                                     |
| COC   | Commuter Operations Center                                   | PSTOC      | Public Safety Transportation Operations Center   |
| CUE   | City-University-Energysaver                                  | PTI        | Planning Time Index  |
|       |  | RITIS      | Regional Integrated Transportation Information System                                  |
| DASH  | Driving Alexandrians Safely Home                             | RFC        | Region Forward Coalition   |
| DCA   | Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport                    | RTPP       | Regional Transportation Priorities Plan  |
| DMS   | Dynamic Message Signs  | SAFETEA-LU | Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for the Users |
| DOT   | Department of Transportation                                 | SIP        | State Implementation Plans   |
| EPC   | Emergency Planning Council                                   | SOC        | State of the Commute Survey  |
| FAF   | Freight Analysis Framework                                   | SOV        | Single Occupancy Vehicle   |
| FHWA  | Federal Highway Administration                               | SRTS       | Safe Routes to Schools   |

|        |  |       |  |
|--------|--|-------|--|
| FSCPPE | Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates     | TARS  | Travelers Advisory Radio System                        |
| GHG    | Greenhouse Gas Emissions                                       | TAZ   | Traffic Analysis Zone                                  |
| GPS    | Geographic Positioning System                                  | TCSP  | Transportation, Community and System Preservation      |
| GRH    | Guaranteed Ride Home   | TDM   | Transportation Demand Management                       |
| HOT    | High Occupancy/Toll  | TE    | Transportation Enhancements                            |
| HOV    | High Occupancy Vehicle   | TERM  | Transportation Emission Reduction Measure              |
| HPMS   | Highway Performance Monitoring System                          | TIGER | Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery |
| IAD    | Washington Dulles International Airport                        | TIP   | Transportation Improvement Program                     |
| ICC    | Inter-County Connector   | TLC   | Transportation/Land Use Connections                    |
| ICM    | Integrated Corridor Management                                 | TMA   | Transportation Management Area                         |
| IMR    | Incident Management and Response                               | TMC   | Traffic Management Center; Traffic Message Channel     |
| IS     | Interstate System  | TOC   | Transportation Operations Center                       |
| ITS    | Intelligent Transportation Systems                             | TOD   | Transit-Oriented Development                           |
| IVR    | Interactive Voice Response                                     | TPB   | Transportation Planning Board                          |
| LATR   | Local Area Transportation Review                               | TTI   | Travel Time Index                                      |
| LAUS   | Local Area Unemployment Statistics                             | TTID  | Transportation Technology Innovation and Demonstration |
|        |  | UPT   | Unlinked Passenger Trip                                |
| LOS    | Level of Service   | VDRPT | Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation  |
| MAP-21 | Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act              | VHD   | Vehicle Hours of Delay                                 |
| MARC   | Maryland Area Rail Commuter                                    | VHT   | Vehicle Hours of Travel                                |
| MAROps | Mid-Atlantic Rail Operations                                   | VMT   | Vehicle Miles of Travel                                |
| MATOC  | Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination       | VOC   | Volatile Organic Compound                              |
| MATOps | Mid-Atlantic Truck Operations                                  | VPL   | Variably Priced Lane                                   |
| MDSHA  | Maryland State Highway Administration                          | VPP   | Vehicle Probe Project                                  |
| MNCPPC | Maryland – National Capital Park and Planning Commission       | VRE   | Virginia Railway Express                               |
| MOITS  | Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems | WMATA | Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority         |
| MPO    | Metropolitan Planning Organization                             |       |  |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Background

A Congestion Management Process (CMP) has been a requirement since the 2005 Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for the Users (SAFETEA-LU) federal legislation. The current Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and its supporting federal regulations fully maintain the requirements of the CMP with additional strategies and options. This legislation and regulations are a basis for the CMP component that is wholly incorporated in the region's long-range transportation plan, Visualize 2045. The CMP component of Visualize 2045 constitutes the region's official CMP, and serves to satisfy the federal requirement of having a regional CMP.

This CMP Technical Report serves as a background document to the official CMP within Visualize 2045, providing detailed information on data, strategies, and regional programs involved in congestion management. This 2020 CMP Technical Report is an updated version of the previously published [CMP Technical Reports](#) (2008-2018).

### Components of the CMP

The National Capital Region's Congestion Management Process has four components as described in Visualize 2045:

- Monitor and evaluate transportation system performance
- Define and analyze strategies
- Implement strategies and assess
- Compile project-specific congestion management information

This report documents and provides technical details of the four components of the CMP. It compiles information from a wide range of metropolitan transportation planning activities, as well as providing some additional CMP specific analyses, particularly travel time reliability and non-recurring congestion analyses.

### Congestion on Highways

#### REGIONAL CONGESTION TRENDS, 2010-2019

Based on the results revealed by the I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project (VPP)/INRIX traffic monitoring<sup>1</sup>, peak period congestion in the Washington region decreased between 2010 and 2012, but more recently has increased moderately.

The congestion intensity, measured by the Travel Time Index (TTI)<sup>2</sup> from a traveler's perspective, decreased 6.7% between 2010 and 2012 and increased by 1.9% from 2012 to 2019 (Figure E-1).

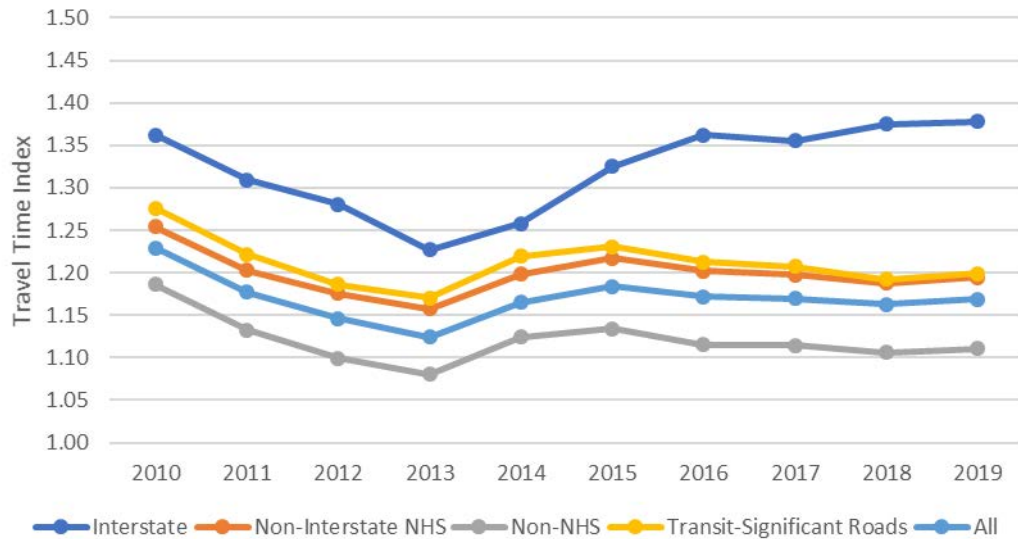
---

<sup>1</sup> I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project, <http://i95coalition.org/projects/vehicle-probe-project/>

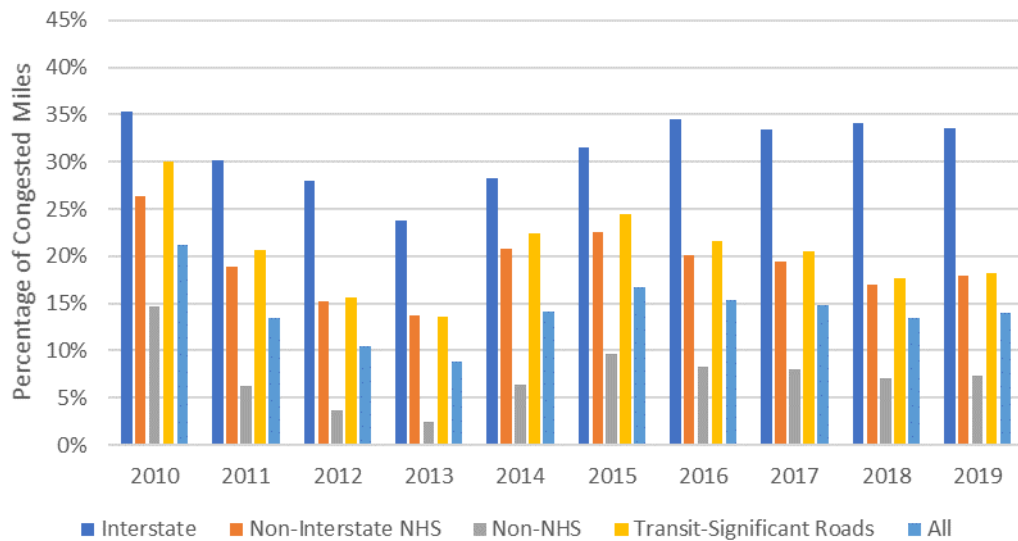
<sup>2</sup> Travel Time Index (TTI) is an indicator of the intensity of congestion, calculated as the ratio of actual experienced travel time to free flow travel time. A travel time index of 1.00 implies free flow travel without any delays, while a travel time index of 1.30 means one has to spend 30% more time to finish a trip compared to free flow travel.

The spatial extent of congestion, measured by Percent of Congested Miles<sup>3</sup> from a system perspective, varied similarly to the TTI (Figure E-2). Regionally 21% of all monitored roadways were congested during peak periods in 2010. This number decreased to approximately 9% in 2013, the lowest in the last eight years, and then increased to about 14% in both 2018 and 2019.

**Figure E-1: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure E-2: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks**



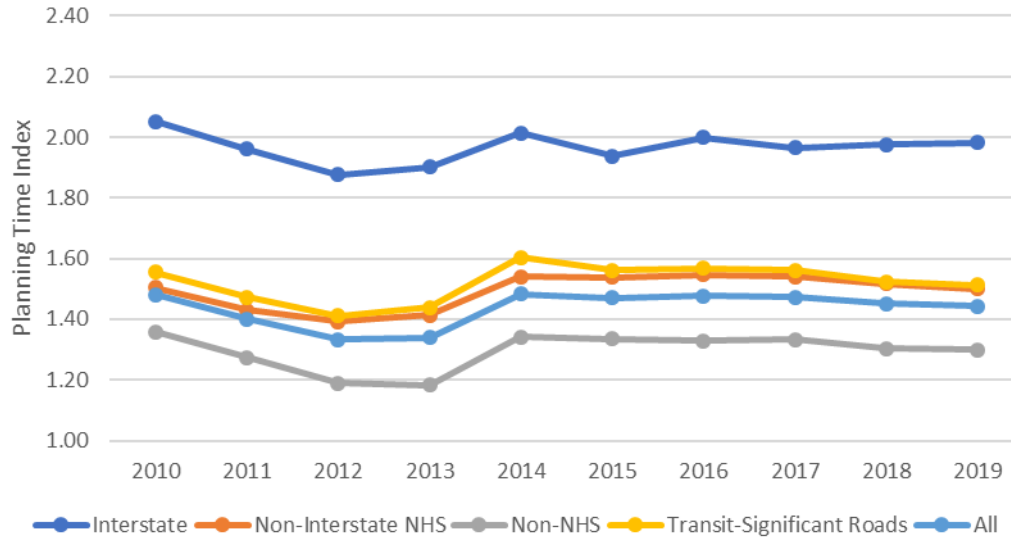
<sup>3</sup> Percent of Congested (Directional) Miles is a system-wide measure that captures the spatial extent of congestion. Congestion is defined if actual travel time is 30% longer than the free-flow travel time<sup>3</sup>, i.e., Travel Time Index > 1.3, based on recommendations made by the National Transportation Operations Coalition in 2005.

## REGIONAL TRAVEL TIME RELIABILITY TRENDS, 2010-2019

Travelers in the Washington region typically will need to budget about two times the free flow travel time during peak periods to ensure on-time arrivals. These numbers are based on all directions of travel, therefore for those who traveling in the peak direction would need to budget even more.

Similar to the trends observed in traffic congestion, travel time reliability improved approximately 10% between 2010 and 2012 but has almost gone back to the 2010 level in 2014, then constantly down to slightly above 1.4 in 2019 (Figure E-3).

Figure E-3: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks



## CONGESTION MONTHLY VARIATION

Congestion varies from month to month within a year, as shown for 2019 in Figure E-4. Monthly variations of congestion were most noticeable on the Interstate System, followed by the Transit-Significant Roads, the Non-Interstate NHS, and the Non-NHS.

Congestion generally peaks regionally in May and June, and again in September and October, and is lowest in January, February, and August. All five of the investigated highway categories followed this trend.

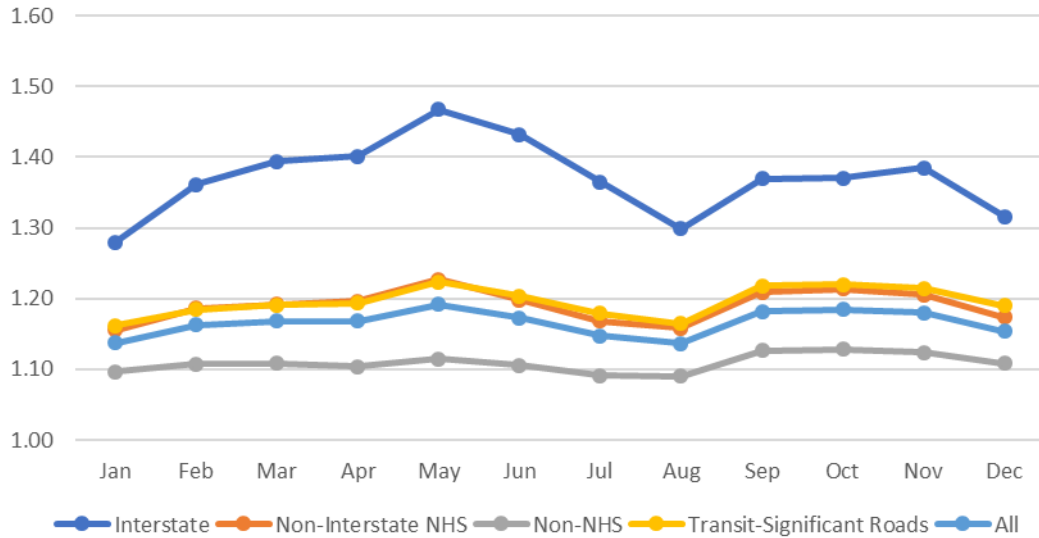
## CONGESTION DAY OF WEEK VARIATION

Congestion also varies within a week (Figure E-5). The middle weekdays – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – were the most congested days of a week. During these three weekdays, the AM Peak had almost identical congestion while the most congested PM Peak occurred on Thursday, followed by Wednesday and Tuesday.

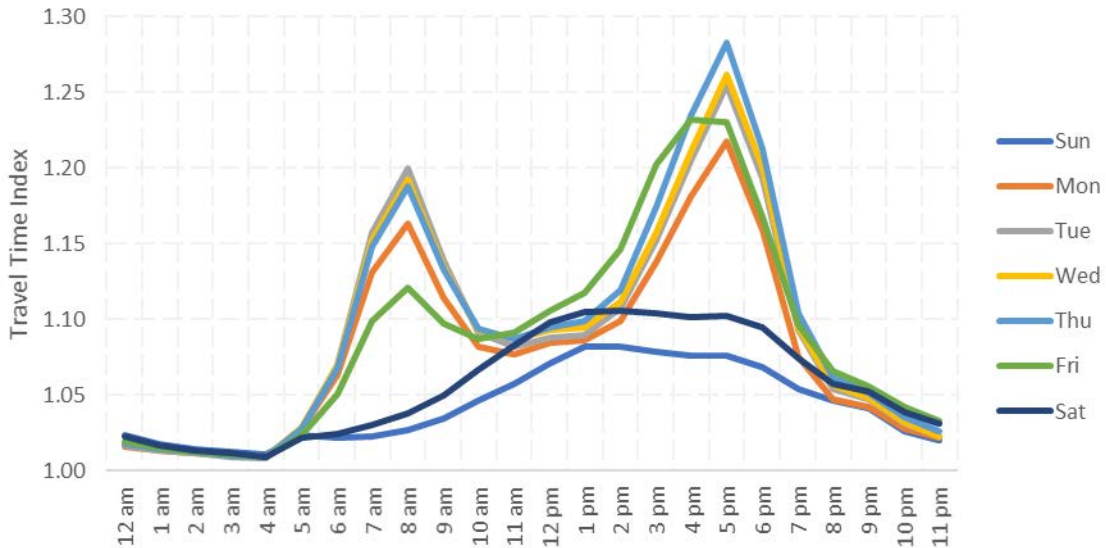
Monday and Friday had unique traffic patterns. Monday morning’s traffic was lower than that of the middle weekdays but higher than Friday; Monday afternoon had the least congestion among weekdays. Friday morning had the least congestion in all weekdays; Friday afternoon’s congestion was almost as bad as the normal weekdays, but it came about one hour earlier without ending earlier – expanded congested time period.

Weekend days had the lowest traffic in a week and Sunday was even lower than Saturday. During these two days, mid-day traffic (12:00 – 3:00 pm) was the highest.

**Figure E-4: 2019 Monthly Variation of Congestion: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure E-5: Time of Day and Day of Week Variation of Congestion in 2019**



**TOP BOTTLENECKS**

This report provides two lists of top bottlenecks in the Washington region for 2019: one is based on all time of the year – 24/7/365 (Table E-1 and Figure E-6), and the other is for peak periods only, i.e., non-holiday weekdays 6:00-9:00 am and 4:00-7:00 pm (Table E-2 and Figure E-7). The bottlenecks are ranked two ways: by the combination of Travel Time Index (TTI) and length, and by multiplication of TTI, length and Annual Average Daily Traffic volume (AADT). The former is informative to individual travelers and the latter could be useful from a system-wide perspective.

**Table E-1: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time**

| Location   | State | Ave. TTI | Length (miles) | TTI*Miles | Rank by TTI*Miles | AADT   | AADT*TTI* Miles | Rank by AADT*TTI *Miles |
|--|-------|----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| I-95 SB between US-1/EXIT 161 and VA-123/EXIT 160                                | VA    | 1.90     | 3.32           | 6.32      | 1                 | 229949 | 1452366         | 1                       |
| I-495 IL between VA-267/EXIT 12 and AMERICAN LEGION BRIDGE                       | VA    | 1.72     | 3.11           | 5.36      | 2                 | 168182 | 901358          | 2                       |
| I-495 IL between MD-355/WISCONSIN AVE/EXIT 34 and MD-185/CONNECTICUT AVE/EXIT 33 | MD    | 1.55     | 1.80           | 2.78      | 3                 | 231860 | 645183          | 3                       |
| I-395 NB between EADS ST and MEMORIAL BRIDGE                                     | VA    | 2.05     | 1.18           | 2.41      | 4                 | 184291 | 444663          | 4                       |
| DC-295 NB between I-295/EXIT 4 and PENNSYLVANIA AVE                              | DC    | 1.74     | 1.36           | 2.35      | 5                 | 124371 | 292666          | 7                       |
| I-95/I-495 EB near US-1/RICHMOND HWY/MILL RD                                     | VA    | 1.54     | 1.50           | 2.32      | 6                 | 154050 | 356977          | 6                       |
| US-301 NB near OLD INDIAN HEAD RD/ROSARYVILLE RD                                 | MD    | 1.59     | 1.32           | 2.09      | 7                 | 31871  | 66731           | 10                      |
| I-495 OL near MD-193/UNIVERSITY BLVD/EXIT 29                                     | MD    | 1.55     | 1.25           | 1.94      | 8                 | 213179 | 414513          | 5                       |
| I-495 OL between VA-241/TELEGRAPH RD/EXIT 2 and US-1/EXIT 1                      | VA    | 1.53     | 1.08           | 1.65      | 9                 | 170664 | 281531          | 8                       |
| VA-28 SB near WESTFIELDS BLVD  | VA    | 1.54     | 0.85           | 1.31      | 10                | 111293 | 145738          | 9                       |

**Table E-2: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods**

| Location   | State | Ave. TTI | Length (miles) | TTI* Miles | Rank by TTI*Miles | AADT   | AADT*TTI* Miles | Rank by AADT*TTI*Miles |
|--|-------|----------|----------------|------------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------------|
| I-95 SB between VA-7100/EXIT 166 and VA-123/EXIT 160                             | VA    | 2.15     | 6.84           | 14.71      | 1                 | 248417 | 3654895         | 1                      |
| I-495 OL between EXIT 27 and MD-97/GEORGIA AVE/EXIT 31                           | MD    | 2.41     | 5.70           | 13.72      | 2                 | 252402 | 3464126         | 2                      |
| I-495 OL between VAN DORN ST/EXIT 3 and WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE           | VA    | 2.15     | 6.13           | 13.18      | 3                 | 199348 | 2628093         | 4                      |
| I-495 OL between VA-267/EXIT 12 and VA-650/GALLOWS RD/EXIT 7                     | VA    | 1.91     | 6.71           | 12.81      | 4                 | 176740 | 2263667         | 6                      |
| I-495 IL between MD-355/WISCONSIN AVE/EXIT 34 and MD-193/UNIVERSITY BLVD/EXIT 29 | MD    | 2.00     | 6.22           | 12.41      | 5                 | 231860 | 2878403         | 3                      |
| I-495 IL between VA-123/CHAIN BRIDGE RD/EXIT 11 and AMERICAN LEGION BRIDGE       | VA    | 2.72     | 4.05           | 11.03      | 6                 | 168182 | 1855866         | 7                      |
| I-495 OL between US-50/EXIT 19 and MD-201/KENILWORTH AVE/EXIT 23                 | MD    | 1.64     | 6.19           | 10.13      | 7                 | 227400 | 2303584         | 5                      |
| I-66 WB between VA-286/FAIRFAX COUNTY PKWY/EXIT 55 and US-29/EXIT 52             | VA    | 1.85     | 5.11           | 9.43       | 8                 | 157964 | 1489532         | 9                      |
| VA-28 NB between YORKSHIRE LN and NEW BRADDOCK RD                                | VA    | 1.68     | 5.43           | 9.13       | 9                 | 55594  | 507451          | 10                     |
| I-395 NB between EDSALL RD/EXIT 2 and VA-7/KING ST/EXIT 5                        | VA    | 1.78     | 4.85           | 8.62       | 10                | 207500 | 1788772         | 8                      |



Figure E-6: 2019 Top Bottlenecks - All Time

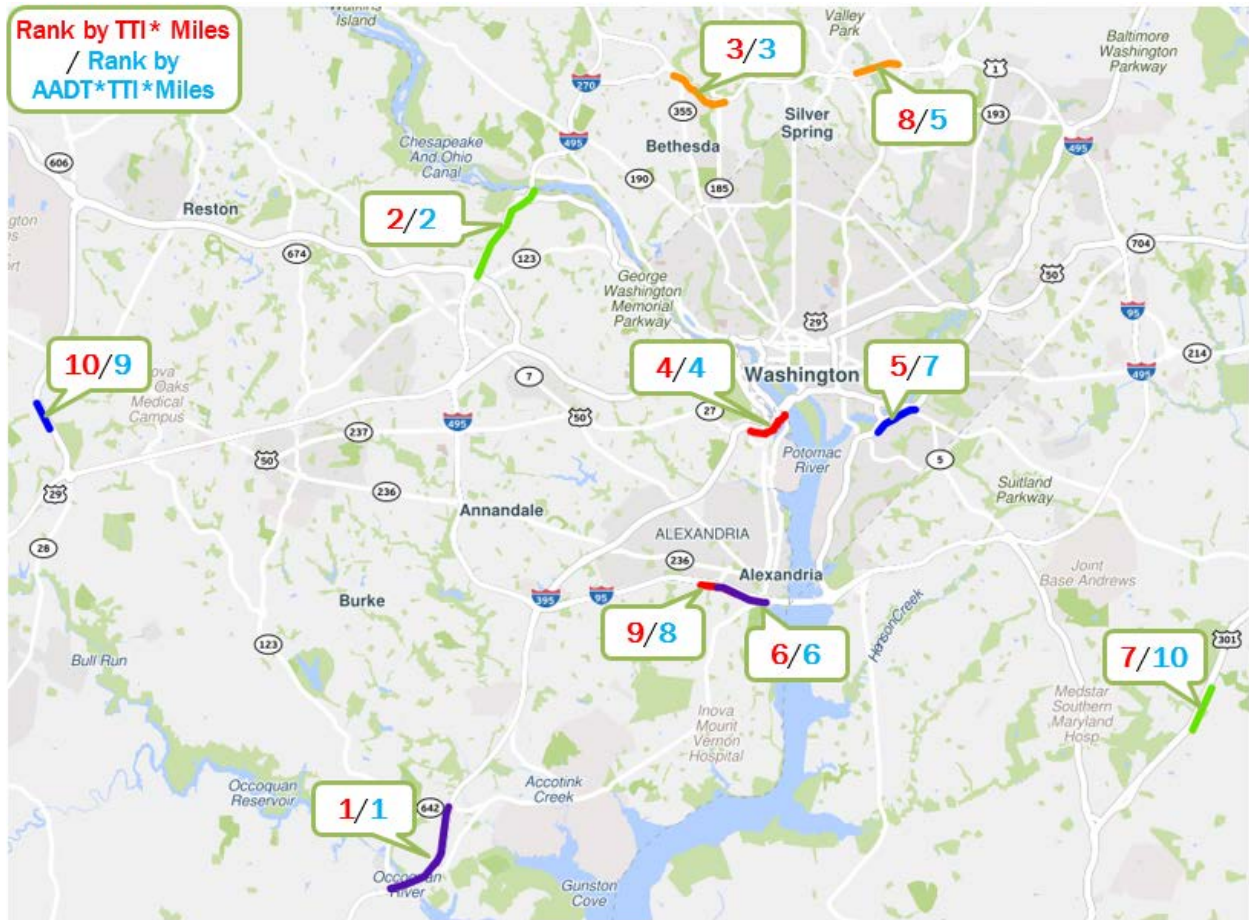
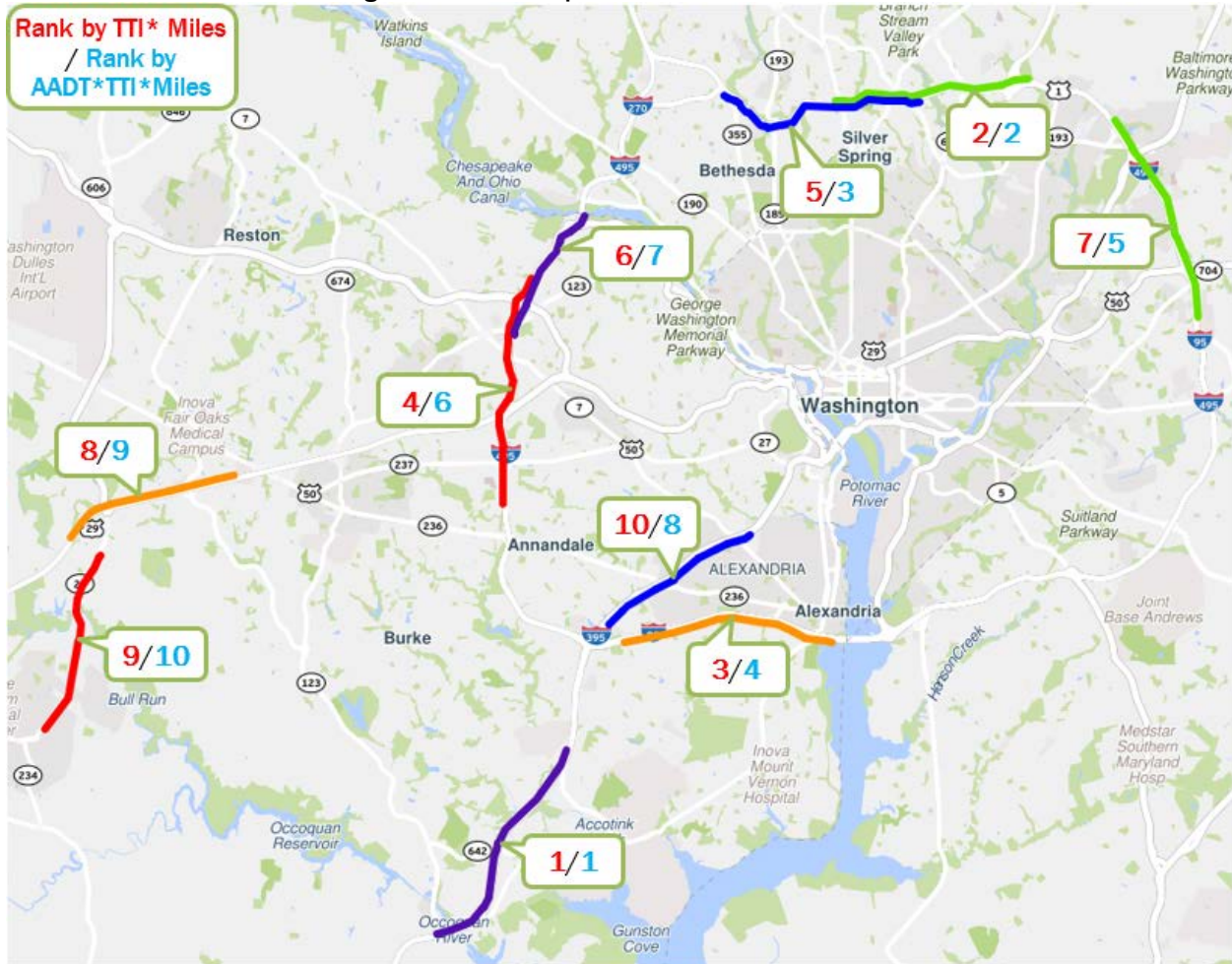


Figure E-7: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods



## MAJOR FREEWAY COMMUTE ROUTES

In addition to the regional summaries as presented by the above performance measures, route- or corridor-specific analysis has also been carried out in this report. A total of 18 major freeway commute routes are defined between major interchanges and/or major points of interest for each peak period. Travel times along the 18 major commute routes in both directions were plotted by the “Performance Charts” tool of the VPP Suite for every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in 2010 and 2017-2019, as described in Chapter 2 and Appendix C.

## CONGESTION ON ARTERIALS

Using emerging data sources such as the VPP/INRIX data, NPMRDS<sup>4</sup> and Bluetooth data, staff now applies such data in arterial traffic monitoring as a successor to field monitoring. Travel Time Index and Planning Time Index on all monitored roads including arterials are provided in detail in Appendices A and B.

## TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Delays occurring at signalized intersections account for a significant portion of overall arterial and urban street delays. Improving traffic signal timing has been identified as an LRP priority area.

The TPB has conducted surveys of the status of signal optimization, most recently in 2017. Similar to previous surveys, the 2017 survey found that of the approximate total of 5,900 signalized intersections in the region, 73 percent were retimed/optimized, 24 percent not retimed/optimized, and no report received for 3 percent.

Since 2011, the TPB’s Traffic Signal Subcommittee has conducted regional surveys on traffic signals power back-up systems. The last survey was conducted as of December 31, 2017 and found that about 37% of the region’s 5,900 signals are equipped with battery-based power back-up systems, and 69% are equipped with generator-ready back-up systems (most battery-based systems also have generator-ready features). These power back-up systems can improve the resiliency of the transportation network.

## Congestion on Transit and Other Systems

The CMP Technical Report includes information from a variety of sources, both more recent and less recent, that have looked at congestion’s interaction with a variety of issues and modes. Chapter 2 includes this detailed coverage. The following are a few highlights, especially focusing on the most recently emerging information.

## TRANSIT

The National Capital Region possesses a multimodal and diverse transit system, including Metrorail, commuter rail and a variety of bus operations. Congestion on the transit system is always one of the concerns of the CMP.

Congestion on the region’s roadway network often has an impact on bus transit systems. The identified congested locations, especially those on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority’s (WMATA) [Priority Corridor Network](#) and the Transit-Significant Roads as identified by the TPB’s Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (further discussed in section 2.3.1.1) are usually also bottlenecks for bus transit. Relieving roadway congestion will directly have a positive impact on

---

<sup>4</sup> National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS), [https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf\\_measurement/index.htm](https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf_measurement/index.htm)

bus operations, such as reducing travelers' delay, reducing bus operations cost, improving bus reliability and increasing ridership.

Congestion can also be an issue within transit. If the demand for buses, rail and train is high and the capacity cannot keep up with that demand, then transit becomes overcrowded. Metrorail crowdedness are often observed during rush hours along certain stations. Congestion also exists within certain transit stations, especially multimodal transit centers, e.g. Union Station. Station congestion is a congestion of different nature, mostly due to limitations in design and circulation as well as ridership growth. Momentum, Metro's strategic plan for 2013-2025<sup>5</sup> found that there are crowded conditions at peak periods today; without rail fleet expansion, most rail lines will be even more congested by 2025.

### **MANAGED LANES FACILITIES**

A number of HOV facilities in the region have been reconstructed to high occupancy toll lanes where HOVs continue to use the facility, for free whereas single occupant vehicles can use them by paying a congestion-responsive toll.

### **PARK-AND-RIDE FACILITIES**

There are over 160,000 parking spaces at nearly 400 Park & Ride lots throughout the Washington/Baltimore Metropolitan areas where commuters can conveniently bike, walk or drive to and join up with carpools/vanpools or gain access to public transit. According to the region's [Commuter Connections](#) program: two thirds of Lots have bus or rail service available; parking is free at 89% of the Park & Ride Lots; and more than 25% of Park & Ride Lots have bicycle parking facilities.

### **AIRPORT ACCESS**

The transportation linkage between airports and local activities is a critical component of the transportation system. The Washington region has two major airports – Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) in Arlington, VA, and Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) in Loudoun County, VA. The region is also served by the nearby Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI). According to the most recent TPB [Air Passenger Survey](#) the majority (over 90%) of those traveling to the region's airports does so via the highway network (i.e. personal cars, rental cars, taxis, buses). Therefore, understanding ground airport access is important to congestion management.

### **FREIGHT**

The National Capital Region has a responsive freight system to support the vitality of economy and quality of life. This region features a consumer and service-based economy and approximately 86% of freight by weight moving into, out of and within the region is transported by truck<sup>6</sup>.

### **Future Congestion**

The constrained element of Visualize 2045, the Metropolitan Washington region's long-range transportation plan, includes all regionally significant transportation projects and programs planned in the Metropolitan Washington region over the next 25-30 years. The TPB produces a performance

---

<sup>5</sup> WMATA, Strategic Plan 2013-2025, <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/strategic-plans/upload/momentum-full.pdf>

<sup>6</sup>National Capital Region Freight Plan, July 2016  
<https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2010/07/28/national-capital-region-freight-plan-freight/>

analysis of every long-range plan, which examines trends and assesses future levels of congestion as well as other performance measures. The performance analysis of the constrained element of Visualize 2045 provides an overall assessment of the anticipated impacts and an indication of future levels of congestion relevant to the CMP.<sup>7</sup>

Plan performance analyzes the outlook of growth in the region and forecasts future congestion. The plan performance analysis examines travel demand model data to identify where congestion is expected to occur now and in the future. It looks at criteria that may affect congestion, such as changes in population, employment, transit trips, auto trips, number of lane miles, and congested lane miles. The analysis breaks down lane miles of congestion by examining the total share of congested lane miles, a comparison with no-build alternative scenario, additional indicators of delay, and, generally, where the most lane miles of congestion can be found in 2045.

Between 2018 to 2045, the region is forecast to be home to 23% more residents and 29% more jobs in 2045 (Figure 2-32). Towards accommodating that growth, 8% more lane miles of roadway and 42% more high-capacity transit miles are planned to be constructed. The total number of trips taken is expected to increase by 22%, and transit, walk, and bike trips are expected to increase at a faster rate than single driver trips. The overall amount of driving (Vehicle Miles Traveled or VMT) is expected to increase by 20%. This is slightly less than forecast population growth, which means that VMT per capita is expected to decline by 3%. The increase in demand on the roadways is forecast to out-pace the increase in supply, leading to a significant increase in congestion.

## National Comparison of the Washington Region's Congestion

The Washington region is among the most congested metropolitan areas in the nation, according to three entities that perform congestion analyses across the nation, using varying methodologies. Based on yearly delay per auto commuter, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute ranked metropolitan Washington third-worst in the U.S. in 2017 (most recent year available) for congestion<sup>8</sup>. However, based on annual average hours wasted in traffic, the INRIX company ranked the Washington region fifth in 2019<sup>9</sup>. And based on extra travel time compared to free flow conditions, the TomTom company ranked the region the seventh in the United States in 2019<sup>10</sup>.

## Congestion Management Strategies

The CMP has been playing an important role in developing strategies, including strategies in association with capacity-expanding projects, to combat congestion or mitigate the impact of congestion. Visualize 2045 and TPB member agencies have pursued many alternatives to capacity increases, with considerations of these strategies informed by the CMP. Implemented or continuing strategies include demand management strategies and operational management strategies, as shown in Figure 8. It should be noted that although strategies are divided into two categories for reporting purposes in this document, demand management and operational management strategies should be designed and implemented to work in cooperation.

### DEMAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Demand Management aims at influencing travelers' behavior for the purpose of redistributing or reducing travel demand. Examples of TPB's demand management strategies include:

---

<sup>7</sup> TPB, Visualize 2045 Documentation, October 17, 2018. <https://www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/document-library/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://mobility.tamu.edu/umr/>.

<sup>9</sup> INRIX, Inc., Traffic Scorecard, <http://inrix.com/scorecard/>

<sup>10</sup> TomTom, Traffic Index, [https://www.tomtom.com/en\\_gb/trafficindex/list](https://www.tomtom.com/en_gb/trafficindex/list)

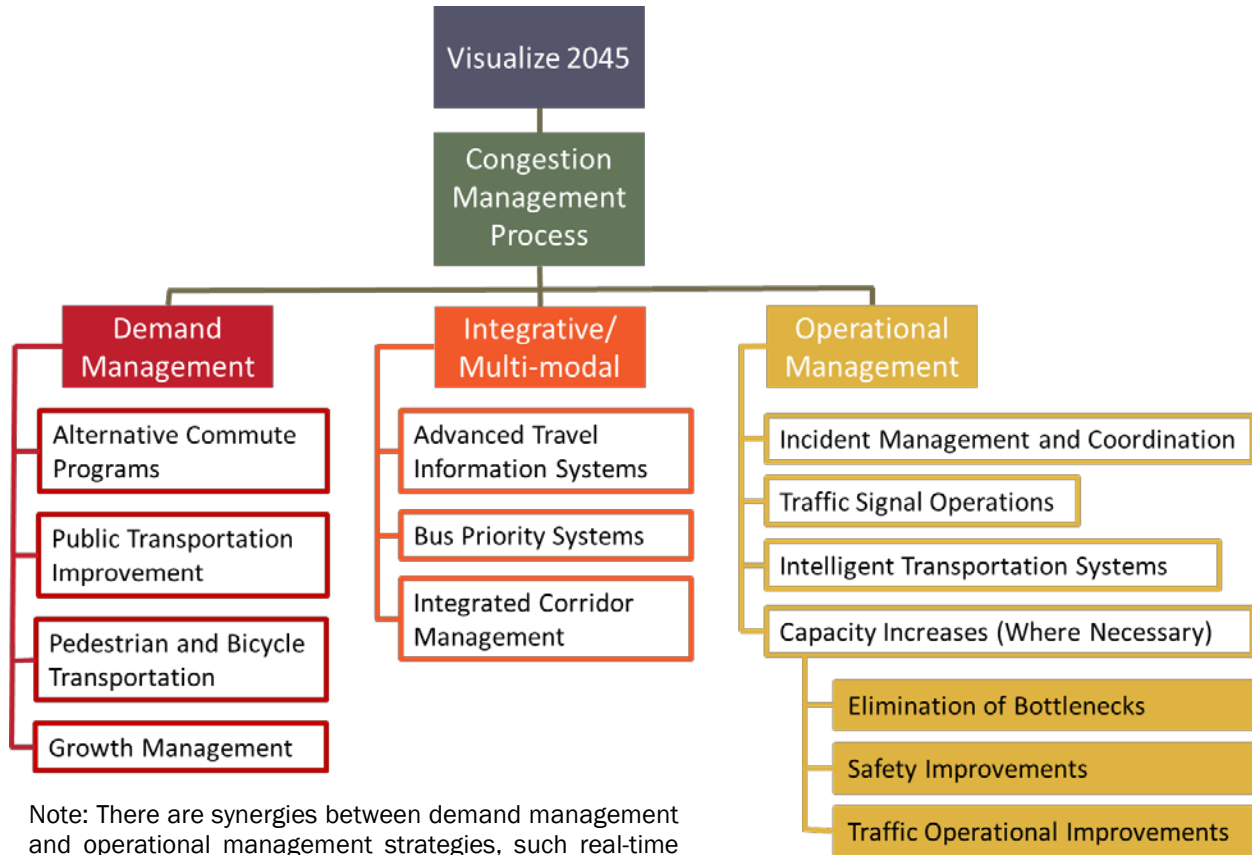
- Commuter Connections Program – Including strategies such as Telework, Employer Outreach, Guaranteed Ride Home, Live Near Your Work, Carpooling, Vanpooling, Ridematching Services, Car Free Day, and Bike To Work Day.
- Promotion of local travel demand management – Local demand management strategies are documented in the main body of the CMP Technical Report.
- Public transportation improvements – The Washington region continues to support a robust transit system as a major alternative to driving alone.
- Pedestrian and bicycle transportation enhancements as promoted and tracked through the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning program – The number of bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the region has increased in recent years; the regional bikesharing program, Capital Bikeshare has more than 4,500 bikes available at 500 stations across six jurisdictions: Washington, DC; Arlington, VA; Alexandria, VA; Montgomery County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Fairfax County, VA; and the City of Falls Church, VA.
- Car sharing - Local governments work with private companies to make the region's car sharing market viable.
- Land use strategies – Including those promoted by the Transportation-Land Use Connections (TLC) Program.

## **OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

Operational management focuses on improvements made to the existing transportation system to keep it functioning effectively. Examples of TPB's operational management strategies include:

- Managed Lanes Facilities, which can include high-occupancy vehicle facilities (such as on US-50 and the Dulles Toll Road) and variably-priced facilities (such as on I-66 and I-495).
- Incident Management – The region's state DOTs all pursue strategies for managing their transportation systems, including operation of 24/7 traffic management centers, roadway monitoring, service patrols, and communications interconnections among personnel, centers and systems.
- Regional Transportation Operations Coordination – Notably the Metropolitan Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) program, whose development the TPB helped shepherd, uses real-time transportation systems monitoring and information sharing to help mitigate the impacts of non-recurring congestion.
- Intelligent Transportation Systems are considered, particularly through the SPOTS committee. Examples include traffic signal optimization, adaptive traffic signal systems, safety service patrols, drone technology for accident reconstruction and traveler information.

Figure E-8: Major CMP Strategies



### INTEGRATED/MULTI-MODAL STRATEGIES

While there is often overlap in demand management and operational management strategies, for example, real-time traveler information on ridesharing opportunities responsive to a real-time traffic incident or situation, there are projects in the region that fully integrate demand and operational management strategies.

- Integrated Corridor Management - MDOT and VDOT have instituted ICM efforts in major corridors.
- Advanced Traveler Information Systems – Travelers have more ways than ever for obtaining trip planning information such as traffic, incidents, real-time transit arrivals, and emergency information. The prevalence of internet capable mobile devices and social media provide new means of communication between travelers and operators.
- I-270 Innovative Congestion Management Project – MDOT’s FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) includes the \$131 million I-270 Innovative Congestion Management (ICM) project to implement a series of roadway and technology-based improvements on I-270. The project would contain both roadway improvements and innovative technology and techniques to achieve the goal.

## **ADDITIONAL SYSTEM CAPACITY**

Federal law and regulations list capacity increases as another possible component of operational management strategies, for consideration in cases of elimination of bottlenecks, safety improvements and/or traffic operational improvements. These capacity increase projects are documented in CLRP or TIP.

There have been relatively few capacity increase projects in recent years, however. This region has an emphasis on demand and operational management strategies, such as transit improvements, the Commuter Connections program and the strategies developed by the System Performance, Operations and Technology Subcommittee (SPOTS).

## **Assessment of Congestion Management Strategies**

### **ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTED STRATEGIES**

The TPB assesses the implemented congestion management strategies in a variety of ways. Many strategies have specific assessments and the overall effectiveness of all strategies is repeatedly evaluated by congestion monitoring and analysis.

Specific assessments (of individual or several strategies):

- A variety of surveys within the Commuter Connections Program are regularly conducted to provide firsthand data inputs for the assessments, including the Guaranteed Ride Home Customer Satisfaction Survey, Commuter Connections Applicant Placement Rate Survey, State of the Commute Survey, Employee Commute Surveys, Carshare Survey, Vanpool Driver Survey, Employer Telework Assistance Follow-up Survey, and the Bike-to-Work Day Participant Survey.
- Public transportation improvements, pedestrian and bicycle transportation improvements, and land use strategies are assessed in Regional Household Travel Surveys, and Regional Travel Trends Reports.
- Status of traffic signal optimization program and improvement to the resiliency of the signal system is assessed by surveys.

Overall assessments (of all implemented strategies):

- a) I-95 Corridor Coalition probe-vehicle-based traffic monitoring data.
- b) National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS).
- c) Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia's Highway Performance Monitoring Systems (HPMS).

### **ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL STRATEGIES THROUGH SCENARIO PLANNING**

The TPB has conducted scenario planning studies over the years. The two most recent scenario studies are the Long Range Plan Task Force Report which identified seven initiatives for inclusion in the visualize 2045, and the Multi-sector Working Group identified projects in the transportation and land use sector with the aim of reducing greenhouse gases.

The TPB has also undertaken the Transportation/Land Use Connections (TLC) Program. The TLC Program addresses the “how to” challenges related to improving transportation/land-use coordination and realizing an alternative future for the region, through providing both direct technical assistance and information about best practices and model projects.



TPB also has assessed special potential strategies on an as-needed basis.

### **Compiling Project-Specific Congestion Management Information**

Pursuant to Federal regulations, the TPB encourages consideration and inclusion of congestion management strategies in all Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) capacity-increasing projects. This involves compiling and analyzing information in the Call for Projects documentation forms, which are submitted from regional agencies when the long-range transportation plan is developed.

The Call for Projects documentation requests any project-specific information available on congestion that necessitates or impacts the proposed project. Agencies compile this information from various sources, including TPB-published congestion information (if available), internal or other directly measured information, or by conducting engineering estimates of the Level of Service (LOS). TPB compiles and analyzes this submitted information, along with information from other CMP sources.

Specifically for SOV capacity-increasing projects, the TPB requests documentation that the implementing agency considered all appropriate systems and demand management alternatives to the SOV capacity. In the Call for Projects documentation a special set of SOV questions is completed by implementing agencies and the TPB compiles this information.

### **Key Findings of the 2020 CMP Technical Report**

1. Congestion – Peak period congestion in the Washington region decreased between 2010 and 2013, and then increased moderately thereafter, but still remaining lower than that of 2010. The Travel Time Index dropped 8.5% between 2010 and 2013, but climbed 3.9% between 2013 and 2019. The percent of congested road miles was 21% in 2010, 11% in 2012, and 14% in 2019 (Sections 2.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.3).
2. Reliability – Travel time reliability in the region improved between 2010 and 2012, and then worsened in 2014, slightly over the 2010 level. The Planning Time Index decreased (improved) by 3% between 2014 and 2019 (Section 2.2.1.2).
3. Bottlenecks – Bottleneck locations in the region have remained fairly consistent. The top ten regional bottlenecks in this report were similar to those in the 2018 report. A segment of I-95 southbound between US-1/EXIT 161 and VA-123/EXIT 160 was ranked the first bottleneck for all time (all hours) in 2019. For peak periods in 2019, I-95 southbound between VA-7100/EXIT 166 and VA-123/EXIT 160 was the top bottleneck. The I-495 Inner Loop between VA-267/EXIT 12 and the American Legion Bridge, which had been 2017's top bottleneck, placed as the second (all hours) and sixth (peak periods) bottleneck for 2019. (Section 2.2.1.6).
4. Travel Demand Management – Travel demand management continues to be an important tool for day-to-day congestion management. The Commuter Connections program remains the centerpiece to assist and encourage people in the Washington region to use alternatives to the single-occupant automobile. The transit system in the Washington region serves as a major alternative to driving alone – transit mode share is among the highest several metropolitan areas in the country (Section 3.2.1).
5. Walking and Bicycling – Walking and bicycling continue to grow in the region in part due to bikesharing and carsharing options and increasing connectivity in the bicycle and pedestrian network (Sections 3.2.4 and 3.2.5).

6. Variably Priced Lanes (VPLs) - VPLs provide additional options to travelers in the region. Facilities include 95Express, 395Express, 495Express, I-66, and Maryland Route 200 (Intercounty Connector (ICC)) (Section 3.3.2).
7. Regional Transportation Operations Coordination – The Metropolitan Washington Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) continues to play an important role in coordination and communicating incident information during both typical travel days and special events such as severe weather and construction work (Section 3.3.3.4).
8. Real-time travel information – The increasing availability of technology to monitor, detect, and evaluate travel conditions allows operators to make changes to the transportation network through active travel demand management, traffic signal optimization, and integrative corridor management. For travelers, real-time traffic and transit information are available from a number of sources through mobile applications and mobile versions of websites. Social media provides a mutually beneficial direct connection between transportation providers and users. Mobile applications related to non-auto modes, such as bikesharing and carsharing, allow travelers to be flexible with their mode choices (Section 3.4.6).

### Recommendations for the Congestion Management Process

The 2020 CMP Technical Report documents the updates of the Congestion Management Process in the Washington region. Looking forward, the report leads to several important recommendations for future improvements.

1. **Continue the Commuter Connections program.** The Commuter Connections program is a primary key strategy for demand management in the National Capital Region and it is beneficial to have a regional approach. Meanwhile, this program in addition to reducing trips and vehicle miles of travel, reduces transportation emissions and improves air quality.
2. **Continue and enhance the MATOC program and support agency/jurisdictional transportation management activities.** The MATOC program/activities are key strategies of operational management in the National Capital Region. Recent enhancements have included efforts on severe weather mobilization and construction coordination. Future enhancements of the MATOC program should be considered when appropriate to expand the function and participation of the program.
3. **Consider a regional Congestion Management Plan (CMPL).** The FAST Act and the Metropolitan Planning Final Rule provide for an optional development of a CMPL that includes projects and strategies that will be considered in the Transportation Improvement Program.
4. **Continue to coordinate PBPP with the CMP.** Performance measurement and analysis are key components of both requirements, and can be accomplished synergistically.
5. **Continue to encourage integration of operations management and travel demand management components of congestion management for more efficient use of the existing transportation network.** State DOTs are encouraged to continue to explore ATM strategies along congested freeways and actively manage arterials along freeways. Transportation agencies (including transit agencies) and stakeholders are encouraged to work collaboratively along congested corridors.
6. **Pursue sufficient investment in the existing transportation system, which is important for addressing congestion.** Prioritizing maintenance for the existing transportation system as

called for in TPB's Regional Transportation Priorities Plan is critical to congestion management.

7. **Consider variable pricing and other management strategies in conjunction with capacity increasing projects.** Variably priced lanes (VPLs) provide an option to avoid congestion for travelers and an effective way to manage congestion for agencies.
8. **Continue to encourage transit in the Washington region and explore transit priority strategies.** The transit system in the Washington region serves as a major alternative to driving alone, and it is an important means of getting more out of existing infrastructure. Local jurisdictions are encouraged to work closely with transit agencies to explore appropriate transit priority strategies that could have positive impacts on travelers by all modes.
9. **Encourage implementation of congestion management for major construction projects.** The construction project-related congestion management has been very successful in the past such as for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Northern Virginia Megaprojects.
10. **Continue to encourage access to non-auto travel modes.** The success of the Capital Bikeshare program, and dockless bikeshare programs and the decrease in automobile registrations in the District of Columbia indicate that there is a shift, at least in the urban areas, to non-automobile transportation.
11. **Continue and enhance providing real-time, historical, and multimodal traveler information.** Providing travelers with information before and during their trips can help them to make decisions to avoid congestion and delays and better utilize the existing road and transit infrastructure. Websites such as MATOC's [www.trafficview.org](http://www.trafficview.org), state DOTs' 511 systems, instant carpooling apps, and real-time transit information allow travelers to make more informed decisions for their trips. The value of real-time traveler information can be largely enriched by integrating historical travel information which can provide valuable travel time reliability measures.
12. **Continue to look for ways to safely interface with the public through new technology such as mobile devices and social media.** The increased prevalence of mobile internet-capable devices and social media present a rapidly evolving platform for both disseminating and gathering information. Explore ways to utilize crowdsourced incident information for traffic operations planning.
13. **Encourage connectivity within and between Regional Activity Centers.** The recent refinement of the Regional Activity Centers map, adopted in 2013, helps coordinate transportation and land use planning for future growth. Geographically-focused Household Travel Surveys can collect data which allows planners to see local level travel patterns and behaviors impacting mode shifts.
14. **Continue and enhance the regional congestion monitoring program with multiple data sources.** There are a wealth of sources, both public and private sector, for data related to congestion which have their individual strengths and shortcomings. Private sector probe-based monitoring provides unprecedented spatial and temporal coverage on roadways, but still needs to be supplemented with data from other sources including data on traffic volumes and traffic engineering considerations. There should be continual review of the quality and availability of data provided by different sources and the structuring of a monitoring program in way that is adaptable for potential future changes in data reporting and/or data sources.

15. **Monitor trends in freight, specifically truck travel.** Interrelationships between freight movement and congestion differ from interrelationships between passenger travel and congestion.
16. **Participate in collaborative planning connected and autonomous vehicle readiness.** These emerging technologies will dramatically alter future transportation planning. Standards and interoperability are critical issues and should be addressed through extensive collaboration with a variety of stakeholders.
17. **Monitor and enhance impacts of and interactions with shared mobility services.** Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) continue to have an evolving impact on a variety of aspects of congestion management, mode share, and transportation overall, but data for regional analysis remain scarce. Regulating agencies are encouraged to arrange for TNC data to be collected and shared with the TPB and other official transportation planning and operating entities, to enable analysis of impacts.
18. **Encourage Traffic Incident Management (TIM).** COG's 2018 creation of its Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) initiative highlighted the importance of TIM within congestion management. Continued TIM efforts will be beneficial to the region.

## MAIN REPORT

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Need for a CMP Technical Report

This report presents a technical review of the Congestion Management Process (CMP), as addressed by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, signed into law by President Obama on December 4, 2015, continued the requirement for the use of the Congestion Management Process (CMP) in Transportation Management Areas (TMA) that was first stipulated in the SAFETEA-LU and maintained in the MAP-21 legislation. The FAST Act added that a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) serving a TMA may develop an optional Congestion Management Plan (CMPL) that includes projects and strategies that will be considered in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The federal Metropolitan Transportation Planning final rule released on May 27, 2016 adds a list of examples of travel demand reduction strategies; adds job access projects as a congestion management strategy; and added a section regarding the optional development of a congestion management plan. These changes of the regulations will be reflected in future CMP activities and reports.

The CMP is similar to the previous requirements for a Congestion Management System (CMS) introduced in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), except that the change in name and acronym of CMS to CMP is intended to place a greater emphasis on the planning process and environmental review process, while maintaining and developing effective management and operation strategies. Federal regulations state that Metropolitan transportation planning areas with a population of 200,000 or more, designated as a TMA, are required to have a CMP, and that long-range transportation plans developed after July 1, 2007 must contain a CMP component. Also, in metropolitan planning areas classified as non-attainment for Ozone and Carbon Monoxide (CO) under the Clean Air Act, no single occupant vehicle (SOV) capacity expanding project can receive federal funds unless it shows that the CMP has been considered.

Federal regulations state that:

*“The transportation planning process ... shall address congestion management through a process that provides for safe and effective integrated management and operation of the multimodal transportation system, based on a cooperatively developed and implemented metropolitan-wide strategy, of new and existing transportation facilities...  
...through the use of travel demand reduction..., job access projects, and operational management strategies.”<sup>11</sup>*

---

<sup>11</sup> “Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning; Metropolitan Transportation Planning; Final Rule,” *Federal Register*, Vol. 81, No. 103, May 27, 2016, § 450.322 (a) page 34152 – emphasis added.

Additionally, a previous federal certification of the TPB planning process, dated March 2006, addressed CMS/CMP as related to the region's long-range transportation plan, then known as the Constrained Long Range Plan or CLRP<sup>12</sup>, with the following recommendation:

*The TPB should develop a comprehensive description of a regional Congestion Management System to demonstrate its application at critical stages of the metropolitan planning process, including the development of the CLRP, TIP, and the development of major projects and policies.*

*The description should be part of the next update to the CLRP or a stand-alone document that is completed in one year from the issuance of this report. The description can build on key elements in place, including monitoring and evaluating alternatives to new capacity (such as for the Mixing Bowl Springfield Exchange and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge) and the range of congestion related strategies (such as the Commuter Connections Program).<sup>13</sup>*

The Congestion Management Process is intended to operate within or in conjunction with the planning process, which is the focal point for consideration of other factors, such as Clean Air Act requirements, transit, funding, land use scenarios, and non-motorized alternatives. The planning process also leads to decisions on which projects are programmed and implemented. The CMP will provide better information to decision-makers, such as the TPB, who consider transportation planning in our region.

This report is a step in the CMP, which is an ongoing activity. Just as there are many causes of congestion, there are also many solutions. While this report documents the region's recent CMP activities, the concept of addressing congestion and meeting regional goals will continue to be an integral part of the metropolitan planning process.

## **1.2 The Institutional Context of the CMP in the Washington Region**

The federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region is the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG). The TPB is charged with producing long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs (TIPs) for the region, which includes the District of Columbia as well as portions of the States of Maryland and Virginia. The members of the TPB include representatives from state, county, local government agencies, as well as the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), non-voting members of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, and federal agencies.

The TPB is advised by a standing Technical Committee for transportation. The TPB Technical Committee oversees details of transportation planning and engineering studies and efforts required to support the region's transportation decision-making process. The Technical Committee has a number of standing subcommittees that focus on particular aspects of the transportation planning process, such as aviation, bicycle and pedestrian planning, regional public transportation planning,

---

<sup>12</sup> Prior to 2018, the TPB's long-range transportation plans were known by the name Constrained Long-Range Plan, or CLRP. TPB published a successor to the CLRP in 2018, expanding the plan and naming it Visualize 2045; the term "CLRP" is no longer used. Henceforth the CMP Technical Report will use the terminology of either Visualize 2045, when referring to the specific 2018 document, or to the regional long-range transportation plans for more general references. The label CLRP will not be used, except for historical references and quotes.

<sup>13</sup> *Transportation Planning Certification Summary Report* (March 16, 2006). Prepared by Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. Page 10. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/tVpXVIs20060405140322.pdf>

travel forecasting, transportation safety, and systems performance, operations, and technology (SPOTS)<sup>14</sup>.

The TPB Technical Committee is the oversight committee for the CMP, as the committee that guides long-range plan activity and oversees interaction of the various subcommittees. The Technical Committee is also advised by a number of the standing subcommittees who have knowledge about particular aspects of the CMP (for example, SPOTS, Commuter Connections, and Travel Forecasting).

Previous CMS/CMP activities of the region were steered by a CMS Task Force, developed in the mid-1990s. Congestion Management System reports were developed in FY 1995 and FY 1996. However, a decision was then made to fully incorporate congestion management information into the CLRP rather than having a stand-alone document, in order to achieve continuity between the CMS and the CLRP. As such, over the years the CMS/CMP process had included data collection and analysis through compilation of information from implementing agencies associated with projects submitted to the CLRP and TIP, and through consideration of management and operations strategies under the Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Policy Task Force and MOITS Technical Subcommittee. The 2008 CMP Technical Report represented a return to the practice of developing a separate congestion management document.

The 2010 CMP Technical Report was the first report that incorporated the I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project (VPP)/INRIX data<sup>15</sup> and developed new performance measures. The 2012 CMP Technical Report utilized even more third-party data than the previous one, including expanded VPP/INRIX data, and traffic volume information from the Transportation Technology Innovation and Demonstration (TTID) Program of the FHWA<sup>16</sup>. The 2014 CMP Technical Report included updates or initiatives taking place between mid-2012 to mid-2014 and adjusted itself toward meeting MAP-21 requirements. The 2016 and 2018 CMP Technical Report summarized the region's travel trends including congestion up to the end of 2015, and 2017 respectively and congestion management strategies up to mid-2016 and 2018 respectively. The elements of the CMP were incorporated in to Visualize 2045 the region's long range plan using the 2018 Technical Report as resource document. The current 2020 CMP Technical Report Summarized the region's travel trends including congestion up to the end of 2019 including congestion management strategies. Section 1.5 summarizes the highlights of the 2020 Report.

### 1.3 Coverage Area of the CMP

The Washington region CMP covers the TPB Planning Area (Figure 1-1). As of June 30, 2020, the TPB's planning area covered the District of Columbia and surrounding jurisdictions. In Maryland these jurisdictions include Charles County, Frederick County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County, plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, Frederick, Gaithersburg, Greenbelt, Rockville, and Takoma Park. In Virginia, the planning area includes Alexandria, Arlington County, the City of Fairfax, Fairfax County, Falls Church, the urbanized area in Fauquier County, Loudoun County, the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and Prince William County.

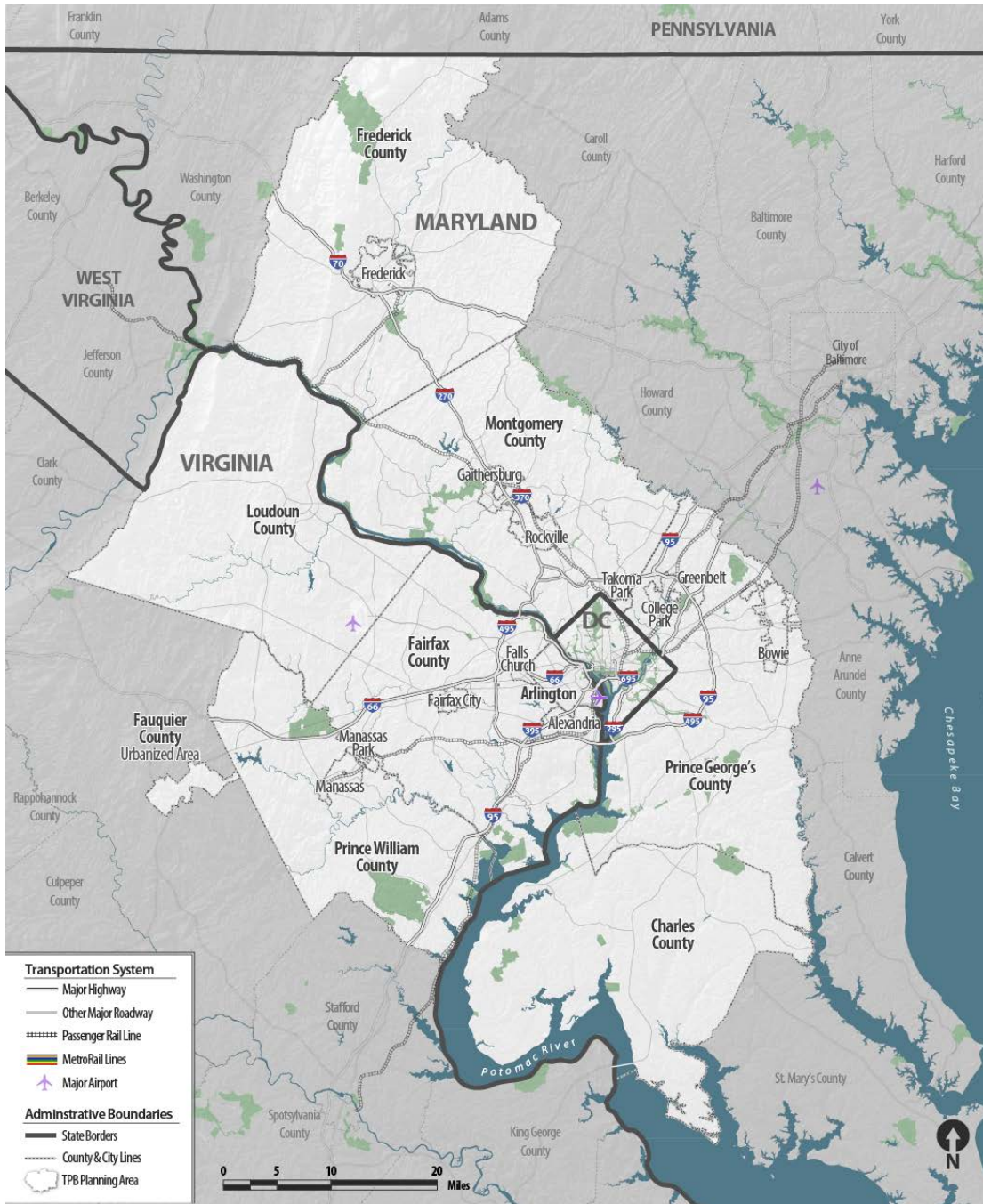
---

<sup>14</sup> As of July 2016, under the auspices of the FY2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the former Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Technical Subcommittee was renamed the Systems Performance, Operations, and Technology Subcommittee (SPOTS), reflecting a focus on both existing and emerging topics.

<sup>15</sup> I-95 Corridor Coalition, <http://i95coalition.org/projects/vehicle-probe-project/>

<sup>16</sup> Transportation Technology Innovation and Demonstration (TTID) Program, FHWA, <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/travelinfo/ttidprogram/ttidprogram.htm>

Figure 1-9: TPB Planning Area



### 1.4 Components of the CMP

The Congestion Management Process in the National Capital Region consists of the following four components, all of which are wholly integrated into the long-range transportation plan:

1. **Monitoring and Evaluating Transportation System Performance.** This TPB effort includes congestion analyses leveraged by emerging data sources (Vehicle Probe Project (VPP) data and analysis tools), the regional transportation data clearinghouse, special studies.



2. **Defining and Analyzing Strategies.** This component involves identifying existing and potential strategies by the TPB Technical Committee, subcommittees, and staff. The TPB considers a number of demand management and operational management strategies.
3. **Implementing Strategies.** This TPB effort is to focus on compiling information on strategies that have been implemented, particularly on a region-level basis. Also, the TPB is exploring how to assess previously implemented strategies. Feedback from the process is beneficial when it comes to updating the CMP and considering additional strategies and technical methods.
4. **Compiling Project-Specific Congestion Management Information.** Pursuant to Federal regulations, the TPB encourages consideration and inclusion of congestion management strategies in all SOV capacity-increasing projects. This involves compiling and analyzing information in the Call for Projects documentation forms, which are submitted from regional agencies when the long-range transportation plan is developed.

### 1.5 Highlights of the 2020 Update of the CMP Technical Report

The 2020 CMP Technical Report builds upon the congestion facts and analyses added to the 2018 report, while still maintaining a comprehensive and updated documentation of the congestion management strategies that are considered and implemented in the National Capital Region. The highlights of the 2020 update include:

- **FAST Act and Metropolitan Planning Rule.** The FAST Act signed into law on December 4, 2015 and the federal Metropolitan Transportation Planning rule promulgated on May 27, 2016 set the current stage for the CMP. An MPO serving a TMA may develop a congestion management plan, which has specific requirements. Several examples of travel demand reduction strategies are explicitly listed in the legislation and regulation (such as providing facilities for intercity bus and commuter vanpools and takes into consideration resiliency needs). These requirements are now reflected in CMP activities and reports as feasible.
- **System Performance/Freight/CMAQ Performance Measures Final Rule.** The FHWA published a Final Rule in the Federal Register on January 18, 2017 (82 FR 5886) to establish performance measures for State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to report on the performance of the Interstate and non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) to carry out the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP); freight movement on the Interstate system; and traffic congestion and on-road mobile source emissions for the purpose of carrying out the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. The rule, as effective on May 20, 2017, has established four congestion-related performance measures, including:
  - Percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the Interstate.
  - Percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the non-Interstate NHS.
  - A measure that will assess freight movement on the Interstate by the percentage of Interstate system mileage providing for reliable truck travel time (Truck Travel Time Reliability Index).
  - A measure that will assess annual hours of peak hour excessive delay per capita.

TPB continues to comply and report performance measures and targets as required, with coordination as necessary with the CMP.

- **Enhanced Event-Related Analysis.** The CMP continues to use vehicle probe data and other sources to conduct event-related transportation systems performance analysis to better inform planning for operations.
  - Some recent examples include the September 2015 the Pope's visit to Washington, DC, January 2016 snow/ice event and category 4 blizzard, March 16, 2016 Metrorail system-wide shutdown, 2016 Memorial Day holiday traffic looking ahead, Pre-Thanksgiving Traffic Slow Down in November 2016 and updated in November 2017, and the impact of the 2017 WMATA's SAFE TRACK program. Results of these analyses were published in the TPB Weekly Report, the TPB News, the quarterly Congestion Report (Dashboard), and social media such as the TPB's Twitter account. These reports often attracted notable media attention and relays.
  
- **Disruptive Technologies and Shared Mobility.** The CMP has been monitoring the advancement of disruptive technologies such as autonomous vehicles, connected vehicles and enhanced mass transit systems and the integration of such technologies with shared mobility such as ride-hailing services. These new technologies along with changed travel behaviors could potentially transform the transportation industry and alter future travel trends predicted by existing models and assumptions. The CMP will continue this monitoring and inform the long-range transportation plan and the TIP as needed.
  
- **Variably Priced Lanes (VPLs) Provide Options to Travelers.** The Intercountry Connector (ICC or MD 200) was opened in November 2011 for the section between I-270 and I-95, and in November 2014 for the final segment between I-95 and US-1. The 495 Express Lanes were opened on the Virginia side of the Capital Beltway in November 2012. The 95 Express Lanes in Northern Virginia were opened in December 2014. The I-66 Express Lanes inside the Capital Beltway opened in late 2017. I-395 Express Lanes inside the Capital Beltway opened in October 2019. There are more express lanes planned for the future, including on I-66 and I-270.
  
- **Periodic updates.** Since the release of the 2018 CMP Technical Report, a variety of planning and program periodic updates and outside data sources have been released. This current report uses these updates to provide the most up-to-date information for the CMP. Some critical updates include, but are not limited to:
  - Visualize 2045 the new Long Range Plan including a constrained and non-constrained element and FY 2019-2024 TIP, including searchable online database
  - Round 9.0 Cooperative Forecasts of the region's demographics
  - I-95 Vehicle Probe Project data (through December 31, 2019)
  - Regional Bus Transformation Project
  - 2019 State of Commute Report
  - 2017 Airport Ground Access Travel Time Study
  - 2019 Baltimore Washington Regional Air Passenger Survey
  - Intercity Bus Traffic and Patronage in the Washington Region
  - Vehicle Census of the Region
  - 2017/2018 Household Travel Survey completed; results under analysis pending future reporting
  - 2017 Transportation Emissions Reductions (TERMs) Analysis Report

## 2. STATE OF CONGESTION

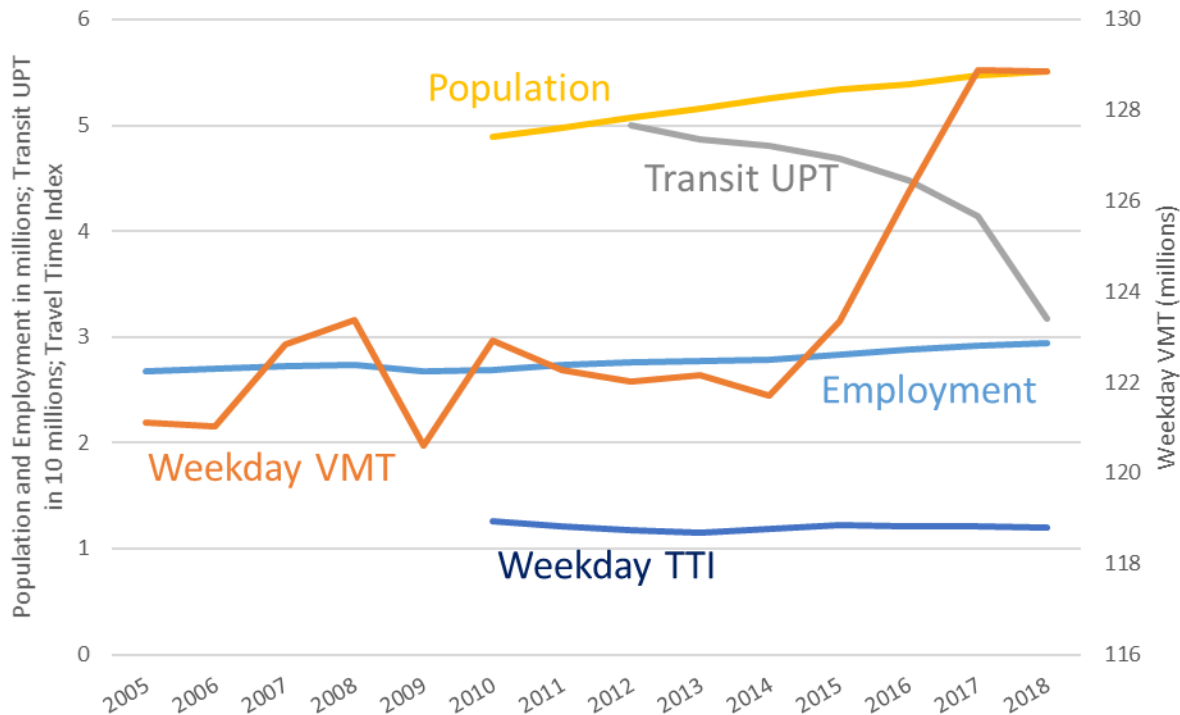
### 2.1 Regional Travel Trends

The Washington region had robust population growth and overall employment increase between 2005-2018 (Figure 2-1)<sup>17</sup>. The latest version of weekday vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita, available in Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse, showed a 6% increase between 2014 and 2017, and then stayed almost the same in 2018.

Peak period congestion, indicated by Travel Time Index, on the area’s 6,829 directional miles of roadways decreased slightly from 2010 to 2013, but increased in 2014 then almost went back to the 2011 level in 2018 (discussed in section 2.2). The peak period travel time index looks unchanged over the period due to the scale factor of the figure, even though the variation is insignificant.

The latest version of weekday transit ridership, including Metrorail, Metrobus, local transit and commuter rail, showed a 23% decrease from 2017 to 2018, along with a constantly downward trend since 2012.

**Figure 2-1: Population, Employment, Weekday VMT and Transit Ridership, and Peak Period Travel Time Index in the TPB Planning Area**



<sup>17</sup> Data Sources: Population – U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population; Employment – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; Weekday VMT – National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse; Weekday Transit Trips – National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse; Peak Period Travel Time Index – This Report. UPT = Unlinked Passenger Trips.

With these regional trends in mind, the rest of this chapter will discuss congestion on highways, transit systems and other travel monitoring activities. A national comparison of the Washington region's congestion and an outlook of the future's congestion in the long-range transportation plan will be provided towards the end of this chapter.

## 2.2 Congestion on Highways

The Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation has established a set of performance measures [82 FR 5970]<sup>18</sup> for State departments of transportation (State DOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to use as required by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for assessing performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. All the measures, except the GHG measure, became effective on May 20, 2017 [82 FR 22879].

The final rule, as effective on May 20, 2017, has established the following four performance measures relevant to the CMP, including

- percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the Interstate.
- percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the non-Interstate NHS.
- percentage of Interstate system mileage providing for reliable truck travel time (Truck Travel Time Reliability Index)
- annual hours of peak hour excessive delay per capita.

### 2.2.1 I-95 CORRIDOR COALITION VEHICLE PROBE PROJECT TRAFFIC MONITORING

Since 2010<sup>19</sup>, major roadways in the Metropolitan Washington area have been monitored under the [I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project \(VPP\)](#)<sup>20</sup>. This project was a groundbreaking initiative and collaborative effort among the Coalition, the University of Maryland and private sector data vendors INRIX, HERE, and TomTom, providing comprehensive and continuous real-time and historical traffic information to members.<sup>21</sup> The objective of this project is to acquire travel times and speeds on freeways and arterials using probe technology. While the dominant source of data is obtained from fleet systems that use GPS to monitor vehicle location, speed, and trajectory, other data sources such as sensors may also be used. The INRIX system fuses data from various sources to present a comprehensive picture of traffic, including vehicle speed and travel time at 5-minute granularity for each road segment.

As an affiliate member of the coalition, the TPB was granted gratis access to the historical archive data in 2009.

---

<sup>18</sup> Federal Register, Vol. 82. No. 11, January 18, 2017.

<sup>19</sup> Data for some roadways are available back to July 1, 2008.

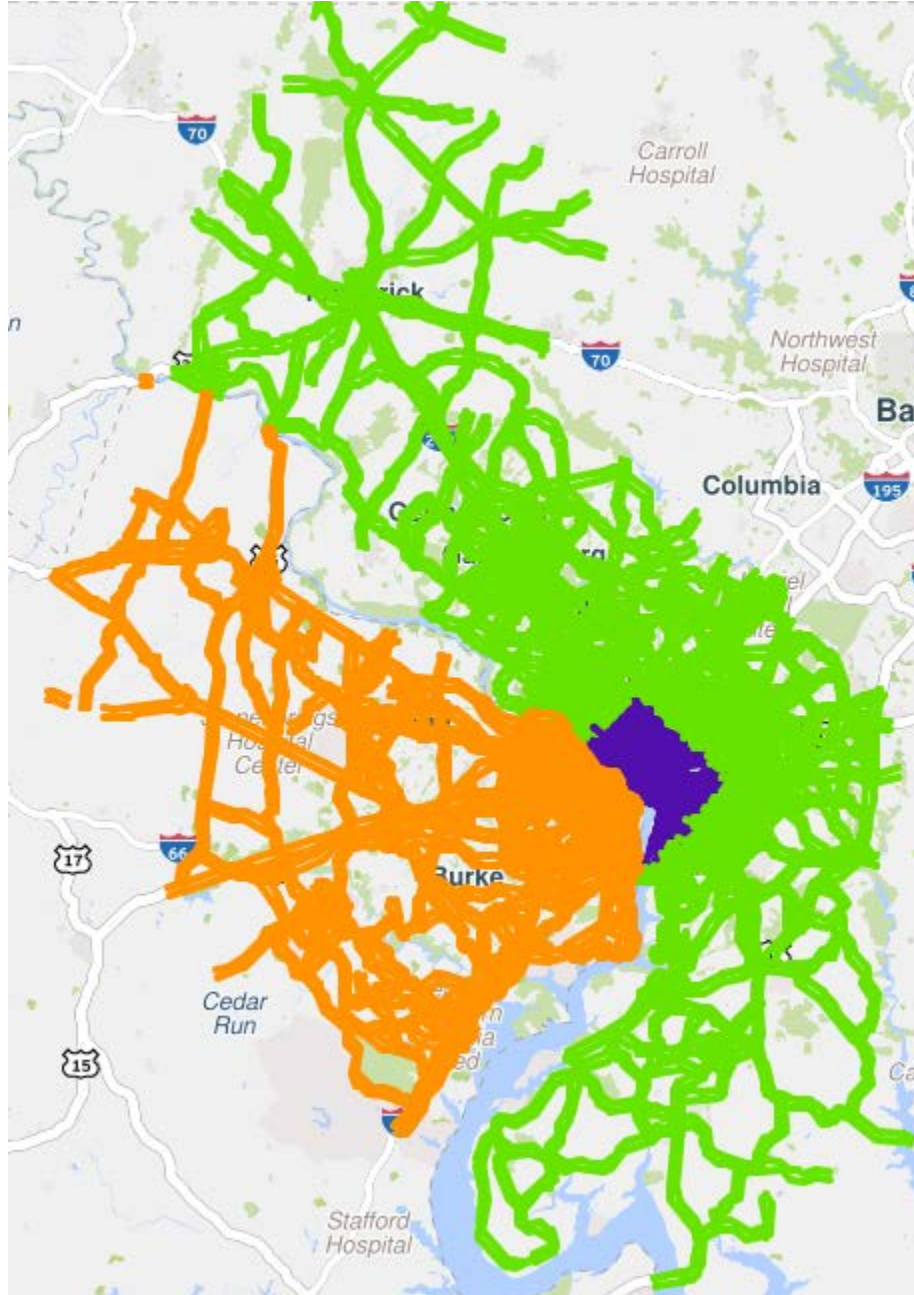
<sup>20</sup> I-95 Corridor Coalition, <http://i95coalition.org/projects/vehicle-probe-project/>

<sup>21</sup> In 2014, the VPP data contract was re-competed by the I-95 Corridor Coalition; HERE and TomTom joined INRIX as data providers. As of this report, among those vendors, only data from INRIX has been made available gratis to TPB.

As of March 31, 2020, the VPP/INRIX data covers approximately 6,829 directional miles of roads in the TPB Planning Area (Figure 2-2), including 550 miles of the Interstate System, 2,450 miles of Non-Interstate NHS, and 3,800 miles of Non-NHS; if categorized by freeway/arterial, this coverage includes around 800 miles of freeways and around 6000 miles of arterials.

This VPP/INRIX data source has become the major source of traffic monitoring for both freeways and arterials in the Washington region, transforming the way by which highway congestion and travel time reliability are analyzed and presented.

**Figure 2-2: The I-95 Vehicle Probe Project/INRIX Data Coverage in the Washington Region**



(Screenshot captured on the VPP Suite developed by the CATT Lab of University of Maryland.)

### 2.2.1.1 Travel Time Index

Travel Time Index (TTI) is an indicator of the intensity of congestion, calculated as the ratio of actual experienced travel time to free flow travel time. A travel time index of 1.00 implies free flow travel without any delays, while a travel time index of 1.30 means one has to spend 30% more time to finish a trip compared to free flow travel. More information about TTI and its calculation can be found in Chapter 4.1.

The annual average Travel Time Index on monitored highways in the TPB Planning Area is shown below. Figure 2-3 is the average TTI of total AM Peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM Peak (3:00-7:00 pm) on all weekdays in a year, Federal holidays excluded, Figure 2-4 is the TTI for the AM Peak, and Figure 2-5 is the TTI for the PM Peak. The TTI is reported by the following five highway categories:

- i. Interstate System, about 554 directional miles.
- ii. Non-Interstate NHS, about 2,455 directional miles. The NHS designation used in this report was defined on October 1, 2012. The MAP-21 NHS includes all principal arterials<sup>22</sup>.
- iii. Non-NHS, about 3,516 directional miles. This category mainly includes minor arterials covered by the VPP/INRIX data.
- iv. Transit-Significant Roads<sup>23</sup>, about 950 directional miles. This category consists of road segments with at least 6 buses in the AM Peak Hour (equivalent to one bus in either direction in every 10 minutes) and the total length is about 1,400 directional miles in the TPB planning area, but only 950 miles of which are covered by the VPP monitoring. This category could include Interstate, Non-Interstate NHS and Non-NHS by definition.
- v. All Roads, about 6,829 directional miles. All roads covered by the VPP/INRIX data in the TPB Planning Area.

Observations from examining the regional annual average TTI for 2010-2019 include:

- Overall, the Peak Period congestion in the region decreased between 2010-2013, but has increased slightly in the six years following. The TTI decreased by 8.5% between 2010 and 2013 and increased by 3.9% between 2013 and 2019.
- Among all highway categories, the Interstate was the most congested and the Non-NHS was the least congested roadways. The Transit-Significant Roads was the second most congested category, highlighting the challenges facing transit bus operations.
- The region's PM Peak Period was more congested than the AM Peak Period over the years, especially on Interstates. One exception was on the Non-NHS roads, where the difference between the two peak periods was minimal. The differences in congestion among the five highway categories were more pronounced in the PM peak than the AM peak.

2019 weekday (Monday through Friday) peak hour (8:00-9:00 am; 5:00-6:00 pm) Travel Time Index on the Interstate System and other monitored roads were visualized by the "Trend Map" tool of the I-95 Vehicle Probe Project (VPP) Suite Developed by the CATT Lab of the University of Maryland<sup>24</sup>, as provided in Appendix A.

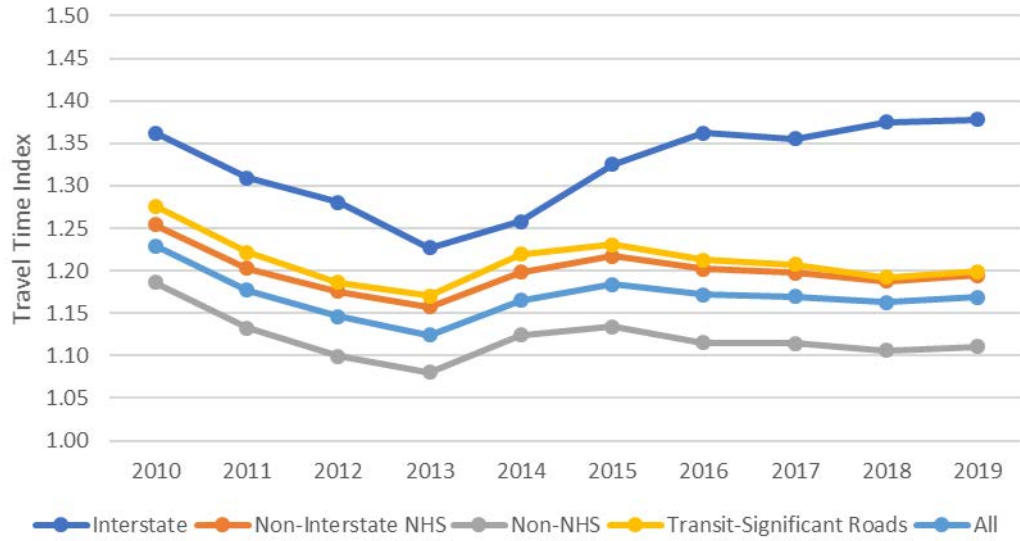
---

<sup>22</sup> FHWA, National Highway System, [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/national\\_highway\\_system/nhs\\_maps/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/national_highway_system/nhs_maps/)

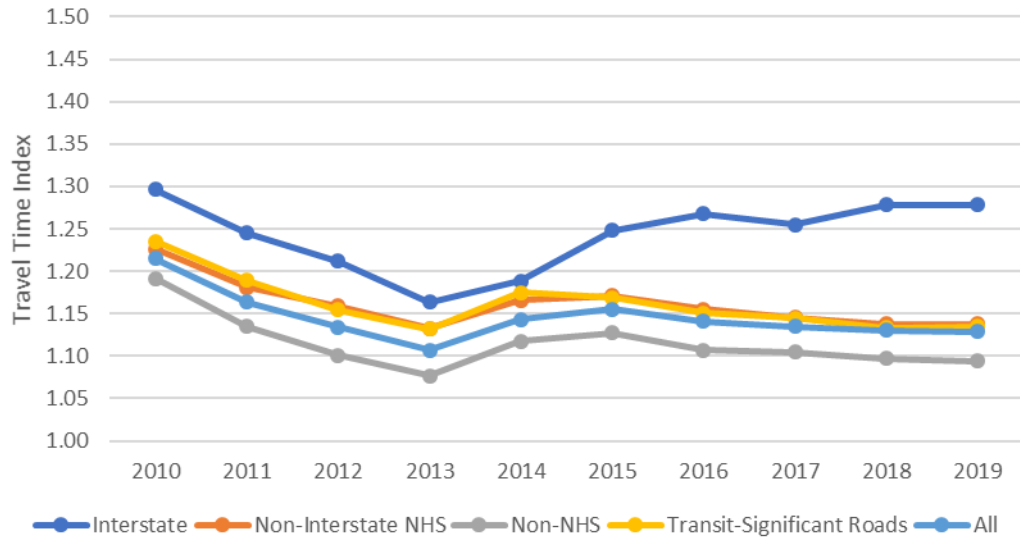
<sup>23</sup> Pu, W. National Capital Region Congestion Report, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015, p.11-12.  
<https://www.mwcog.org/file.aspx?D=IhCuCwV1tlyW641B%2bg%2b4SF%2bN6k9XjI4cbRqIHxnFodA%3d&A=Z7cxzRwPfUbeVw2pIDS3kyWd005DkTrGjfvIJNmt8XE%3d>

<sup>24</sup> Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory (CATT Lab), University of Maryland, Vehicle Probe Project Suite, <http://www.catt.umd.edu/research/vehicle-probe>.

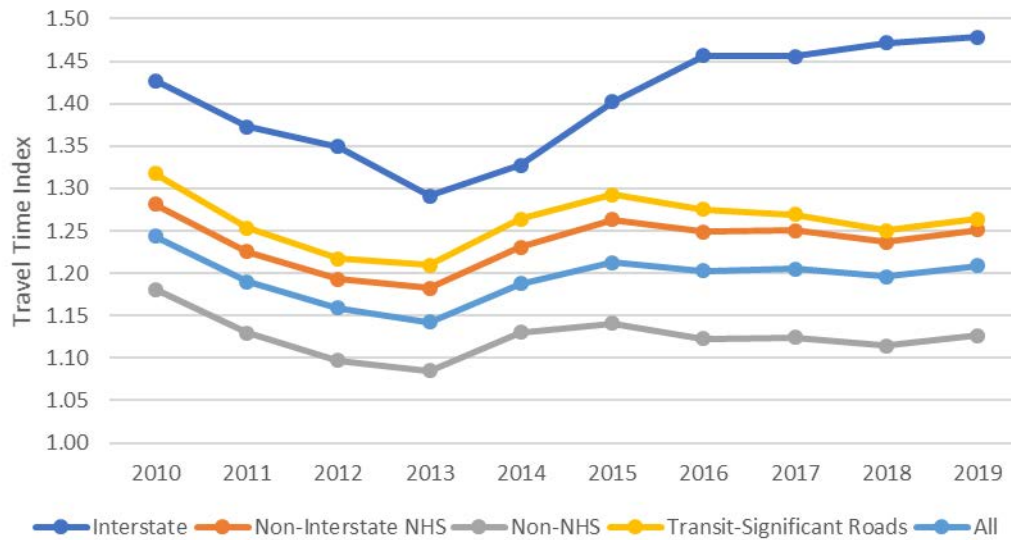
**Figure 2-3: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure 2-4: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: AM Peak**



**Figure 2-5: Annual Average Travel Time Index by Highway Category: PM Peak**



### 2.2.1.2 Planning Time Index

To most travelers, everyday congestion, particularly peak period congestion, is common and they often adjust their schedules or plan extra time to allow for the expected delays; what troubles travelers most are unexpected or much-worse-than-expected delays, which can be caused by incidents, inclement weather, work zones, and the like. Travelers thus want travel time reliability - a consistency or dependability in travel times, as measured from day to day or across different times of day<sup>25</sup> - to avoid being late.

To quantify travel time reliability (or unreliability), this report adopts Planning Time Index (PTI), the ratio of 95<sup>th</sup> percentile travel time over free flow travel time. It expresses the extra time a traveler should budget in addition to free flow travel time in order to arrive on time 95 percent of the time. The difference between 95<sup>th</sup> percentile travel time and free flow travel time is called Planning Time. For example, a 30-minute free flow travel with a Planning Time Index of 2.00 requires 60 minutes in budget to ensure on-time arrival, and thus the Planning Time is 30 minutes.

The annual Planning Time Index on monitored highways in the TPB Planning Area is shown below. Figure 2-6 is the average PTI of total AM Peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM Peak (3:00-7:00 pm) on all weekdays in a year, Federal holidays excluded. Figure 2-7 is the PTI for the AM Peak, and Figure 2-8 is the PTI for the PM Peak. The PTI is reported by the five highway categories described above in the Travel Time Index section.

Observations from examining the regional annual average PTI for 2010-2019 include:

- On average, this region’s travelers should budget 1.44 times of their free-flow travel times to arrive destinations on-time 95% of the time, a little less budget if traveling in the AM peak and a little more in the PM peak. If traveling mostly on freeways, the budgeted time should be about one and a half times of the free-flow travel time, i.e. 1.39 times in the AM peak and 1.48 times

<sup>25</sup> Federal Highway Administration, *Travel Time Reliability Measures*, [http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf\\_measurement/reliability\\_measures/index.htm](http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/perf_measurement/reliability_measures/index.htm)

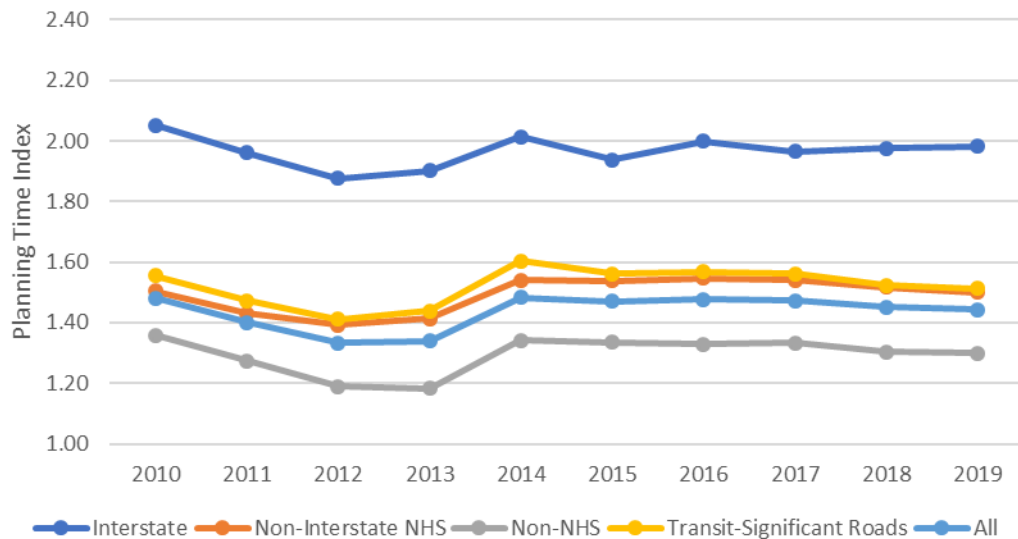


in the PM peak. These numbers are based on all directions of travel, therefore for those who traveling in the peak direction would need to even budget more.

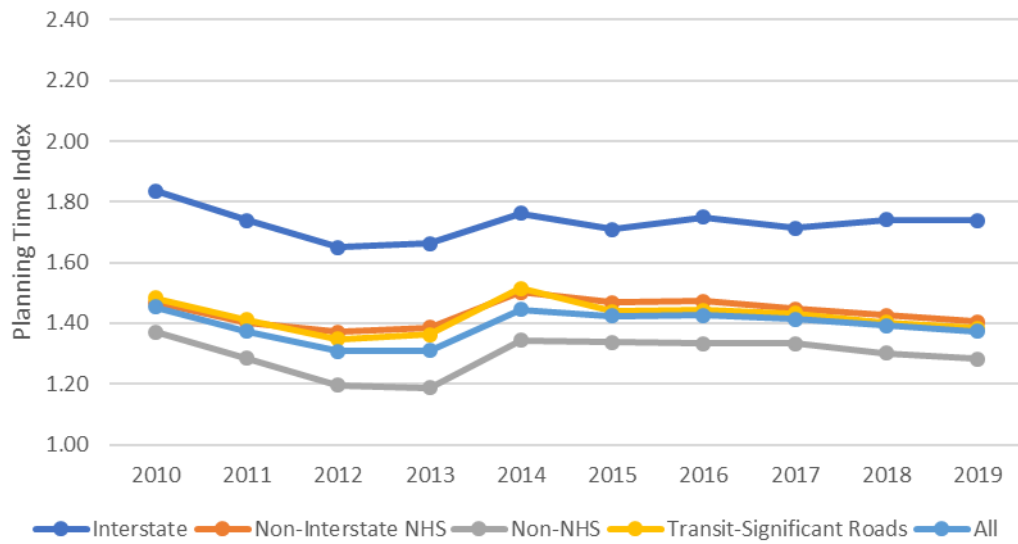
- Overall, the Peak Period travel time reliability in the region improved by about 10% between 2010-2012, but has gone slightly over the 2010 level in 2014. However, the trend went down about 3% from 1.48 in 2014 to 1.44 in 2019.
- Among all highway categories, the Interstate was the most unreliable and the Non-NHS was the most reliable. The Transit-Significant Roads system was the second most unreliable category, highlighting the reliability challenges facing transit bus operations.
- The region’s PM Peak Period was less reliable than the AM Peak Period over the years, especially on Interstates. Only on the Non-NHS roads, the difference between the two peak periods seemed minimal. The differences in congestion among the five highway categories were more pronounced in the PM peak than the AM peak.

The 2019 weekday (Monday through Friday) peak hour (8:00-9:00 am; 5:00-6:00 pm) Planning Time Index on the Interstate System and other monitored roads were visualized by the “Trend Map” tool in the VPP Suite, as provided in Appendix B.

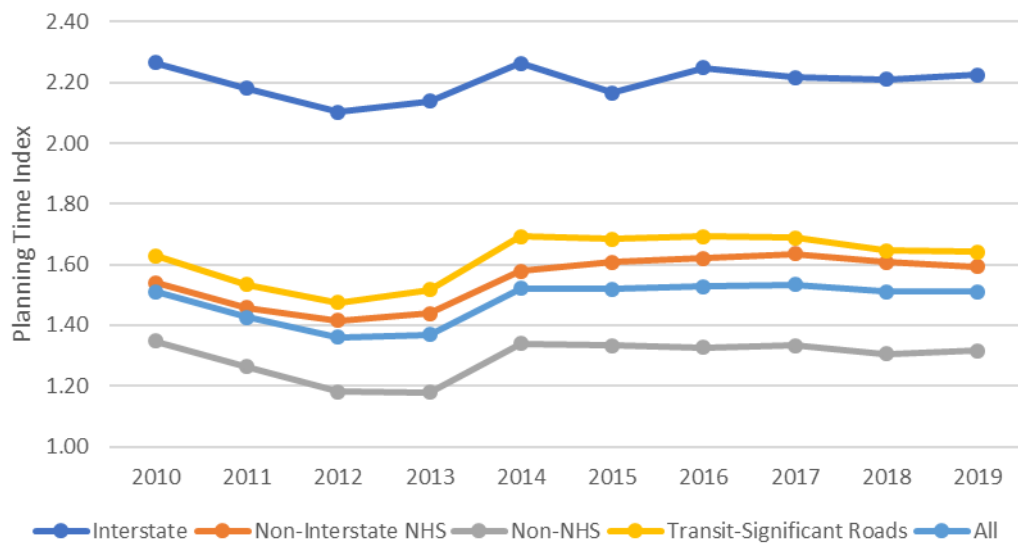
**Figure 2-6: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure 2-7: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: AM Peak**



**Figure 2-8: Annual Average Planning Time Index by Highway Category: PM Peak**



### 2.2.1.3 Percent of Congested Miles

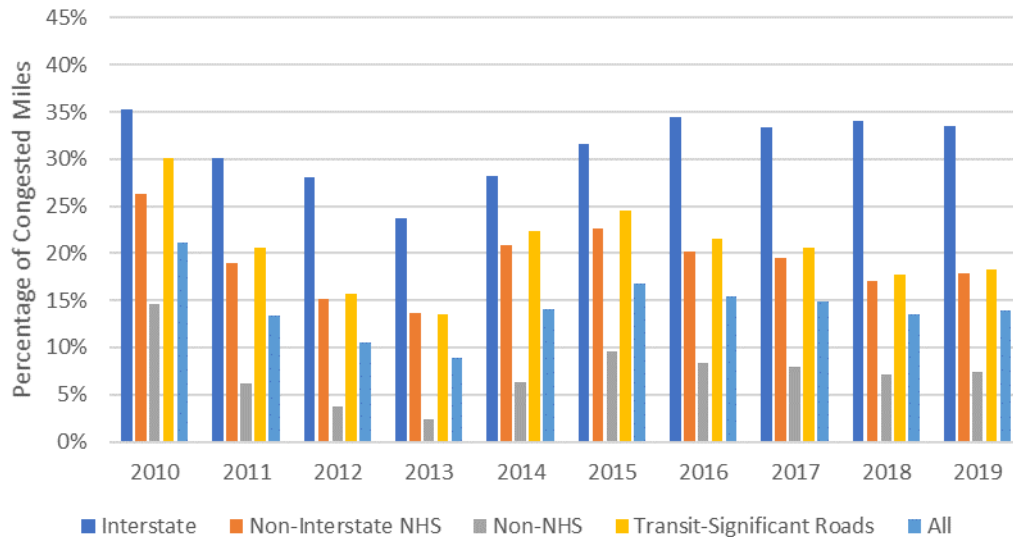
Percent of Congested (Directional) Miles is a system-wide measure that captures the spatial extent of congestion. According to the National Transportation Operations Coalition, if actual travel time is 30% longer than the free-flow travel time, i.e., Travel Time Index > 1.3, congestion is defined.

The annual average Percent of Congested Miles on monitored highways in the TPB Planning Area is shown below. Figure 2-9 is the average percentage of both AM Peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM Peak (3:00-7:00 pm) on all weekdays in a year, Federal holidays excluded, Figure 2-10 is the percentage for the AM Peak, and Figure 2-11 is the percentage for the PM Peak. The percentage is reported by five highway categories as described earlier.

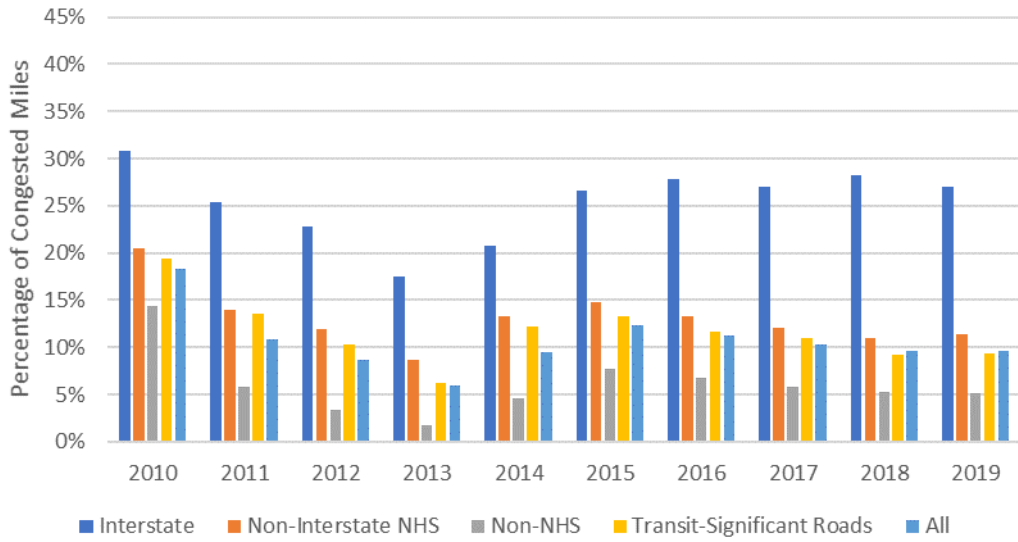
Observations from examining the Percent of Congested Miles for 2010-2019 include:

- Overall congestion trends are similar to what was observed in the Travel Time Index as described earlier.
- On average, this region had 14% of roads congested during peak periods in recent years that was a slightly improvement from 17% in 2015. More specifically, 34% of Interstate, 18% of non-Interstate NHS, 7% of non-NHS, and 18% of transit-significant roads were congested in 2019.
- There were fewer roads congested in the AM peak period than the PM peak period.

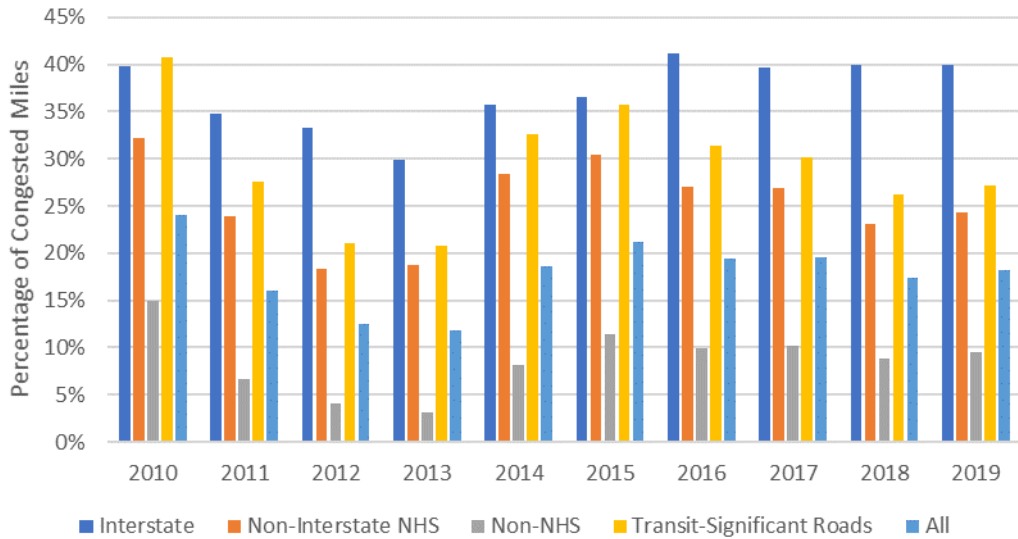
**Figure 2-9: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure 2-10: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: AM Peak**



**Figure 2-11: Annual Average Percent of Congested Miles by Highway Category: PM Peak**

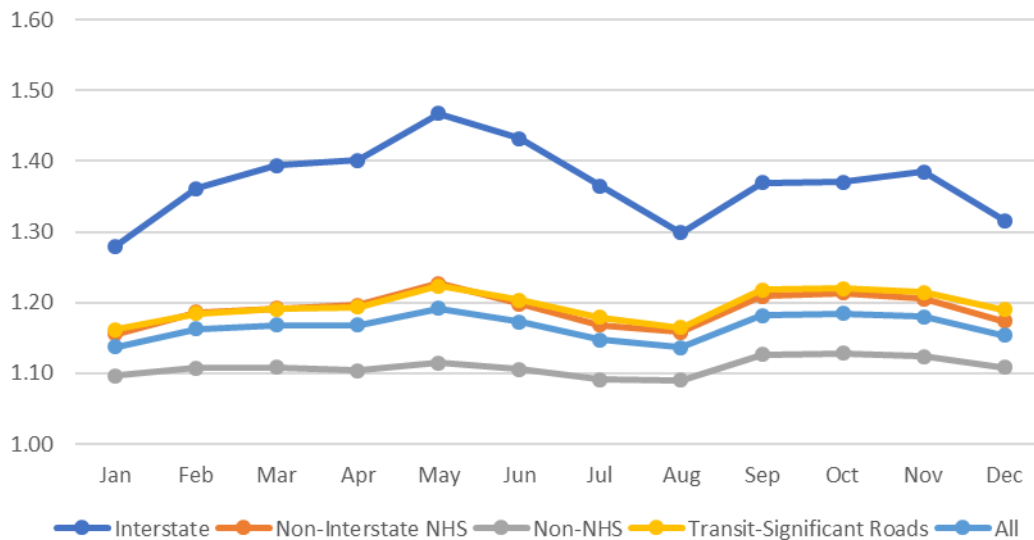


### 2.2.1.4 Congestion Monthly Variation in 2019

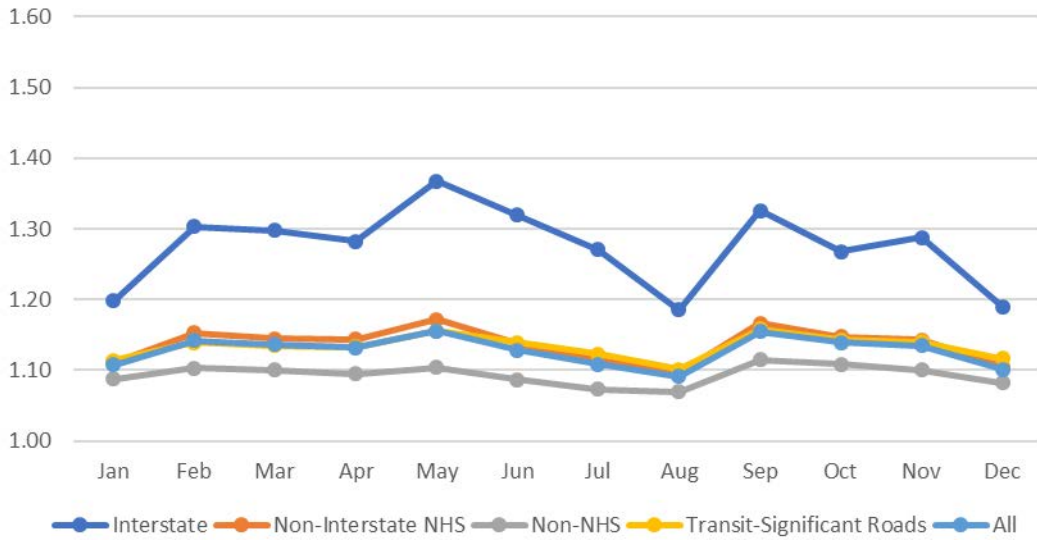
Congestion varies from month to month within a year, as shown in Figure 2-12 (total AM and PM peaks), Figure 2-13 (AM Peak), and Figure 2-14 (PM Peak). Monthly variation of congestion in 2019 had the following characteristics in the Washington region:

- Monthly variations of congestion were most pronounced on the Interstate System, followed by the Transit-Significant Roads, the Non-Interstate NHS, and the Non-NHS had the least fluctuations.
- The region overall had increasing congestion from January to May, then decreasing congestion through August. October had the highest level of congestion, after that, congestion kept decreasing for the rest of year. Four of the five investigated highway categories followed this trend. Interstates had a similar trend but having more significant peak between January and August, and another peak in November after August.
- Congestion showed a great deal of variation between the AM Peak and PM Peak on the Interstate System during the second half of the year. For the AM Peak, August represented the undoubtedly “low” month (even lower than January) and May was the “high” month; for the PM Peak, the “low” month was January and the “high” was still May.

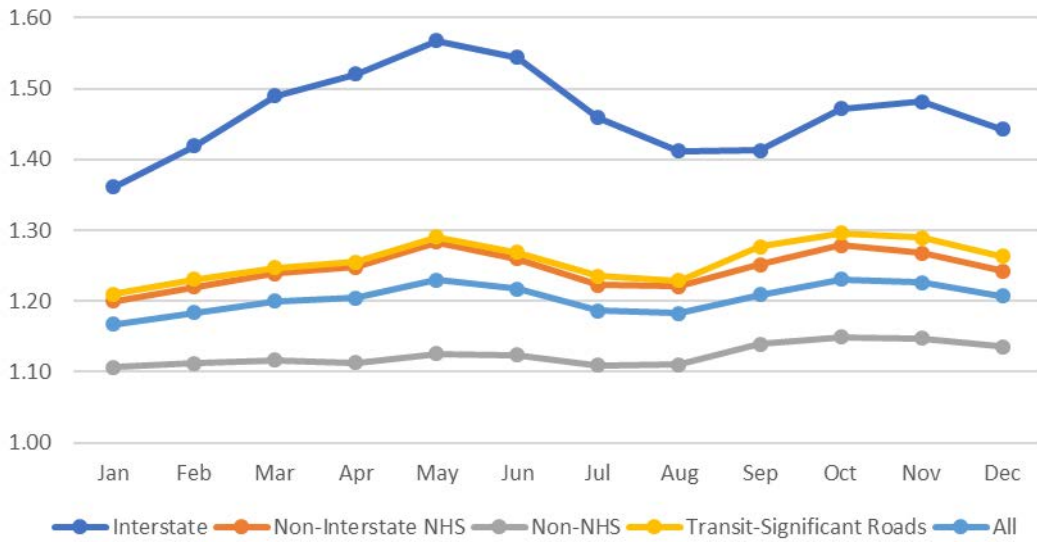
**Figure 2-12: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: Total AM and PM Peaks**



**Figure 2-13: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: AM Peak**



**Figure 2-14: Monthly Variation of Congestion in 2019: PM Peak**





#### 2.2.1.6 Top Bottlenecks

This report takes advantage of the vehicle probe data, which provides continuous minute-by-minute speed information for more than 6,525 directional miles of both freeways and arterials in the region, presents both “all time” and “peak periods” top bottlenecks, regardless of roadway function class. The “all-time” – 24/7/365 – top bottlenecks are provided in Table 2-1 and Figure 2-16, and the “peak periods” – non-holiday weekday 6:00-9:00 am and 4:00-7:00 pm – top bottlenecks are presented in Table 2-2 and Figure 2-17.

The Travel Time Index – an indicator of the intensity of congestion and the ratio of actual travel time to free flow travel time – is used as the essential factor in ranking the bottlenecks. This method is in line with the TPB’s long-standing, density-based methodology adopted in the aerial photography survey of the region’s freeway system. From a traveler’s perspective, the length of a congested road section also matters, therefore the product of TTI and length was used in the ranking. From a system’s perspective, the number of vehicles affected by a bottleneck also has a role in decision making, so the Annual Average Daily Traffic volume (AADT) is added as another factor for the second ranking list<sup>26</sup>.

---

<sup>26</sup> The methodology used in this report is different from that of the VPP Suite.



**Table 2-1: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time**

| Location   | State | Ave. TTI | Length (miles) | TTI*Miles | Rank by TTI*Miles | AADT   | AADT*TTI* Miles | Rank by AADT*TTI *Miles |
|--|-------|----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| I-95 SB between US-1/EXIT 161 and VA-123/EXIT 160                                | VA    | 1.90     | 3.32           | 6.32      | 1                 | 229949 | 1452366         | 1                       |
| I-495 IL between VA-267/EXIT 12 and AMERICAN LEGION BRIDGE                       | VA    | 1.72     | 3.11           | 5.36      | 2                 | 168182 | 901358          | 2                       |
| I-495 IL between MD-355/WISCONSIN AVE/EXIT 34 and MD-185/CONNECTICUT AVE/EXIT 33 | MD    | 1.55     | 1.80           | 2.78      | 3                 | 231860 | 645183          | 3                       |
| I-395 NB between EADS ST and MEMORIAL BRIDGE                                     | VA    | 2.05     | 1.18           | 2.41      | 4                 | 184291 | 444663          | 4                       |
| DC-295 NB between I-295/EXIT 4 and PENNSYLVANIA AVE                              | DC    | 1.74     | 1.36           | 2.35      | 5                 | 124371 | 292666          | 7                       |
| I-95/I-495 EB near US-1/RICHMOND HWY/MILL RD                                     | VA    | 1.54     | 1.50           | 2.32      | 6                 | 154050 | 356977          | 6                       |
| US-301 NB near OLD INDIAN HEAD RD/ROSARYVILLE RD                                 | MD    | 1.59     | 1.32           | 2.09      | 7                 | 31871  | 66731           | 10                      |
| I-495 OL near MD-193/UNIVERSITY BLVD/EXIT 29                                     | MD    | 1.55     | 1.25           | 1.94      | 8                 | 213179 | 414513          | 5                       |
| I-495 OL between VA-241/TELEGRAPH RD/EXIT 2 and US-1/EXIT 1                      | VA    | 1.53     | 1.08           | 1.65      | 9                 | 170664 | 281531          | 8                       |
| VA-28 SB near WESTFIELDS BLVD  | VA    | 1.54     | 0.85           | 1.31      | 10                | 111293 | 145738          | 9                       |

**Table 2-2: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods**

| Location   | State | Ave. TTI | Length (miles) | TTI* Miles | Rank by TTI*Miles | AADT   | AADT*TTI* Miles | Rank by AADT*TTI *Miles |
|--|-------|----------|----------------|------------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| I-95 SB between VA-7100/EXIT 166 and VA-123/EXIT 160                             | VA    | 2.15     | 6.84           | 14.71      | 1                 | 248417 | 3654895         | 1                       |
| I-495 OL between EXIT 27 and MD-97/GEORGIA AVE/EXIT 31                           | MD    | 2.41     | 5.70           | 13.72      | 2                 | 252402 | 3464126         | 2                       |
| I-495 OL between VAN DORN ST/EXIT 3 and WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE           | VA    | 2.15     | 6.13           | 13.18      | 3                 | 199348 | 2628093         | 4                       |
| I-495 OL between VA-267/EXIT 12 and VA-650/GALLOWS RD/EXIT 7                     | VA    | 1.91     | 6.71           | 12.81      | 4                 | 176740 | 2263667         | 6                       |
| I-495 IL between MD-355/WISCONSIN AVE/EXIT 34 and MD-193/UNIVERSITY BLVD/EXIT 29 | MD    | 2.00     | 6.22           | 12.41      | 5                 | 231860 | 2878403         | 3                       |
| I-495 IL between VA-123/CHAIN BRIDGE RD/EXIT 11 and AMERICAN LEGION BRIDGE       | VA    | 2.72     | 4.05           | 11.03      | 6                 | 168182 | 1855866         | 7                       |
| I-495 OL between US-50/EXIT 19 and MD-201/KENILWORTH AVE/EXIT 23                 | MD    | 1.64     | 6.19           | 10.13      | 7                 | 227400 | 2303584         | 5                       |
| I-66 WB between VA-286/FAIRFAX COUNTY PKWY/EXIT 55 and US-29/EXIT 52             | VA    | 1.85     | 5.11           | 9.43       | 8                 | 157964 | 1489532         | 9                       |
| VA-28 NB between YORKSHIRE LN and NEW BRADDOCK RD                                | VA    | 1.68     | 5.43           | 9.13       | 9                 | 55594  | 507451          | 10                      |
| I-395 NB between EDSALL RD/EXIT 2 and VA-7/KING ST/EXIT 5                        | VA    | 1.78     | 4.85           | 8.62       | 10                | 207500 | 1788772         | 8                       |

Figure 2-16: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – All Time

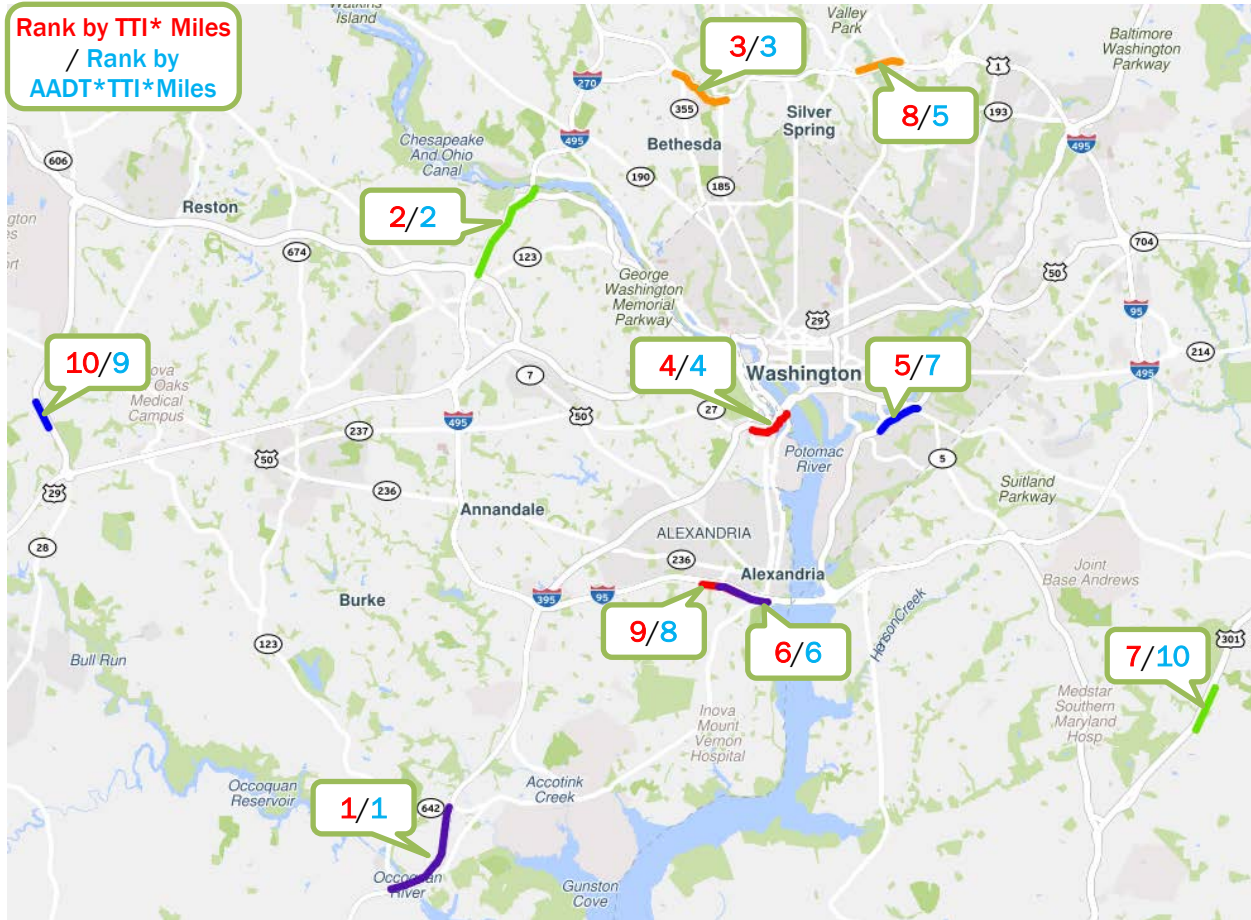
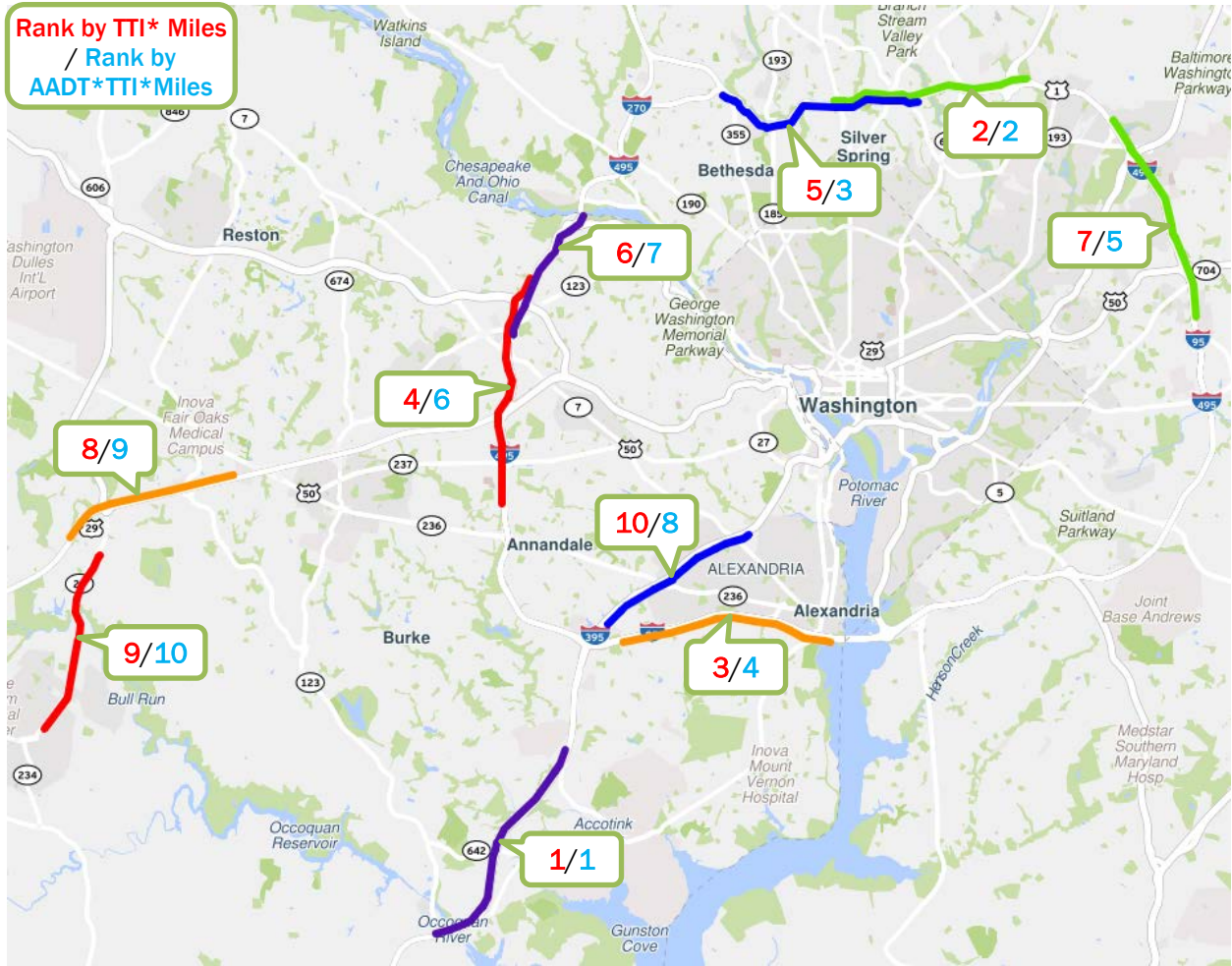


Figure 2-17: 2019 Top Bottlenecks – Peak Periods



### 2.2.1.7 Travel Times along Major Freeway Commute Routes

In addition to the regional summaries as presented by the above performance measures, route- or corridor-specific analysis has also been carried out in this report. A total of 18 major freeway commute routes are defined between major interchanges and/or major points of interest, as shown in Table 2-3 and Figure 2-18.

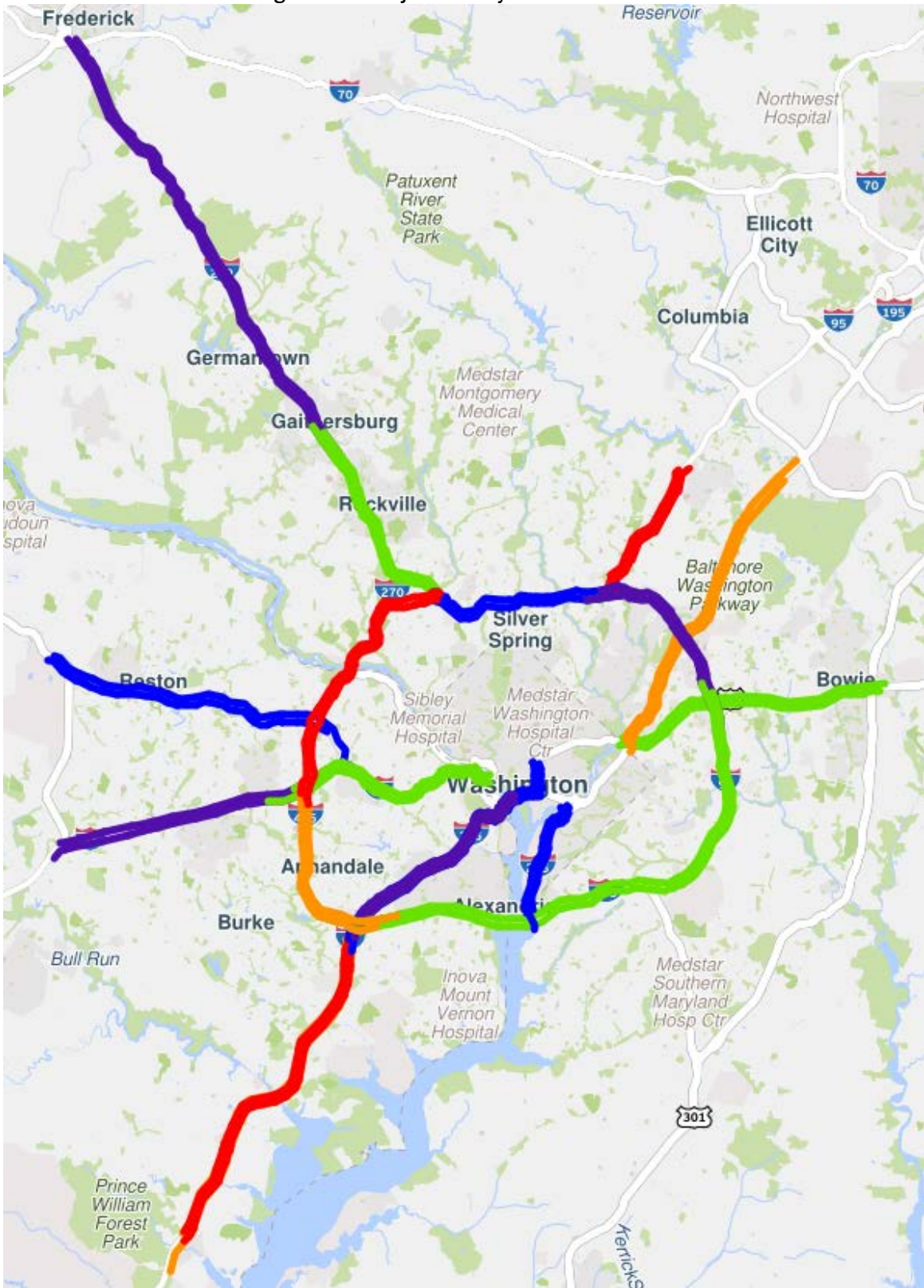
Travel times along the 18 major commute routes in both directions were plotted by the “Performance Charts” tool of the VPP Suite for every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in 2010 and 2017-2019, as shown in Figure 2-19 below (one example) and Appendix C (all 18 corridors). The travel times and planning times (95<sup>th</sup> percentile travel times) during AM Peak Hour (8:00-9:00 am) and PM Peak Hour (5:00-6:00 pm) are also provided in Table 2-4 and Table 2-5.

One caveat of the method employed in the major commute route analysis is that the route travel time is calculated as *instantaneous travel time* other than *experienced travel time*. Instantaneous travel time is the travel time that would result if prevailing traffic conditions remained unchanged; in other words, the instantaneous route travel time is simply the sum of all segment travel times. The experienced travel time is the travel time of the user who has just completed the considered trip, and is generally not equal to the sum of segment travel times, especially during unstable traffic conditions. This caveat in the methodology merits future improvements.

**Table 2-3: Major Freeway Commute Routes**

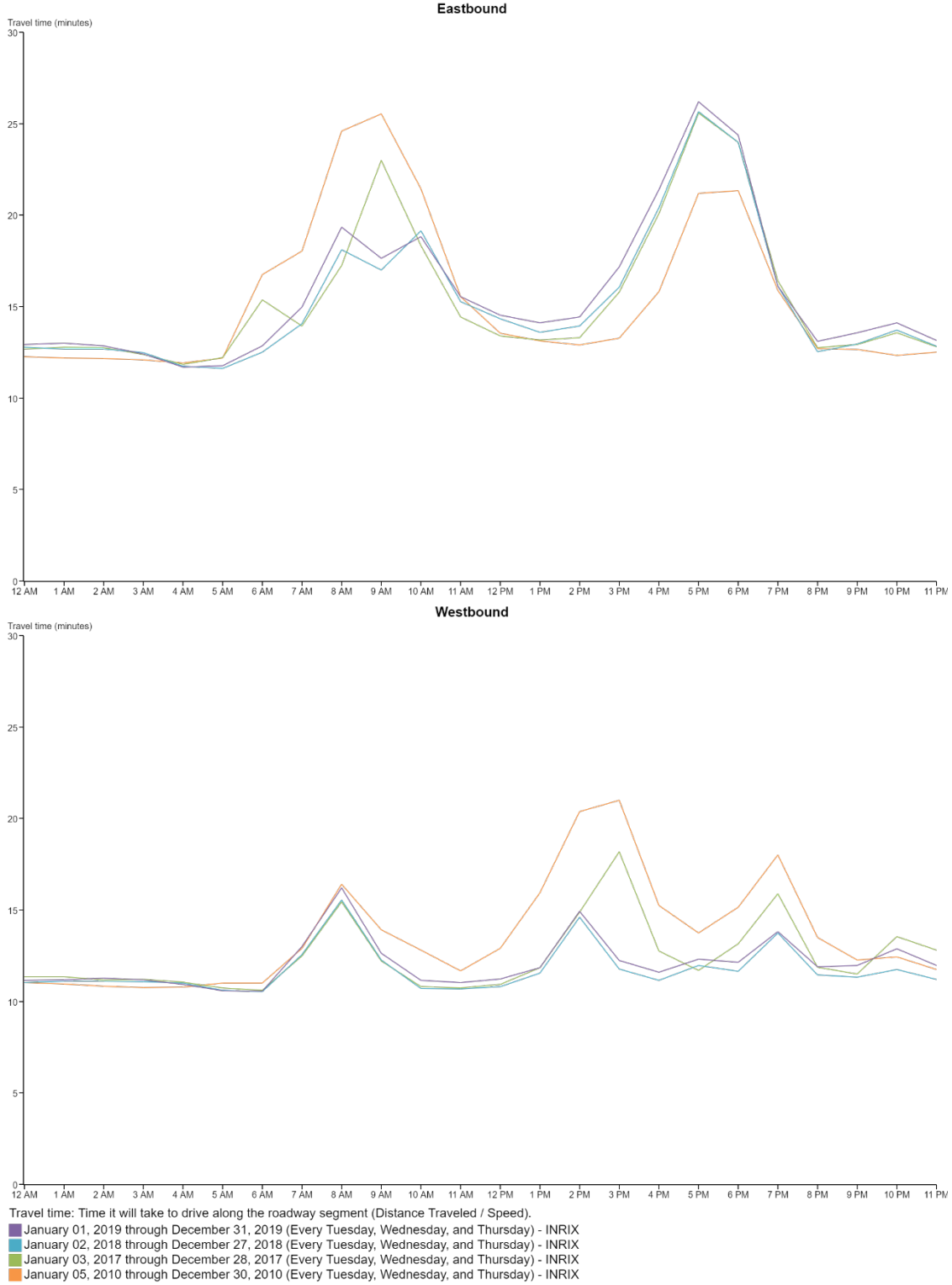
| Route Code | Description   |
|------------|---|
| C1         | I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-70/US-40             |
| C2         | I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-495/MD-355           |
| C3         | VA-267 between VA-28/Exit 9a and VA-123/Exit 19                   |
| C4         | I-66 between VA-28/Exit 53 and I-495/Exit 64                      |
| C5         | I-66 between I-495/Exit 64 and Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge |
| C6         | I-95 between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169            |
| C7         | I-95 HOV between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169        |
| C8         | I-395 between I-95 and H St                                       |
| C9         | I-395 HOV between I-95 and US-1                                   |
| C10        | US-50 between MD-295/Kenilworth Ave and US-301/Exit 13            |
| C11        | MD-295 between US-50/MD-201/Kenilworth Ave and MD-198             |
| C12        | I-95 between I-495/Exit 27-25 and MD-198/Exit 33                  |
| C13        | I-495 between I-270/Exit 35 and I-95/Exit 27                      |
| C14        | I-495 between I-95/Exit 27 and US-50/Exit 19                      |
| C15        | I-495 between US-50/Exit 19 and I-95/I-395/Exit 57                |
| C16        | I-495 between I-95/I-395/Exit 57 and I-66/Exit 9                  |
| C17        | I-495 between I-66/Exit 9 and I-270/Exit 35                       |
| C18        | I-295 between I-495 and 11 <sup>th</sup> St. Bridge               |

Figure 2-18: Major Freeway Commute Routes



(Screenshot was captured from vpp.ritis.org in Feb 2020)

**Figure 2-19: Sample of Travel Times along Major Freeway Commute Routes**  
**Travel time (minutes) for I-66 between I-495/Exit 64 and US-50/Arlington Memorial Bridge**  
 Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)



**NOTE: Travel time: time it will take to drive along the stretch of road (Distance traveled / Speed)**

**Table 2-4: Time on Major Freeway Commute Routes in AM Peak Hour (8:00-9:00 am)**

| Route   | Length (miles) | Average Travel Time in AM Peak Hour 8:00-9:00 am (min) |      |      |      | Reliable (95th) Travel Time* in AM Peak Hour 8:00-9:00 am (min) |      |      |      | 2019 Changes in Average Travel Time in AM Peak Hour (min) |          |          | 2019 Changes in 95th Travel Time in AM Peak Hour (min) |          |          |
|---|----------------|--|------|------|------|---|------|------|------|---|----------|----------|--|----------|----------|
|   |                | 2010   | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2010  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | vs. 2010  | vs. 2017 | vs. 2018 | vs. 2010   | vs. 2017 | vs. 2018 |
| C1: I-270 SB from I-70 to I-370                 | 24             | 42   | 37   | 39   | 39   | 86  | 65   | 68   | 67   | -3  | 2        | 0        | -19  | 2        | -1       |
| C2: I-270 SB from I-370 to I-495                | 11             | 25   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 47  | 37   | 36   | 35   | -4  | 0        | 0        | -13  | -2       | -1       |
| C3: VA-267 EB from VA-28 to VA-123              | 14             | 26   | 21   | 21   | 21   | 59  | 37   | 36   | 38   | -5  | 0        | 0        | -22  | 1        | 2        |
| C4: I-66 EB from VA-28 to I-495                 | 13             | 29   | 24   | 25   | 25   | 63  | 40   | 39   | 39   | -5  | 0        | 0        | -24  | -1       | 0        |
| C5: I-66 EB from I-495 to TR Bridge             | 12             | 25   | 17   | 18   | 19   | 45  | 28   | 30   | 33   | -5  | 2        | 1        | -12  | 5        | 3        |
| C6: I-95 NB from VA-234 to Exit 169             | 19             | 27   | 25   | 27   | 28   | 62  | 42   | 50   | 49   | 0   | 3        | 0        | -13  | 7        | -1       |
| C7: I-95 NB HOV from VA-234 to Exit 169         | 18             | 18   | 15   | 16   | 16   | 25  | 17   | 17   | 18   | -3  | 0        | 0        | -8   | 1        | 0        |
| C8: I-395 NB from I-95 to H St.                 | 14             | 38   | 37   | 38   | 40   | 82  | 71   | 71   | 77   | 3   | 3        | 2        | -4   | 7        | 6        |
| C9: I-395 NB HOV from I-495 to US-1             | 11             | 15   | 13   | 16   | 17   | 31  | 20   | 30   | 30   | 1   | 3        | 0        | -1   | 10       | 0        |
| C10: US-50 WB from US-301 to MD-295             | 13             | 23   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 40  | 35   | 38   | 37   | 1   | 1        | 0        | -3   | 2        | -1       |
| C11: MD-295 SB from MD-198 to US-50             | 16             | 28   | 27   | 28   | 28   | 62  | 43   | 48   | 48   | 0   | 1        | 0        | -14  | 5        | 0        |
| C12: I-95 SB from MD-198 to I-495               | 7              | 12   | 13   | 11   | 12   | 25  | 23   | 19   | 18   | 0   | -1       | 0        | -7   | -5       | -1       |
| C13: I-495 IL from I-270/Exit35 to I-95/Exit 27 | 10             | 14   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 22  | 20   | 21   | 22   | 0   | 0        | 0        | 0  | 2        | 1        |
| C14: I-495 IL from I-95/Exit 27 to US-50/Exit19 | 9              | 11   | 12   | 12   | 13   | 14  | 17   | 18   | 19   | 2   | 1        | 0        | 5  | 2        | 1        |
| C15: I-495 IL from US-50/Exit19 to I-95/Exit57  | 28             | 27   | 42   | 45   | 43   | 44  | 78   | 79   | 66   | 15  | 1        | -2       | 23   | -11      | -13      |
| C16: I-495 IL from I-95/Exit57 to I-66/Exit9    | 10             | 30   | 20   | 20   | 20   | 50  | 34   | 32   | 29   | -10   | 0        | 0        | -21  | -5       | -2       |
| C17: I-495 IL from I-66/Exit9 to I-270/Exit35   | 14             | 19   | 25   | 23   | 21   | 30  | 45   | 43   | 35   | 2   | -4       | -1       | 5  | -10      | -7       |
| C13: I-495 OL from I-95/Exit27 to I-270/Exit35  | 10             | 32   | 33   | 32   | 33   | 52  | 50   | 49   | 55   | 1   | 1        | 1        | 3  | 4        | 6        |
| C14: I-495 OL from US-50/Exit19 to I-95         | 10             | 17   | 15   | 14   | 14   | 29  | 23   | 22   | 22   | -2  | -1       | 0        | -7   | -1       | 1        |
| C15: I-495 OL from I-95/Exit57 to US-50/Exit19  | 29             | 32   | 34   | 37   | 38   | 49  | 52   | 59   | 60   | 6   | 4        | 1        | 11   | 9        | 1        |
| C16: I-495 OL from I-66/Exit9 to I-95/Exit57    | 10             | 11   | 11   | 11   | 11   | 12  | 14   | 14   | 15   | 0   | 0        | 0        | 3  | 1        | 1        |
| C17: I-495 OL from I-270/Exit35 to I-66/Exit9   | 13             | 17   | 17   | 19   | 19   | 25  | 26   | 31   | 30   | 3   | 2        | 0        | 5  | 4        | -1       |
| C18: I-295 NB from I-495 to 11th St. Brdg.      | 6              | 13   | 16   | 17   | 19   | 32  | 33   | 40   | 38   | 5   | 2        | 1        | 6  | 5        | -2       |

\* The majority (95%) of trips spent equal to or less than the reliable (95<sup>th</sup>) travel time on the specified route. On average, a traveler could successfully complete the travel on the specified route within the reliable travel time during 19 out of 20 trips (only 1 trip could exceed the reliable travel time).



**Table 2-5: Travel Time on Major Freeway Commute Routes in PM Peak Hour (5:00-6:00 pm)**

| Route   | Length (miles) | Average Travel Time in PM Peak Hour 5:00-6:00 pm (min) |      |      |      | Reliable (95th) Travel Time* in PM Peak Hour 5:00-6:00 pm (min) |      |      |      | 2019 Changes in Average Travel Time in PM Peak Hour |          |          | 2019 Changes in 95th Travel Time in PM Peak Hour (min) |          |          |
|---|----------------|--|------|------|------|---|------|------|------|---|----------|----------|--|----------|----------|
|   |                | 2010   | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2010  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | vs. 2010  | vs. 2017 | vs. 2018 | vs. 2010   | vs. 2017 | vs. 2018 |
| C1: I-270 NB from I-370 to I-70                 | 24             | 37   | 40   | 39   | 40   | 74  | 67   | 64   | 66   | 3   | 1        | 1        | -8   | -1       | 2        |
| C2: I-270 NB from I-495 to I-370                | 10             | 17   | 17   | 19   | 19   | 29  | 30   | 35   | 32   | 2   | 2        | 0        | 3  | 2        | -3       |
| C3: VA-267 WB from I-66 to VA-28                | 17             | 20   | 21   | 23   | 23   | 33  | 32   | 34   | 36   | 3   | 2        | 1        | 3  | 4        | 2        |
| C4: I-66 WB from I-495 to VA-28                 | 13             | 28   | 35   | 35   | 33   | 49  | 60   | 60   | 56   | 5   | -3       | -3       | 7  | -4       | -4       |
| C5: I-66 WB from TR Bridge to I-495             | 11             | 14   | 12   | 12   | 12   | 24  | 16   | 17   | 17   | -1  | 1        | 0        | -7   | 1        | 0        |
| C6: I-95 SB from Exit 169 to VA-234             | 17             | 46   | 35   | 36   | 38   | 99  | 54   | 56   | 59   | -7  | 3        | 2        | -40  | 5        | 3        |
| C7: I-95 SB HOV from Exit 169 to VA-234         | 17             | 19   | 15   | 16   | 16   | 31  | 18   | 19   | 21   | -3  | 1        | 1        | -10  | 3        | 2        |
| C8: I-395 SB from H St. to I-95                 | 14             | 29   | 36   | 41   | 40   | 51  | 61   | 72   | 71   | 11  | 4        | -1       | 20   | 11       | -1       |
| C9: I-395 SB HOV from US-1 to I-495             | 11             | 10   | 10   | 12   | 12   | 15  | 12   | 15   | 15   | 2   | 3        | 0        | 0  | 3        | 0        |
| C10: US-50 E8 from MD-295 to US-301             | 13             | 18   | 17   | 17   | 17   | 26  | 23   | 24   | 24   | 0   | 1        | 0        | -2   | 1        | 0        |
| C11: MD-295 NB from US-50 to MD-198             | 15             | 32   | 30   | 32   | 31   | 57  | 51   | 55   | 54   | -1  | 1        | -1       | -3   | 2        | -1       |
| C12: I-95 NB from I-495 to MD-198               | 7              | 8  | 9    | 9    | 9    | 14  | 17   | 15   | 15   | 1   | 0        | 0        | 1  | -2       | 0        |
| C13: I-495 IL from I-270/Exit35 to I-95/Exit 27 | 10             | 25   | 29   | 27   | 30   | 47  | 52   | 49   | 52   | 6   | 2        | 4        | 5  | 0        | 4        |
| C14: I-495 IL from I-95/Exit 27 to US-50/Exit19 | 9              | 17   | 21   | 21   | 21   | 31  | 35   | 36   | 33   | 4   | 0        | -1       | 2  | -1       | -2       |
| C15: I-495 IL from US-50/Exit19 to I-95/Exit57  | 28             | 30   | 39   | 42   | 39   | 44  | 61   | 67   | 60   | 9   | 0        | -3       | 17   | -1       | -7       |
| C16: I-495 IL from I-95/Exit57 to I-66/Exit9    | 10             | 14   | 10   | 10   | 11   | 26  | 11   | 12   | 13   | -3  | 0        | 0        | -13  | 1        | 1        |
| C17: I-495 IL from I-66/Exit9 to I-270/Exit35   | 14             | 42   | 50   | 45   | 40   | 95  | 90   | 84   | 73   | -3  | -10      | -5       | -22  | -17      | -11      |
| C13: I-495 OL from I-95/Exit27 to I-270/Exit35  | 10             | 21   | 14   | 14   | 13   | 50  | 24   | 25   | 22   | -8  | -1       | -1       | -28  | -2       | -3       |
| C14: I-495 OL from US-50/Exit19 to I-95/Exit57  | 10             | 15   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 30  | 29   | 31   | 31   | 4   | 1        | 0        | 1  | 2        | 0        |
| C15: I-495 OL from I-95/Exit57 to US-50/Exit19  | 29             | 31   | 54   | 56   | 55   | 57  | 101  | 100  | 100  | 24  | 1        | -1       | 43   | -1       | 0        |
| C16: I-495 OL from I-66/Exit9 to I-95/Exit57    | 10             | 16   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 24  | 30   | 30   | 32   | 5   | 1        | 1        | 8  | 2        | 2        |
| C17: I-495 OL from I-270/Exit35 to I-66/Exit9   | 13             | 35   | 39   | 37   | 35   | 71  | 69   | 67   | 66   | 0   | -4       | -2       | -5   | -3       | -1       |
| C18: I-295 SB from 1th St. Brg. to I-495        | 7              | 12   | 20   | 22   | 21   | 22  | 31   | 35   | 33   | 8   | 1        | -1       | 10   | 1        | -2       |

\* The majority (95%) of trips spent equal to or less than the reliable (95<sup>th</sup>) travel time on the specified route. On average, a traveler could successfully complete the travel on the specified route within the reliable travel time during 19 out of 20 trips (only 1 trip could exceed the reliable travel time).

### 2.2.1.8 Congestion on Arterials

#### ***Congestion Characteristics on Arterials***

An arterial highway is defined as an interrupted flow roadway. Arterials are different than freeways in that they tend to have multiple ingress and egress points, intersections, fewer lanes, and lower speeds. Due to these characteristics, the congestion on arterials can be caused from reasons different from that of freeways.

As mentioned earlier, the TPB had carried out Arterial Floating Car Travel Time Studies from 2000 – 2011 on selected NHS arterial highways in the region. These studies had identified some common themes and trends about general arterial congestion:

- There are competing demands of traveler mobility and accessibility to adjacent land uses affecting arterial operations.
- Growth and development can contribute to rapid worsening of congestion at specific locations.
- Intersections and driveways can cause slow-downs and backups along arterials.
- Arterials often experience spillover from freeways.
- Arterials tend to be heavily traveled in densely developed corridors.
- Traffic engineering improvements, such as extending a turn lane or traffic signal timing, can help soften the impacts of growth.
- By nature of design and other factors, arterials can be a mix of speeds, depending on things such as number of traffic signals, intersections, and lanes.
- Since the Washington region has a limited number of freeway lane miles, the region is especially dependent upon its arterial highways for mobility.
- Cars share the road with transit and delivery vehicles with frequent stops.

Although congestion occurs on arterials throughout the region, there are also common trends that are generally associated with the land use and urban form surrounding the arterial. For the purposes of this report, we will classify these as metro core, inner suburban and outer suburban arterials.

#### *Arterials in the Inner Core*

The characteristics of the inner core of a region, by their urban nature, can greatly impact the flow of traffic on the core's arterials:

- Pedestrian and transit access to densely populated land uses are a major focus of inner core roadways. Traffic speeds must be at a level that ensures pedestrian safety.
- The flow of traffic is more frequently interrupted by a higher concentration of signaled intersections and driveways/alleyways in the inner core.
- Intersections tend to be close together. If traffic is stopped at an intersection, sometimes backups can occur through the intersection behind it. In addition, traffic blocking an intersection could impact the flow of traffic on the cross street.
- There are not always turn lanes present, so drivers may have to wait while a car in front of them makes a turn.
- On-street parking necessitates slower traffic speeds. In addition, some inner core arterials experience worse congestion in the off-peak period because two lanes of capacity are lost due to on-street parking during the day.

- In many older areas, a grid pattern of streets allows for multiple travel routes at moderate speeds.

For example, many of these inner core characteristics play a role in the congestion on Connecticut Ave NW, between K Street NW and Nebraska Ave NW. This segment of Connecticut Ave is a dense corridor of retail and commercial activity which attracts a large number of pedestrians and drivers searching for on-street parking.

Congestion management strategies that can help manage congestion on core arterials include operations management strategies such as optimized traffic signal timing and traffic engineering improvements. Relevant demand management strategies include robust transit services in these densely populated areas, employer outreach of alternative commute programs, as well as improved pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

#### *Arterials in the Inner Suburbs*

Arterials in the inner suburbs have characteristics combined from that of the inner core and outer suburban arterials.

- Signalized intersections, especially the intersections of major arterial roadways, have capacity limitations, especially when there are high percentages of turning movements at those intersections.
- Traffic from both nearby offices and residences can cause congestion.
- There can be spillover from adjacent congested freeways.
- Strip retail and other “destination” retail activities are often located along arterials. In the inner suburbs the density of these uses is likely higher than that of the outer suburbs, and ingress/egress points are closer together. This could cause disruptions in traffic flow during peak times.
- Inner suburban areas have been experiencing welcome increases in pedestrians and transit usage in recent years, which must be considered in operations planning for arterials in these areas.

For example, these inner suburban arterial qualities are true of US 29, which extends from Arlington, VA to Centreville, VA. The segment between M Street NW in DC and Harrison Street in Arlington is lined with several strip retail areas.

US 29 is also a major alternative commuting route of I-66, and it provides access to I-66 at several different locations. US 29 experienced spillover from several major freeways in the vicinity, including I-66 and the Beltway.

Georgia Ave, between Eastern Ave NW (DC boundary) and MD 28 also experiences situations typical of inner suburban arterials. Georgia Ave links Aspen Hill area to Silver Spring, serving as one of the major commuting routes to and from DC for the communities between I-270 and I-95 in Montgomery County in Maryland. The southern part of the corridor connects to US 29 in Silver Spring, a major arterial cross the region. Georgia Ave also experienced spillover from the Beltway in Silver Spring.

Congestion management strategies that can help inner suburban arterials include operational management strategies such as optimized traffic signals, operational management improvements on nearby freeways, and traffic engineering improvements. Often off-peak signal timing in inner suburban arterials can be worse than the peak hours, as a high number of people are moving in all directions

and not with peak flow movement. Relevant demand management strategies include transit services, bus rapid transit, and Commuter Connections programs (especially employer-based programs).

### *Arterials in the Outer Suburbs*

Arterials in the outer suburbs have their own unique characteristics:

- New development in the outer suburbs may quickly overwhelm the capacities of what were until recently lightly traveled rural roads.
- Because commute distances in the outer suburbs tend to be longer, peaking characteristics of traffic are much sharper.
- Transit services and pedestrian facilities are limited.
- Not unlike the inner suburbs, strip retail and other “destination” retail activities are likely to be located along outer suburban arterials. This could cause disruptions in traffic flow during peak times.
- Outer suburban arterials can also experience spillover from major freeways. This is especially expected during the morning and evening peak period when commuters drive to and from the inner core for work.

Congestion management strategies that can help outer suburban arterials include operational management strategies such as bottleneck removal, dedicated turn lanes, and other traffic engineering improvements. Relevant demand management strategies include park-and-ride lots, commuter bus and rail services and Commuter Connections programs (especially employee-focused programs).

### ***Congestion on Selected Arterials***

Given the availability of the I-95 VPP/INRIX data, the TPB has adopted this third-party probe-based data for arterial travel time monitoring. This data source enabled more detailed analysis of travels along arterials including travel time reliability. Appendices A and B provide the peak hour Travel Time Index and Planning Time Index on most of the region’s NHS arterials and other probe data monitored roadways for 2019.

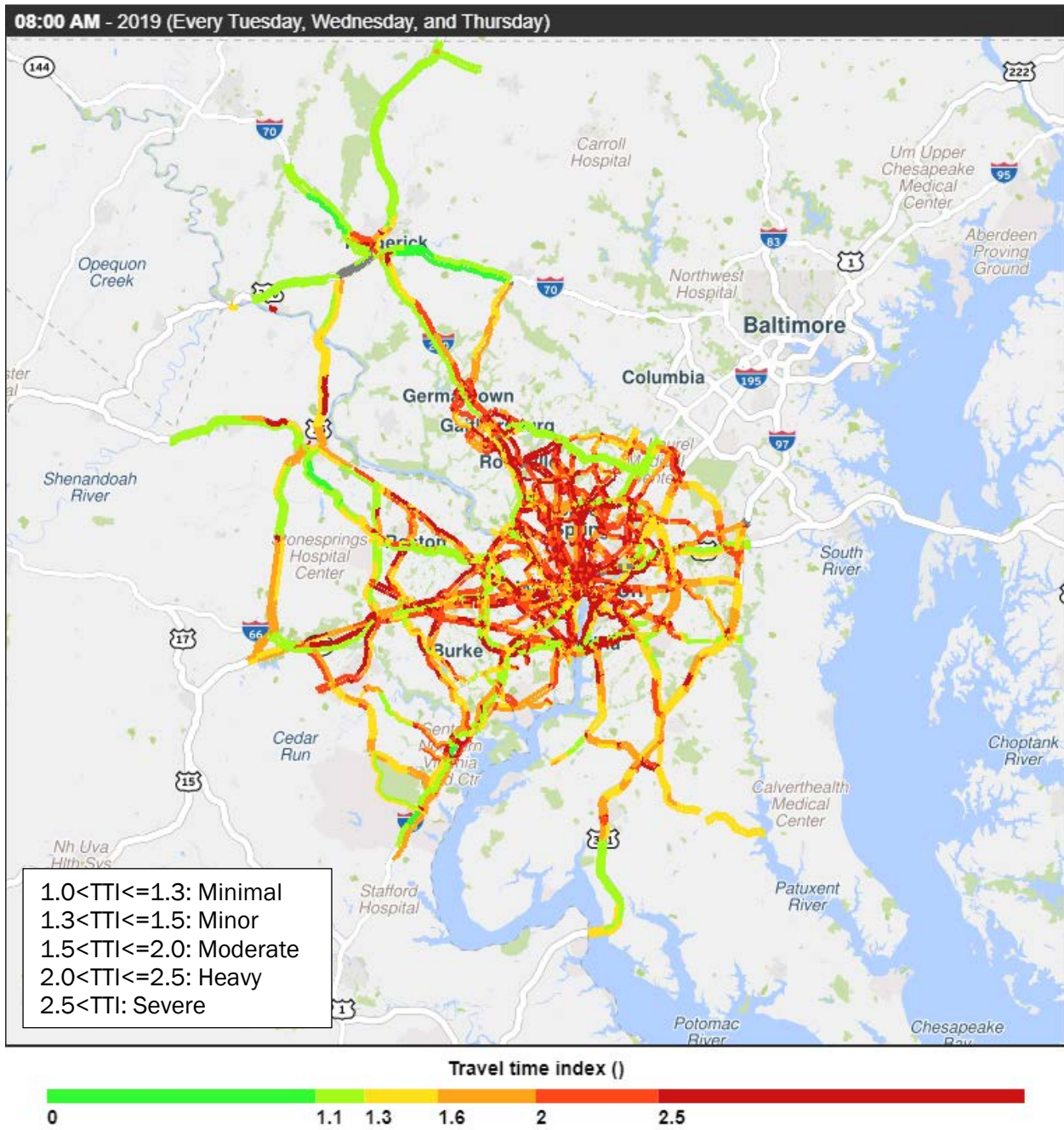
In addition to the regional summaries and congestion mapping on arterials that have been presented earlier in this chapter, this report also investigates the travel times along the study routes under the historical floating car surveys. This includes 58 routes shown in Table 2-6 below. Travel Time Index of the studied routes and other NHS arterials for middle weekday peak hours (8:00-9:00 am and 5:00-6:00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays) are mapped in Figure 2-20 and Figure 2 - 21.

**Table 2-6: Arterial Travel Time Study Routes**

| State | Route                     | From/To           | To/From           | Length (miles) |
|-------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| DC    | 14th St                   | Independence Ave  | K St              | 1.0            |
| DC    | 16th St                   | K St              | Eastern Ave       | 6.1            |
| DC    | 17th St                   | Pennsylvania Ave  | Independence Ave  | 0.5            |
| DC    | 7th St/Georgia Ave Sec. 1 | Independence Ave  | New Hampshire Ave | 2.8            |
| DC    | 7th St/Georgia Ave Sec. 2 | New Hampshire Ave | Eastern Ave       | 3.5            |
| DC    | Canal Rd/M St             | 30th St           | Chain Bridge      | 3.7            |
| DC    | Connecticut Ave           | K St              | Nebraska Ave      | 4.0            |
| DC    | Constitution Ave          | Louisiana Ave     | 14th St NE        | 1.5            |
| DC    | H St                      | Pennsylvania Ave  | 14th St NW        | 0.6            |
| DC    | Independence Ave          | 17th St           | 2nd St SE         | 1.9            |
| DC    | K St/New York Ave         | 21st St NW        | Bladensburg Rd    | 4.2            |
| DC    | L St                      | Pennsylvania Ave  | 14th St NW        | 1.1            |
| DC    | Military Rd               | Connecticut Ave   | Georgia Ave       | 2.5            |
| DC    | Pennsylvania Ave          | Constitution Ave  | 15th St NW        | 0.8            |
| DC    | Rhode Island Ave          | 7th St            | Eastern Ave       | 3.5            |
| DC    | South Dakota Ave          | Bladensburg Rd    | Riggs Rd          | 3.0            |
| DC    | US 50                     | 17th St           | T. R. Bridge      | 0.9            |
| DC    | US 29                     | M St              | Whitehurst Fwy    | 0.5            |
| DC    | Wisconsin Ave             | M St              | Western Ave       | 4.1            |
| MD    | MD 117                    | Muddy Branch Rd   | Clarksburg Rd     | 6.8            |
| MD    | MD 193                    | Colesville Rd     | Adelphi Rd        | 4.6            |
| MD    | MD 198                    | MD 650            | Old Gunpowder Rd  | 5.2            |
| MD    | MD 210                    | Southern Ave      | Livingston Rd     | 10.5           |
| MD    | MD 355 Sec. 1             | MD 124            | MD 547            | 10.1           |
| MD    | MD 355 Sec. 2             | MD 547            | Western Ave       | 5.3            |
| MD    | MD 4                      | Southern Ave      | Dowerhouse Rd     | 7.0            |
| MD    | MD 450                    | US 301            | B. W. Pkwy        | 12.1           |
| MD    | MD 586                    | MD 28             | MD 193            | 5.0            |
| MD    | MD 193                    | US 29             | MD 185            | 4.2            |
| MD    | MD 28                     | Veirs Mill Rd     | New Hampshire Ave | 9.0            |
| MD    | MD 5                      | Suitland Pkwy     | Accokeek Rd       | 12.2           |
| MD    | MD 97 Sec. 1              | Eastern Ave       | University Blvd   | 4.2            |
| MD    | MD 97 Sec. 2              | University Blvd   | MD 28             | 5.3            |
| MD    | Randolph Rd               | MD 355            | Columbia Pike     | 9.1            |
| MD    | US 1 Sec. 1               | MD 198            | MD 193            | 8.1            |
| MD    | US 1 Sec. 2               | MD 193            | Eastern Ave       | 5.3            |
| MD    | US 29                     | East-West Hwy     | Fairland Rd       | 7.1            |
| VA    | US 15                     | VA 7              | Lovettsville Rd   | 12.6           |
| VA    | US 50 Sec. 1              | VA 28             | Nutley St         | 13.4           |

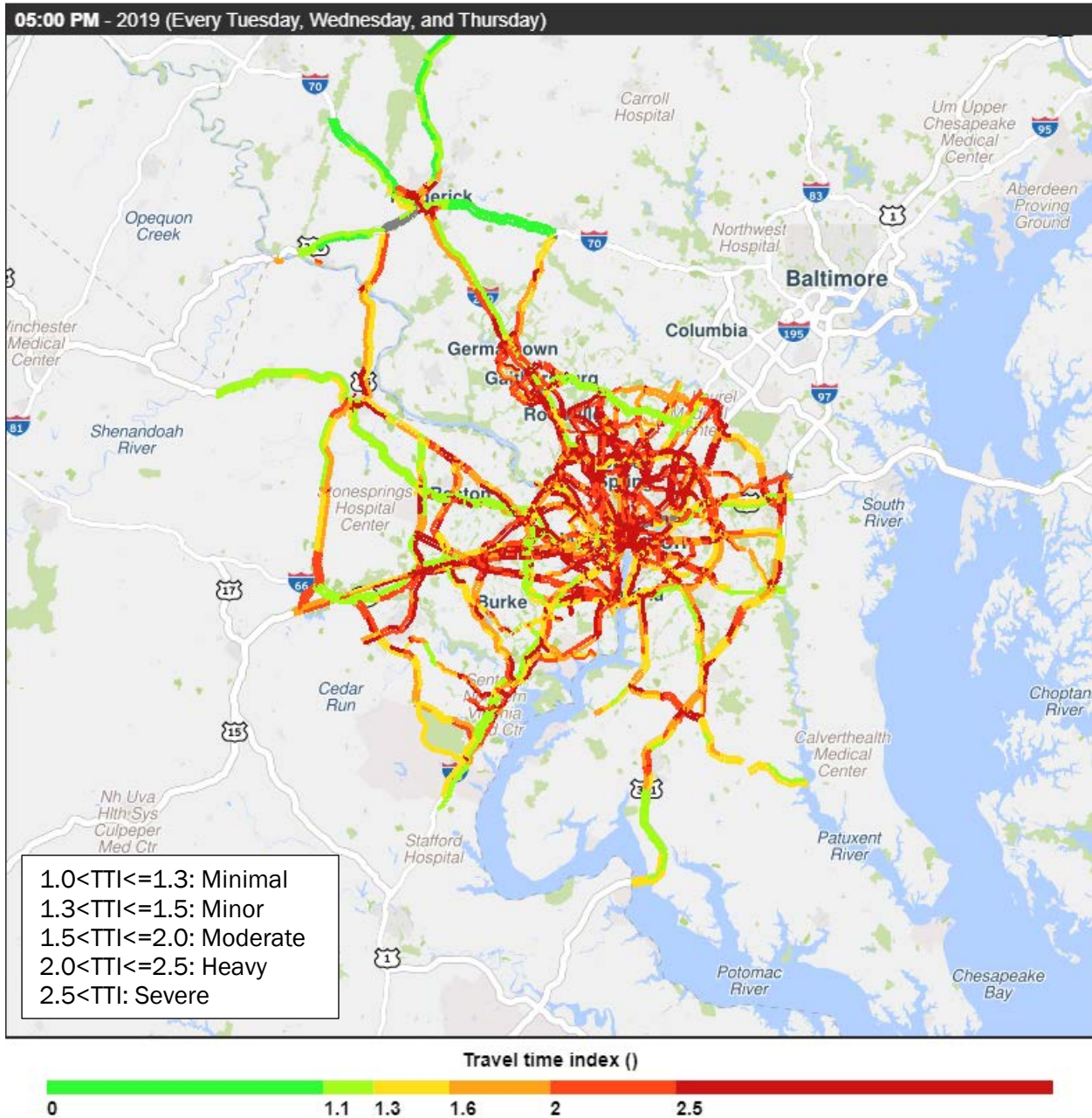
|    |               |                 |                |       |
|----|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|
| VA | US 50 Sec. 2  | Nutley St       | Fort Myer Dr   | 12.3  |
| VA | US 1          | 15th St         | VA 123         | 20.0  |
| VA | US 29 Sec. 1  | G.W. Pkwy       | Gallows Rd     | 9.0   |
| VA | US 29 Sec. 2  | Gallows Rd      | VA 236         | 8.8   |
| VA | US 29 Sec. 3  | VA 236          | Bull Run PO Rd | 7.5   |
| VA | VA 120        | I 395           | Chain Bridge   | 8.3   |
| VA | VA 123 Sec. 1 | VA 193          | VA 7           | 5.8   |
| VA | VA 123 Sec. 2 | VA 7            | VA 236         | 7.1   |
| VA | VA 123 Sec. 3 | VA 236          | US 1           | 14.8  |
| VA | VA 234 Sec. 1 | US 1            | Hoadley Rd     | 10.2  |
| VA | VA 234 Sec. 2 | Hoadley Rd      | US 29          | 13.2  |
| VA | VA 28 Sec. 1  | Wellington Road | Compton Rd     | 7.0   |
| VA | VA 28 Sec. 2  | Compton Rd      | VA 7           | 17.0  |
| VA | VA 7 Sec. 1   | Braddock Rd     | Gallows Rd     | 9.5   |
| VA | VA 7 Sec. 2   | Gallows Rd      | VA 193         | 10.0  |
| VA | VA 7 Sec. 3   | VA 193          | VA 28          | 8.0   |
| VA | VA 286 Sec. 1 | Sunrise Valley  | US 50          | 6.2   |
| VA | VA 286 Sec. 2 | US 50           | Rolling Rd     | 20.0  |
| VA | Wilson Blvd   | Roosevelt Blvd  | Fort Myer Dr   | 4.7   |
|    | Total         |                 |                | 402.7 |

Figure 2-20: Travel Time Index on Selected NHS Arterials during 8:00-9:00 am on Middle Weekdays in 2019



Note: Congestion levels are categorized by the value of TTI: TTI = 1.0: Free flow

Figure 2-21: Travel Time Index on Selected NHS Arterials during 5:00-6:00 pm on Middle Weekdays in 2019



Note: Congestion levels are categorized by the value of TTI: TTI = 1.0: Free flow

### Improving Congestion on Arterials

Adding capacity on arterials to reduce congestion is seldom feasible, as many arterials are already built to capacity with development on either side. However, there are demand management and operational management strategies that could offer solutions. The addition of express bus or other types of public transportation along an arterial could decrease the amount of cars on the road.



Pedestrian and bicycle improvements, such as the implementation of a new bike facility along the arterial can provide an alternative option for travelers. Operational improvements can include the addition of turn lanes, to reduce the amount of back-ups at an intersection, or the creation of additional lanes. Traffic signal timing optimization is also important in ensuring the appropriate movement of vehicles at intersections.

#### 2.2.1.9 Quarterly National Capital Region Congestion Report

Inspired by various agency and jurisdictional dashboard efforts around the country (e.g., the Virginia Department of Transportation Dashboard), driven by the MAP-21 and FAST legislations and the emerging probe-based traffic speed data from the I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project, this quarterly updated National Capital Region Congestion Report takes advantage of the availability of rich data and analytical tools to produce customized, easy-to-communicate, and quarterly updated traffic congestion and travel time reliability performance measures for the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Planning Area. The goal of this effort is to timely summarize the region's congestion and the programs of the TPB and its member jurisdictions that would have an impact on congestion, to examine reliability and non-recurring congestion for recent incidents/occurrences, in association with relevant congestion management strategies, and to prepare for the MAP-21 and FAST performance reporting.

This quarterly report includes congestion and travel time reliability analysis, top 10 bottlenecks in a quarter, congestion maps, quarterly spotlight focusing on notable event(s) and its transportation impacts during that quarter, background and methodology information. This report can be accessed via [www.mwcog.org/congestion](http://www.mwcog.org/congestion). A screenshot of the first page of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019 Report is shown in Figure 2-22.

Figure 2-22: National Capital Region Congestion Report (First Page)

## CONGESTION – TRAVEL TIME INDEX (TTI)

### Interstate System

TTI 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019: **1.36** ↓3.6% or -0.05<sup>1</sup>  
 TTI Trailing 4 Quarters: **1.37** ↑0.2% or 0.003<sup>2</sup>

### Non-Interstate NHS<sup>3</sup>

TTI 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019: **1.20** ↓0.1% or -0.001  
 TTI Trailing 4 Quarters: **1.19** ↑0.5% or 0.006

### Transit-Significant<sup>4</sup>

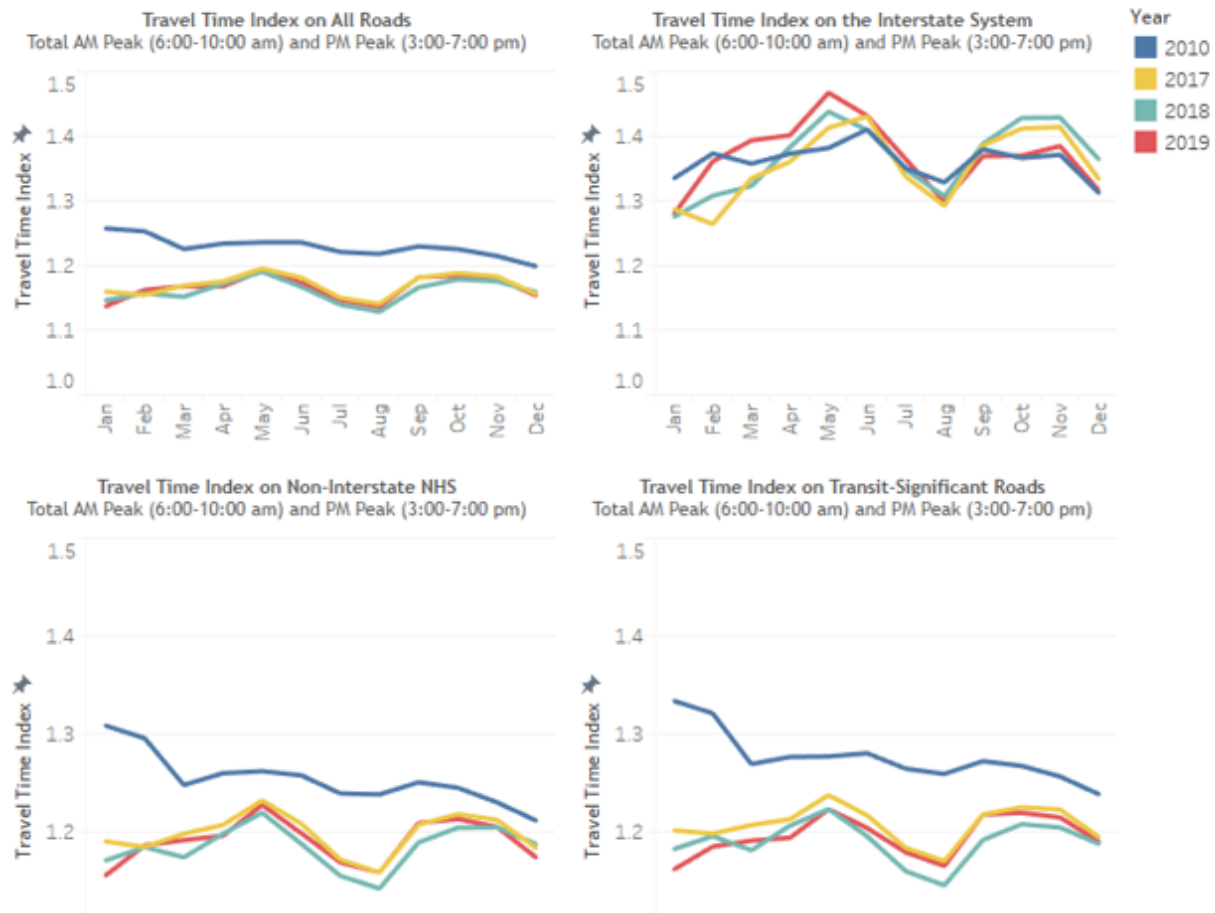
TTI 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019: **1.21** ↑0.8% or 0.008  
 TTI Trailing 4 Quarters: **1.20** ↑1.4% or 0.01

### All Roads

TTI 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019: **1.17** ↑0.1% or 0.002  
 TTI Trailing 4 Quarters: **1.17** ↑0.4% or 0.004

<sup>1</sup> Compared to 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018; <sup>2</sup> Compared to one year earlier; <sup>3</sup> NHS: National Highway System; <sup>4</sup> See "Background" section.

Figure 1 Monthly Travel Time Index for Total AM peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM peak (3:00-7:00 pm)



**Travel Time Index (TTI)**, defined as the ratio of actual travel time to free-flow travel time, measures the intensity of congestion. The higher the index, the more congested traffic conditions it represents, e.g., TTI = 1.00 means free flow conditions, while TTI = 1.30 indicates the actual travel time is 30% longer than the free-flow travel time.

### **2.2.2 AIRPORT GROUND ACCESS TRAVEL TIME STUDIES**

Studies of travel time to the three major airports<sup>27</sup> that serve the Washington and Baltimore regions have been conducted for many years as part of the Continuous Air Systems Planning (CASP) work program.

The last study was completed in 2017 and digital copies are available upon request. It used vehicle probe data from 2014/2015<sup>28</sup> which were compared with data from 2011/2012<sup>29</sup> for purposes of computing changes in congestion and travel times to the airports. This was the first study of airport ground access that used vehicle probe data from INRIX, obtained through Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Previous studies were done in 1988, 1994, 2003 and 2011, all using a smaller network of airport access routes and data collection was performed using the floating car methodology.

Unlike most studies involving vehicle probe data done by COG/TPB, the report completed in 2017 places significant emphasis on monitoring of the highways system on weekends and holidays, since so much air travel takes place then.

This report also included sections of the highway system well beyond the TPB policy area, including the Baltimore, Maryland and Fredericksburg, Virginia regions, as well as Hagerstown and Easton in Maryland; Front Royal and Winchester in Virginia; and Gettysburg and York in Pennsylvania. Highway routes between the three airports were also evaluated.

Staff anticipates that this study will be repeated in the relatively near future, using vehicle probe data.

### **2.2.3 FREIGHT MOVEMENT AND CONGESTION**

In addition to congestion's impacts on person movement, congestion in and around major urban areas significantly impacts freight movements. While other modes are not generally affected to the degree that trucks are by surface transportation congestion, the metropolitan Washington region is subject to freight rail bottlenecks in addition to roadway congestion.

Congestion on the region's highways and arterials slows freight deliveries which impacts both shippers and consumers. Shippers continually adjust their operations in response to congested conditions. Longer term impacts of increased congestion to freight-dependent industries include:

- A shrinking of the delivery area that one driver and vehicle can serve on one shift, causing firms to add smaller and more numerous trucks to their fleets to better serve their customers;
- A decrease in the size of the area that can be served from any given distribution facility, impacting the size, number, and dispersion of distribution facilities in the region;
- A decrease in delivery reliability, causing firms to increase "on hand" or "just in case" inventory, thereby eroding the economic efficiencies associated with just-in-time inventory systems; and
- An increase in shipper operating costs (time and fuel) which are eventually passed on to consumers.

---

<sup>27</sup> Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI), Linthicum, Maryland; Reagan National Airport (DCA), Arlington, Virginia; Washington Dulles Airport (IAD), Chantilly, Virginia.

<sup>28</sup> September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015

<sup>29</sup> September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012

According to MWCOG analysis of FHWA Freight Analysis Framework data (FAF), approximately 379 million tons of goods worth over \$604 billion are transported to, from, within, and through the National Capital Region annually. Approximately 80 percent of this freight movement (by weight) is by truck. Both recurring and non-recurring congestion increase truck travel and planning time, which add to shipping and inventory holding costs. Trucks also contribute to congestion due to their size and operating characteristics. Because of their importance to the regional and national economy and the way that trucks affect, and are affected by, roadway congestion, freight movement is an important element of regional and local transportation and land use planning efforts.

Employment in the professional and business services, trade and transportation, federal government, and state and local government sectors drives the economy of the metropolitan Washington region. Because of the service-based nature of metropolitan Washington’s economy, this region is primarily a consumer rather than a producer of goods. Consumers depend upon trucks to deliver needed goods. This demand puts pressure on the regional surface transportation system as trucks maneuver across the transportation network and attempt to make their deliveries on time.

Both national and regional freight forecasts predict significant growth in freight tonnage and value across most transportation modes. Trucks are more flexible than trains, ships, or airplanes; operate on a broader transportation network; and are usually required to haul goods shipped by other modes to their final destination. Because of these features, trucks are projected to capture much of the forecasted growth in freight demand. According to analysis of the Federal Highway Administration’s Freight Analysis Framework, metropolitan Washington is projected to see the amount of tonnage moving to, from, and within the region increase by 44% by 2040. A corresponding 146% increase in the value of goods moved is projected over the same time period.

The rise in e-commerce has exacerbated congestion in urban areas of metropolitan Washington and throughout much of the world. Over the last decade, e-commerce has grown over 15 percent annually<sup>30</sup> and will likely become increasingly prevalent going forward. Growth in e-commerce means growth in the overall number of truck trips which contributes to congestion because trucks, currently seven percent of U.S. urban travel, account for 11 percent of the cost of congestion in urban areas.<sup>31</sup> Urban congestion is exacerbated when increasing numbers of trucks compete for limited urban curbside space, forcing many of them to block travel lanes, bicycle lanes, and alleys.

The American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) ranked congestion in the Washington, DC metropolitan area as sixth in the nation in terms of its contribution to increased operating costs for the trucking industry (see Table 2-7 below).

**Table 2-7: Cost of Congestion for Trucking by Metropolitan Area - 2018**

| Rank     | Metropolitan Area  | Cost to the Trucking Industry<br>(millions of dollars) |
|----------|--|--|
| 1        | New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA                      | 4,933.0  |
| 2        | Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI                         | 2,277.9  |
| 3        | Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL                  | 2,242.3  |
| 4        | Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD                | 1,662.6  |
| 5        | Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA                         | 1,634.1  |
| <b>6</b> | <b><u>Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV</u></b> | <b><u>1,408.8</u></b>                                  |
| 7        | Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX                            | 1,381.9  |
| 8        | Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX                       | 1,359.1  |
| 9        | Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA                          | 1,115.0  |

<sup>30</sup> Calculated based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau

<sup>31</sup> Texas A&M Transportation Institute 2019 Urban Mobility Report

---

|    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 10 | Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN | 1,105.6 |
|----|--|---------|

---

Source: ATRI

The Panama Canal Expansion was completed in 2016. Much larger “Post-Panamax” ships from Asia are now able to serve East Coast ports, including the port facilities in Baltimore and the Hampton Roads, Virginia area. Container traffic between Asia and the United States is now able to use both West Coast and East Coast ports thus reducing the demand for long hauls from the West Coast and increasing demand for regional hauls from East Coast ports.

The TPB Freight Subcommittee provides a forum for discussion of freight issues and concerns within the metropolitan Washington Region. This gives freight stakeholders the opportunity to share concerns and information with the TPB and other decision-makers. The Freight Subcommittee meets regularly to share information and interact with special guest speakers.

## 2.2.4 TRAFFIC SIGNALS

### 2.2.4.1 Traffic Signal Timing Optimization

Delays occurred at signalized intersections accounted for a significant portion of overall arterial and urban street delays. Improving traffic signal timing has been identified as a CLRP priority area. The TPB has conducted surveys of the status of signal optimization in [2005](#)<sup>32</sup>, [2009](#)<sup>33</sup>, and [2013](#)<sup>34</sup>, and [2017](#). The 2017 survey found that of the total 5,900+ signalized intersections in the region, 73 percent were retimed/optimized, 24 percent not retimed/optimized, and no report received for 3 percent.

This result, however, should be interpreted within the context of the comments below: 1) signal optimization can help get an arterial closer to its design capacity but cannot increase capacity; 2) techniques are often combined; signals can be optimized using computer software followed by active field management for validation purposes; 3) active management is particularly useful to address non-recurring congestion caused by incidents and special events; and 4) signal equipment must be properly maintained for signal timing to be effective.

TPB member jurisdictions have been actively conducting signal timing optimizations, exploring and implementing the latest technologies to improve the operations of traffic signals. By the end of 2016, DDOT completed a citywide signal optimization project that initiated in 2012 and will enhance the District’s entire traffic signal network of more than 1,650 signals. The central goal of the optimization project is to make DC traffic signals safer and friendlier for pedestrians, improve bus running times, and reduce traffic congestion and vehicular traffic emissions. 2.2.7.2 Transit Signal Priority

---

<sup>32</sup> Andrew J. Meese, *Briefing on the Implementation of Traffic Signal Optimization in the Region*, a presentation to the TPB on November 10, 2005. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/tVtXWiy20051110144208.pdf>

<sup>33</sup> Edward D. Jones, *Status Report on Traffic Signal Optimization in the Washington Region*, a presentation to the TPB on March 11, 2009. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/bV5cXFhc20090312161527.pdf>

<sup>34</sup> Ling Li, *Briefing on Traffic Signal Timing/Optimization in the Washington Region*, a presentation to the TPB on February 19, 2014. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/al1ZXFpb20140212133426.pdf>

Under the TPB's Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for Priority Bus Transit in the National Capital Region, in 2015 and 2016 WMATA, City of Alexandria and DDOT implemented Transit Signal Priority (TSP) at intersections along VA-7 (Leesburg Pike), the Van Dorn-Pentagon corridor, and in the District of Columbia.

On the VA-7 corridor, 25 TSP signals were installed in locations in Fairfax County, the City of Alexandria, and the City of Falls Church. A WMATA fleet of 8 Metrobuses was equipped with the onboard equipment and the project has been in operation since June 2015. The DDOT TSP Project was implemented at 195 locations throughout the District and has been in operation since December 2016. Onboard bus equipment was installed by WMATA on 116 Metrobuses. The City of Alexandria implemented TSP at nine locations along the Van Dorn-Pentagon corridor in July 2016. WMATA installed onboard equipment on eight Metrobuses for this project.

The three implementing agencies as well as TPB continue to monitor the implementation and assess the effectiveness of the TIGER TSP projects. TPB contractors completed a series of one-year after and two-year after reports to summarize the effectiveness and outcomes of the TIGER projects.

#### 2.2.4.2 Traffic Signal Power Back-Up

Traffic signal power back-up systems are critical in the event of an emergency, particularly if the event involves a lack of power. Since late 2011, the TPB's Traffic Signal Subcommittee has conducted seven regional surveys on traffic signals power back-up systems<sup>35</sup>. The most recent survey was conducted by the spring of 2018 covering systems as of December 31, 2017 and found that about 33% of the region's 5,900+ signals are already equipped with battery-based power back-up systems, and 70% are equipped with generator-ready back-up systems (most battery-based systems also have generator-ready features). These power back-up systems can improve the resiliency of the transportation network.

### 2.2.5 SAFETY AND CONGESTION

#### 2.2.5.1 Overview

The correlation between highway safety and congestion is complex. In general, crash frequency is directly related to congestion levels and inversely related to crash severity. Sources indicate that approximately half of all congestion is caused by non-recurring congestion<sup>36</sup>. Non-recurring congestion refers to congestion resulting from construction activities, inclement weather, crashes, disabled vehicles, and/or special events.

Engineering and operational management activities can mitigate congestion and improve safety. Many transportation agencies in the region employ active incident management programs to quickly respond to incidents, reduce their duration, and thereby lessen the likelihood of secondary crashes<sup>37</sup> resulting from traffic backups. These programs are further integrated into the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) program<sup>38</sup>, to undertake day-to-day, real-time multi-agency

---

<sup>35</sup> Andrew Burke, [2018 Signal Surveys, Power Backup and Signal Optimization](#), a presentation to the TPB's Systems Performance, Operations, and Technology Subcommittee on June 7, 2018.

Incorporating Travel-Time Reliability into the Congestion Management Process (CMP): A Primer – Figure 1, Federal Highway Administration: <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop14034/ch1.htm>.

<sup>37</sup> crashes due to congestion created by an earlier crash or incident or to drivers distracted by the previous incident scene

<sup>38</sup> See [www.matoc.org](http://www.matoc.org) for more information.

coordination and information sharing on transportation systems conditions in the National Capital Region.

The TPB addresses transportation safety through the following programs and activities:

- The **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** helps the TPB reduce fatal and serious injury crashes on the regions roadways and because crashes are one of the causes on non-recurring congestion, a reduction in these crashes therefore helps to reduce overall congestion. The TIP includes funding under the Highway Safety Improvement Program for priority HSIP projects as programmed by the three states. Examples of HSIP programmed projects include impact attenuators, guardrails, upgrading traffic signal devices, work zone safety reviews, and improved signs and markings. The three states have processes for inclusion of safety-related projects as identified in their Strategic Highway Safety Plans and other state plans and documents. Safety improvements are also included within projects funded with non-HSIP funds and through other state and federal sources, such as the Transportation Alternatives Program Block Grants, including Safe Routes to School grants, and CMAQ and maintenance projects, all of which will provide benefits that contribute to improved safety performance.
- The TPB's **Transportation Safety Subcommittee**<sup>39</sup>, serves as a forum for public- and private-sector safety stakeholders to exchange information on best practices in transportation safety planning. The subcommittee periodically compiles and reviews regional highway safety data, shares this data among member jurisdictions, monitors regional performance on the federally-required regional highway safety performance measures, and advises the Technical Committee and the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) on regional highway safety issues and on the various federal requirements for MPOs to follow related to transportation safety.
- The **Street Smart Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety** campaign is an annual region-wide education effort to raise public awareness on pedestrian and bicycle safety<sup>40</sup>. The campaign, created by the TPB's Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee in 2002, uses methods such as radio, newspaper, and transit advertising, public awareness efforts, and law enforcement with an overall goal of changing driver, pedestrian, and bicyclist behavior to reduce fatalities and serious injuries of pedestrians and bicyclists.

#### 2.2.5.2 Safety Trends in the National Capital Region

The TPB Transportation Safety Subcommittee compiles, summarizes, and reports on safety performance measures at the regional level. It is reasonable to infer that increasing numbers of fatal and serious injury crashes could also result in increasing non-recurring congestion associated with crashes.

- After plateauing for much of the first part of this decade, the number of highway fatalities has increased since 2015;
- Total traffic fatalities in the National Capital Region have increased from 263 in 2015 to 292 in 2018;
- The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles travelled (VMT) for the National Capital Region has also increased from 0.61 in 2015 to 0.65 in 2018.
- Total pedestrian fatalities in the Region have spiked from 67 in 2015 to 88 in 2018;

---

<sup>39</sup> a subcommittee of the TPB Technical Committee

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.bestreetsmart.net/>

- Bicyclist fatalities in the Region have remained fairly flat since 2006, averaging just over 5 per year. There was a spike in 2016 however, when the number of bicyclists killed reached 10.

### 2.2.5.3 Performance Based Planning and Programming – Highway Safety Targets

Federal regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations (like the TPB) to track five highway safety performance measures and set targets for each of them every year. The five performance measures, along with proscribed data sources, are described in Table 2-8 below. These safety performance measures are applicable to all public roads regardless of ownership or functional classification.

**Table 2-8: Highway Safety Performance Measures Summary**

| Performance Measure   | Description  | Data Source  |
|---|--|--|
| Number of Fatalities<br>(5 year rolling average)                                    | Total number of fatalities during a calendar year                      | FARS <sup>1</sup>  |
| Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT<br>(5 year rolling average)                  | Ratio of total fatalities to VMT                                       | FARS and HPMS <sup>2</sup><br>(or MPO estimate)          |
| Number of Serious Injuries<br>(5 year rolling average)                              | Total number of serious injuries during a calendar year                | State reported serious injury data                       |
| Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT<br>(5 year rolling average)            | Ratio of total serious injuries to VMT                                 | State reported serious injury data <sup>3</sup> and HPMS |
| Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries<br>(5 year rolling average) | Total number of fatalities and serious injuries during a calendar year | FARS and State serious injury data <sup>3</sup>          |

<sup>1</sup> FARS: Fatality Analysis Reporting System

<sup>2</sup> HPMS: Highway Performance Monitoring System

While these safety performance measures are not specifically related to congestion, the fatalities and serious injuries resulting from congestion-related crashes are part of the overall regional safety picture and will have an impact on whether or not the National Capital Region meets its highway safety targets.

The TPB has set targets for each of these performance measures every year beginning in January 2018.



## 2.3 Congestion on Transit Systems

### 2.3.1 IMPACTS OF HIGHWAY CONGESTION ON TRANSIT SYSTEMS

#### 2.3.1.1 Transit-Significant Roads

Often the region's highway congestion will have an impact on transit systems, such as rail and bus. To some extent, transit operations are concentrated in areas of high-density land uses, where traffic congestion may be expected. Bus schedules generally are designed to anticipate and accommodate highway congestion whenever possible. However, there are instances when congestion is unpredictable and can not only impact the timing of one bus, but of the entire bus system and other transit systems the bus connects to (such as commuter rail).

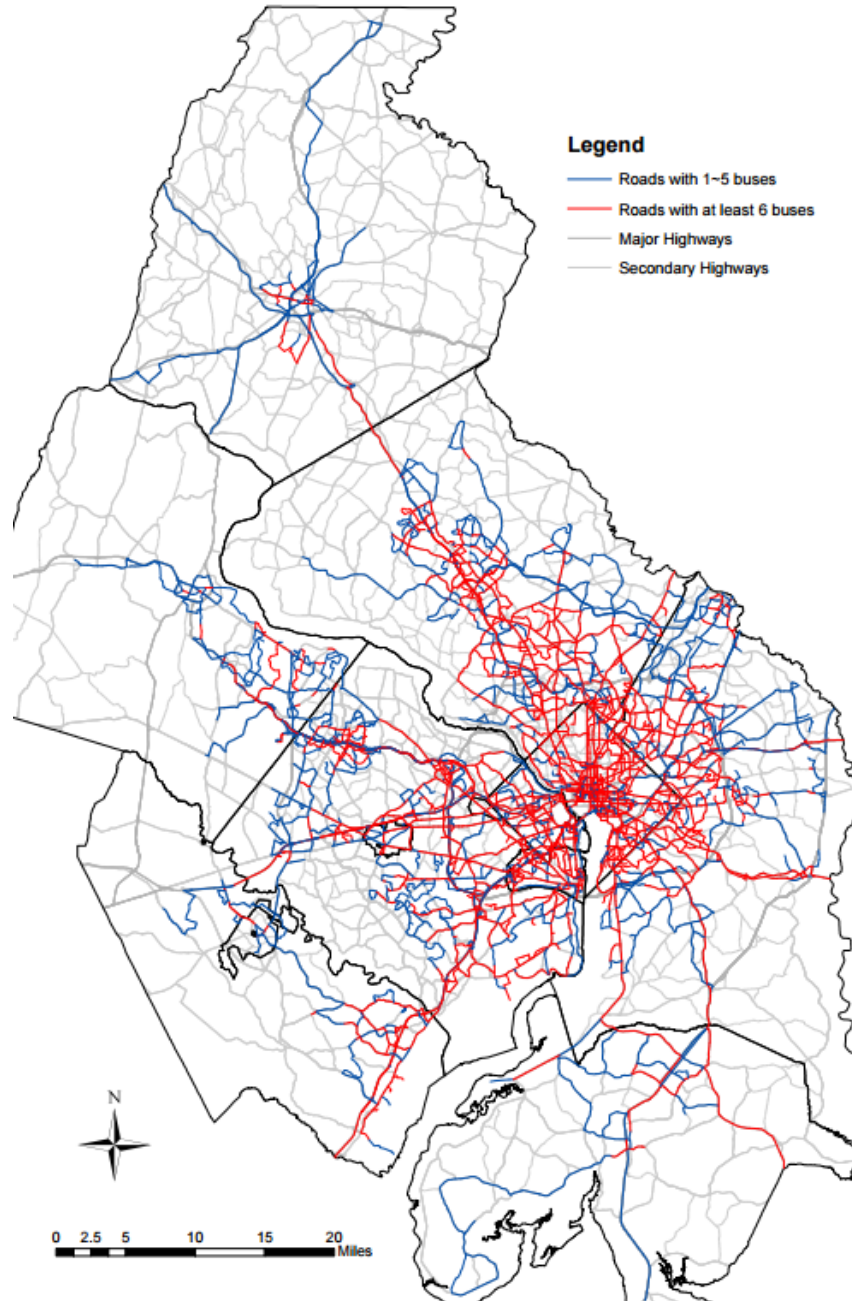
In order to track the differential congestion conditions, between regional overall congestion and transit-significant routes congestion, the TPB identified a Transit-Significant Road Network in 2014<sup>41</sup> and its performance is now monitored in the quarterly updated National Capital Region Congestion Report and the CMP Technical Report as a separate highway category.

Any road segments with at least 6 buses in the AM Peak Hour (equivalent to one bus in either direction in 10 minutes) are considered as "transit-significant". By this criteria, there are a total of 1,397 miles of transit-significant road segments, as shown in Figure 2-23.

---

<sup>41</sup> Wenjing Pu, Update on "Transit-Significant Highway Network" Identification, Presentation to the Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee, November 25, 2014. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/a11XXV1Z20141125094736.pdf>

Figure 2-23: Transit-Significant Roads in the TPB Planning Area



A performance analysis<sup>42</sup> revealed that the Transit-Significant Roads was more congested and more sensitive to change compared to the regional average of all roads.

The transit network's congestion, expressed as annual average Travel Time Index, was 3 to 5 percent worse than the regional average of all roads throughout 2010 -2016 during peak periods, i.e., 6:00-10:00 am and 3:00-7:00 pm (Figure 2-24 a. and Figure 2-25 a.). It is not unexpected that the transit-

<sup>42</sup> Wenjing Pu, Performance of Transit-Significant Highway Network in the Washington Region, Presentation to the Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee, April 28, 2015. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/aF1WWV1c20150428073637.pdf>

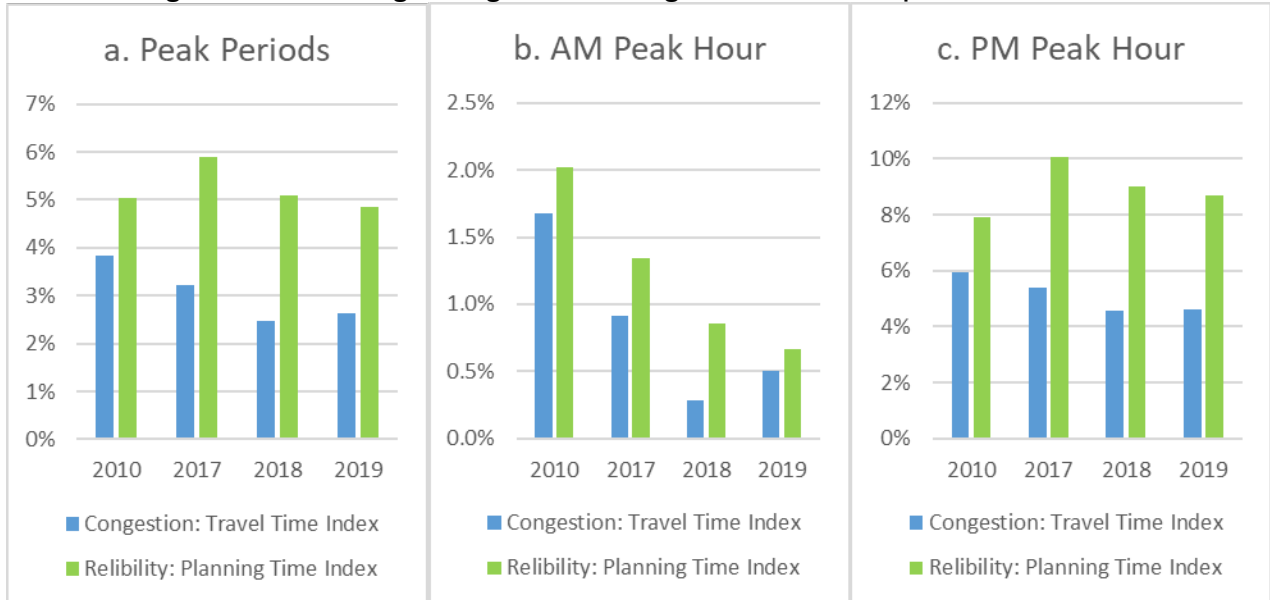
significant network is congested, since buses are often routed in dense, urban corridors as a part of multi-modal transportation strategies. This network was also more congested than the non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) and the non-NHS roads, but less congested than the Interstate System, which was still the most congested highway category (Figure 2-24 a.).

**Figure 2-24: Peak Period Travel Time Index and Planning Time Index of Transit-Significant Roads**



The difference in congestion between the transit network and the regional average was more pronounced during PM peak hour, with less than 2 percent difference, compared to the AM peak hour's around 1 percent divergence (Figure 2-25 b. and c.).

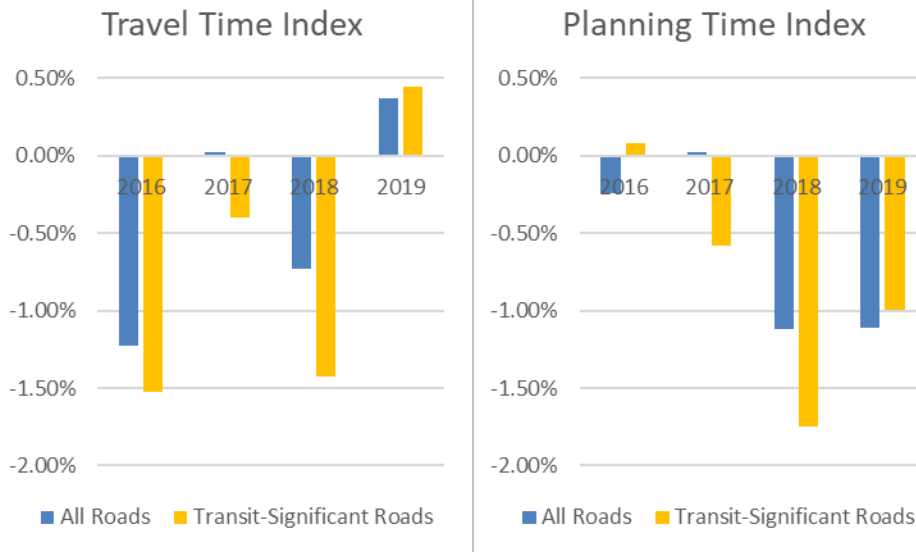
**Figure 2-25: Percentage Change for Transit-Significant Roads Compared to All Roads**



In terms of travel time reliability, expressed as Planning Time Index, mixed results were found between the transit network and the regional average (Figure 2-25). The transit bus network was over a half percent less reliable than the regional average in the AM peak hour, but over percent less reliable in PM peak hour.

Performance of the Transit-Significant Network varied in accordance with regional average; but the year-to-year changes in the transit network tended to be slightly larger than that of the regional average (Figure 2-26).

**Figure 2-26: Congestion and Reliability Year-to-Year Changes of Transit-Significant Roads**



### 2.3.1.2 Bus Travel Speeds

Another way to assess the impacts of highway congestion on transit is to directly investigate bus travel speed along roads carrying both buses and other vehicles. Figure 2-27, Figure 2-28, and Figure 2-29 show region-wide bus speeds observed in the TPB's Multimodal Coordination for Bus Priority Hot Spots Study<sup>43</sup> carried out in 2011-2012. These maps report average bus travel speeds for 28,172 roadway segments in the region (2,330 miles of roadway). The lines shown on the maps indicate the slower of the two directions during the given period. With few exceptions, this represents "outbound" buses during the PM peak (3:00-6:00 pm) and "inbound" buses during the AM peak (6:00-9:00 am).

The results of this study show that there are numerous roadway segments within the region with average transit operating speeds of less than 10 mph and several with speeds of under 5 mph. The vast majority of these locations are within the District, but some fall in Maryland and Virginia suburban areas (particularly around Silver Spring and several Arlington County locations). These heavy traffic conditions create a challenge for buses, especially in the District. For example, WMATA's average bus speed is 10 miles per hour, and this has been falling gradually over the last 15 years.<sup>44</sup> The analysis, as shown on the maps, also shows that PM speeds are generally lower than AM speeds, though the differences are small in most cases. For instance, the bridges over the Anacostia River in the District all show a noticeable decline in travel speed during the PM peak. The differences between the peak periods and the all-day speeds are smaller than might typically be expected. This indicates that mid-day congestion is heavy on many routes in the service areas. In addition, because most bus trips occur during the peak periods the all-day averages are naturally weighted toward the peaks.

In general, the results of the analysis show that bus operating conditions vary greatly by location throughout the region. Many locations, particularly in the downtown core, have operating speeds below 10 mph, indicating high amounts of bus delay. Moreover, many of the slowest corridors shown on the map carry very high bus volumes (e.g., H and I Streets NW in downtown DC has 3,000 daily WMATA and DC Circulator buses, with a total ridership of 62,300) suggesting that priority improvements on these corridors could provide significant transportation benefits. In fact, a 2013 study found bus lanes on these two streets would provide excellent returns on investment, with benefits outweighing costs by a 9- to 32-to-1 margin.<sup>45</sup> In particular, WMATA's work to develop a network of priority bus routes, and the completion of COG/TPBs' federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant award to implement some of this network, provides a unique opportunity to address the challenges of congestion-related bus delay. In such efforts, support and collaboration from state DOTs and local agencies are vital.

---

<sup>43</sup> COG/TPB, Publications, <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2012/06/29/multimodal-coordination-for-bus-priority-hot-spots-study-bus-bus-priority/>

<sup>44</sup> *Two Business Challenges Facing Metrobus*, PlanItMetro, <https://planitmetro.com/2015/09/02/two-business-challenges-facing-metrobus/>

<sup>45</sup> H/I Streets Bus Improvements, Final Technical Report, October 2013. [https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/plans/upload/H\\_I-Final-Technical-Report-FINAL-100913.pdf](https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/plans/upload/H_I-Final-Technical-Report-FINAL-100913.pdf)

Figure 2-27: Region-wide Bus Speeds - All Day (2011/2012 Data)

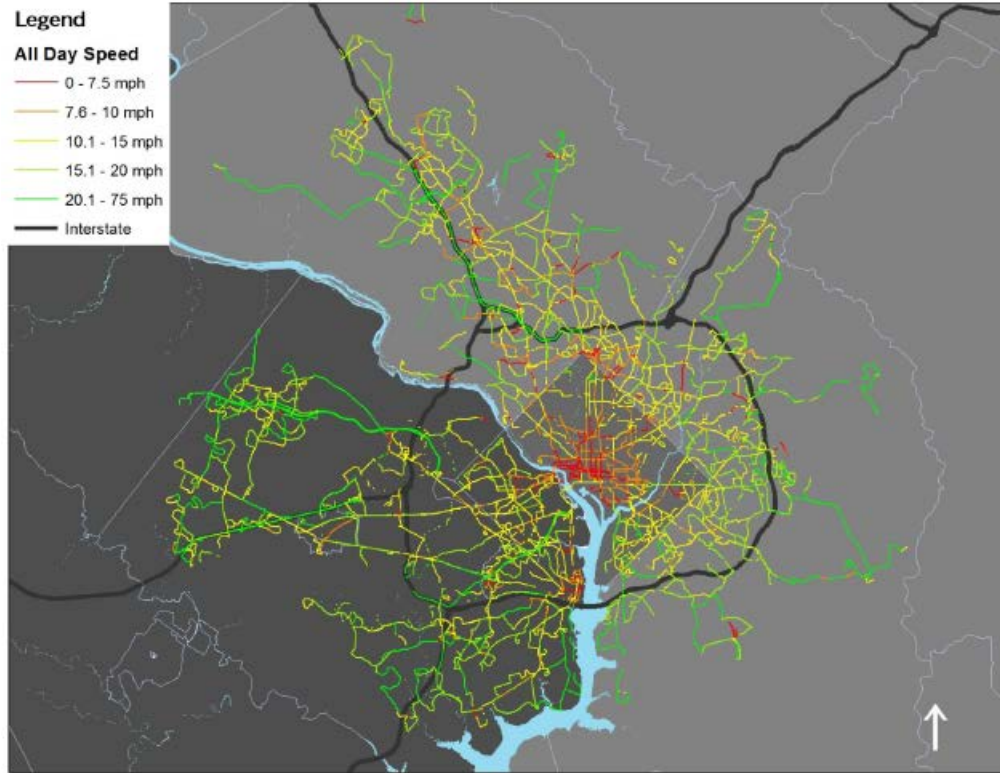


Figure 2-28: Region-wide Bus Speeds - AM Peak (2011/2012 Data)

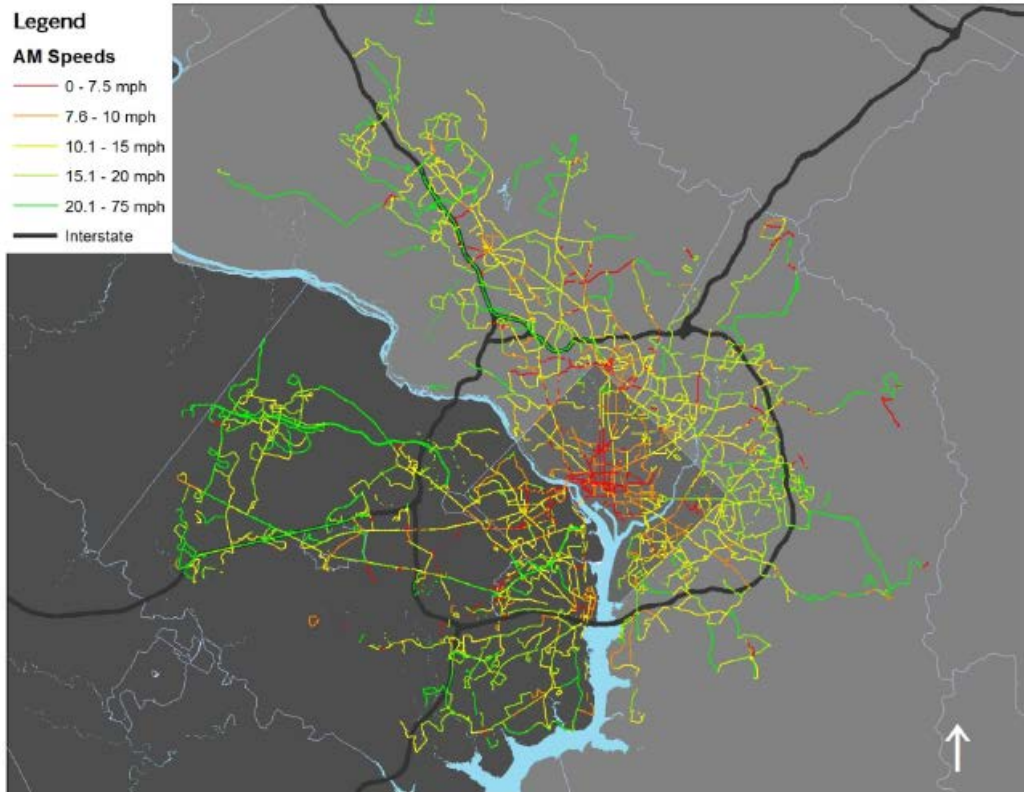
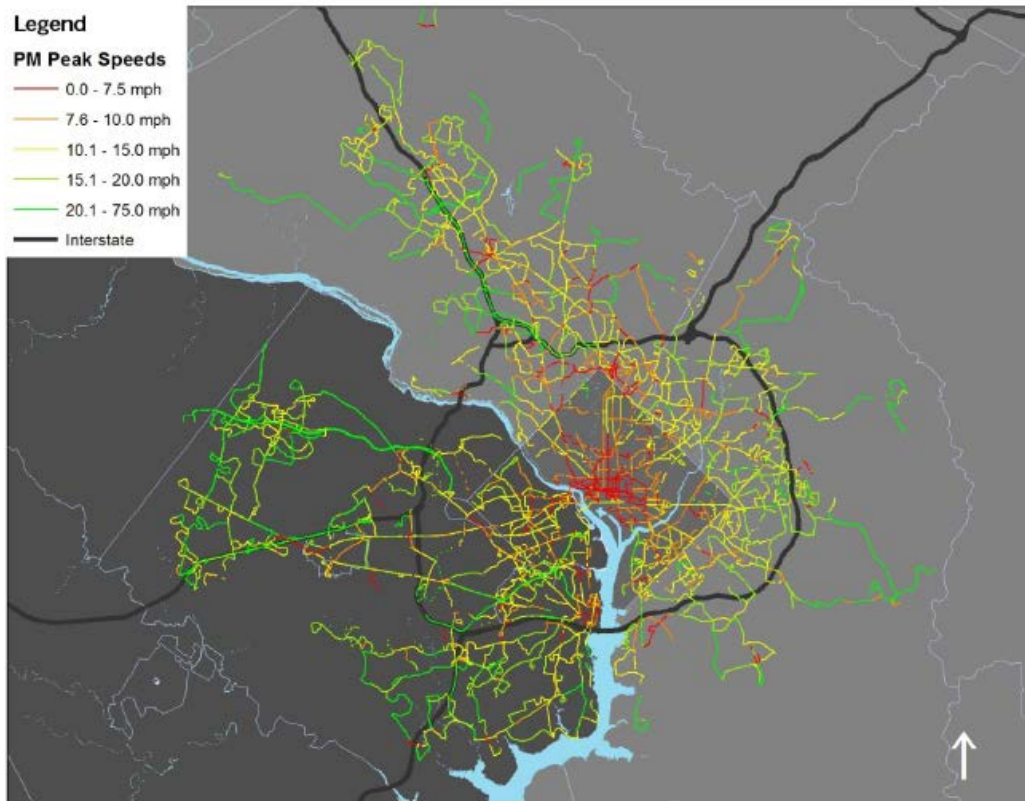


Figure 2-29: Region-wide Bus Speeds – PM Peak (2011/2012 Data)



### 2.3.1.3 Connections to Transit

The impact of highway congestion on transit systems can also be assessed by identifying and analyzing the key linkages between transit and other modes. In 2014 Metro conducted a Regional Bus Survey<sup>46</sup> throughout our region. This survey found about 44% of the region's bus trips accessed the bus via autos or other buses. These passengers were subjected to the impact of highway congestion if it occurs on pertinent routes.

In 2014, WMATA released a three-part series blog, "Solving the Region's Congestion Woes – One Step at a Time", suggesting ways to increase the walkability and connectivity around Metrorail stations<sup>47</sup>. The blog says that "walkable station areas result in fewer motorized trips, fewer miles driven, fewer cars owned, and fewer hours spent traveling. And when we improve the pedestrian and bicycle access and connectivity to Metrorail station areas, ridership goes up, putting a major dent in congestion by taking trips off the roadways."

In August 2016, WMATA published the Metrorail Station Investment Strategy Summary Report<sup>48</sup>. The report states

<sup>46</sup> 2014 Metrobus Survey, <https://planitmetro.com/2015/10/26/three-tidbits-what-the-metrobus-2014-survey-can-tell-us/>

<sup>47</sup> Shyam, Solving the Region's Congestion Woes – One Step at a Time, <http://planitmetro.com/tag/one-step-at-a-time/>

<sup>48</sup> [https://planitmetro.com/uploads/MISIS\\_Report\\_August\\_2016.pdf](https://planitmetro.com/uploads/MISIS_Report_August_2016.pdf)

“Improving bicycle and pedestrian access to Metrorail stations helps stabilize rail ridership and reduce growth in public subsidy to Metro. In late 2014, as Metro’s Planning office began to study the relationship between ridership and station walk access, staff developed walksheds for each Metrorail station, identifying the actual walkable area relative to a ½ mile “as the crow flies” distance using network analysis in GIS. With help from researchers at the University of Maryland, staff has been able to calculate the number of riders walking to Metro that can be expected when jobs and housing are connected the walkshed. The exact numbers vary by station, but, on average, for every ten households connected to the station, Metro sees about seven weekday Metrorail trips.”

In short, improved transit accessibility will attract travelers to the rail system, reducing the demand on the highway network.

### 2.3.2 CONGESTION WITHIN TRANSIT FACILITIES OR SYSTEMS

Congestion can also be an issue within transit. If the demand for rail and buses is high and the capacity cannot keep up with that demand, then transit becomes too crowded. Just as incidents can cause non-recurring incidents on roadways, the same can occur on transit facilities. Even a minor bus or train incident can cause back-ups and delays.

In addition, certain transit facilities may experience more congestion than others. Union Station in the District of Columbia is a station that accommodates Metrorail, Metrobus, DC Circulator buses, Maryland Area Rail Commuter (MARC) trains, Virginia Railway Express (VRE) trains, and AMTRAK. With these various transit options, Union Station has become a primary connection point for commuters/visitors, and the busiest station in the Metrorail system, with nearly 60,000 passengers entering and exiting daily (a passenger congestion simulation can be found on the PlanItMetro blog.)<sup>49</sup>. In response, WMATA and DDOT jointly completed the Union Station Access and Capacity Improvement Study in early 2011<sup>50</sup>, and identified improvements that would fit compatibly with Union Station and benefit all transportation service providers and customers.

Bus vehicles also experience crowding, which operators must address by adding more buses, longer buses, and more resources on a route. For example, in late 2017 the top 30 most crowded routes on the WMATA Metrobus system all reported load factors between 1.6 and 2.0, indicating continuous crowding and uncomfortable conditions for all passengers at peak times.<sup>51</sup>

Congestion can not only result on transit vehicles themselves, but on station platforms and around the station. In 2013, WMATA published Momentum, its strategic vision for the future.<sup>52</sup> This plan laid out seven Metro 2025 initiatives, including a program of capital improvements needed to ensure safe and efficient operations and facilitate passenger movements within rail stations.<sup>53</sup> The proposed stations, most of which are in the system’s core, already experience crowding or would reach capacity by 2025.

---

<sup>49</sup> Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Data Visualization, Union Station Simulation <https://planitmetro.com/?s=passenger+congestion+simulation>.

<sup>50</sup> WMATA and DDOT, Union Station Access and Capacity Improvement Study Project Report, February 18, 2011.

<https://planitmetro.com/?s=Union+Station+Access+and+Capacity+Improvement+Study+Project+Report>.

<sup>51</sup> WMATA Vital Signs, [https://www.wmata.com/about/records/scorecard/upload/Vital-Signs\\_Q1-FY2018.pdf#page=15](https://www.wmata.com/about/records/scorecard/upload/Vital-Signs_Q1-FY2018.pdf#page=15)

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/strategic-plans/>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/strategic-plans/upload/2Metro-2025-Core-Station-Improvements-Secure.pdf>



Proposed improvements vary from adding escalators and stairs, to building pedestrian passageways connecting platforms within stations and between stations. The Momentum has also listed a schedule of core station capacity improvements as shown in Table 2-9.<sup>54</sup>

**Table 2-9: Future Station Capacity Improvement Plan**

**Table 6: Station Capacity Improvements**

■ Improvements to be completed by 2020  
 ■ Improvements to be completed by 2025

| Stations                      | Add Vertical Circulation and Faregates | Expand Mezzanines | Build Bridges Above Tracks | Widening Platforms | Add Internal Transfer Points | New Entrances | Build Pedestrian Passageway Between Stations |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Priority Core Stations</b> |  |                   |                            |                    |                              |               |  |
| Farragut North                | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              |               | ■  |
| Farragut West                 | ■                                      | ■                 |                            | ■                  |                              |               | ■  |
| Gallery Place                 | ■                                      | ■                 | ■                          |                    | ■                            |               | ■  |
| Metro Center                  | ■                                      | ■                 | ■                          |                    |                              |               | ■  |
| Union Station                 | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              |               | ■  |
| L'Enfant Plaza                | ■                                      | ■                 | ■                          |                    | ■                            | ■             |  |
| Foggy Bottom                  | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              | ■             |  |
| McPherson                     | ■                                      | ■                 |                            | ■                  |                              |               |  |
| Dupont Circle                 | ■                                      | ■                 |                            | ■                  |                              |               |  |
| <b>End of Line Stations</b>   |  |                   |                            |                    |                              |               |  |
| Vienna                        | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              |               |  |
| Shady Grove                   | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              |               |  |
| New Carrollton                | ■                                      | ■                 |                            |                    |                              |               |  |

Source: WMATA, 2013, Momentum, Core Station Improvements.

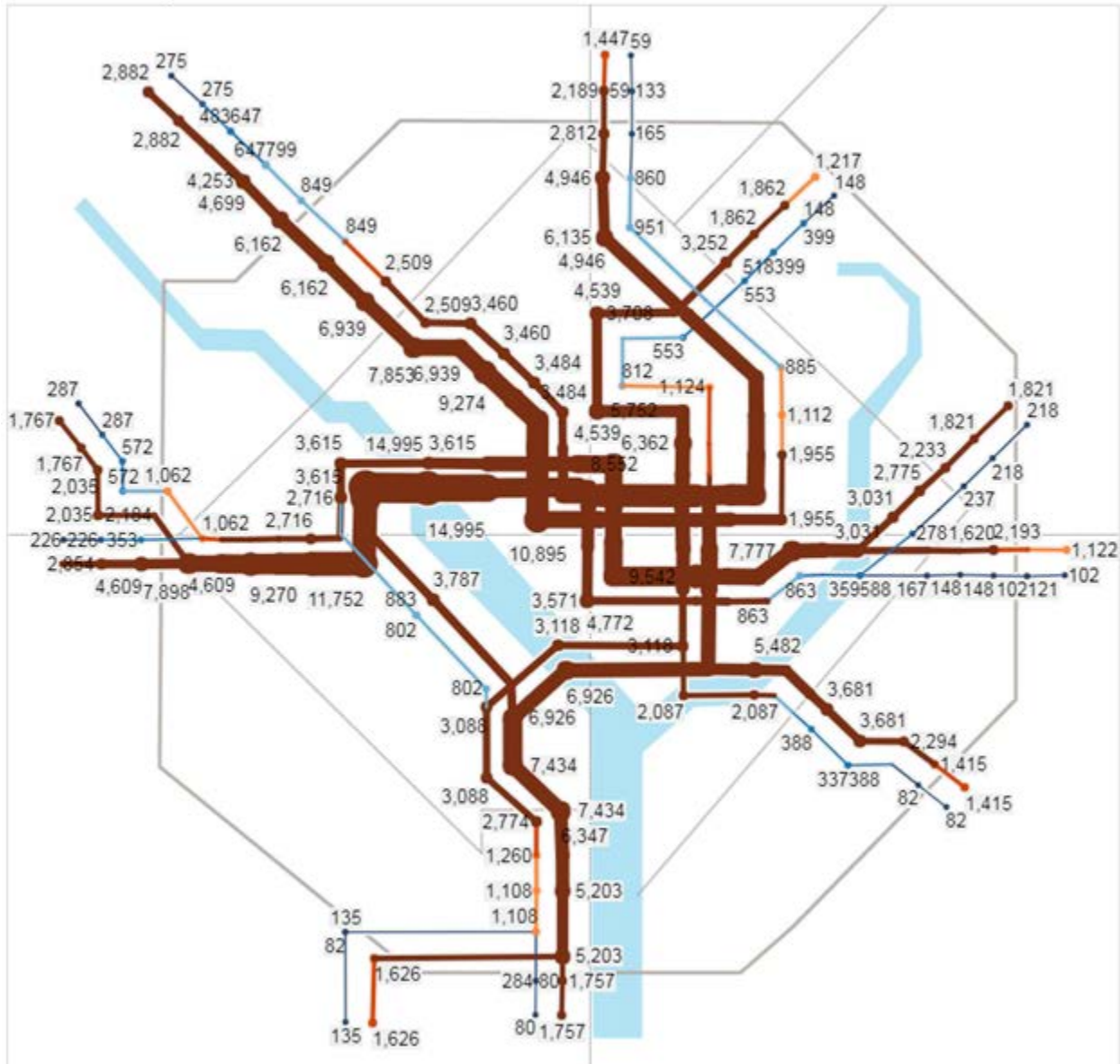
According to Metro’s Office of Planning, more than two-thirds of Metrorail daily ridership occurs during the morning and evening peak periods<sup>55</sup>. The graphic (Figure 2-30) provided by this Office shows the AM peak hour (8:00-9:00 AM) passenger volumes by travel direction. Red and Orange/Blue Lines carry the highest passenger volumes in the system morning peak hour, on segments from Dupont Circle to Farragut North (eastbound), Gallery Place to Metro Center (westbound), and Court House to Foggy Bottom (eastbound). Please note the 8:00-9:00 AM system graphic does not reflect true max-loads on the Green Line. Unlike the other lines, the Green Line actually reaches peak loads between 7:30 AM and 8:30 AM, ahead of the other lines, with hourly passenger loads exceeding 5,500 from Waterfront to L’Enfant Plaza.

<sup>54</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/strategic-plans/upload/momentum-full.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> <https://planitmetro.com/2010/11/29/peak-hour-passenger-loads-on-metrorail/#more-167>.

Figure 2-30: AM Peak Hour (8:00-9:00 AM) Metrorail Link Passenger Volumes

Link Volumes by Hour - 8:00..9:00



Source: WMATA; data based on an average weekday in May 2015, 8:00-9:00 AM <sup>56</sup>.

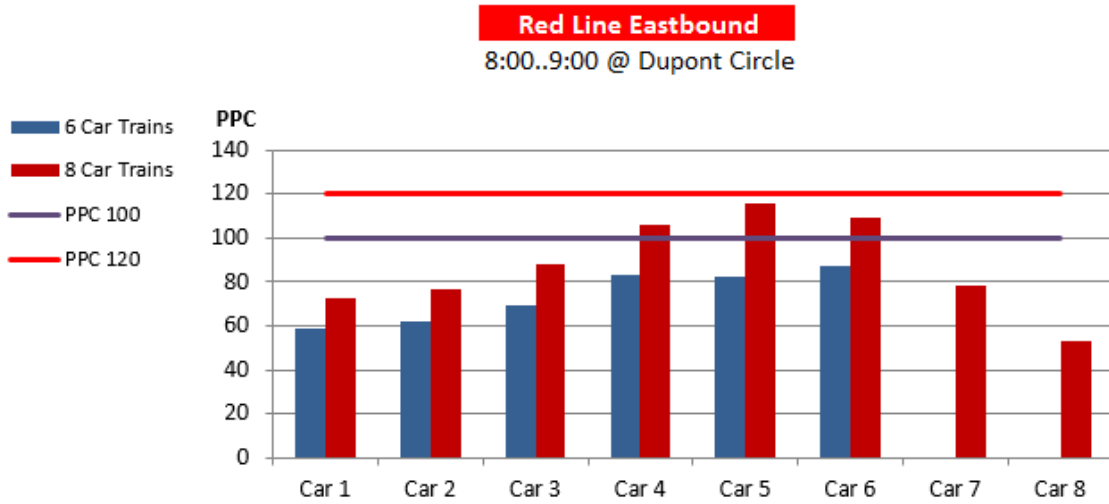
WMATA also built an internal tool, called Line Load App, to monitor the passenger loads and crowdedness on Metrorail systems<sup>57</sup>. One example provided in Figure 2-31 shows the passenger per car (PPC) on each of the cars on eastbound Red Line at Dupont Circle station during weekday morning hour 8:00-9:00 AM in October 2014.

<sup>56</sup>

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/planitmetro#!/vizhome/MetrorailLinkVolumesbyHour/LinkVolumesbyHour>

<sup>57</sup> Melissa, Monitoring Passengers Loads on Metrorail – Using New Tools to Examine the Data, January 5, 2016. <http://planitmetro.com/2016/01/05/monitoring-passengers-loads-on-metrorail-using-new-tools-to-examine-the-data/>

Figure 2-31: WMATA's Line Load Application Tool



Source: WMATA, Average Car Loads in the AM Peak Hour – October 2014 Weekdays – Modeled Distribution of Passengers at Dupont Circle. The estimated railcar crowding is based on the scheduled Red Line service.

Metrorail experiences congestion not only in stations, but also on-board trains. As Table 2-11 below from Momentum shows, many trains are crowded at peak periods today; without rail fleet expansion, most rail lines will be even more congested by 2025.<sup>58</sup> The plan lays out seven Metro 2025 initiatives, including running eight-car trains during peak periods and core station improvements. For riders, Momentum will mean more trains, reduced crowding, faster buses, brighter, safer, easier-to-navigate Metrorail stations, and information when and where you want it. For the region, Momentum will increase capacity throughout the system, enable future expansion, and remove vehicles from our already-crowded roadways. As of 2018, however, the region and funding agencies have not identified the funds needed to implement the Metro 2025 initiatives.

<sup>58</sup> WMATA, Momentum, <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/plans/upload/2013-Momentum-Strategic-Plan-for-2025.pdf>.

**Table 2-10: Metrorail System Peak Period Capacity by Line without Fleet Expansion**

|               | 2012 | 2020 | 2025 | 2040 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|
| Red           | ✓    | —    | —    | ✗    |
| Yellow        | ✓    | ✓    | ✓    | —    |
| Green         | ✓    | —    | —    | ✗    |
| Blue          | ✓    | —    | —    | ✗    |
| Orange/Silver | —    | ✗    | ✗    | ✗    |

- ✓ Acceptable (average passengers per car (PPC <100))
- Crowded (PPC between 100 and 120)
- ✗ Extremely crowded (PPC >120)

Source: WMATA, 2013, Momentum, Strategic Plan 2013-2025.

The CMP recognizes the growing concern of congestion within our regional transit systems. As the region’s population grows and “going green” trends advances, there will be more commuter and residents looking to transit options instead of driving. While increase in transit use is overall a positive trend, it is important that the concern of transit congestion throughout the region be examined further.

Congestion management will benefit from continuing to encourage transit in the Washington region and explore transit priority strategies. The transit system in the Washington region serves as a major alternative to driving alone, and it is an important means of getting more out of existing infrastructure. Additional work with appropriate committees and transit agencies to address related data and performance measure issues would help further support the CMP.

## 2.4 Other Congestion Monitoring and Data Consolidation Activities

In recent years, many data collection and travel monitoring programs have been discontinued, though some of these projects may be repeated in the future using similar or more-advanced methodologies. These include aerial monitoring of the regional freeway network, travel time data collection by probe vehicles and an assortment of traffic counts.

The traffic counts, most of which were last conducted between 2000 and 2015, include the following:

- Regional Employment Core Cordon Count, documenting travel by auto, transit (including the Metrorail system) and bicycles to the downtown area of Washington, D.C. and Arlington County, Virginia;
- Regional HOV Facilities Monitoring, which documented usage, HOV compliance and vehicle speeds in corridors with HOV lanes or HOV roadways around the region;
- D.C. City Line Cordon Count, documenting travel by auto and transit entering the District of Columbia; and
- Beltway Cordon Count, documenting travel by auto and transit crossing the Capital Beltway.

In 2012, counts of traffic at selected federal government sites, most of which were impacted by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process.

In 2017, COG/TPB staff conducted a count of patrons of long-haul bus service (not commuter bus and not transit bus) serving the region.

Copies of these reports can be obtained upon request.

### 2.4.1 HOUSEHOLD TRAVEL SURVEYS

The TPB conducts regional household travel surveys in the Washington region and adjacent areas about every ten years to gather updated information on area wide travel patterns. These surveys provide information on determinants of travel, including household demographics, income, employment destinations, and number of vehicles available. This data helps guide future transportation planning as the area continues to grow.

The most recent large-scale regional household travel survey conducted by the TPB is the 2017/2018 Regional Travel Survey (RTS), which surveyed 15,976 households in the TPB modeled area from October 2017 through December 2018. The survey consisted of two parts: 1) a recruitment questionnaire (Part 1) and; 2) a one-day travel diary (Part 2). A randomly selected and geographically representative sample of households were recruited through mailed invitation letters and reminder postcards. Households were offered a participation incentive of a gift card or donation to complete the web-based (with a telephone option) survey.

The RTS covered 22 major jurisdictions and 111 geographic strata consisting of Census Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) and COG-defined Regional Activity Centers.<sup>59</sup> These include 11 TPB member jurisdictions including Fauquier County. TPB coordinated with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) on its sample plan for the Maryland Travel Survey, which was conducted around the same time. The two agencies collaborated to ensure geographic coverage and to prevent households in Anne Arundel, Howard, and Carroll Counties from being recruited for both surveys. Upon request, TPB conducted an add-on survey of 512 households in Arlington County to allow for further analysis of Arlington County's activity centers. Additionally with the help of CASA de Maryland, a Hispanic/Latino community advocacy organization, the RTS included an outreach effort to increase Hispanic/Latino survey participation.

The RTS consists of multiple data files including the Household File, Person File, Vehicle File, and Trip File. The Household, Person, and Vehicle Files are from the recruitment questionnaire (Part 1). The Trip File is from the travel diary (Part 2). The Household File includes household size, income, number of workers, housing type and tenure, as well as vehicles and bicycles. The Person File includes demographic characteristics such as race/ethnicity, age, gender, number of jobs, and whether one works from home. This file also contains questions about the typical commute and typical weekday travel, including frequency of alternative travel options and delivery services. The Vehicle File includes detailed vehicle data such as vehicle age, fuel type, and type of toll transponder. The Trip File contains information on actual observed trips taken by the respondent on the travel day, such as origin and destination, start and end times, mode of travel, trip purpose and activities, and transit access and egress.

The RTS data is currently in the post-survey processing phase; tasks including data cleaning, trip linking, and factoring weights will continue through the end of 2019. The preliminary results from the RTS from the Part 1 survey will be released in fall 2019 and more detailed results from the Part 2 survey will be released in 2020. Data from the survey will provide insights on whether and how technological and other advances over the last decade have impacted regional travel patterns, particularly the widespread use of smartphones and location-based apps that enable ride-hailing, navigation, and real-time arrival and trip-planning for transit, bicycle, and other travel modes.<sup>60</sup>

---

<sup>59</sup> Kenneth Joh, 2017-2018 Regional Household Travel Survey Status Report #15, a presentation to the TPB Travel Forecasting Subcommittee on March 15, 2019.

<sup>60</sup> TPB News (10/10/17): Once-In-A-Decade Regional Travel Survey Kicks Off, <https://www.mwcog.org/newsroom/2017/10/10/once-in-a-decade-regional-travel-survey-kicks-off/>

As a follow-on activity to the RTS, TPB invited a small sample of regional households to participate in a 7-Day Panel Survey throughout October 2019. The results from this follow-on survey will be released in 2020. The purpose of this follow-on activity is to evaluate a data collection technique using smartphone-based technology and to obtain more focused information and insights into how emerging transportation technologies and services, such as ride-hailing and micro-mobility, are being used in the Washington region.

## 2.4.2 SPECIAL SURVEYS AND STUDIES

The TPB and its member agencies undertake special studies or data collection efforts, on both one-time and recurring bases. Examples include compiling data to form a regional travel trends report, as well as monitoring transit usage, and cordon counts of traffic on specified areas of the region.

### 2.4.2.1 Surveys of Bus Travel in the Region

Periodically, the region's bus systems conduct surveys of their passengers. In the past, these surveys were focused on travel patterns, including origin, destination, time of day, and route and mode choice. Increased technology capability has led to a change in survey focus, with more emphasis on meeting Federal Transit Administration civil rights requirements. Instead, smart card and passenger counting data are harvested to determine travel patterns, often with greater detail for the purposes of specific projects and plans. Therefore, WMATA and other agencies have moved to conducting their own surveys to meet agency purposes. While greater data is collected on a more frequent basis, the bus surveys no longer provide a regionally comprehensive reference.

However, bus passenger travel patterns are slow to change. The results of the last major regional bus survey, which was conducted in Spring 2008 on behalf of the TPB<sup>61</sup>, still have value. The purposes of the 2008 survey were to: 1) collect the jurisdiction of residence data of Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority's (WMATA) weekday bus passengers in support of WMATA's bus subsidy allocation formula; 2) collect origin and destination trip patterns of the local jurisdiction bus systems for local bus route planning and regional travel demand model validation; and 3) collect other travel-related and demographic data to update the regional profile of WMATA and local bus system riders and their related bus trips.

Transit systems surveyed were ART (Arlington Transit), The Bus (Prince George's County), CUE (Fairfax, VA), DASH (Alexandria Transit Co.), TransIT (Frederick County Transit), OmniRide/OmniLink (PRTC), Ride On (Montgomery Co.) and Metrobus (D.C, Virginia, Maryland). Some key findings of this survey include:

- Except for Metrobus, most systems primarily served residents of a particular geographic subarea of the region.
- Except for PRTC and TheBus, more than half the riders access their bus by walking to it.
- The PRTC and TheBus systems have large percentages of riders who park-and-ride, at 22% and 15% respectively.
- Commuting to work accounts for one-half to two-thirds of the trips on each bus system.
- SmarTrip was the predominant payment method used by PRTC (57%) and Metrobus (42%).
- Overall 24% of the surveyed bus riders reported receiving a transit benefit from their employer.
- Choice riders are riders who had a vehicle available to them to make the trip they were making, but "chose" to make the trip by bus instead. The PRTC ART and DASH systems had the greatest percentages of "choice" riders.

---

<sup>61</sup> NuStats, [2008 Regional Bus Survey Technical Report](#), June 2009.

As mentioned, subsequent surveys of bus passengers have been conducted individually by agencies. WMATA, the region's largest transit agency, conducted Metrobus surveys in 2014 and 2018/2019. The 2014 survey aimed to update ridership by jurisdiction of residence for use in Metrobus's operating subsidy allocation, and collect demographic, travel, and access data for Title VI compliance, system planning, and operation analyses. The 2014 survey was not a customer opinion survey; it focused on ridership and travel characteristics,

Some results of the 2014 Metrobus survey were posted on WMATA's Planning Blog, PlanItMetro<sup>62</sup>, and reported to the TPB's Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee<sup>63</sup>. The survey data and survey instrument can be downloaded from PlanItMetro.

Regarding results of the 2018-2019 Metrobus survey (which collected relatively limited information on travel patterns), no comprehensive report has yet been published as of this writing.

#### 2.4.2.2 Regional Travel Trends Report

The TPB receives updates regarding regional travel trends from time to time, such as in 2016<sup>64</sup>. and 2018<sup>65</sup>. The rate and spatial pattern of population growth are key to the underlying changes in travel trends. The metropolitan Washington region has seen a fast increase in growth over the last several decades, and with that come major changes in how and why people travel. This is important to congestion management, in that it is important in understanding why congestion may be occurring in particular areas. In addition, travel trends can help predict, and prepare for, future congestion.

General findings of the 2000-2015 regional travel trends include:

- Population and employment in the region increased by 9% between 2000 and 2007. Weekday VMT increased by 18% and Metrorail ridership increased by 25% in this period.
- Between 2007 and 2014 population increased by 13% and employment increased by 2%. Weekday VMT declined by 1% and total transit ridership increased by 2%. Metrorail ridership decreased by 2% in this period. Total bus ridership increased by about 5% and commuter rail ridership increased by 25%.
- VMT per capita increased by 8.5% between 2000 and 2007 and decreased by 10.5% from 2007 to 2014. Peak period congestion decreased by 6.5% between 2010 and 2013.
- The share of commuters teleworking, at least occasionally, increased from 11% in 2001 to 27% in 2013. Commuter Rail and Metrorail commuters are more than Drive Alone and Bus commute to telework, at least occasionally.

#### 2.4.2.3 Local Studies

Sometimes member state and local jurisdictions will conduct studies to analyze and evaluate their own programs, and these studies can be important to congestion management.

---

<sup>62</sup> Justin, Three Tidbits: What the Metrobus 2014 Survey Can Tell Us, a blog on PlanItMetro, <http://planitmetro.com/2015/10/26/three-tidbits-what-the-metrobus-2014-survey-can-tell-us/>

<sup>63</sup> WMATA Office of Planning, 2014 Metrobus Survey, Presentation to Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee, October 2015. <https://www.mwcog.org/file.aspx?&A=ha7L7JJtAPkjlIMYy%2f7NzrnFX5984Km5fNqSXk1%2f7c%3d>

<sup>64</sup> Robert Griffiths, Regional Travel Trends, a presentation to the TPB Board Meeting on April 20, 2016. <https://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/aFxeVlhd20160421091747.pdf>

<sup>65</sup> <https://gis.mwcog.org/webmaps/tpb/traveltrends/>.

An example of one such effort is the Montgomery County Mobility Assessment Report (MAR) produced by the Maryland – National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC)<sup>66</sup>. The report is updated annually (with exceptions) with the latest information regarding the status of congestion in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Intersections and arterials are two main focuses of the report. For intersections, observed Critical Lane Volumes (CLVs) is the performance measure and the ratio of CLVs over Local Area Transportation Review (LATR) standard is used to quantify intersection congestion. The report also ranks the most congested intersections in the county for more detailed analysis. For arterials, the VPP/INRIX data and the VPP Suite were used to analyze traffic congestion. Travel Time Index was the main performance measure and a color scheme of congestion severity was developed.

### **2.4.3 THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DATA CLEARINGHOUSE**

Over the years, staff at the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) has collected transportation data from various sources, primarily member jurisdictions, state agencies, and transit authorities. These data have been processed and packaged into tabular, spatial, and documents and provided publicly for TPB staff, TPB member staff and other interested parties to access, download, customize datasets and visualize the data through the Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse (RTDC).

The RTDC contains two web-based components—a data catalog and data viewer. Both components are built upon the ArcGIS Online platform, which includes the ArcGIS Open Data model. This flexible platform allows TPB staff to easily share its spatial and non-spatial data resources, and provides for integration of data, maps, applications, and documents in a single location. Users can search for data by keyword or category and can also choose to show all available datasets. Each RTDC dataset has its own content page with metadata, a link to download data, and a summary of dataset attributes. The RTDC Project Page can be accessed at <http://rtdc-mwcog.opendata.arcgis.com/>. The datasets in the RTDC are regularly used internally by TPB staff as well as by jurisdictional members and the general public alike.

Datasets in the RTDC represent various transportation modes (highway, transit, bicycle, aviation) and include a selection of available modes and operators within the metropolitan Washington region. Traffic counts are one the most utilized data types in the RTDC. Users can find Annualized (AADT/AAWDT) traffic volume, hourly traffic, volumes, classification counts for several years. Many of these datasets are available as both spatial and tabular data. Additional road-related datasets include regional managed lanes, truck restrictions, Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS), and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).

Along with traffic and highway-related datasets, the RTDC includes transit and nonmotorized (bicycle and pedestrian datasets). Available transit spatial data includes rail lines, stations, average weekday transit ridership the region's transit operators. Available bicycle and pedestrian data includes jurisdiction-specific counts for Virginia and the District of Columbia as well as regional count data obtained from automated counters located throughout the region.

Although many datasets in the RTDC are related to transportation in some way, the RTDC also includes several datasets focused on land use and demographics. COG's Cooperative Forecast of population,

---

<sup>66</sup> Maryland – National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), Mobility Assessment Report (MAR), Draft, April 2014.  
[http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/transportation/documents/Mobility%20Assessment%20Report%202014%20-%20\(6-3-2014\).pdf](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/transportation/documents/Mobility%20Assessment%20Report%202014%20-%20(6-3-2014).pdf)



households and employment is one of the more popular items downloaded. These data are used by both COG's regional planners and TPB staff alike and are provided at the transportation analysis zone (TAZ) level. The RTDC includes the latest approved round (currently 9.1) of the Cooperative Forecast as well as the past rounds. Additional datasets include Regional Activity Centers and TPB and COG TAZs by Activity Centers.

Users can view, interact with and download regional political boundaries, and Census geography boundaries with related tabular Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP). The CTPP data is organized by where workers live and where they work. The data is based on 2006-2015 5-year American Community Survey data, it is designed to help transportation analyst and planners understand where people are commuting to and from and how they get there.

Current 'core' RTDC datasets such as traffic and transit counts and the Cooperative Forecast data are routinely updated as new data become available. Additionally, new content is added periodically, based on data availability, user requests and/or other means of discovery.

One of the goals of the RTDC catalog and viewer is to provide transportation analyst, planners, and the general public with as much publicly available regional transportation related data as possible. Aside from being a warehouse for regional data, the RTDC includes a 'Regional GIS Resources' page that provides access to several TPB member jurisdiction's online spatial data (<http://rtdc-mwcog.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/resources>) resources. Users can also browse data from other MPOs, regional bodies and the federal government using the links provided. TPB staff have included these additional resources and tools to make it easier for users to find related data, for their own use in analysis and planning.

Web maps and applications allow TPB staff to package and present analysis findings, regional plans, and data in a spatially and textual interactive product. The web maps typically include data layers often with pop-ups which identify detailed information on the features. Web applications are set up as a single or multipage product that can have multiple web maps, web tools, tabular data and text all organized to provide users analysis findings and/or highlight the main parts of transportation plan. TPB Board members, jurisdiction staff, and TPB staff use these report/analysis companion products to facilitate discussions and to make decisions. An application can also provide a general public friendly option for providing transportation plans to increase engagement and education with regional transportation planning. A selection of these web maps and applications shared through the RTDC Application Gallery, can be found on the RTDC homepage under 'Applications.'

## THE RTDC DATA VIEWER

The RTDC Data Viewer (<http://gis.mwcog.org/rtdc/map>) provides users with a quick and simple way to explore many of the datasets in the RTDC. This data viewer is intended to provide a high-level glimpse into RTDC datasets and does not provide robust query and analytical capabilities.

Users can turn layers on/off and click on features to open the popup window that display attribute data. The widgets on the toolbar allow users to interact with specific datasets. Traffic count, aviation, bicycle and pedestrian, bridge and pavement condition, and transit data are available for exploration through a few of the widgets available. Users can also add their own data to the viewer, allowing them to explore potential relationships between their own data and the datasets available through the RTDC catalog and viewer. The widget toolbar is located on the bottom center of the application window. (Differences in position and appearance when viewed on mobile and tablet devices may be due the responsive design of the application).

TPB staff updates RTDC data, tools and applications throughout the year when new and/or updated data is made available. The data viewer gives users the ability to explore multiple datasets together before downloading for their own use. Providing users with the ability to explore the data before downloading, adding additional data and visually displaying the data may help answer more questions, show relationships between datasets not previously seen, and to have users to think about using data they might not have otherwise thought to include in their research and/or analysis.

## 2.5 National Comparison of the Washington Region's Congestion

Regularly since 1982, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute releases an *Urban Mobility Report*<sup>67</sup>, which outlines and compares urban congestion and mobility in all urban areas across the United States. The most recent report was released in 2019. INRIX, Inc., an independent live traffic information provider based on GPS units equipped on smartphones, in-vehicle devices and commercial fleets, releases an *INRIX Traffic Scorecard*<sup>68</sup> for the largest 100 metropolitan areas in the U.S. TomTom also releases online TomTom Traffic Index<sup>69</sup> in recent years.

The above three national or international reports use different performance measures, which greatly impacts the rankings of cities (Table 2-13). The Washington region ranked No. 3, No. 5, and No. 7 in the latest rankings published by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, INRIX, and TomTom, respectively.

---

<sup>67</sup> <https://mobility.tamu.edu/umr/>.

<sup>68</sup> INRIX, Inc., Traffic Scorecard, <http://inrix.com/scorecard/>

<sup>69</sup> TomTom, Traffic Index, [https://www.tomtom.com/en\\_gb/trafficindex/list](https://www.tomtom.com/en_gb/trafficindex/list)

**Table 2-10 National Comparison of the Washington Region's Congestion**

| Texas A&M Transportation Institute (2017 data) |       |      | INRIX Traffic Scorecard (2019 data) |       |      | TomTom Traffic Index (2019 data)                   |       |      |
|--|-------|------|-------------------------------------|-------|------|--|-------|------|
| Yearly Delay per Auto Commuter                 |       |      | Hours Lost in Congestion            |       |      | Extra Travel Time compared to Free Flow Conditions |       |      |
| Metro Area                                     | Value | Rank | Metro Area                          | Value | Rank | Metro Area   | Value | Rank |
| Los Angeles                                    | 119   | 1    | Boston                              | 149   | 1    | Los Angeles  | 47%   | 1    |
| San Francisco                                  | 103   | 2    | Chicago                             | 145   | 2    | New York   | 37%   | 2    |
| Washington                                     | 102   | 3    | Philadelphia                        | 142   | 3    | San Francisco                                      | 36%   | 3    |
| New York                                       | 92    | 4    | New York                            | 140   | 4    | San Jose   | 33%   | 4    |
| San Jose                                       | 81    | 5    | Washington                          | 124   | 5    | Seattle  | 31%   | 5    |
| Boston   | 80    | 6    | Los Angeles                         | 103   | 6    | Miami  | 31%   | 6    |
| Seattle  | 78    | 7    | San Francisco                       | 97    | 7    | Washington   | 29%   | 7    |
| Atlanta  | 77    | 8    | Portland, OR                        | 89    | 8    | Chicago  | 28%   | 8    |
| Houston  | 75    | 9    | Baltimore                           | 84    | 9    | Honolulu   | 28%   | 9    |
| Chicago  | 73    | 10   | Atlanta                             | 82    | 10   | Austin   | 27%   | 10   |

## 2.6 Performance and Forecasting Analysis of the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045

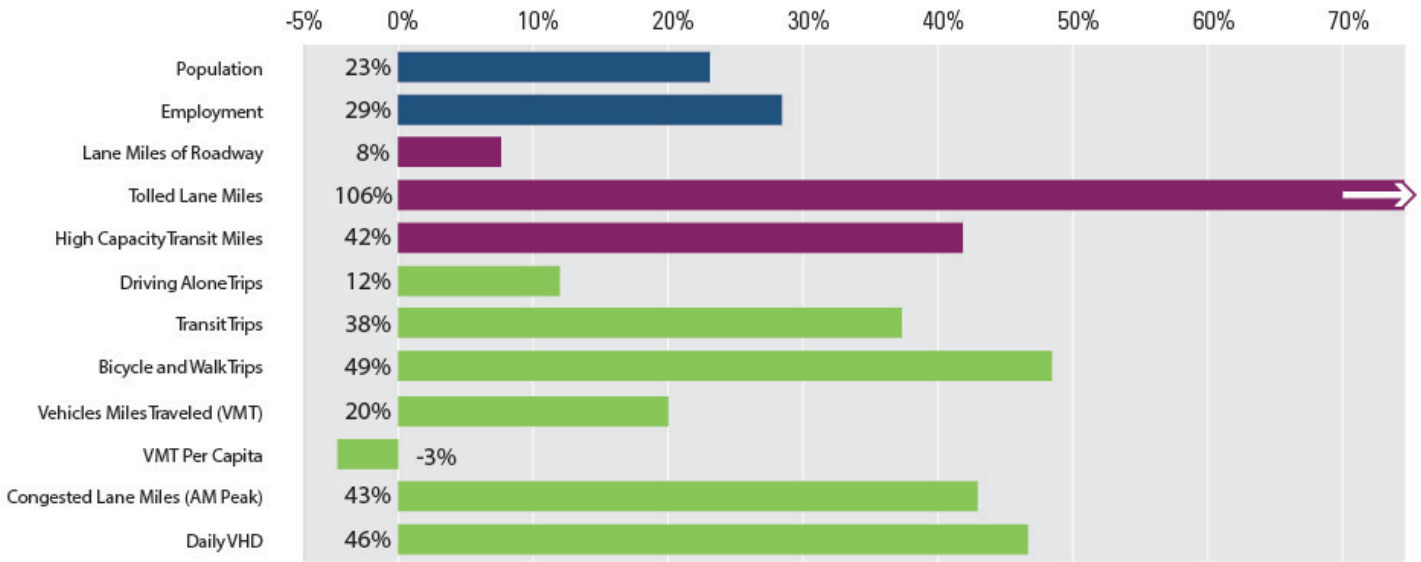
The constrained element of Visualize 2045, the Metropolitan Washington region's long-range transportation plan, includes all regionally significant transportation projects and programs planned in the Metropolitan Washington region over the next 25-30 years. The TPB produces a performance analysis of every long-range plan, which examines trends and assesses future levels of congestion as well as other performance measures. The performance analysis of the constrained element of Visualize 2045 provides an overall assessment of the anticipated impacts and an indication of future levels of congestion relevant to the CMP.<sup>70</sup>

Plan performance analyzes the outlook of growth in the region and forecasts future congestion. The plan performance analysis examines travel demand model data to identify where congestion is expected to occur now and in the future. It looks at criteria that may affect congestion, such as changes in population, employment, transit trips, auto trips, number of lane miles, and congested lane miles. The analysis breaks down lane miles of congestion by examining the total share of congested lane miles, a comparison with no-build alternative scenario, additional indicators of delay, and, generally, where the most lane miles of congestion can be found in 2045.

Between 2018 to 2045, the region is forecast to be home to 23% more residents and 29% more jobs in 2045 (Figure 2-32). Towards accommodating that growth, 8% more lane miles of roadway and 42% more high-capacity transit miles are planned to be constructed. The total number of trips taken is expected to increase by 22%, and transit, walk, and bike trips are expected to increase at a faster rate than single driver trips. The overall amount of driving (Vehicle Miles Traveled or VMT) is expected to increase by 20%. This is slightly less than forecast population growth, which means that VMT per capita is expected to decline by 3%. The increase in demand on the roadways is forecast to out-pace the increase in supply, leading to a significant increase in congestion.

<sup>70</sup> TPB, Visualize 2045 Documentation, October 17, 2018. <https://www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/document-library/>

**Figure 2-32: Visualize 2045 Performance Analysis Summary**



Congested lane miles in the AM peak hour are projected to increase by 43% in 2045 compared to 2018, meaning that 800 lane miles of roadway which were not congested in 2018 will be congested in 2045. The share of lane miles congested in comparison to all the lane miles of roadway in our region helps tell another part of the story: during the AM peak hour 11% of lane miles in the region were congested in 2018 and 15% are projected to be congested in 2045 (Figure 2-33). While roadway capacity is expanding, the region’s travel demand, due to growth in population and employment, will further congest a small set of the region’s most used roadways.

The amount of driving in the region, measured as VMT, is expected to grow over the next 25 years, but at a slightly lower rate than population growth (Figure 2-34). As a result, the average amount of driving per person will be less in 2045 than it is in 2018. The drop in VMT per capita is noteworthy because it signals the reversal of a decades-long trend of increased driving in the region. As recently as the mid-2000s, the region’s travel demand model was forecasting significant increases in VMT per capita but changes in projected land-use and travel patterns, as well as mode choice, may drive the reversal of this trend.

Congestion on many segments of the region’s major highway system is expected to get worse over this time period but some segments of highway will see slight relief. Drivers of this change may include the impact of capacity expansions and / or changes in travel behavior (Figure 2-35). Major highways seeing improvements in congestion include portions of I-95 southbound in Prince William County and I-495 / I-95 inner- and outer-loop in suburban Maryland.

Figure 2-33: Share of AM Peak Hour Congested Lane Miles

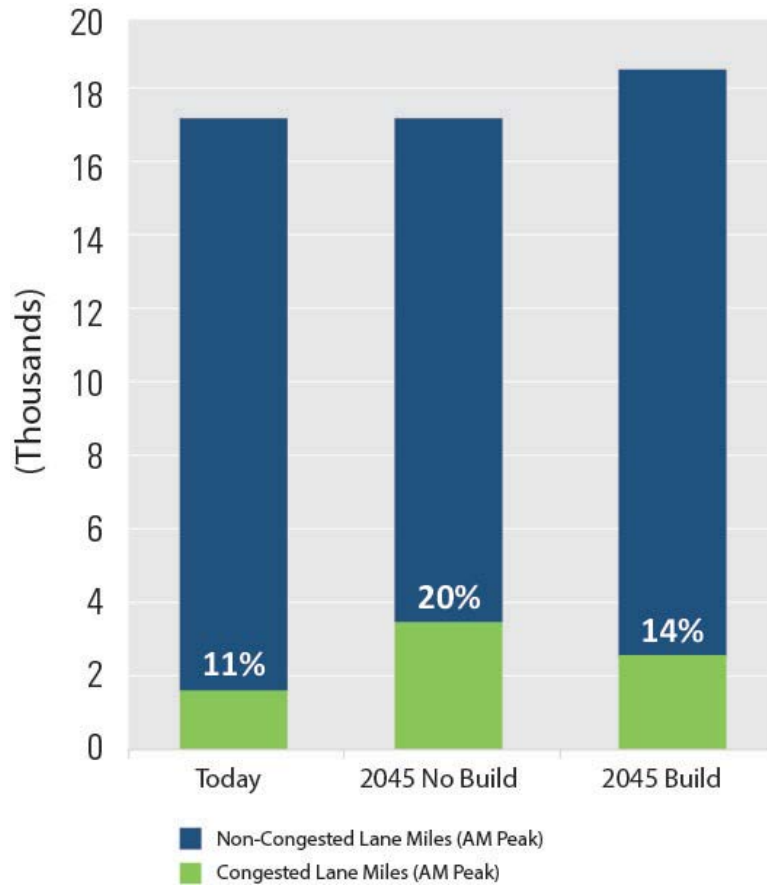


Figure 2-34: Vehicle Miles of Travel: Total and Per Capita

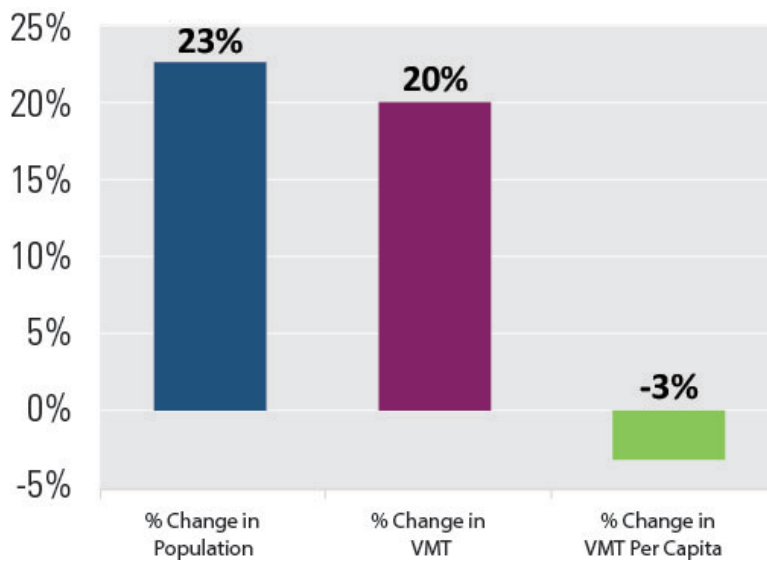
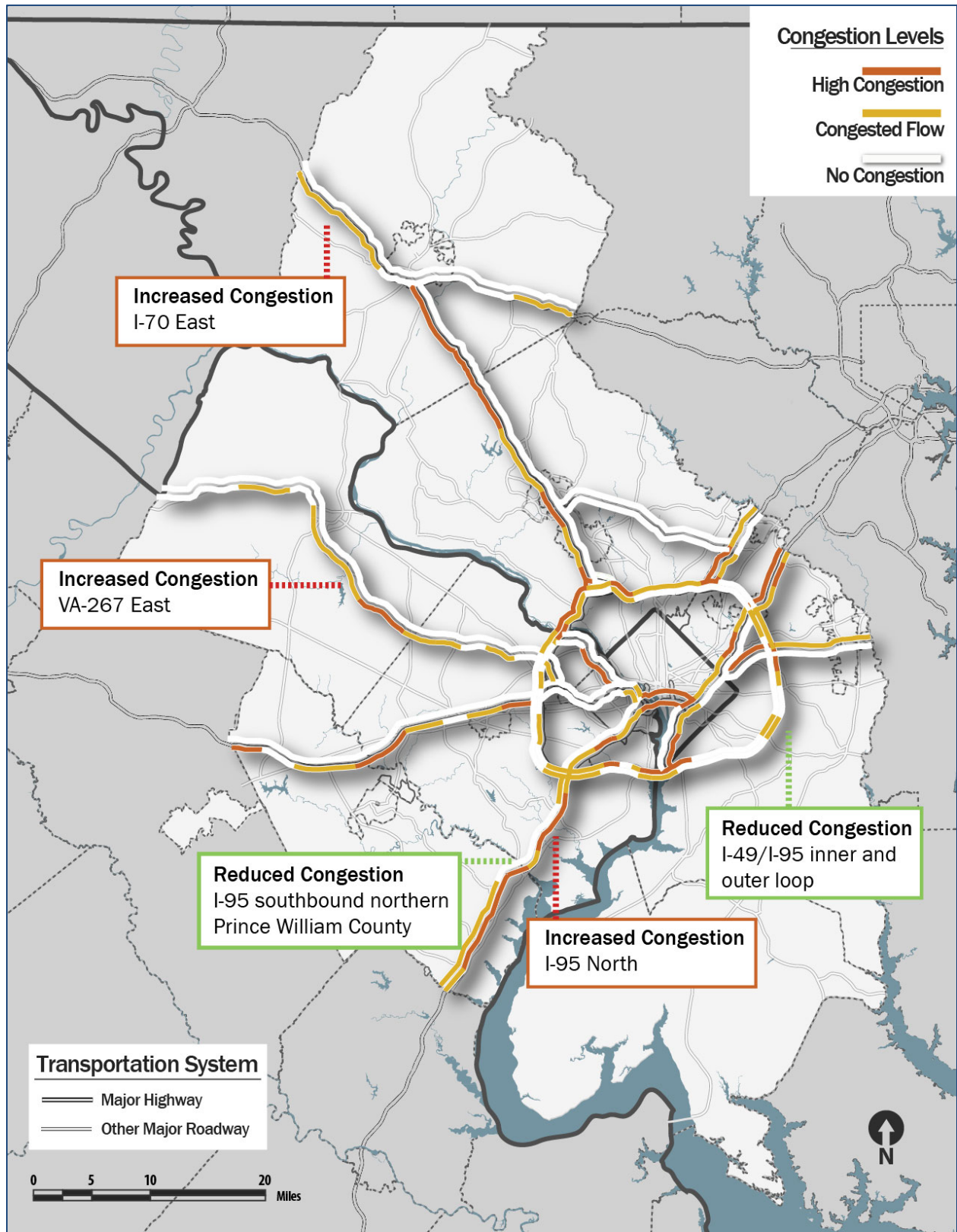


Figure 2-35: 2045 Major Highway Congestion in AM Peak



The average number of jobs that are accessible within a 45-minute commute by automobile is expected to increase by 5% between now and 2045. Figure 2-36 shows the geographic distribution of the change in number of jobs accessible from 2018 to 2045. Forecasted increases in job access by automobile are not equally shared across the region, declines in access are expected on the eastern side of the region and in the inner suburbs. These declines are the result anticipated increases in roadway congestion, which make it more difficult to reach other parts of the region by car within 45 minutes, and the new jobs anticipated between now and 2045 forecasted to be located on the western side of the region, out of reach of those living in the east.

By 2045, the average number of jobs accessible within a 45-minute commute by transit is expected to increase by 40%, from 369,000 to 518,000 jobs. Forecasts expect there will be more jobs located near existing transit stations and stops and expansions of the transit system across the region will also bring higher quality service to more areas. Most places that currently have access to transit will experience increases in the number of jobs that are accessible within a 45-minute commute (Figure 2-37). Portions of the region with new transit service will experience improved access too. However, in 2045 transit may still not be a viable commute option for many people outside the core of the region due to lack of access to transit facilities and potentially long travel times.

Figure 2-36: Change in Access to Jobs by Automobile, 2018-2045

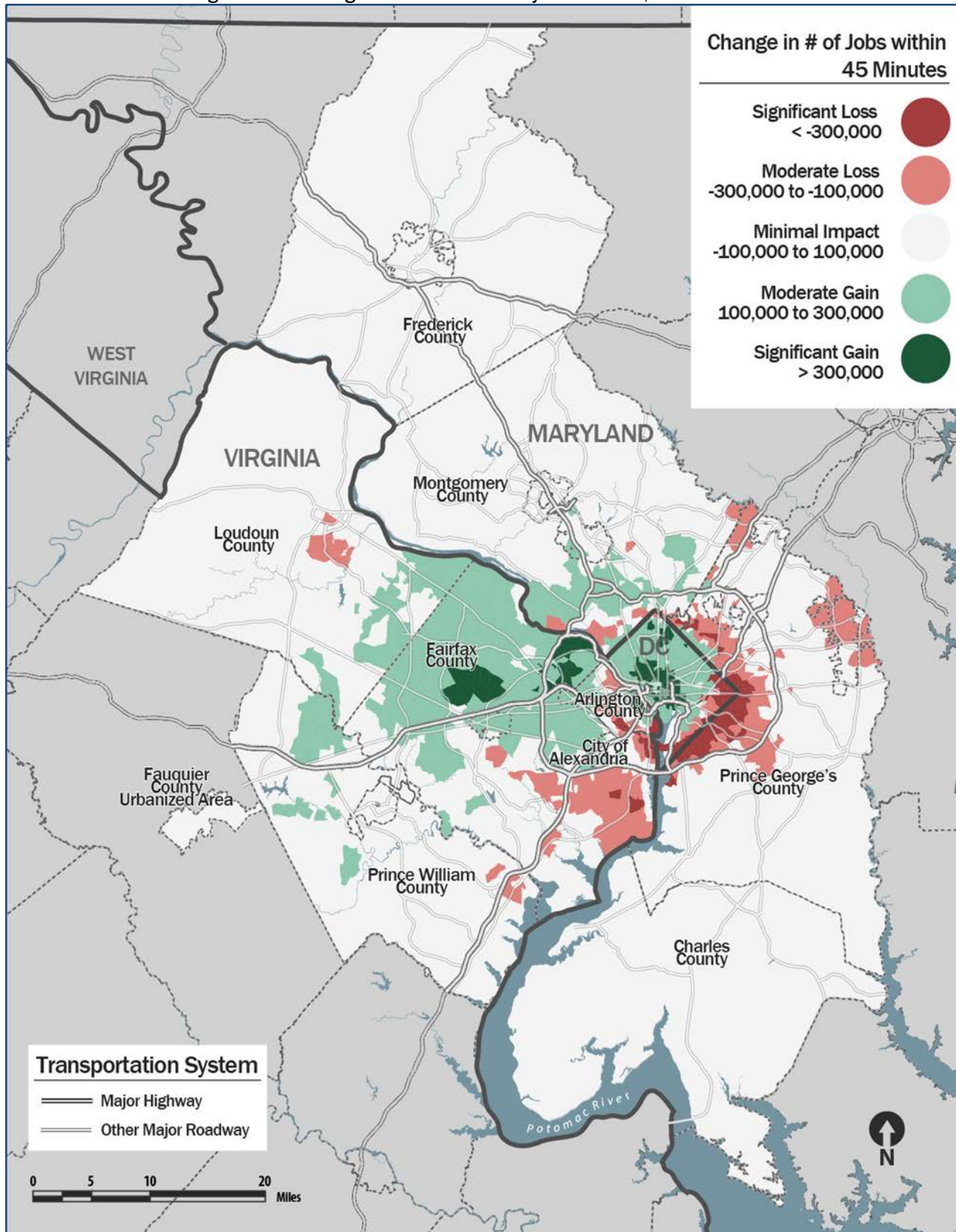
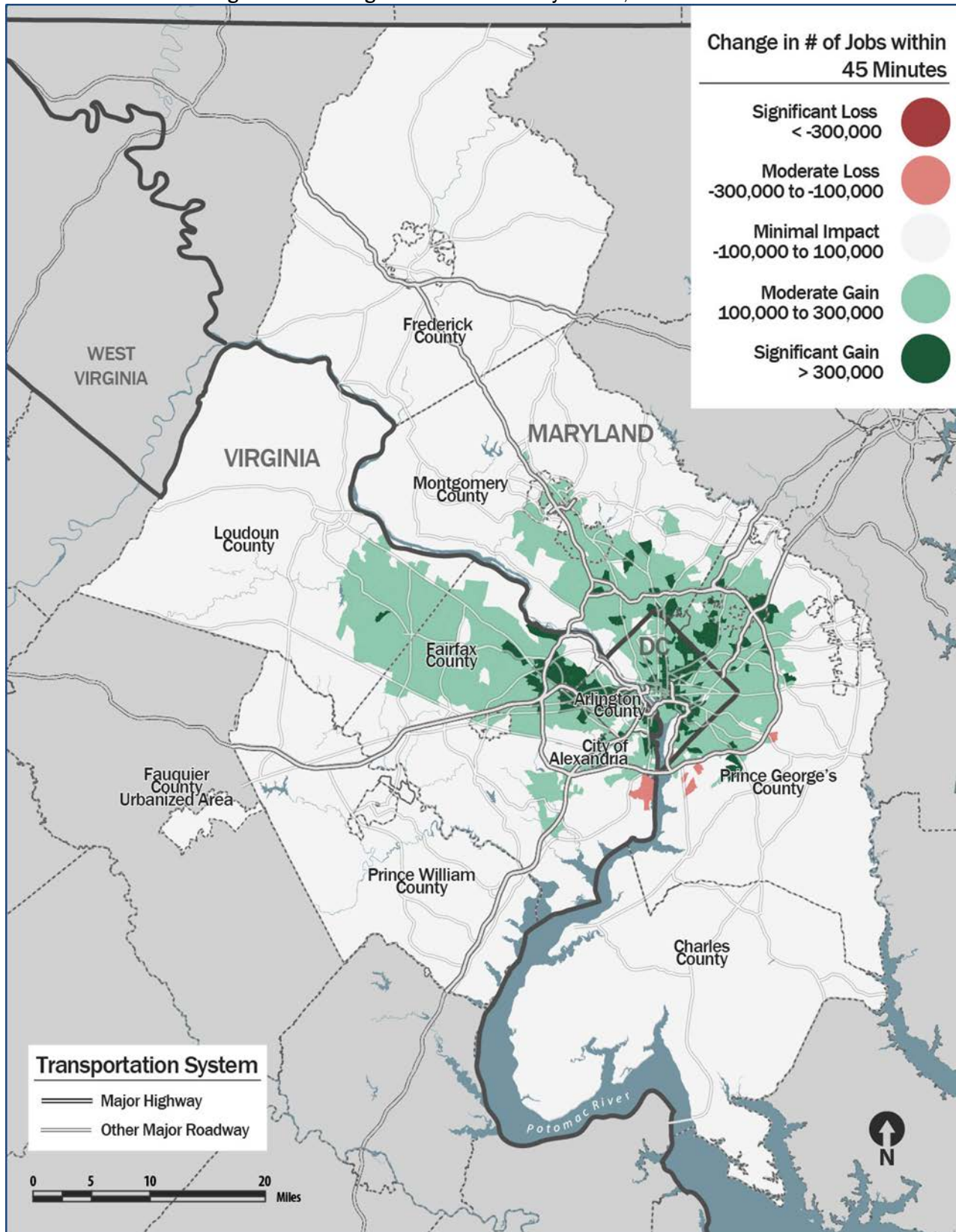




Figure 2-37: Change in Access to Jobs by Transit, 2018-2045

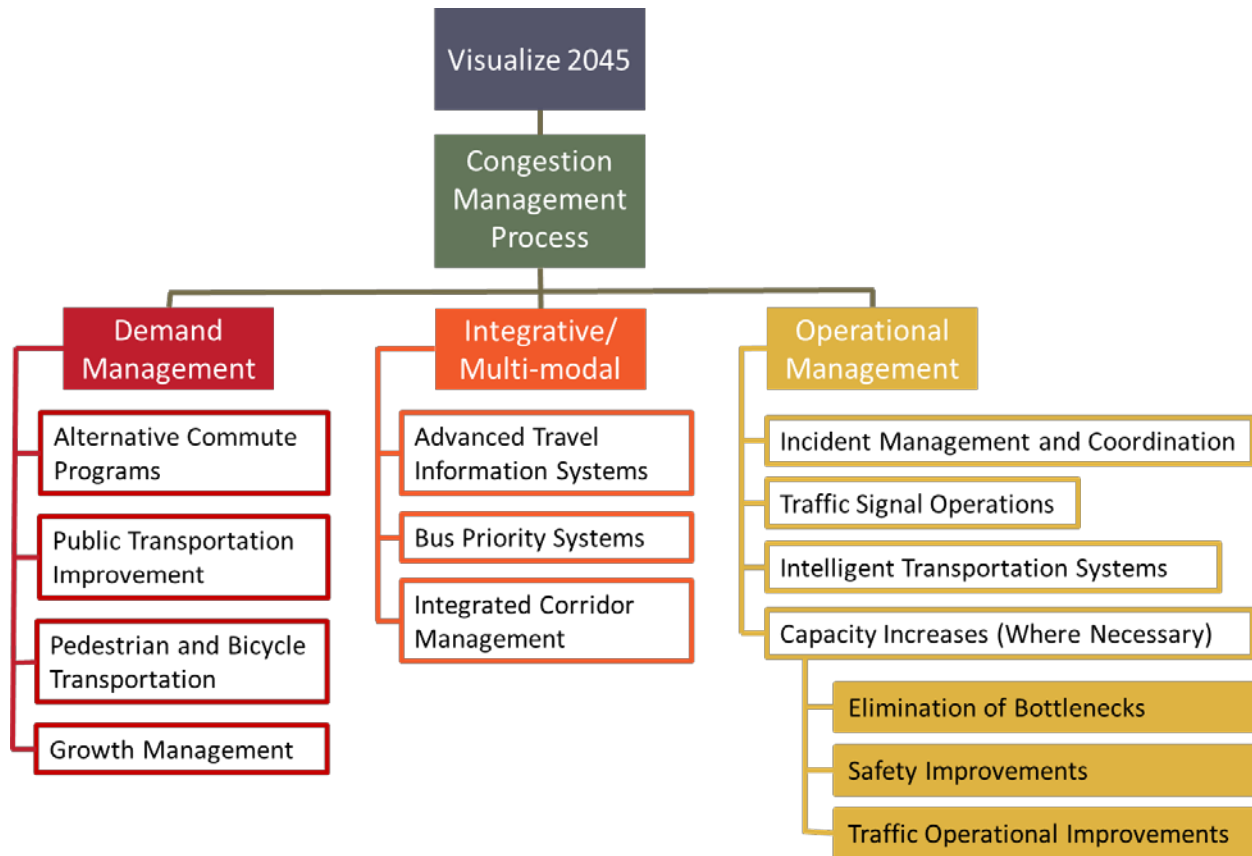


### 3. CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

#### 3.1 Overview of Congestion Management Strategies

Congestion Management Strategies generally can be divided into two types – Demand Management strategies and Operational, or Supply Management strategies. For purposes of this report, a third category, Integrative/Multi-modal, was added to better reflect the integration of demand and operation management in different projects in the region. Figure 3-1 shows examples of congestion management strategies.

Figure 3-1: Major CMP Strategies



Note: There are synergies between strategies categorized as demand management or operational management strategies, such as real-time traveler information on ridesharing opportunities responsive to a real-time traffic incident or situation.

Demand Management is aimed at reducing the demand for travel and influencing travelers’ behavior; either overall or by targeted modes. Demand Management strategies can include carpooling, vanpooling, telework programs that allow people to work from home to reduce the amount of cars on the road, and living near your work as a means of reducing commute travel.

Supply or operational management, on the other hand, is managing and making better use of existing transportation network in order to meet the region’s transportation goals and ultimately reduce congestion. Example supply management strategies are High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, variably priced lanes, and traffic management.

Often strategies categorized as either demand management or operational management have components of the other. There are strategies in place the region that take that combination a step further and integrate demand and operational management strategies into larger projects. In this report, these strategies have been categorized in this report as Integrative/Multi-modal strategies. Examples of these strategies include advanced traveler information systems and integrated corridor management.

These strategies, and how they are implemented throughout the Washington region, are explained in further detail below.

## 3.2 Demand Management Strategies

### 3.2.1 COMMUTER CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

Commuter Connections is a regional network, coordinated by COG/TPB, which provides commuter information and commuting assistance services to those living and working in the Washington, DC region. This program has been in existence since the 1970's under different names



and has implemented a number of demand management strategies in the region. The Commuter Connections program is designed to inform commuters of the availability and benefits of alternatives to driving alone, and to assist them in finding alternatives to fit their commuting needs. The program is funded by the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Departments of Transportation, as well as the U.S. Department of Transportation, and all services are provided free to the public and employers. Continuing the Commuter Connections Program is one of the key recommendations of the 2019 CMP Technical Report.

Commuter Connections evaluates the impacts of their programs through the Commuter Connections Transportation Demand Management Evaluation Project. The evaluation process allows for both on-going estimation of program effectiveness and for annual and triennial evaluations. The most recent Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM) Analysis Report covered FY2015-2017.<sup>71</sup>

Both qualitative and quantitative types of performance measures are included in the evaluation process to assess effectiveness. First, measures reflecting commuters' and users' awareness, participation, utilization, and satisfaction with the program, and their attitudes related to transportation options are used to track recognition, output, and service quality. Some of the important performance measures are:

- Vehicle trips reduced
- Vehicle miles of travel (VMT) reduced
- Emissions reduced: Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), Particulate Matter (PM2.5), PM 2.5 pre-cursor NOx, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Greenhouse Gas Emissions - GHG)

---

<sup>71</sup> *Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM) Analysis Report FY 2015-2017*, November 21, 2017. <https://www.commuterconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/2017-TERM-Evaluation-FINAL-Report-112117.pdf>

Particularly of interest to congestion management is the impact on vehicle trips reduced, vehicle miles of travel (VMT) reduced, and cost effectiveness. Appendix E shows the summary of results for individual terms (i.e., how many daily vehicle trips were reduced and the daily VMT reduced compared to the goals set by Commuter Connections).

Commuter Connections also operates the Commuter Operations Center (COC), providing direct commute assistance services, such as carpool and vanpool matching through telephone and internet assistance to commuters. The Commuter Operations Center also provides transit, bicycling, park and ride lot, and telecommuting information to commuters in the region.

In addition, a variety of surveys (the following lists a subset of them) are conducted by Commuter Connections to follow-up with program applicants and assess user satisfaction on its TDM programs. These surveys provide data used to estimate program impacts. Some of the surveys, such as the Applicant Placement survey and Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) Survey, also provide information used by Commuter Connections staff to fine tune program operations and policies.

**Commuter Connections Applicant Placement Rate Survey** – Since May 1997 Commuter Connections has conducted commuter applicant placement surveys to assess the effectiveness of the Commuter Operations Center and other program components. The surveys assess users' perceptions of and satisfaction with the services provided.

**GRH Applicant Survey** – Commuters who register with the GRH program or use a one-time exception trip will be surveyed to establish how the availability and use of GRH influenced their decision to use an alternative mode and to maintain that mode. Satisfaction with GRH services also will be polled.

**State of the Commute Survey (SOC)** – The SOC survey, a random sample survey of employed adults in the Washington metropolitan region, serves several purposes. First, it establishes trends in commuting behavior, such as commute mode and distance, and awareness and attitudes about commuting, and awareness and use of transportation services, such as HOV lanes and public transportation, available to commuters in the region.

**Employee Commute Surveys** – Some employers conduct baseline surveys of employees' commute patterns, before they develop commuter assistance programs and follow-up surveys after the programs are in place.

**Employer Telework Assistance Follow-up Survey** – Sent to employers that received telework assistance from Commuter Connections to determine if and how they used the information they received.

**Bike-to-Work Day Participant Survey** – A survey among registered participants in the Bike-to-Work Day event is undertaken to assess travel behavior before and after the Bike-to-Work Day, as well as commute distance and travel on non-bike days.

**Car Free Day Participant Survey** - A survey among registered participants in the Car Free Day event is undertaken to assess travel behavior before and after the Car Free Day, as well as commute distance and travel.

**'Pool Rewards Participant Survey** -- A survey among registered participants in the 'Pool Rewards program undertaken to assess travel behavior before and after program participation..

**Vanpool Driver Survey** – a survey that collects data on van ownership and operation, vanpool use and travel patterns, availability and use of vanpool assistance and support services, and issues of potential concern to vanpool drivers.

**Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs) Evaluation** – With the introduction of Clean Air Amendments in the 1990's reducing vehicle emissions became important in the region. Analysis

showed that enhancing existing and introducing new demand management strategies will have a two-fold impact; reducing congestion and at the same time reducing emissions and clearing the air of ozone causing pollutants. These programs were called Transportation Emissions Reduction Measures (TERMs) and the regional programs were adopted by the TPB and implemented through the Commuter Connections Program, in concert with program partners to meet air quality conformity and federal clean air mandates. Commuter Connections sets goals on TDM programs that impact commute trips<sup>72</sup>, and evaluates the programs to determine the impact they are having on reducing congestion and vehicle emissions. These TDM programs include:

**Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH)** – Eliminates a barrier to use of alternative modes by providing free rides home in the event of an unexpected personal emergency or unscheduled overtime to commuters who use alternative modes.

**Employer Outreach** – Provides regional outreach services to encourage large, private-sector and non-profit employers voluntarily to implement commuter assistance strategies that will contribute to reducing vehicle trips to worksites, including the efforts of jurisdiction sales representatives to foster new and expanded trip reduction programs.

**Mass Marketing** – Involves a large-scale, comprehensive media campaign to inform the region's commuters of services available from Commuter Connections as one way to address commuters' frustration about the commute. Projects associated with this program include a regional Bike to Work Day event, Car free day event, and the 'Pool Rewards rideshare incentive program.

Both the TDM program evaluation and associated surveys are keys to assessing the impact these programs have on congestion management and air quality. Following is a more detailed analysis on the above programs and other Commuter Connections demand management strategies in the region.

#### 3.2.1.1 Telework

Teleworking, or telecommuting, can be described as a means of using telecommunications and information technology to replace work-related travel. This can be done by working at one's home, or at a designated telework center one or more days a week. There are designated telework and co-working centers throughout the region, in the District, Maryland, and Virginia. Phones, tablets, wireless communications, and computers make teleworking an easy alternative to getting in a car and driving long distances to an office. Teleworking has shown to boost the quality of life, have economic benefits, reduce air pollution, and ease traffic congestion.

Telework is a TDM program evaluated by Commuter Connections. Telework Outreach is a resource service to help employers, commuters, and program partners initiate telework programs. In evaluating teleworking, several travel changes need to be assessed, including: trip reduction due to teleworking, the mode on non-telework days, and mode and travel distance to telework centers.

---

<sup>72</sup> The region has adopted and implemented TERMS other than those in the Commuter Connections program. Some other TERMS, such as for Signal Timing Optimization, may also impact congestion. Others, such as for emissions control equipment on heavy-duty diesel vehicles, impact only emissions.

Telework impacts are primarily estimated from the State of the Commute survey (SOC) and by surveys conducted of employers directly requesting information from Commuter Connections. The 2016 State of the Commute Technical Report<sup>73</sup> concluded the following regarding teleworking:

- Teleworkers accounted for 32% of all regional commuters. That is, workers who travel to a main work location on non-telework days.<sup>74</sup>
- An additional 18% of commuters, all who do not currently telework, said they “would and could” telework either regularly or occasionally, that is, they have job responsibilities that could be done while teleworking and would be interested in teleworking, if given the opportunity.
- The remaining respondents said they either were not interested in teleworking (9%) or that their jobs could only be performed at their main workplace (41%)
- Over half (58%) of the teleworkers surveyed said they teleworked at least one day a week.

### 3.2.1.2 Employer Outreach

Employer Outreach is aimed at increasing the number of private and non-profit employers implementing worksite commuter assistance programs, and is ultimately designed to encourage employees of client employers to shift from driving alone to alternative modes.

In this program, jurisdiction-based sales representatives contact employers, educate them about the benefits commuter assistance programs offer to employers, employees, and the region and assist them to develop, implement, and monitor worksite commuter assistance programs.

The *TERM Analysis Report for FY 2014-2017* estimated the impacts of employer outreach. The following are some noteworthy statistics from that report:

- Employers participating in Employer Outreach substantially exceeded the goal, with 2,046 participating employers compared to the goal of 1847.
- Estimated daily vehicle trip (102,625) and VMT (1.8 million) reduction exceeded the goals for this TERM.

### 3.2.1.3 Carpooling, Vanpooling, Ridesharing and other Commuter Resources

Commuter Connections provides information on carpooling, vanpooling, and Ridesharing. These alternative commute methods reduce the amount of single occupant vehicles (SOVs) on the road, which is important to congestion management.

**Carpooling** is two or more people traveling together in one vehicle, on a continuing basis.

**Vanpooling** is when a group of individuals (usually long-distance commuters) travel together by van, which is sometimes provided by employers. There are typically three kinds of vanpool arrangements:

**Owner-operated vans** – An individual leases or purchases a van and operates the van independently.

---

<sup>73</sup> *Commuter Connections State of the Commute Survey 2016 Technical Survey Report*. Prepared for Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Prepared by: LDA Consulting, Washington, DC. In conjunction with: CIC Research, San Diego, CA. June 2017.

<https://www.commuterconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-State-of-the-Commute-Report.pdf>

<sup>74</sup> Using this base of commuters excludes workers who are self-employed and for whom home is their only workplace.

Riders generally meet at a central location and pay the owner a set monthly fee.

*Third-party vans* — A vanpool "vendor" leases the vanpool vehicle for a monthly fee that includes the vehicle operating cost, insurance, and maintenance. The vendor can contract directly with one or more employees. The monthly lease fee is paid by the group of riders.

*Employer-provided vans* — The employer (or a group of employers) buys or leases vans for employees' commute use. The employer organizes the vanpool riders and insures and maintains the vehicles. The employer may charge a fee to ride in the van or subsidize the service.

**Pool Rewards** - 'Pool Rewards is a special incentive program available through Commuter Connections designed to encourage current drive alone commuters to start ridesharing in the Washington Metropolitan region. Commuters who currently drive alone to work may be eligible for a cash payment through 'Pool Rewards when they start or join a new carpool. If eligible, each carpool member can earn \$2 per day (\$1 each way) for each day they carpool to work over a consecutive 90-day period. The maximum incentive for the 90-day trial period is \$130. Carpools may consist of two or more people. For commuters who drive alone to work and can get between seven and fifteen people together to form a vanpool, they may qualify for a \$200 monthly 'Pool Rewards subsidy for the new vanpool.<sup>75</sup>



**CarpoolNow** - CarpoolNow is a dynamic rideshare mobile application that both drivers and riders can use anytime to find and schedule rides to and from work and is available through Commuter Connections. Drivers will receive an incentive payment for picking up a passenger using the mobile application so long as a portion of the trip occurs in the Washington DC Metropolitan Region. Drivers using the mobile app who give riders a lift to work in the non-attainment region are eligible to receive up to \$10 per trip as an incentive for using the app. The maximum incentive a driver using the app can receive is \$600 per calendar year.

**Flextime Rewards** - The Flextime Rewards program will pay registered commuters through Commuter Connections an \$8 incentive each time they avoid notoriously congested corridors in the Washington D.C. region. It's a simple way to reward commuters that have flextime available through their employers to help reduce traffic congestion during peak hour travel periods. Participants are encouraged to first check with their employer to confirm that flextime is allowable at their worksite, they can then register to the program through Commuter Connections. **Once the commuter has joined** the program, they will be asked to select an eligible corridor that is part of their commute. Corridors currently eligible for the Flextime Rewards cash incentive include:

- I-495 IL between VA-267 and I-270 Spur
- I-495 OL between I-95 and MD-193
- I-66 EB at VA-267
- DC-295 SB at Benning Rd.

If the commuter does not use any of these corridors for commuting purposes, they can still sign up to receive daily congestion notifications to avoid wasting time sitting in traffic. Once registration is complete, the commuter will begin to receive email notifications if higher-than-average traffic congestion is projected along their commute corridor(s). These emails contain suggested alternative departure times that may help avoid congestion. Those that use the defined Flextime Rewards cash-

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.commuterconnections.org/pool-rewards/>

eligible corridors will receive the program incentive once a trip is logged. If a commuter elects to delay their trip, they'll need to use the Commuter Connections mobile app to record the flextime trip.

**incentTrip Mobile Application** - The incentTrip mobile app was jointly developed through the TPB's Commuter Connections program and the University of Maryland through federal grants from the USDOT and USDOE. incentTrip motivates commuters to use more efficient and cleaner methods of transportation and features include the multi-modal transportation choices available from a commuter's origin to their destination, the best times to travel, and provides reward points through Commuter Connections for use of cleaner and greener forms of travel such as bikes, buses, trains, walking, and ridesharing. incentTrip even rewards for driving alone in an Eco-friendly manner.

The idea behind incentTrip is to embrace the use of technology on a personalized level to reduce traffic congestion, tailpipe emissions, and improve energy efficiencies. The gamification and rewards aspects use innovative behavioral economics to help increase demand for alternatives to Single Occupant Vehicles and more fuel-efficient driving. By leveraging incentTrip as a tool to help prompt behavior change, the Commuter Connections is actively working to better achieve the broad range of transportation goals embedded in the TPB's adopted Vision 2045 aspirational initiatives. The app allows commuters to plan trips with the best travel modes, departure times, and routes that save time, cost, and fuel, based on person-level traffic prediction and real-time data feeds. With artificial intelligence, the incentTrip learns the users travel patterns and habits, and constantly seeks to improve the experience without requiring commuters to do the heavy lifting by searching for better options; steps that many aren't willing to take.

Drivers can also earn rewards points and save money through incentTrip. Of all the multi-modal transportation methods the incentTrip app identifies, the fewest rewards points earned are for driving alone. So, while drivers are rewarded for improved eco-driving habits and delaying trips to avoid above-the-norm congestion, more rewards points are given for non-SOV travel such as transit use, carpooling, bicycling and walking. Reward points earned through the app can be redeemed for \$10, \$20, or \$50 in cash, up to \$600 per commuter per calendar year through Commuter Connections. The incentTrip app takes the carrot approach to maximize transportation system efficiencies. incentTrip is available through the Apple or Android store for downloading and use.

***Ridematching Services*** enables commuters to find other individuals that share the same commute route and can carpool/vanpool together. This provides carpooling options for people who may not know of someone to carpool with, thus broadening the carpooling options

#### 3.2.1.4 Bike To Work Day

Each May thousands of area commuters participate in Bike to Work Day, sponsored by Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association.<sup>76</sup> The TPB has a Bike to Work Day Steering Committee which coordinates the event each year.



Bike to Work Day encourages commuters to try bicycling to work as an alternative to solo driving. The program attracted over 17,900 bicyclists in 2019<sup>77</sup>.

Biking and other nontraditional modes are expanded upon in Section 3.2.4.

#### 3.2.1.5 Car Free Day

<sup>76</sup> <http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org>

<sup>77</sup> <https://www.commuterconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/Bike-to-Work-Day-2017-Final-Report.pdf>



Each year, Commuter Connections implements a regional Car Free Day<sup>78</sup> campaign that encourages residents to leave their cars behind or to take alternative forms of transportation such as public transit, carpools, vanpools, telework, bicycling or walking.

Car Free Day was first held in FY 2009. In 2017, evaluation results showed that there were over 11,200 individuals that pledged to go “car-free” for this event. In addition, participants pledged to reduce 191,400 vehicle miles of travel as a result of participation in this event. This event is held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> each year and is in tandem with the World Car Free Day event. A marketing campaign along with public outreach efforts will be developed to coincide with this worldwide celebrated event.

### **3.2.2 LOCAL AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Local agencies and organizations, such as local governments and Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) are doing their part to promote alternative commute methods and other demand management strategies. Table 15 provides detailed information on specific ongoing demand management strategies in the Washington region.

---

<sup>78</sup> <http://www.carfreemetrodc.org/>

**Table 3-1: Ongoing State Local Jurisdictional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategies**

| Geography                  | Location            | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name                                    | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name  | Description   | Website   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Region-wide                | Region-wide         | WMATA                             | Public Transportation Improvements               | Demand                               | Metrobus transit  | Public bus service available throughout the region. Connects to other modes: Metrorail, commuter rail, park-and-ride lots, etc. | <a href="http://wmata.com/bus/">http://wmata.com/bus/</a>   |
| Region-wide                | Region-wide         | WMATA                             | Public Transportation Improvements               | Demand                               | Metrorail transit   | Public rail services DC, MD, and VA. Connects to commuter rail, Metrobus and local bus systems.                                 | <a href="http://wmata.com/rail/">http://wmata.com/rail/</a>   |
| Region-wide                | Region-wide         | WMATA                             | Park-and-ride lot improvements                   | Demand                               | Metrorail station park-and-ride lots                                      | Parking offered at 42 Metrorail stations.   | <a href="https://www.wmata.com/service/parking/">https://www.wmata.com/service/parking/</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide | MDOT                              | Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Multimodal Improvements | Demand                               | Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC)                | Provides information on biking, walking. Master Plan guides bike/ped planning in the State.                                     | <a href="http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/newMDOT/Planning/Bike_Walk/MBPAC.html">http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/newMDOT/Planning/Bike_Walk/MBPAC.html</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide | MDOT                              | Telecommuting                                    | Demand                               | MDOT's Telework Partnership with Employers/Telework Baltimore.com program | Offers free teleworking consulting services to Maryland employers. Promotes teleworking.  | <a href="http://www.mdot.state.md.us/Planning/Telework%20Partnership%20Web%20Page/Telework%20Partnership%20with%20Employers">http://www.mdot.state.md.us/Planning/Telework%20Partnership%20Web%20Page/Telework%20Partnership%20with%20Employers</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide | MTA                               | Employer outreach / mass marketing               | Demand                               | MDOT's Commuter Choice Maryland   | Reaches out to Maryland employers and offers incentives to implement a commuter program.  | <a href="http://www.commuterchoicemaryland.com/">http://www.commuterchoicemaryland.com/</a>   |

| Geography                  | Location  | Local Jurisdiction / Organization   | Strategy Name                                   | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name            | Description  | Website   |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide   | MTA   | Public Transportation Improvements              | Demand                               | MDOT's MARC train               | Maryland MTA Public commuter rail serving Montgomery County, Prince William County, Frederick County, and into DC. | <a href="https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about">https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide   | MTA   | Public Transportation Improvements              | Demand                               | Local bus                       | Maryland MTA Public bus service throughout Maryland, primarily around the Baltimore-DC area.                       | <a href="https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about">https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Maryland State-wide   | MTA   | Public Transportation Improvements              | Demand                               | Commuter Bus                    | Maryland MTA Commuter bus service in Maryland and DC's inner-ring suburbs.   | <a href="https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about">https://www.mta.maryland.gov/about</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | District-wide   | DDOT  | Pedestrian, Bicycle and Multimodal Improvements | Demand                               | Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs | Committed to providing safe and convenient bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the City.                      | <a href="https://ddot.dc.gov/bikesandpeds">https://ddot.dc.gov/bikesandpeds</a>     |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | District of Columbia, Arlington County, City of Alexandria, Montgomery County | Partnership of DDOT, Arlington County, City of Alexandria, Montgomery County (Fairfax County - coming soon) | Bicycle Programs                                | Demand                               | Capital Bikeshare               | A bikesharing program to encourage the use of bicycles.  | <a href="http://capitalbikeshare.com/">http://capitalbikeshare.com/</a>             |

| Geography                  | Location                        | Local Jurisdiction / Organization                  | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name               | Description   | Website   |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | District-wide                   | DDOT   | Carsharing Programs                | Demand                               | DDOT Carsharing Initiative         | A network of vehicles offered for rent to the public. Allows mobility of a car without owning one.  | <a href="https://ddot.dc.gov/page/street-carsharing-program">https://ddot.dc.gov/page/street-carsharing-program</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | District-wide                   | DDOT   | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | DDOT Mass transit                  | DDOT helps coordinate mass transit with agencies and WMATA.   | <a href="https://ddot.dc.gov/page/mass-transit-district-columbia">https://ddot.dc.gov/page/mass-transit-district-columbia</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Takoma Park and Takoma Park, MD | DDOT   | Growth Management                  | Demand                               | DDOT's Takoma Transportation Study | A study done for Takoma area of DC and adjacent Takoma Park, MD. Study recommends pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and road improvements.  | <a href="https://comp.ddot.dc.gov/SitePages/Transportation%20Plans%20and%20Studies.aspx">https://comp.ddot.dc.gov/SitePages/Transportation%20Plans%20and%20Studies.aspx</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | District-wide                   | DDOT   | District TDM Program               | Demand                               | goDCgo                             | goDCgo is an initiative of DDOT that is designed to help reduce congestion and improve air quality in the District through the promotion of sustainable transportation modes. | <a href="http://godcgo.com/">http://godcgo.com/</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Downtown DC                     | Partnership of DDOT, WMATA, and DC Surface Transit | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | DC Circulator                      | A public bus system serving the District.   | <a href="https://ddot.dc.gov/page/dc-circulator">https://ddot.dc.gov/page/dc-circulator</a>   |

| Geography                  | Location           | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name                            | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name  | Description  | Website   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Virginia-statewide | VDRPT, VDOT                       | Telecommuting                            | Demand                               | Telework!VA   | Primary resource for Virginia's employers to start a telework program in VA, promotes teleworking.   | <a href="http://www.teleworkva.org/">http://www.teleworkva.org/</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern Virginia  | VDOT                              | Variably Priced HOT Lanes                | Demand/Operational                   | 495 Express Lanes   | High occupancy toll (HOT) lanes that use congestion pricing to manage congestion on the Beltway in Virginia                                      | <a href="https://expresslanes.com">https://expresslanes.com</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern Virginia  | VDOT                              | Variably Priced HOT Lanes                | Demand/Operational                   | 95 Express Lanes  | Construction of high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes that use congestion pricing to manage congestion on the Beltway in Virginia                      | <a href="https://expresslanes.com">https://expresslanes.com</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern Virginia  | VDOT and VDRPT                    | Transportation Demand Management Program | Demand/operational                   | Virginia Megaprojects Regional, Dulles Rail, and 495 and 95 Express Lanes TMP's | Various targeted TDM and transit improvements to mitigate impacts and delays caused by construction of large scale projects in Northern Virginia | <a href="http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northern%20virginia/default.asp">http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northern%20virginia/default.asp</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern Virginia  | NVRC                              | Laws and Safety Tips Booklet             | Demand                               | Safety/Outreach   | Pocket Booklet   | <a href="http://www.bikewalkvirginia.org">www.bikewalkvirginia.org</a>  |

| Geography                  | Location   | Local Jurisdiction / Organization          | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                            | Description   | Website   |
|----------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Fairfax and Loudoun Co. VA                               | VDRPT and MWAA                             | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project               | In cooperation with WMATA and local governments. Construct an extension of Metrorail to Dulles Airport.   | <a href="http://www.dullesmetro.com">http://www.dullesmetro.com</a>       |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | I-66, I-95/395 HOV lanes                                 | VDOT/NOVA                                  | HOV Lanes                          | Demand                               | I-66 HOV Lanes, I-395/I-95 HOV                  | Lanes available to ridesharers, those carpooling and vanpooling, and transit vehicles   | <a href="http://www.VDOT.Virginia.gov">www.VDOT.Virginia.gov</a>          |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Virginia Statewide                                       | VDRPT and AMTRAK                           | Public Outreach                    | Demand                               | AMTRAK Virginia                                 | Promotes AMTRAK passenger rail service in Virginia  | <a href="http://www.amtrakvirginia.com">http://www.amtrakvirginia.com</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Virginia Statewide                                       | VDOT                                       | Traffic Management                 | Operational                          | I-66 ATM  | Promote safety and congestion management  | <u>none</u>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Virginia Statewide                                       | VDOT                                       | TDM and Traffic management         | Operational                          | I-95 ICM  | Promote safety and congestion management  | <u>none</u>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Loudoun, Fairfax, Arlington, and Prince William Counties | Northern Virginia Transportation Authority | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | NVTA's TransAction Regional Transportation Plan | Identifies a number of public transit, travel demand management, and other improvements, including new park-and-ride lots throughout Northern VA. | <a href="https://nvtatransaction.org/">https://nvtatransaction.org/</a>   |

| Geography                  | Location  | Local Jurisdiction / Organization          | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name   | Description  | Website   |
|----------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Loudoun, Fairfax, Arlington, and Prince William Counties              | Northern Virginia Transportation Authority | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | NVTA's Mission of the Authority                                      | Responsibilities include a general oversight of regional congestion mitigation, including carpooling, vanpooling, and other commute programs   | <a href="https://thenovaauthority.org/planning/long-range-transportation/">https://thenovaauthority.org/planning/long-range-transportation/</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern VA and the District of Columbia                              | VRE  | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Train                                 | Commuter rail serving Northern VA and two stations in the District. Connects to local transit.   | <a href="http://www.vre.org/index.html">http://www.vre.org/index.html</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Prince William Co., Manassas, Manassas Park, and several locations in | PRTC                                       | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission's (PRTC) OmniRide | Commuter and local bus services along I-95 and I-66 corridor and within Prince William Co., Manassas, and Manassas Park, and to several locations in VA & DC, including Metrorail stations | <a href="http://omniride.com/about/">http://omniride.com/about/</a>   |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Prince William Co. and Manassas                                       | PRTC                                       | Ridematching Services              | Demand                               | PRTC's OmniRide Ridesharing  | A free ridematching service for carpooler and vanpoolers originating in Prince William Co., Manassas, and Manassas Park  | <a href="http://omniride.com/ridesharing/">http://omniride.com/ridesharing/</a>   |

| Geography                  | Location                                      | Local Jurisdiction / Organization      | Strategy Name      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name          | Description  | Website   |
|----------------------------|---|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties | VDOT/NOVA                              | Park-and-Ride Lots | Demand/operational                   | Commuter Park-and-Ride lots   | Provides and maintains numerous free park-and-ride lots  | <a href="http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/parkride/home.asp">http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/parkride/home.asp</a>       |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties | VDOT/NOVA                              | Bicycle Lockers    | Demand/operational                   | Bicycle Locker Rental Program | Provides reserved bicycle lockers at several Park-and-Ride lots for an annual rental fee   | <a href="http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/nova-mainBicycle.asp">http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/nova-mainBicycle.asp</a> |
| State/Multi-jurisdictional | Northern Virginia                             | MWAA                                   | HOV Lanes          | Demand                               | Dulles Toll Road HOV Lanes    | Lanes available to rideshares, Those carpooling and vanpooling, and transit vehicles   | <a href="http://www.mwaa.com">www.mwaa.com</a>  |
| Multi-jurisdictional       | Northern Virginia                             | PRTC in cooperation with NVTC and GWRC | Vanpool Programs   | Demand                               | Vanpool Alliance              | Organizes private vanpool providers for NTD reporting. Provides support, ridematching, and general marketing for vanpools in the region. | <a href="http://www.vanpoolalliance.org">www.vanpoolalliance.org</a>  |



| Geography            | Location  | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name   | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name  | Description   | Website   |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Multi-jurisdictional | Prince William County, Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park | PRTC                              | Employer Outreach                                       | Demand                               | Omni SmartCommute   | Provides outreach and support to area employers seeking to implement employee commute assistance programs.                        | <a href="http://www.prtctransit.org/special-programs/employer-services.php">http://www.prtctransit.org/special-programs/employer-services.php</a>   |
| State/Local          | NOVA  | VDOT/Local                        | Bike Lanes  | Demand                               | Road Diet   | Improve safety and mobility   | none  |
| County               | Throughout Montgomery County                                | Montgomery County, MD             | Park-&-Ride lots: Provision, maintenance & improvements | Demand                               | Montgomery County Park-and-Ride Lots                            | Provide park-and-ride lot information in the County.  | <a href="https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/Resources/Files/commuter/ParkRideLotGuide-rev-Oct2014.pdf">https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/Resources/Files/commuter/ParkRideLotGuide-rev-Oct2014.pdf</a> |
| County               | Throughout Montgomery County                                | Montgomery County, MD             | Public Transportation                                   | Demand                               | Ride On (local bus)   | Provides public bus service in Montgomery County. Connects to Metrorail and Metrobus  | <a href="https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT/ride.html">https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT/ride.html</a>   |
| County               | Throughout Montgomery County MD                             | MCDOT/Commuter Services Section   | Alternative Commute Programs                            | Demand                               | MCDOT TDM Programs & Services - available throughout the County | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives, all other TDM services & strategies | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>   |

| Geography | Location                          | Local Jurisdiction / Organization                                     | Strategy Name                            | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                                 | Description   | Website  |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| County    | Throughout Montgomery County MD   | MCDOT/Commuter Services Section & other offices within MCDOT; M-NCPPC | Growth Management                        | Demand                               | TDM for Development Review                           | Coordinates TDM strategies required in new developments                               | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Montgomery County MD   | MCDOT/Commuter Services Section & Traffic Engineering Div./Bikeways   | Alternative Commute Programs – Bicycling | Demand                               | Bicycling Resources                                  | Bike/transit maps for County and individual service areas. Bike resources             | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a><br><a href="http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/BikeWays/BWHome.aspx">http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/BikeWays/BWHome.aspx</a> |
| County    | Throughout Montgomery County MD   | MCDOT/Commuter Services Section                                       | Telework Incentive Program               | Demand                               | Telework Resources                                   | Laptops and consulting services available to employers exploring or adopting telework | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Prince George's County | Prince George's County Dept. of Public Works and Trans.               | Alternative Commute Programs             | Demand                               | Prince George's County Ride Smart Commuter Solutions | Provides information on commuter services available in Prince George's County.        | <a href="http://www.ridesmartsolutions.com/">http://www.ridesmartsolutions.com/</a>  |

| Geography | Location                          | Local Jurisdiction / Organization                           | Strategy Name                                 | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name  | Description  | Website   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| County    | Throughout Prince George's County | Prince George's County Dept. of Public Works and Trans.     | Park-and-ride lot improvements                | Demand                               | Prince George's County Park-and-Ride Lots                                 | There are 15 free park-and-ride lots available in Prince George's County.  | <a href="https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1134/Park-Ride">https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1134/Park-Ride</a>   |
| County    | Throughout Prince George's County | Prince George's County Dept. of Public Works and Transport. | Improving accessibility to multimodal options | Demand                               | Prince George's County Call-A-Bus   | Bus service available to all residents of Prince George's County who are not served by existing bus or rail.   | <a href="https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1138/Call-a-Bus">https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1138/Call-a-Bus</a>   |
| County    | Throughout Frederick County       | Frederick County, MD  | Public Transportation Improvements            | Demand                               | TransIT Services of Frederick County                                      | Public bus and paratransit services.   | <a href="https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT">https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT</a>   |
| County    | Throughout Frederick County       | Frederick County, MD  | Alternative Commute Programs                  | Demand                               | TransIT Rideshare (a program within TransIT Services of Frederick County) | TransIT also offers information on alternative commute programs.   | <a href="https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT">https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT</a>   |
| County    | Throughout Frederick County       | Frederick County, MD  | Alternative Commute Programs                  | Demand                               | Employer Connection (a program of TransIT Services of Frederick County)   | Help business and employees find best transportation solutions   | <a href="https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT">https://frederickcountymd.gov/105/TransIT</a>   |
| County    | Throughout Frederick County       | Frederick County, MD  | Alternative Commute Programs                  | Demand                               | Frederick County Rideshare and Employer Outreach                          | Provides information on alternative commute programs, and local and regional public transit. Work with Employers to develop commute strategies at their locations. | <a href="https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/208/Commuter-Services-Regional-Transportatio">https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/208/Commuter-Services-Regional-Transportatio</a> |

| Geography | Location                    | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                                | Description   | Website  |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| County    | Throughout Fairfax County   | Fairfax County, VA                | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Fairfax Connector (local bus)                       | Public bus system in Fairfax County. Connects to Metrorail and bus.   | <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/">http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Fairfax County   | Fairfax County, VA                | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | Fairfax County Commuter Services Program            | Provides information on alternative commute programs, and helps business and employees                            | <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/commuter-services">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/commuter-services</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Fairfax County   | Fairfax County, VA                | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | Fairfax County Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs      | A comprehensive bicycle initiative and program committed to making Fairfax County bicycle and pedestrian friendly | <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Fairfax County   | Fairfax County, VA                | Employer Awards                    | Demand                               | Fairfax County Best Workplaces for Commuters Awards | National & local recognition awards for Fairfax County employers who have established level 3 or 4 TDM programs   | <a href="http://www.bestworkplaces.org/employers/fairfax/">http://www.bestworkplaces.org/employers/fairfax/</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Fairfax County   | Fairfax County, VA                | Transit                            | Demand                               | Fairfax Transit                                     | Study countywide transit needs  | <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/sites/transportation/files/assets/documents/pdf/transportation%20nrr">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/sites/transportation/files/assets/documents/pdf/transportation%20nrr</a><br><a href="https://www.arlingtontransit.com/">https://www.arlingtontransit.com/</a> |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County | Arlington County, VA              | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Arlington Transit (ART)                             | Public bus service in Arlington. Connects to Metrorail and bus.   | <a href="https://www.arlingtontransit.com/">https://www.arlingtontransit.com/</a>  |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County | Arlington County, VA              | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | Arlington County Commuter Services                  | Provides information on alternative commute programs, and public transit.   | <a href="https://www.commuterpage.com/about/arlington-county-commuter-services/">https://www.commuterpage.com/about/arlington-county-commuter-services/</a>  |

| Geography | Location                                  | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name                                   | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name  | Description   | Website   |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| County    | Throughout Arlington County               | Arlington County, VA              | Pedestrian, Bicycle and Multimodal Improvements | Demand                               | Arlington's BikeArlington                                   | Initiative to encourage more people to bike often.  | <a href="http://www.bikearlington.com/">http://www.bikearlington.com/</a>                           |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County               | Arlington County, VA              | Alternative Commute Programs                    | Demand                               | Arlington's Car-Free Diet                                   | Promotes alternative commute methods.   | <a href="http://www.carfreediet.com/">http://www.carfreediet.com/</a>                               |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County               | Arlington County, VA              | Promote Alternate Modes                         | Demand                               | WALKArlington   | Promotes walking as an alternative mode.  | <a href="http://www.walkarlington.com/">http://www.walkarlington.com/</a>                           |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County               | Arlington County, VA              | Alternative Commute Programs                    | Demand                               | Arlington County's CommuterPage.com                         | Provides information on transportation options in Arlington and the DC area.              | <a href="http://www.commuterpage.com/">http://www.commuterpage.com/</a>                             |
| County    | Throughout Arlington County               | Arlington County, VA              | Growth Management                               | Demand                               | Arlington County's TDM Management for Site Plan Development | Coordinates site plan development (proposed land use) with commuter and transit services. | <a href="http://www.commuterpage.com/TDM/">http://www.commuterpage.com/TDM/</a>                     |
| County    | Throughout Loudoun and from Loudoun to DC | Loudoun County, VA                | Public Transportation                           | Demand                               | Loudoun County Transit                                      | Commuter bus service from Loudoun Co. to Arlington and downtown DC.                       | <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/transit">https://www.loudoun.gov/transit</a>                       |
| County    | Throughout Loudoun County                 | Loudoun County, VA                | Park-and-ride lot improvements                  | Demand                               | Loudoun's Free Park-and-Ride lots                           | Free park-and-ride lots are available throughout the County.                              | <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/242/Park-Ride-Lots">https://www.loudoun.gov/242/Park-Ride-Lots</a> |
| County    | Throughout Loudoun County                 | Loudoun County, VA                | Alternative Commute Programs                    | Demand                               | Loudoun's Commuting options                                 | Provides information on alternative commute programs and transit options.                 | <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/commute">https://www.loudoun.gov/commute</a>                       |

| Geography | Location  | Local Jurisdiction / Organization                           | Strategy Name                                   | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name        | Description  | Website   |
|-----------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| County    | Throughout Loudoun County   | Loudoun County, VA  | Employer Outreach/ Services                     | Demand                               | Loudoun's Employer Services | Helps businesses identify commuting solutions for employees in Loudoun County            | <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/283/Employer-Services">https://www.loudoun.gov/283/Employer-Services</a>                     |
| County    | Throughout Southern Loudoun and in Northern Loudoun to Purcellville | Virginia Regional Transit (in cooperation with Loudoun Co.) | Local Fixed Route Bus Service                   | Demand                               | Loudoun County              | Public bus service within Loudoun County.  | <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/buses">https://www.loudoun.gov/buses</a>   |
| City      | The length of College Park, MD                                      | City of College Park, MD                                    | Pedestrian, Bicycle and Multimodal Improvements | Demand                               | College Park Trolley Trail  | Trail is to run the length of the City of College Park, in the old trolley right-of-way. | <a href="http://www.thewashcycle.com/college_park_trolley_trail/">http://www.thewashcycle.com/college_park_trolley_trail/</a> |
| City      | Throughout Greenbelt  | City of Greenbelt, MD                                       | Public Transportation Improvements              | Demand                               | Greenbelt Connection        | A local bus in Greenbelt; runs upon request.   | <a href="http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/public_works/connection.htm">http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/public_works/connection.htm</a>   |
| City      | Throughout City of Frederick  | City of Frederick, MD                                       | Pedestrian, Bicycle and Multimodal Improvements | Demand                               | Frederick Shared use paths  | Promotes the use of, and creates new shared use paths.                                   | <a href="https://www.cityoffrederick.com/232/Transportation">https://www.cityoffrederick.com/232/Transportation</a>           |

| Geography | Location                   | Local Jurisdiction / Organization | Strategy Name                                 | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                                       | Description  | Website   |
|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| City      | Throughout Alexandria      | City of Alexandria, VA            | Alternative Commute Programs                  | Demand                               | Local Motion   | Promotes use of alternative modes.   | <a href="http://www.Alexandriava.gov/LocalMotion">www.Alexandriava.gov/LocalMotion</a>  |
| City      | Throughout Alexandria      | City of Alexandria, VA            | Public Transportation Improvements            | Demand                               | Alexandria DASH  | Local bus system. Connects to Metrobus and Metrorail, VRE, and other local bus systems.    | <a href="http://www.dashbus.com/">http://www.dashbus.com/</a>   |
| City      | Throughout Alexandria      | City of Alexandria, VA            | Growth Management                             | Demand                               | Transportation Management Plans for Site Plan Developments | Coordinates site plan development (proposed land uses) with commuter and transit services. | <a href="http://www.Alexandriava.gov/6556">www.Alexandriava.gov/6556</a>  |
| City      | Throughout Alexandria      | City of Alexandria, VA            | Improving accessibility to multimodal options | Demand                               | Alexandria Transit Store                                   | Provides resources and retail transactions for multimodal travel                           | <a href="http://www.Alexandriava.gov/11144">www.Alexandriava.gov/11144</a>  |
| City      | Throughout City of Fairfax | City of Fairfax, VA               | Public Transportation Improvements            | Demand                               | City of Fairfax's CUE                                      | Public bus service within City of Fairfax. Also connects to Vienna Metrorail station.      | <a href="https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/transportation-division/cue-bus-system">https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/transportation-division/cue-bus-system</a> |

| Geography               | Location   | Local Jurisdiction / Organization   | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                        | Description  | Website   |
|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Local / Corridor- based | Along the corridor between Baltimore and DC                | BWI Business Partnership  | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | BWI Business Partnership Commuter Resources | Provides information on commuter programs available to the BWI area.                         | <a href="http://www.bwipartner.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=21&amp;Itemid=59">http://www.bwipartner.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=21&amp;Itemid=59</a> |
| Local / Corridor- based | Downtown Bethesda Transportation Management District (TMD) | MCDOT/ Commuter Services Section with contractor: Bethesda Transportation Solutions (BTS) | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | Bethesda TMD                                | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives | <a href="http://www.bethesdatransit.org/">http://www.bethesdatransit.org/</a>   |
| Local / Corridor- based | Downtown Bethesda Transportation Management District (TMD) | MCDOT with contractor: Bethesda Urban Partnership (BUP)                                   | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | Bethesda Circulator                         | Downtown Bethesda Circulator Bus   | <a href="https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/bethesda-circulator">https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/bethesda-circulator</a>   |
| Local / Corridor- based | North Bethesda TMD   | MCDOT/ Commuter Services Section with contractor: North Bethesda Transportation Center    | Alternative Commute Programs       | Demand                               | N. Bethesda TMD                             | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives | <a href="http://www.nbtc.org">http://www.nbtc.org</a>   |



| Geography               | Location                                      | Local Jurisdiction / Organization             | Strategy Name                | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name             | Description  | Website   |
|-------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Local / Corridor- based | Friendship Heights TMD                        | MCDOT/ Commuter Services Section (CSS)        | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | Friendship Heights TMD           | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>               |
| Local / Corridor- based | Silver Spring TMD                             | MCDOT/ Commuter Services Section (CSS)        | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | Silver Spring TMD                | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>               |
| Local / Corridor- based | Greater Shady Grove TMD                       | MCDOT/ Commuter Services Section (CSS)        | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | Greater Shady Grove TMD          | Provides information on alternative commute options: carpooling, biking, employer incentives | <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute</a>               |
| Local / Corridor- based | Loudoun, Fairfax, and Prince William Counties | Dulles Area Transportation Association (DATA) | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | DATA Commuter Resources          | Advocates for alternative commute programs, transit needs, and transit-oriented development. | <a href="http://www.datatrans.org/about.html">http://www.datatrans.org/about.html</a>                           |
| Local / Corridor- based | Reston  | LINK  | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | Reston's LINK Commuter Resources | Provides information on carpooling, vanpooling, and regional bus schedules.                  | <a href="http://www.linkinfo.org/index.cfm">http://www.linkinfo.org/index.cfm</a>                               |
| Local / Corridor- based | Tyson's Corner area                           | Tyson's Transportation Association (TYTRAN)   | Alternative Commute Programs | Demand                               | TYTRAN's Commuter Resources      | Provides information on carpooling, vanpooling, park-and-ride lots, and telework locations.  | <a href="https://www.tysonpartnership.org/transportation/">https://www.tysonpartnership.org/transportation/</a> |

| Geography               | Location                                       | Local Jurisdiction / Organization                               | Strategy Name                      | Operational or Demand Mngt. Strategy | Project/Program Name                 | Description   | Website   |
|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Local / Corridor- based | Northern VA - Loudoun, Fairfax, Prince William | Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)              | Public Transportation Improvements | Demand                               | NVTC Programs                        | NVTC has innovative programs supporting transit   | <a href="http://www.novatransit.org/programs/">http://www.novatransit.org/programs/</a> |
| Local / Corridor- based | Eastern Arlington's Potomac Yard neighborhood  | Full Access Solutions in Transportation (FAST) for Potomac Yard | Growth Management                  | Demand                               | Non-profit, developer-initiated FAST | Aims at reducing single-occupant trips to the growing Potomac Yard area. Promotes transit, biking, walking. Offers discounted Metrobus shuttle. | <a href="https://fastpotomacyard.com/">https://fastpotomacyard.com/</a>                 |

### 3.2.3 TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Transit systems can improve the operation of existing roadways and systems by carrying more passengers than a single-occupant vehicle. They can also be considered demand management strategies in that they can influence a person's traveling behavior and convince them to leave their car at home. Many of the transit systems in the region are operated by transit agencies or local government agencies, including:

- [Alexandria DASH](#), a local bus service in Alexandria, Virginia
- [Arlington Transit \(ART\)](#), a bus service in Arlington County, Virginia
- [Bethesda Circulator](#), a downtown Bethesda bus service
- [City-University Energysaver \(CUE\)](#), a bus service in City of Fairfax, Virginia
- [DC Circulator](#) bus, serving downtown District of Columbia
- [Fairfax Connector](#), a bus service in Fairfax County, Virginia
- [Frederick County Transit](#), a bus service in Frederick County, Maryland
- [Greenbelt Connection](#), bus serving Greenbelt upon request
- [Loudoun County Transit](#) operates commuter bus services from Loudoun to destinations that include West Falls Church Metro, Rosslyn, the Pentagon, and Washington, D.C., as well as providing services from West Falls Church Metro to and among employment sites in Loudoun County.
- [Maryland Transit Administration \(MTA\) MARC](#) train commuter rail, serving District of Columbia and Maryland
- [Montgomery County Ride On](#), a local bus service in Montgomery County, Maryland
- [MTA Commuter Bus](#) provides privately contracted Commuter Bus routes which provide trips throughout Maryland's Washington D.C., suburbs including service from far reaching suburbs in Howard, Anne Arundel, Queen Anne's, and Charles Counties to locations in Washington, D.C., Montgomery County, and Prince George's County.
- [Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission \(PRTC\)](#), providing *OmniRide* commuter and local bus services throughout Prince William County, Manassas, and Manassas Park to several Metrorail Stations, the Pentagon, Crystal City, Rosslyn/Ballston, downtown Washington, D.C., Capitol Hill, and the Washington Navy Yard.
- [Prince George's County Call-A-Bus](#), serving those in Prince George's County not served by existing bus or rail
- [Prince George's County TheBus](#), serving Prince George's County
- [Regional Transportation Agency \(RTA\) of Central Maryland](#), a public transportation service providing fixed route and paratransit services within Howard County, Anne Arundel County, Northern Prince George's County and the City of Laurel.
- [Virginia Railway Express \(VRE\)](#) commuter rail serving Virginia and District of Columbia
- [Virginia Regional Transit](#) (in cooperation with Loudoun County Transit), a bus service in Loudoun County, Virginia
- [Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority \(WMATA\) Metrobus](#), serving the entire Washington metropolitan area
- [Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority \(WMATA\) Metrorail](#), serving the entire Washington metropolitan area

While these transit systems are individually very important strategies, it is important to note that they work together to form an entire transit network important to our congestion management system. They work well with other strategies as well, such as VPLs and HOV lanes. In addition, with the help of

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies, Advanced Traveler Information Systems and providing buses with bicycle racks, transit can be even more appealing to travelers.

The 2007/2008<sup>79</sup> regional household travel survey revealed that commuting transit modal share increased from 15.1% in 1994 to 17.7%, and daily transit modal share increased from 5.5% in 1994 to 6.1%<sup>80</sup>. These increases reflect the positive effect of the region's longstanding efforts to promote transit usage.

### 3.2.3.1 Significant Transit Construction and Capacity Increases

The first phase of Metrorail's Silver Line opened on July 25, 2014. The 11.4-mile segment begins at the existing West Falls Church Station and includes five stations: McLean, Tysons Corner, Greensboro, Spring Hill and Wiehle-Reston East. Phase 2 with service to Dulles Airport is anticipated to begin circa 2021.<sup>81</sup>

The Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway, the region's first bus rapid transit (BRT) lanes, opened in 2015 and 2016.<sup>82</sup> The five-mile line is partially funded by an \$8.5 million TIGER grant awarded to the TPB in 2010 for construction of the 0.8 mile segment between East Glebe Road and Potomac Avenue.<sup>83</sup> The BRT service Metroway utilizing the transitway is run by WMATA and features frequent service, off-board fare collection, and level boarding.<sup>84</sup>

The first line in DDOT's streetcar system opened on February 27, 2016.<sup>85</sup> The 2.4 mile H/Benning Line has eight stops on H St. NE and Benning Road between Union Station and Oklahoma Ave.<sup>86</sup> As part of the streetcar project, new contraflow bike lanes were installed along G St and I St NE to provide an alternative for cyclists who travel on H St.

Section 3.4.2 discusses technology-related transit projects such as bus priority systems.

---

<sup>79</sup> Updated data from the 2017/2018 Household Travel Survey were not yet available for inclusion in this report, but are anticipated to be available by the time of the next biennial CMP Technical Report.

<sup>80</sup> A presentation of the 2007/2008 Household Travel Survey, May 19, 2009.

<http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/YV5cV1ZX20090520110217.pdf>

<sup>81</sup> <http://www.dullesmetro.com/silver-line-stations/>

<https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/crystal-city-potomac-yard-transitway/>

<sup>83</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/transportation/weeklyreport/2012/10-09.asp>

<sup>84</sup> <https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=58644> (Accessed April 10, 2014)

<sup>85</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/dc-streetcar-makes-its-first-voyages-on-h-street-is-it-really-happening/2016/02/27/bd0c3234-dd5b-11e5-891a-4ed04f4213e8\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/dc-streetcar-makes-its-first-voyages-on-h-street-is-it-really-happening/2016/02/27/bd0c3234-dd5b-11e5-891a-4ed04f4213e8_story.html)

<sup>86</sup> <http://www.dcstreetcar.com/projects/hbenning/>

### 3.2.3.2 Future Transit Planning

In 2013, WMATA released *Momentum*, its strategic plan for 2013-2025.<sup>87</sup> The plan is built around four major goals: (1) build and maintain a premier safety culture and system, (2) meet or exceed expectations by consistently delivering quality services, (3) improve regional mobility and connect communities, and (4) ensure financial stability and invest in [its] people and assets. The plan includes Metro 2025, a list of seven “pivotal investments” by 2025 to improve existing service and enhance travel in the region’s core. These investments include 8-car trains on all lines during rush hour and new connections between busy stations. WMATA estimates that the increased capacity from Metro 2025 will remove 100,000 car trips from the region’s road network daily while providing transit riders with an improved travel experience.



### 3.2.3.3 University Transit Systems

Many area universities have their own transit systems for students, faculty, staff, and in some cases, visitors. These shuttle systems increase transit options for the university community and help reduce congestion on campus roads. Two examples of university transit systems are Shuttle-UM system at the University of Maryland, College Park and Masons Shuttles at George Mason University. The Shuttle-UM system is one of the nation’s largest University transit services<sup>88</sup> with a fleet of over 75 vehicles, including hybrid and clean diesel vehicles, and a ridership of about 3.3 million during FY 2019.<sup>89</sup> Mason Shuttles has five routes including connections to the Vienna Metrorail Station and the Burke VRE station. Both universities are providing riders with real-time bus arrival information.

### 3.2.3.4 DC streetcar

“dcstreetcar” is currently a free single line street car operation running along H street and Benning road for 2.2 miles. Headways are 15 minutes and the line operates 7 days a week and 365 days with extended hours during Friday and Saturday.

## 3.2.4 PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION

Walking and bicycling are garnering attention as having positive environmental and health benefits. As a part of the region’s transportation network, these activities impact congestion management as well. There are a number of things the Washington region is doing to enhance the area of bicycle and pedestrian transportation to encourage non-motorized transportation.

- The TPB adopted Visualize 2045, the region’s long range transportation plan, in October 2018. Two of the seven “aspirational” initiatives in Visualize 2044, “Improve Walk and Bike Access to Transit” and “Complete the National Capital Trail” relate to enhancing walk and bike access.
- In December 2019 the TPB passed a resolution directing staff to expand the National Capital Trail to provide connectivity to other trails, creating a regional trails plan.

<sup>87</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/strategic-plans/upload/momentum-full.pdf>

<sup>88</sup> <http://www.transportation.umd.edu/shuttle.html> (Accessed April 30, 2016)

<sup>89</sup> University of Maryland Department of Transportation Services 2019 Annual Report [https://transportation.umd.edu/sites/default/files/Annual%20Report\\_2019.pdf](https://transportation.umd.edu/sites/default/files/Annual%20Report_2019.pdf)

- Projects that help complete the TPB's aspirational initiatives, such as by improving walk and bike connections to transit, or completing the National Capital Trail Network, will be prioritized for funding through the TPB's Transportation-Land Use Connections and Transport Alternatives programs.
- The TPB adopted an updated "Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region" in January 2015.<sup>90</sup> Both the TPB and COG recognize the congestion reductions benefits of bicycling and walking.
- Most of the area's local governments have adopted bicycle, pedestrian, trail plans, and/or policies. Bicycle or pedestrian coordinators and trail planners are now found at most levels of government.
- On May 16, 2012, the TPB approved the "Complete Streets Policy for the National Capital Region" which is a directive to all of the TPB member jurisdictions to ensure safe and adequate accommodation, in all phases of project planning, development, and operations, of all users of the transportation network in a manner appropriate to the function and context of the relevant facility.<sup>91</sup>
- Most of the region's transit agencies have bike racks on their buses. WMATA now allows bikes on rail at all times.
- Collapsible/folding bicycles are accepted on all MARC trains on all three lines- Penn Line, Camden Line, and Brunswick Line. Penn Line weekday trains accept full-size bikes on trains indicated with a bike symbol on the [schedule](#). All Penn Line weekend trains accept full-size bikes. Non-collapsible bikes may only be transported on railcars with bike racks, indicated by green lights on the exterior of the car. Full-size bikes (non-collapsible) are not permitted on Camden and Brunswick Line trains.<sup>92</sup>
- VRE allows collapsible bicycles on all trains. VRE allows up to two full size bicycles on the last three northbound trains, the midday train, and the last three southbound trains on each line.<sup>93</sup>
- Secure, covered bicycle parking facilities including Bikestation Washington DC adjacent to Union Station and WMATA's Bike and Ride facility at the College Park Metro Station<sup>94</sup> provide more convenience for multi-mode travelers. Additional Bike and Ride facilities are under construction at East Falls Church and Vienna Metro stations.<sup>95</sup>
- A number of local governments require bicycle parking, as well as provide free on-street racks. DC requires bike parking in all buildings that offer car parking.
- In accordance with federal guidance and new state policies, pedestrian and bicycle facilities are increasingly being provided as part of larger transportation projects. A number of local jurisdictions have implemented transit-oriented developments (TODs) and other walkable communities.

---

<sup>90</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan/>

<sup>91</sup> <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/mV1dXI9e20120510092939.pdf>

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.mta.maryland.gov/bike>

<sup>93</sup> <http://www.vre.org/service/rider/policies/>

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/service/bikes/bike-and-ride.cfm/>

<sup>95</sup> <https://www.wmata.com/service/bikes/bike-and-ride.cfm>

- VDOT has altered its secondary street acceptance requirements to mandate that streets built by private developers connect with adjacent streets and future developments in a manner that enhances pedestrian and bicycle access, and that adds to the capacity of the transportation system. Residential streets may be narrower and incorporate traffic calming features.
- Employers are investing in bike facilities at work sites, and developers are including paths in new construction.
- Specific bicycle/pedestrian campaigns are developing to encourage biking/walking, such as [WALKARlington](#), [GoAlex](#), and [GoDCGo](#).<sup>96</sup>
- The [Safe Routes to School](#) program, which was administered through the States, provided funding for both hard and soft improvements and programs to encourage children to walk or bicycle to school, improve safety, and reduce congestion and air pollution near schools. Under the MAP-21 federal transportation bill, the Safe Routes to School program was combined with two other former federal programs that fund non-motorized transportation, Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Recreational Trails, to form the Transportation Alternatives Program. This program, which is administered by the States and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, provides funds for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, complete streets, safe routes to schools, and environmental mitigation.
- The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Set-Aside is a federal program under the 2015 FAST act that provides funding for projects considered alternative to traditional highway capacity expansion. The Set-Aside is the newest iteration of the Transportation Alternatives Program from 2012's MAP-21. Similar to the Transportation Alternatives Program, the Set-Aside allows large MPOs, including the Transportation Planning Board, to play a role in project selection for a portion of program funds that will be sub-allocated to large metropolitan regions.

For the National Capital Region, this program offers an opportunity to fund regional priorities and complement regional planning activities. Examples include the North Capitol Cloverleaf Urbanization Study in the District of Columbia, the Chamber Avenue Green Street/Complete Street Project in the Town of Capitol Heights, MD, and the Timber Fence Trail in the Town of Warrenton, VA.<sup>97</sup>

- Thanks in part to the TPB's policies, plans, and grant programs, bicycle and pedestrian plans and projects are now widespread throughout the Washington region. For example, DC has built 89 miles of bike lanes since 2001. Beginning in 2009, the DDOT began installing protected bike lanes, also known as Cycle Tracks or separated bike lanes, and there were, as of 2019, 12 miles of these facilities. Other jurisdictions are following the District's example, adding bike lanes and trails. Maps of bike facilities can be found at [dcbikemap.com](#) and at [BikeArlington.com](#).
- More and better on line bike and walk routing resources have also become available. Google Maps offers both walk and bike routing features. Other bike routing resources for the Washington region include [dcbikemap.com](#) and [Map My Ride](#).

---

<sup>97</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/transportation/planning-areas/walking-and-biking/transportation-alternatives-set-aside/>

## ***Results***

- Better bike and walk infrastructure has led to more bicycling and walking. The 2017-2018 COG household travel survey shows that bicycle commuting in the DC metropolitan area has nearly tripled since the 2007-2008 household travel survey, from 0.9% to 2.8%, while walk commutes jumped from 2.2% to 3.1%. Drive alone trips fell sharply.
- Growth in bicycling and walking is concentrated in the urban core jurisdictions that have done the most to enhance facilities and increase densities around transit. The urban core (DC, Arlington, and Alexandria) saw bike commuting triple, from 2.4% to 8.9%. Walking increased from 7.2% to 8.7%, and transit ridership increased.<sup>98</sup>
- The inner suburbs also tripled their bike commute share, from a low base of 0.5% to 1.5%.

## ***Potential for the Future***

Bicycling and walking have an even greater potential to grow as modes of transportation. Many trips taken by automobile could potentially be taken by bicycle. This is especially true in areas such as Activity Centers where a number of trips are more easily switched from motorized transportation to walking. Many people who live far from their jobs, but closer to transit or a carpool location could walk or bike to transit or the carpool instead of driving. When considering the following statistics, switching from a motor vehicle or bicycling or walking is feasible<sup>99</sup>:

- The median work trip length for all modes in the TPB Planning area is 9.3 miles.
- Twenty-five percent of commute trips are less than 4.3 miles, a distance most people can cover by bicycle.
- The median auto driver trip (for all purposes) is only 4 miles, and 25% of all auto driver trips are less than 1.5 miles.
- Auto passenger trips, often children being taken to school, are even shorter, with a median trip distance of 2.8 miles, and 25% of trips less than 1.2 miles.

Supporting bicycle and pedestrian planning is important to congestion management. Each additional person walking or biking for a trip is one less person on the road, thus easing congestion. Pedestrian and bicycle facility planning is something that will continue to be considered in the realm of congestion management, not only as a stand-alone area, but in conjunction with transit projects and land use planning.

---

<sup>98</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/events/2020/4/3/tpb-technical-committee/>

<sup>99</sup> Griffiths, R. E. 2007/2008 Household Travel Survey: Presentation of Findings on Weekday Travel. Presentation to the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board on May 1, 2009



**Bikesharing**

Capital Bikeshare, opened in September 2010 with 1100 bikes at 110 stations. The public-private partnership has since expanded, with more than 4,500 bikes available at 500 stations across six jurisdictions: Washington, DC; Arlington, VA; Alexandria, VA; Montgomery County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Fairfax County, VA; and the City of Falls Church, VA..<sup>100</sup> The Capital Bikeshare smartphone app allows users to see bicycle and dock availability.



The results of a survey<sup>101</sup> of Capital Bikeshare members conducted in 2016 provided information on travel changes made in response to Capital Bikeshare availability. According to the survey report, bikeshare provides an additional transportation option to members to make trips that they may not have made in the past because it was too far to walk. More than half of Capital Bikeshare members do not have access to a car or personal vehicle. The survey found that bikeshare plays a role on multimodal transportation. When asked about their travel, seven in ten (71%) respondents used Capital Bikeshare at least occasionally to access a bus, Metrorail, or commuter rail; 18% used bikeshare six or more times per month for this purpose.. The availability of bikeshare allows its members to switch trips to bike from other modes.

**3.2.5 DOCKLESS MICROMOBILITY**

The term ‘dockless’ originally referred to bikeshare programs that allowed people to pick up and drop off a rented bicycle at any place away from a designated docking station within a certain jurisdiction. In a short time (since mid-2018), however, dockless bikes have been replaced with electric scooters and e-bikes. They are typically rented using a smartphone app. Dockless bikes, e-scooters, and e-bikes are collectively referred to as “dockless micromobility” vehicles.

***Dockless Micromobility Services in the Washington Region (As of December 2019)***

| Jurisdiction                                 | E-Scooters and E-Bikes Permitted* | Service Area                | Number of Operators |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| District of Columbia                         | 10,000                            | All                         | 4                   |
| Alexandria                                   | 1400                              | All                         | 7                   |
| Arlington                                    | 3500                              | All                         | 8                   |
| Fairfax City                                 | 750                               | All                         | 3                   |
| Fairfax County                               | 300 per operator                  | All                         | None yet            |
| Loudoun County (within 3 miles of Metrorail) | 1000                              | Within 3 miles of Metrorail | None yet            |
| City of Manassas                             | N/A                               | All                         | None yet            |
| College Park                                 | 300                               | All                         | 1                   |
| Montgomery County                            | 1500                              | Rockville & Silver Spring   | 3                   |

\*Actual availability is typically significantly less than the maximum number permitted, often less than half the permitted level. E-scooters account for most shared mobility devices.

<sup>100</sup> <https://www.capitalbikeshare.com/about> (Accessed May 16, 2020).

<sup>101</sup> 2016 Capital Bikeshare Member Survey Report prepared by LDA Consulting. <https://www.capitalbikeshare.com/system-data>

### ***Regional Dockless Workshops***

TPB hosts a series of regional workshops on dockless electric scooter and bicycle sharing. Representatives from member jurisdictions present on their programs, to an audience of planners, consultants, public officials, and members of the general public.

These multi-purpose workshops provide a forum for staff from various agencies in the region, working or exploring dockless services within their jurisdictions, to hear about the experience and approaches taken by agencies currently providing these services. The workshops are also a forum for all agency staffs to hear from the various stakeholders, including members of the public, about their expectations from and opportunities for improving these services.

Workshops were held on May 31 and October 31, 2018, and May 30 and December 9, 2019. Documents from the workshops are posted on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee website.

### ***Conclusions***

- Electric scooters are likely to be a growing part of the transportation scene for the immediate future. Established permit programs are being renewed, and additional jurisdictions have pilot programs under development.
- E-scooters serve short trips in urban areas, replacing walking, driving, and taxi/ride-hailing trips. They often provide a last-mile solution of access to transit.
- Major concerns with e-scooters include dangers to pedestrians from sidewalk-riding, rider safety, and obstruction of the sidewalk by improperly parked vehicles.



Photo: DDOT

### **3.2.6 CAR SHARING AND RIDE HAILING**

Car sharing is short-term car rental, often by the hour. Using smartphone apps and unstaffed parking spaces, it makes renting a car fast and convenient. This supports residents, especially in densely populated urban environments, who make only occasional use of a vehicle.

Car share companies follow one of two basic models. The first has designated parking spaces for each vehicle, and the vehicle must be returned to that location at the end of the rental. The second, has a home area defined where users can park the vehicle in any legal public parking space at the end of the rental, allowing for one-way or point-to-point trips.

The point to point model has come under competitive pressure from ride hailing and from shared e-scooters, which serve the same kind of short trips within the city, often for a lower price. The round trip model has proven more stable.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>102</sup> <https://dcist.com/story/20/03/03/the-future-of-carsharing-in-d-c-now-that-car2go-has-gone/>

Ride-hailing car services, such as Uber and Lyft (also called as transportation network companies or TNC's), operate much like a taxi service. However, these app-based services are often cheaper and easier to use, more reliable, and more secure than traditional street-hailed taxicabs. Ride hailing has grown rapidly, especially in the urban core.<sup>103</sup> In Washington, DC ride-hailing has been reported to account for 7% of VMT, versus 2% for the region as a whole.<sup>104</sup>

Ride hail users own fewer cars, use more shared modes, and spend less on transportation overall than their neighbors. However, in many locations ride hailing appears to be more a substitute for transit than a complement, resulting in increased motorized traffic and congestion. Operating characteristics of ride hailing, such as driving without a passenger, and stopping in the travel lane to load and unload, have also been shown to increase congestion.<sup>105</sup> Improved curbside management may mitigate some of these issues.

Major ride-hailing companies acknowledge that they have contributed to congestion in the urban core, and support congestion pricing so long as it is applied to all private motorized users.<sup>106</sup>

### 3.2.7 LAND USE STRATEGIES IN THE WASHINGTON REGION

The relationship of land use and transportation often have an important influence on a person's willingness to commute by transit, ridesharing, bicycling, or walking; modes other than driving alone. The TPB is undertaking projects that consider the relationship of land use and transportation, all of which are important components of the CMP. Concentrating activities near transportation facilities helps reduce the number and length of vehicle trips necessary by residents and workers. More trips can be made by walking. Densities can be sufficient to make provision of transit services cost effective.

#### 3.2.7.1 Cooperative Forecast

TPB coordinates with the regional Cooperative Forecast<sup>107</sup> process at COG. Cooperative forecasting is a regional process that provides forecasts for demographic information that considers the potential impacts of future transportation facilities. The forecasts are based on national economic trends, local demographic factors, and are closely coordinated with regional travel forecasts.

Local jurisdictions develop independent projections of population, households, and employment based on pipeline development, market conditions, land use plans and zoning, and planned transportation improvements. These local forecasts are also compared and coordinated at the regional level to ensure compatibility. If there is a major change in planned transportation facilities (such as an addition or removal of a planned major facility) the cooperative forecasts are updated to reflect this change. Overall, Metropolitan Washington has strong, well-established processes to ensure transportation planning and land use planning are well-coordinated.

---

<sup>103</sup> "Ride-hailing, travel behaviour and sustainable mobility: an international review" Alejandro Tirachini, November 2019.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11116-019-10070-2>

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-08-05/uber-and-lyft-admit-they-re-making-traffic-worse>

<sup>105</sup> "The New Automobility: Lyft, Uber and the Future of American Cities" Schaller Consulting, July 25, 2018.

<http://www.schallerconsult.com/rideservices/automobility.pdf>

<sup>106</sup> <https://medium.com/sharing-the-ride-with-lyft/the-new-frontier-congestion-pricing-in-america-ba99c3721c98>

<sup>107</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/community/planning-areas/cooperative-forecast/>.

### 3.2.7.2 Region Forward and Regional Activity Centers

*Region Forward* is a vision for a more accessible, sustainable, prosperous, and livable National Capital Region. It was developed by the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, a group of public, private, and civic leaders created by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in 2008 to help the region meet future challenges like accommodating two million more people by 2050, maintaining aging infrastructure, growing more sustainably, and including all residents in future prosperity.

The Region Forward Compact seeks effective coordination of land use and transportation planning resulting in an integration of land use, transportation, environmental, and energy decisions. Specifically in the transportation sector, Region Forward:



- Seeks a broad range of public and private transportation choices for our Region which maximizes accessibility and affordability to everyone and minimizes reliance upon single occupancy use of the automobile.
- Seeks a transportation system that maximizes community connectivity and walkability, and minimizes ecological harm to the Region and world beyond.<sup>108</sup>

Regional Activity Centers help coordinate transportation and land use planning in specific areas in the Washington region experiencing and anticipating growth. Focusing growth in Centers is important to congestion management, where transportation options for those who live and work there can be provided. The concentration of activities and location near transportation facilities help reduce vehicle trips, as more trips can be made by walking. Transit services also become more cost effective.

The first map of Regional Activity Centers was created in 1999, and since that time it has been updated several times, based upon current local comprehensive plans and zoning. The most recent map of Activity Centers was developed by the Region Forward Coalition with the COG Planning Directions Technical Advisory Committee, was adopted by the COG Board in January 2013.<sup>109</sup> The development of the 2013 map and used more targeted and specific criteria than in previous version (2007) to designate 141 Activity Centers (Figure 3-2). The criteria are primarily based on Region Forward.<sup>110</sup>

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) *Board of Directors* and the *Region Forward* Coalition adopted a joint focus on Economic Competitiveness for policy makers, planners and business leaders to collectively assess the current economic state and potential of the region. The *State of the Region: Economic Competitiveness Report* builds upon the work of *Region Forward* and subsequent COG reports to benchmark regional performance, The *State of the Region* report examines the region's economic competitiveness through an assessment of cross-cutting targets and indicators that address our shared economic climate, built infrastructure, human infrastructure, and quality of life. These indicators correspond closely with the four pillars outlined in *Region Forward* that focused on Prosperity, Accessibility, Sustainability, and Livability.<sup>111</sup>

COG's Round 9.1 Cooperative Forecasts indicate that between 2015 and 2045, 76% of employment growth and 64% of household growth projected in the region will occur in Activity Centers.

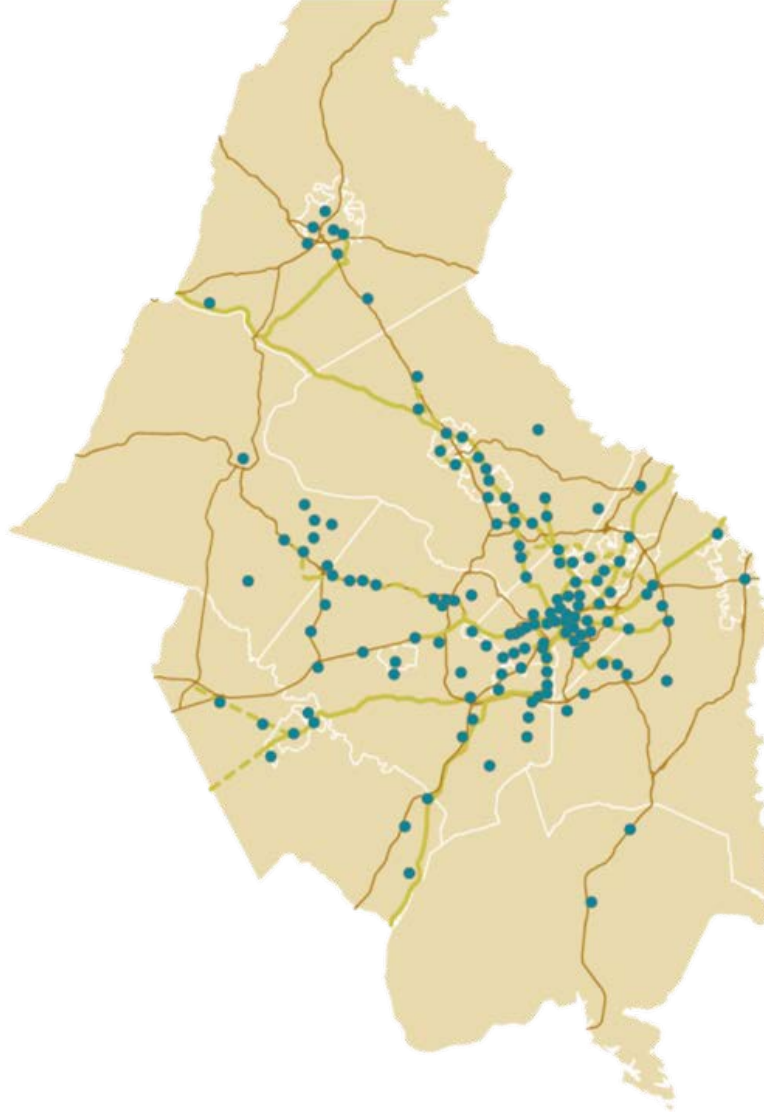
<sup>108</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/regionforward/>

<sup>109</sup> Regional Activity Centers Map, January 2013

<http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/pub-documents/oV5cXVc20130813171550.pdf>

<sup>111</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2010/01/28/region-forward-vision/>

**Figure 3-2: 2013 Regional Activity Center Map**



### 3.2.7.3 Transportation-Land Use Connection (TLC) Program

The Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) Transportation/Land Use Connections (TLC) program helps local jurisdictions work through the challenges of integrating transportation and land use planning to create vibrant communities. TLC is designed to support local planning and design projects as well as share success stories and proven tools with governments and agencies across the region.

Since 2007, the TPB has worked with every jurisdiction in the National Capital Region through the three components of the TLC Program: TLC Technical Assistance, the Peer Exchange Network (TLC PeerX), and the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TA Set Aside).

The TLC program allows for flexibility to study a wide variety of transportation – land use issues. Some projects are more demand management focused, focusing on pedestrian improvements, growth management, and transit-oriented development. Other projects address operational issues, including pedestrian safety improvements and roadway design. The goals among each may be different, but each project is applicable to congestion management.

#### 3.2.7.4 Local Jurisdictional Land Use Planning Activities

Following are some of the major examples of activities going on at the local level that are important to congestion management. Activities range from having a strong comprehensive plan that guides local development, to the implementation of projects that include transportation options and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Examples of local jurisdictional planning activities (please note: this is not a comprehensive list) include:

- Rockville's Pike Neighborhood Plan<sup>112</sup>
- Dale City, Virginia: Furthering the Vision of a Planned Community<sup>113</sup>
- Charles County Comprehensive Plan<sup>114</sup>
- New Zoning Code for the District of Columbia<sup>115</sup>

### 3.3 Operational Management Strategies

#### 3.3.1 MANAGED LANES/FACILITIES/SYSTEMS

Managed lanes have their origin in the Washington Area with the I-95 Busway/Shirley Express<sup>116</sup> project of the early 1970's. These lanes were converted to allow car-pools and van-pools (initially HOV-4 then HOV-3), and the network was expanded to include a new section of I-66 (HOV restricted in peak-flow directions between I-495 and the Rosslyn area of Arlington County), VA-267 (Dulles Toll Road), I-270 and U.S. 50 in Prince George's County.

Since 2010, several of these former HOV corridors have been slated for conversion to HOV/Toll lanes, including in the I-395, I-95, and I-66 corridors. New managed lanes were added to I-495 in Fairfax County Connector, and an entirely new priced highway, MD-200, was constructed and opened to traffic in Montgomery County and Prince George's County in Maryland. A study in Maryland (as of this writing) is examining the extension of the 495Express lanes in Virginia north on I-495, I-270 Spur and I-270 as a public-private partnership project.

##### 3.3.1.1 High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Systems

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes are defined as roadways or roadway segments that are restricted to use by vehicles (cars, buses, vanpools) carrying the driver and one or more additional passengers.

HOV facilities offer several advantages over conventional lanes and roads. They increase the number of persons per motor vehicle using a highway over conventional (non-HOV) roadways, they preserve the person-moving capacity of a lane or roadway as demands for transportation capacity increase, and enhance bus transit operations. All of these advantages are important to effectively managing the operations of existing and new capacity on roadways.

---

<sup>112</sup> <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16716/Rockville-Pike-Plan-2016?bidId=>

<sup>113</sup> <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/planning/Pages/DaleCitySDAT.aspx>

<sup>114</sup> <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=3674>

<sup>115</sup>

[http://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/release\\_content/attachments/ZRR%20Featured%20News%20Press%20Release\\_0.pdf](http://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/release_content/attachments/ZRR%20Featured%20News%20Press%20Release_0.pdf)

<sup>116</sup> Now 395Express and 95Express HOV/Toll lanes.

However, HOV facilities can also be considered demand management strategies as well, providing predictable travel times even during peak periods of high demand for highway capacity. HOV lanes can help influence travelers' behavior and provide them with additional choices of how, or if, to travel a certain route.

Currently there are five HOV facilities in the Washington region on highways functionally classified as freeways:

- I-66 in the Northern Virginia counties of Prince William and Fairfax,;
- Virginia Route 267 (Dulles Toll Road), where operation of concurrent-flow HOV lanes began in December 1998, connecting to I-66 via the Dulles Connector; and,
- I-270 and the I-270 spur in Montgomery County, Maryland;
- U.S. 50 (John Hanson Highway) in Prince George's County, Maryland.

COG/TPB staff typically studies the performance of HOV facilities every three or four years during the AM and PM peak periods. The most recent data collected and analyzed along these five HOV corridors was in Spring 2010 and the results can be found in the 2014 Performance of Regional High Occupancy Vehicle Facilities on Freeways in the Washington Region. Major findings from that report are discussed in Section 2.6.2. It is not anticipated that this project will be repeated.

Following is a breakdown of each HOV facility in detail with statistics provided from the aforementioned HOV performance report.

### 3.3.1.2 I-66

During the 1990s, I-66 outside the Beltway was expanded to include a concurrent-flow HOV lane to Virginia Route 234 (Business) in Prince William County just north of Manassas. The I-66 HOV lanes have since been extended to the U.S. 29 interchange at Gainesville in Prince William County.

The I-66 HOV corridor consists of two distinct sections. One section is between the Capital Beltway (I-495) and Rosslyn and has been converted to HOV/Toll (HOT-2) lane operation using variable-price tolling. This segment of I-66 is restricted to HOV use or drivers willing to electronically pay tolls during the peak commute period of the peak direction, due to the large amount of traffic traveling inbound from Northern Virginia in the morning, and outbound from the District of Columbia in the evening. The other section, between U.S. 29 near Gainesville and the Capital Beltway, is a concurrent-flow lane HOV facility. The entire combined HOV and HOT lane corridor is about 32 miles in length, about 9 miles inside the Beltway and 23 miles outside the Beltway. Separate HOV/Toll lanes are under construction between I-495 and U.S. 29 at Gainesville.

The I-66 HOV lanes require at least two persons per vehicle and the requirement is from 5:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. and from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P. M. weekdays only.

I-66 is a key commuting corridor, as it connects the District of Columbia with the suburbs of Virginia and beyond. Direct access to employment centers in Washington, D.C. is provided via the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge over the Potomac River. Along the I-66 corridor there are also several Metrorail stations that many commuters drive to everyday. Some of these stations contain Park-and-Ride facilities that allow commuters to drive and connect to other modes, such as rail or bus.

### 3.3.1.3 I-95/I-395 (Shirley Highway)

The Shirley Highway Corridor is one of the two corridors that provide direct access to the employment centers (the other is I-66). Therefore, understanding congestion on these corridors is crucial. All of the former HOV lanes in this corridor have been converted to HOV/Toll operation.

### 3.3.1.4 VA 267 (Dulles Toll Road)

Concurrent flow HOV lanes operate along this corridor from a point between Sully Road (VA 28) and Centreville Road (VA 657) to just west of Leesburg Pike (VA 7). There are no HOV lanes through the interchanges at VA 7, the main toll plaza, Spring Hill Road (VA684), I-495 and VA 123. HOV restrictions apply to all lanes of the Dulles Connector road from east of VA 123 to I-66. Metro's Silver Line operates in the median of the Dulles Access Road. The new Metrorail Silver Line provides service east of Reston (with an extension west to Washington Dulles International Airport and VA-772 in Loudoun County under construction). Fairfax Connector provides transit bus service in the corridor, with the Loudoun County Commuter Express providing commuter bus service from Loudoun County to the Metro Core area (including stops in Rosslyn, Arlington County and downtown Washington, D.C.). WMATA operates the route 5A Metrobus service between Washington Dulles International Airport and the L'Enfant Plaza Metrorail station, with intermediate stops at the Herndon/Monroe Park and Ride, and the Rosslyn Metrorail station.

The VA-267 HOV lanes require at least two persons per vehicle and the requirement is in effect from 6:30 AM to 9:00 AM eastbound and 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM westbound on weekdays only.

### 3.3.1.5 I-270 HOV Facilities

In the southbound (A.M. peak) direction, the HOV concurrent-flow lane runs from I-370 near Gaithersburg south to the Rockville Pike/Capital Beltway interchange. There is also a concurrent flow HOV lane along the southbound lanes of the I-270 Spur. Together, the A.M. peak-flow direction lanes total about 11 miles in length. The Spur is just less than 2 miles long. In the northbound (P.M. peak) direction, concurrent-flow HOV lanes exist along the entire northbound I-270 Spur, and along I-270 from its southern terminus at I-495/MD 355 to I-370 (the same sections of the corridor having HOV lanes southbound). Additionally, there are about 7.5 miles of HOV lane between I-370 and MD 121 near Clarksburg.

Currently, there are new congestion manage strategies being designed and built along the I-270 corridor as part of the I-270 Innovative Congestion Management progressive design-build project in Frederick and Montgomery Counties.

The Metro Red Line serves the I-270 corridor from Shady Grove (I-370), continues south to Bethesda, and on to the downtown area of the District of Columbia. The Mass Transit Administration's (MTA) MARC Brunswick Line also serves several stops in this corridor, and continues south to Silver Spring and on to Union Station in the District of Columbia. Montgomery County Ride On serves areas in the corridor north of I-370, and MTA coach service (between Hagerstown, Frederick and Shady Grove) use the HOV lanes. Express Metrobus service operating on the I-270 HOV lanes in the corridor between Bethesda and Gaithersburg was replaced by Ride-On service in 2017



### 3.3.1.6 US 50 HOV Facilities

Concurrent-flow HOV lanes operate in the U.S. 50 (John Hanson Highway) Corridor from just west of the Md. 704 Martin Luther King Highway interchange to east of the U.S. 301/Md. 3 interchange in Bowie. Unlike all other HOV lanes in the region, these lanes are HOV-2 restricted at all times (24 hours, 7 days) in both directions.

Buses operated the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) run on the U.S. 50 HOV lanes. To the east, the buses serve the City of Bowie in Prince George's County, and the Annapolis and Crofton areas of Anne Arundel County. All WMATA buses terminate at the New Carrollton rail station. Some MTA buses serve the downtown area of the District of Columbia, others terminate at New Carrollton.

### 3.3.2 VARIABLY PRICED LANES/SYSTEMS

Variably Priced Lanes (VPLs), a demand management strategy, is one type of managed lanes where the pricing of roadways helps reduce congestion and generates revenue for transportation projects. VPLs are an effective way to provide alternatives to travelers willing to pay for travel time reliability. There are several examples of managed lanes in the United States including SR-91 in Orange and Riverside Counties, California; I-15 in San Diego County, California; I-95 in Miami, FL; and I-394 and I-35W in Minneapolis.

There are currently three VPL facilities in operation in the region.. All of these facilities are designed without toll booths. Drivers are required to have an E-ZPass transponder.

- *The Intercounty Connector (MD 200)* – a 6-lane, 18-mile east-west highway in Montgomery County and Prince George's County Maryland that runs between I-270/I-370 at Shady Grove and US 1 (Baltimore Avenue) in Beltsville. The majority of the facility, from I-270/I-370 to I-95 opened in November 2011. Toll rates vary by time of day. MDOT/MTA operates three bus routes on the ICC: Gaithersburg to BWI, Columbia to Bethesda, and Frederick to College Park.<sup>117</sup>



- *495 Express Lanes* – Fourteen miles of new high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes (two in each direction) operate on I-495 between the Springfield Interchange and just north of the Dulles Toll Road. The lanes operate under a public-private partnership between VDOT and Transurban (USA) Development, Inc. The express lanes use dynamic pricing, updated approximately every 15 minutes, to ensure that travel remains free-flowing. Vehicles carrying two or fewer people can travel in the lanes if they pay the toll. Buses, carpools and vanpools with three or more people, and motorcycles can ride in the lanes for free.



<sup>117</sup> <http://mta.maryland.gov/commuter-bus/> Accessed April 30, 2016

For added details about usage of the 495Express and 95Express lanes, see a Washington Post article entitled *Here's a look at who's using Northern Virginia's 495 and 95 Express Lanes from 2018*<sup>118</sup>.

There were approximately 21,000 workday bus trips during the quarter. OmniRide's Tysons Express from Woodbridge to Tysons Corner and Fairfax Connector express bus service to Tysons from Lorton, Springfield, and Burke take advantage of the express lanes.<sup>119</sup>

- *95 Express Lanes and 395Express Lanes (Northern Virginia)* – The 95Express Lanes are currently about 31 miles of reversible lanes, and the 395Express lanes are an additional 8 miles to the Virginia approach to the 14th Street Bridge over the Potomac River. Additionally an eight-mile reversible two-lane extension of the existing HOV lanes from Dumfries to Garrisonville Road in Stafford County is open to traffic. . Vehicles carrying three people have a choice to ride in the express lanes for a toll or travel in the regular lanes for free.



The HOV/express toll lanes in this corridor are entirely barrier-separated, and reversible, so they accommodate heavy AM peak period northbound traffic and operate southbound in the P.M. peak period. The 95Express and 395Express lanes operate as HOT-3 at all times (HOV-3 restriction for free passage with an E-ZPass Flex transponder), otherwise tolls must be paid with an E-ZPass transponder.

An extension to US17 near Fredericksburg is expected to open by 2025.

The corridor is also served by the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Fredericksburg Line. The Metrorail Blue Line terminates in the corridor at Franconia-Springfield. Numerous bus lines serve the corridor, including Metrobus, the City of Alexandria's DASH, Fairfax Connector, PRTC OmniRide and private motor coach companies serving communities in Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties and the City of Fredericksburg.

- *I-66 (Custis Memorial Parkway)* – I-66 (Custis Memorial Parkway) was formerly an HOV-2 facility (restricted eastbound in morning and westbound in afternoon). I-66 from I-495 to U.S. 29 at Rosslyn was converted to an HOT-2 road in December 2017. Tolls are charged on the basis of demand, and have reportedly been as high as \$40 to travel 8 miles east from I-495 to Rosslyn.

The TPB has had active interest in VPLs since June 2003 when the TPB, together with the Federal Highway Administration and the Maryland, Virginia, and District Department of Transportation, sponsored a successful one day conference on value pricing in the Washington region. After the conference, in Fall 2003, the TPB created a Task Force on Value Pricing to further examine and consider the subject. Under a grant from the Federal Highway Administration's Value Pricing Program, the TPB Value Pricing Task Force evaluated a regional network of variably priced lanes in the region producing a final report in February 2008.<sup>120</sup>

---

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/transportation/2018/09/20/heres-look-whos-using-northern-virginias-express-lanes/>

<sup>119</sup> <https://www.expresslanes.com/ride-the-bus>. Accessed April 30, 2016

<sup>120</sup> Evaluating a Network of Variably Priced Lanes for the Washington Metropolitan Region, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, February 2008.

### 3.3.3 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The topic of Traffic Management, including Incident Management and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) is considered under the Systems Performance , Operations, and Technology Planning program and Subcommittee (SPOTS). SPOTS advises the TPB on traffic management matters and provides a regional forum for coordination among TPB member agencies and other stakeholders on these topics.

Investments in operations-oriented strategies have time and again shown good benefit-cost ratios and best enable transportation agencies (for both highways and transit) to provide effective incident management and good customer service, through operations centers and staffs, motorist/safety service patrols, traffic signal optimization, and supporting technologies. Particularly, intersection improvements (signalization timing / geometrics) can provide cost efficient congestion reduction. Also, the Metropolitan Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) program, comprising DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, and WMATA, is a regional program to enhance the availability of real-time transportation information and strengthen coordination among transportation agencies.

#### 3.3.3.1 Active Traffic Management (ATM)

As defined by FHWA, active traffic management is the “ability to dynamically manage recurrent and non-recurrent congestion based on prevailing and predicted traffic conditions.”<sup>121</sup>

- VDOT’s I-66 Active Traffic Management Project from the District of Columbia to Gainesville in Prince William County was brought online on September 16, 2015.<sup>122</sup> ATM components in the corridor included expanded use of shoulder lanes, lane control signals, expanded camera and dynamic message sign coverage, and upgrades to the ramp metering system. VDOT’s I-66 Active Traffic Management Project was removed from service in 2019 in conjunction with the managed lane upgrade to the I-66 facility.
- Montgomery County has an ATM system which includes strategies such a vehicle detection, video and aerial monitoring, and information outreach including broadcast media, internet, variable message signs, and Travelers Advisory Radio System (TARS). Future strategies will include variable speed limit signs, monitoring parking and weather/pavement sensors, and in-vehicle paging services.<sup>123</sup>

#### 3.3.3.2 Incident Management

According to the Federal Highway Administration, an estimated 50% of congestion is associated with incidents such as crashes, disabled vehicles, and traffic associated with special events. If an incident disrupts traffic, it is important for congestion that normal flow resumes quickly.

Many successful incident management activities are part of the robust activities undertaken by the Washington region’s transportation agencies. The region’s state DOTs all pursue strategies for managing their transportation systems, including operation of 24/7 traffic management centers, roadway monitoring, service patrols, and communications interconnections among personnel and systems. All three focus on getting timely word out to the media and public on incidents. Local-level agencies also play an important role in transportation management, particular on local roads and traffic signal optimization.

---

<sup>121</sup> <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/atdm/approaches/atm.htm> (Accessed June 7, 2016)

<sup>123</sup> <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-TMC/ATMS/gettmc.html> (Accessed April 30, 2016)

Specific state-wide and regional incident management strategies include:

- **Imaging / video for traffic monitoring and detection** – help detect incidents and allow emergency vehicles to arrive quickly. Also helps travelers negotiate around incidents.
  - State and local DOTs have cameras for traffic monitoring and detection throughout the region. The Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) provides a platform for participating agencies to share real-time data feeds and other pertinent information related to real-time situational awareness and incident management.<sup>124</sup>
- **Service patrols** – These specially equipped motor vehicles and trained staff help in clearing incidents off a roadway and navigating traffic safely around an incident.
  - MDOT/CHART is now providing 24/7 safety patrols for the Washington region.
  - VDOT and DDOT also provide service patrols
  - Montgomery County became the region’s first local jurisdiction to deploy patrols in 2006, concentrating on major arterials rather than freeways.
- **Road Weather Management** – Can take the forms of information dissemination, response and treatment, monitoring, prediction, and traffic control.
  - All three state DOTs implement road weather management systems that disseminate information, treat roadways, and monitor conditions, especially during winter snow and ice events.
- **Traffic Management Centers (TMCs)** – These centers collect and analyze traffic data, then disseminate data to the public. Data collection includes CCTVs, cameras, and detectors.
  - All three state DOTs have TMCs:
    - VDOT’s *McConnell Public Safety Transportation Operation Center (MPSTOC)* operates Northern Region Transportation Operations Center (TOC) and Signal System. The TOC monitors traffic and incidents by using cameras and other information-gathering mechanisms to better manage day-to-day traffic flow and large incidents.
    - DDOT’s *Transportation Management Center* gathers and disseminates information to the public using a network of cameras and other devices.
    - MDOT’s *Coordinated Highway Action Response Team (CHART)* collects traffic data, disseminates information to the public, and provides emergency motorist assistance.
- **Curve Speed Warning Systems** - use roadside detectors and electronic warning signs to warn drivers, typically those in commercial trucks and other heavy vehicles, of potentially dangerous speeds in approach to curves on highways, with the intention of preventing incidents.
  - Curve speed warning systems have been used on the Capital Beltway.
- **Work zone management** - uses traffic workers, signs, and temporary road blockers to direct and control traffic during construction activities.
  - All three state DOTs have work zone management programs to temporarily implement traffic management and direct traffic. The goal is to reduce incidents by controlling the flow, speed, and direction of traffic.

---

<sup>124</sup> <http://i95coalition.org/projects/regional-integrated-transportation-information-system-ritis/>

- **Automated truck rollover systems** - detectors deployed on ramps to warn truck drivers if they are about to exceed their rollover threshold, thus helping to reduce incidents.
  - Automated truck rollover systems, similar to the curve speed warning systems, were implemented at the same locations on the Capital Beltway in Virginia and Maryland. This was in response to a high number of truck rollovers on the Beltway in the 1980's.

Studies have shown the impact incident management activities have on reducing congestion, in particular reducing duration of incidents and reducing chances for secondary incidents. An example of this type of study is the yearly analysis of impacts of the Coordinated Highway Action Response Team (CHART) on incident management in Maryland. The focus of the report is to gauge effectiveness of CHART's availability to detect and manage incidents on major freeways and highways.

The *Performance Evaluation and Benefit Analysis for CHART*<sup>125</sup> includes statistics and analysis such as:

- Distribution of incidents and disabled vehicles
  - By day and time
  - By road and location
  - By lane blockage type
  - By blockage duration
  - By nature of incident (accident, disabled vehicle, etc.)
- Comparison of current year's data with that of previous years
- Benefits from CHART's incident management
  - Assistance to drivers
  - Potential reduction in secondary incidents
  - Estimated benefits due to efficient removal of stationary vehicles
  - Direct benefits to highway users



Analysis and studies such as those conducted by CHART indicate that incident management activities do have a positive impact on congestion. Each minute of reduced duration of incidents, for example, reduces the chances of secondary incidents and has a concomitant reduction in the severity and duration of non-recurring congestion

Continuing enhancement and investment of incident management activities will support congestion management.

#### Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force

In January 2018, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors, tasked COG with identifying recommendations and actions to enhance traffic incident management in the region. TPB and DHSPS staff convened a multi-disciplinary task force, comprised of transportation, law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services subject matter experts, The Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force met seven times from February to October 2018 and hosted a May 22 regional workshop with expanded participation.

---

<sup>125</sup> <http://chartinput.umd.edu/>.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) encompasses a wide range of topics. COG staff's review of national literature and initiatives found dozens of notable TIM strategies and practices in place.

Although many of these initiatives are already being pursued in the region, there were many other new, innovative practices to consider. The region's high traffic volumes and continually growing population and economy mean the area roadway system has little spare capacity to absorb traffic incidents when they do occur.

The TIME Task Force forwarded the COG board seven items that were approved in a resolution. The seven approved items are as follows:

1. Update regional agreements and improve consistency of TIM laws and policies. COG should lead an effort to develop a transportation incident management mutual aid operations plan. Jurisdictions should review and update, as necessary, their laws to ensure the concepts of "move over," "move it," and "hold harmless" are included consistently.
2. Coordinate regional annual TIM self-assessments. Convene state and local transportation agencies, public safety agencies, and private sector TIM stakeholders annually for a regional Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessment.
3. Encourage and coordinate TIM trainings to promote best practices. Member agencies should require those who have a role in responding to traffic incidents to attend TIM trainings, particularly through the Federal Highway Administration's National TIM Responder Training Program. COG should share information with its members about available TIM training opportunities and host its own regional sessions.
4. Launch outreach initiatives that better engage the public and officials on TIM. Identify funding for and develop a regional public outreach campaign that promotes educational messages on moving over for sirens, slowing down near incident scenes, and other TIM-related driver safety messages. Elected officials should also request periodic briefings from transportation and public safety agencies on TIM-related activities and data to inform future decision-making.
5. Create a regional TIM program. Identify resources to create and sustain a regional program and stakeholder committee that can coordinate training and exercises, compile and review data, track emerging technologies, and promote best practices. Practitioners are eager to collaborate but must be given a forum.
6. Designate transportation incident responders as emergency responders regionwide. As has been done in Maryland, jurisdictions must review and update legislation and policies to ensure transportation emergency responders can get to incident scenes quickly, using flashing lights and audible sirens.
7. Expand roadway service patrols to federal parkways and other critical major roads not currently covered. Convene the federal government, District, Maryland, and Virginia public safety agencies, and state and local jurisdictions to negotiate an agreement allowing for the funding and deployment of roadway service patrols on federal parkways and other key highways.

TPB Staff along with DHSPS staff have continued to work together to incorporate TIM into the respective work programs where appropriate. Most TIM work is currently housed in the Transportation Emergency Preparedness (RESF 1) committee since many of the regions TIM practitioners are also members of the committee.

### 3.3.3.3 Traffic Signal Operations

#### ***Traffic Signal Optimization***

Under the guidance of the TPB's Traffic Signals Subcommittee, TPB staff conducts surveys of signal timing throughout the region, most recently in 2018. There are at least 21 different agencies that

have ownership and/or maintenance responsibilities for the approximately 5,900 signals on public roads in the region. The most recent survey found that an estimated 73% of the eligible traffic signals had been retimed within the past three years, which is a generally accepted guideline. The signals in the region use a variety of retiming methods including computer optimization, engineering judgment, and active management.<sup>126</sup>

DDOT undertook a comprehensive 5-year plan to improve the flow of traffic in the region, including signal timing, and impacts all 1600 traffic signals in the District of Columbia.<sup>127</sup> The project was completed in 2016 and funding secured to continue another round of signal timing optimization. For example, in Anacostia, one of the completed areas, DDOT reported a 13% network-wide travel time savings over all peak periods, a 34% reduction in delays, and a 23% reduction in stops. In the downtown area, DDOT reported travel time savings for motorized vehicles during all periods, and reduced stopping for bicycles in the Pennsylvania Avenue separated bike lanes.<sup>128</sup>

### ***Advanced Traffic Signal Systems***

Advanced Traffic Signal Systems are used for coordination of traffic signal operations in a jurisdiction, or between jurisdictions using detectors to monitor real-time traffic conditions. This is important to congestion, as it reduces delay and improves travel time. It can include active traffic signal management – where traffic signals are managed through a control center, where technicians adjust the length of signal phases based on prevailing traffic conditions – or adaptive signal control – in which the controller automatically adjusts the timing of signals to accommodate changing traffic patterns.

- VDOT actively optimizes traffic signal timing plans and launched a signal/arterial traffic management control center located adjacent to the MPSTOC operating floor to proactively manage the arterial traffic.
- The City of Alexandria has implemented an adaptive traffic signal control system along Duke Street. The system can adapt to real-time traffic situations by changing cycle lengths as traffic flows change while keeping the corridor synchronized.

### ***Traffic Signal Timing***

Traffic signal timing plans adjust traffic signals during an incident, during inclement weather, or to improve transit performance. The overall objective is to reduce backups at traffic signals and to increase the level of service.

#### **3.3.3.4 Regional Operations Coordination**

##### ***Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC)***

The Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program is a coordinated partnership between transportation agencies in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia that aims to improve safety and mobility in the region through information sharing, planning, and coordination. Current agencies include the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Departments of Transportation along with County and City transportation departments and



---

<sup>126</sup> <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/al1ZXFPb20140212133426.pdf>

transit providers like WMATA and other local providers. For example, a review of the MATOC program showed that coordination between the MATOC family of agencies during a bus crash on I-66 resulted in a savings of over \$382,000 for area commuters. This savings was a result of decreased emissions, fuel consumption and lost time. <sup>129</sup>

A benefit-cost study of the MATOC program was undertaken and the results were based on three incidents that were handled by MATOC. The benefit-cost study looked at travelers “modified trips” - trips made at a later time, on another route, by another mode, or not made due to regionally significant incidents. Benefits were estimated from reduced delay, fuel consumption, emissions (including greenhouse gases), and secondary incidents. Three case studies were conducted, two for freeway incidents and one for arterial incident. The study found an overall benefit/cost ratio conservatively estimated at 10 to 1. A summary report of this study called the MATOC Benefit Cost Analysis dated June 2010 is available. MATOC also maintains a public use website called Traffic View which can be accessed at [www.trafficview.org](http://www.trafficview.org) which uses the RITIS traffic information to inform the public about regional traffic incidents and roadway conditions.

MATOC has undertaken several initiatives. The Severe Weather Mobilization Coordination Effort began during the winter of 2012-2013. This effort has led to “the development of consistent terminology to describe roadway and transit conditions throughout the region, protocols for sharing weather information from different agency-specific sources and detection systems, testing of coordinated messaging systems, and better ways to advise the overall regional winter storm decision-making process.” <sup>130</sup> MATOC’s Regional Construction and Work Zone Coordination effort was initiated in 2014 to develop a framework for regional coordination around major construction projects as well as regional work zone-related lane closures and special events. In the Spring of 2016, MATOC hosted its first Regional Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Conference in an effort to bring together its partner Departments of Transportation and area first responders to highlight, discuss, and demonstrate advancements in TIM best practices, technologies, and policies affecting agencies and jurisdictions in and around the National Capital Region. MATOC followed up with its June 2018 Regional Traffic Incident Management Tabletop Exercise to bring together its partner transportation agencies and first responders to evaluate and discuss communications and coordination efforts. The MATOC program is committed to hosting similar regional TIM related events in the future to support its member Departments of Transportation and their regional partners.

### 3.3.3.5 Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

ITS strategies can be defined as electronic technologies and communication devices aimed at monitoring traffic flow, detecting incidents, and providing information to the public and emergency systems on what is happening on our roadways and transit communities. Much of what is done with ITS helps in reducing non-recurring and incident-related congestion.

- **Electronic Payment Systems** - These systems can make transit use more convenient by allowing a user to pay for bus, rail, park-and-ride lots, and other transit services with one card. Convenience an appealing factor, and helps increase transit ridership and transfers among different transit modes.

---

<sup>129</sup> [www.matoc.org](http://www.matoc.org)



- SmarTrip cards are used for rail and bus fares (both WMATA and local buses) and for WMATA parking facilities. WMATA discontinued use of paper farecards on March 6, 2016.<sup>131</sup>
  - The region's roadway toll agencies are part of the E-ZPass consortium electronic payment system. The ICC and the 495 and 95 Express Lanes are E-ZPass-only facilities (no toll booths).
  - TransIT (Frederick County) released phone app for payment of TransIT fares.<sup>132</sup>
- **Freeway Ramp Metering** - Traffic signals on freeway ramps that alternate between red and green to control the flow of vehicles entering the freeway. This prevents incidents that may occur from vehicles entering the freeway too quickly, and also prevents a backup of traffic on the on-ramp.
    - Ramp meters are used inside the Capital Beltway (I-495) in Virginia on I-66 and I-395.
  - **Automated Enforcement (e.g. red light cameras)** - Still or video cameras that monitor things such as speed, ramp metering, and the running of red lights, to name a few. Any help provided preventing non-recurring and incident related congestion will bolster safety.
    - In the Washington region, the legal ability to deploy these systems is in place in the District of Columbia and Maryland, and pending in Virginia.
  - **Reversible Lanes** - Traffic sensors and lane control signs reverse the flow of traffic and allow travel in the peak direction during rush hours. This is important to alleviating congestion that may occur in one direction during a peak hour. Examples of reversible lanes include Rock Creek Parkway in the District and Colesville Rd./US29 in Maryland.

### 3.3.3.6 Connected and Autonomous Vehicles

This section is still under development.

## 3.4 Integrative/Multi-Modal Strategies

### 3.4.1 ADVANCED TRAVELER INFORMATION SYSTEMS (ATIS)

ATIS are technology-based means of compiling and disseminating transportation systems information on a real-time or near-real-time basis prior to or during tripmaking. The prevalence of smartphones and other mobile internet-capable devices make real-time information more accessible to travelers.

- Virginia operates under a statewide 511 system via telephone, internet (<http://www.511virginia.org/>), and mobile app.
- The District of Columbia makes traffic information, including live traffic cameras, traffic alerts, and street closures, available on the DDOT website.
- Maryland provides live traffic information on traffic and incidents via the CHART website the MD 511 Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System and Website.
- Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) are used throughout the region including permanently installed signs on freeways and portable signs used on both freeways and arterials.
- WMATA provides real-time transit information (both bus and rail) on the web and on informational screens in the Metrorail stations.

---

<sup>131</sup> <http://www.wmata.com/fares/paperless.cfm>

<sup>132</sup> <https://frederickcountymd.gov/5906/Mobile-App>

- Real-time bus information is available for many of the region's bus systems (including Montgomery, Arlington, and Prince George's Counties and the City of Fairfax).
- The MATOC website has links to all three state's traffic information. In addition, there is a link provided to the Traffic View website ([www.trafficview.org](http://www.trafficview.org)) which aggregates traveler information including incidents, traffic camera feeds, construction activity and schedules, and variable message sign information for the region.

### 3.4.2 BUS PRIORITY SYSTEMS

Bus priority systems are sensors used to detect approaching transit vehicles and alter signal timings to improve transit performance. For example, some systems extend the duration of green signals for public transportation vehicles when necessary. This is important because improved transit performance, including more reliable arrival times for buses, makes public transit a more appealing option for travelers.

- Montgomery County has co-located traffic management and transit dispatch which enables adjustment of signals (by the centralized signal operations center) if deemed necessary for transit.
- The region, led by TPB, was awarded a \$58 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for developing a priority bus corridors network (Figure 3-3). Bus priority improvements completed in 2016 on a number of the network corridors included running buses on dedicated lanes, adding queue jump lanes for buses, implementing transit signal priority, and improving bus stops. These TIGER improvements have benefited buses in the network corridors. In addition, the Transit Signal Priority (TSP) technology developed for TIGER is anticipated to be installed on further bus corridors in the District of Columbia.
- In 2020, the District of Columbia plans to install bus priority systems on 16th Street NW. Per the project purpose statement, the bus routes along 16th Street currently serve more than 20,000 riders each weekday, making the corridor one of the busiest in the region in terms of ridership; more than half of the people traveling on 16th Street in the peak are bus riders. The plans include implementing peak period bus lanes, ADA accessible bus stops, enhanced passenger bus stop passenger amenities (off-board fare payment kiosks, bus shelters, etc.), signage, and pedestrian improvements.
- In September 2013, the TPB released an Assessment of the Feasibility of Bus on Shoulders (BOS) at Select Locations in the National Capital Region.<sup>133</sup> This report presented the findings of the Bus on Shoulder Task Force was formed in in July 2012 to "identify promising locations in the region to operate buses on the shoulders of highways." Three corridors, MD 5/US 301, I-270, and I-66 inside the Beltway, were selected for detailed study which included existing bus service, traffic congestion, and shoulder conditions. A pilot BOS operation was undertaken on I-66 in 2015. However, I-66 and some other potential interim BOS implementations generally appear to have been superseded by managed (priced) lanes approaches that can provide both bus operational benefits and other congestion management benefits.

---

<sup>133</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/bV1aWlxd20130926085957.pdf>

**Figure 3-3: TIGER Grant Supported Regional Priority Bus Network and Transit Center**



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Priority Arterial Corridors</b></li> <li>1 16th St, Downtown to Wheaton</li> <li>2 Georgia Ave from Archives to Silver Spring</li> <li>DC 3 H St / Benning Road, Minn. Ave to Franklin Sq.</li> <li>4 Wisconsin Ave, Naylor Rd to Friendship Heights</li> <li>5 Addison Rd, Southern Ave to Addison Rd station</li> <li>MD 6 University Blvd, Bethesda to College Park</li> <li>7 US 1, Laurel to Rhode Island Ave. station</li> <li>8 Veirs Mill Rd, Shady Grove to Silver Spring</li> <li>9 US 1 Transitway, Potomac Yard</li> <li>VA 10 VA 7, Alexandria to Tysons Corner</li> <li>11 Van Dorn-Pentagon, via Shirlington</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Express Bus on Bridges and Arterials</b></li> <li>12 Theodore Roosevelt Bridge, I-66 to K Street</li> <li>13 14th St Bridge, I-395 to K Street</li> <li><b>Express Bus on Freeways</b></li> <li>14 I-95/395, Pentagon to Dale City</li> <li><b>Transit Center Projects</b></li> <li>Existing Metrorail</li> <li>Bus/Rail Transfers</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

### 3.4.3 REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE

The TPB has developed a regional ITS architecture, the Metropolitan Washington Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture (MWRITSA)<sup>134</sup>. The Regional Architecture is intended to provide a regional ITS framework for the foreseeable future, to define and validate ITS operations of regional significance, and to address national and statewide conformity in accordance with federal law and guidance. The architecture aims to ensure knowledge of ITS operations across the region, encouraging appropriate systems integration and enhanced technical systems interoperability. In addition to describing the interrelationships among existing transportation technology systems, the MWRITSA can provide a starting point for identifying responsibility for ITS Projects and applicable standards. It can inform business cases for state and federal ITS investment in transportation improvement programs as well as other plans, programs, and projects. The three DOTs have worked collaboratively to bring consistency among their regional ITS architectures. The Regional Architecture is updated periodically to reflect changes in the region.<sup>135</sup>

### 3.4.4 INTEGRATED CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT (ICM)

New technologies and concepts have been tested nationally or internationally to integrate operations to manage total corridor capacity including freeways, arterials, bus, rail, and parking systems. The purposes of the initiative include identifying innovative technologies to facilitate multi-modal local, regional, and national corridor travel, and identifying tools to provide information to travelers related to travel times and parking.

- A Regional Multimodal Mobility Program (RM3P) in Northern Virginia is managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA).<sup>136</sup> This is a data-driven program built on integrated corridor management activities (ICM) already underway in NOVA.<sup>137</sup> Aspects include:
  - Enhanced Commuter Parking Data
  - Mobility as a Service (MaaS)
  - Dynamic Service Gap Dashboard
  - AI-Based Decision Support System with Prediction
  - Data-Driven Tool to Incentivize Customer Mode and Route Choice.
- MDOT/SHA I-270 Innovative Congestion Management Project – MDOT's FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) includes the \$131 million I-270 Innovative Congestion Management (ICM) project to implement a series of roadway and technology-based improvements on I-270. The project would contain both roadway improvements and innovative technology and techniques to achieve the goal.<sup>138</sup>

### 3.4.5 EVALUATING SIGNIFICANT TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (VIRGINIA)

Virginia's SMART SCALE (§33.2-214.1) is the method of scoring planned transportation projects included in VTrans (Virginia's Transportation Plan). Virginia uses this process to prioritize

---

<sup>134</sup> The Metropolitan Washington Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture.  
<http://www.mwcog.org/itsarch/Home.htm>

<sup>135</sup> <http://www.mwcog.org/itsarch/>

<sup>136</sup> See presentation V in this document: <https://thenovaaauthority.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Authority-Meeting-Packet-7-11-2019.pdf>

<sup>137</sup> <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/atcmtd/2017/applications/virginiadot/project.htm>

<sup>138</sup> <https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?Pageld=80>

transportation projects in the state's transportation spending budget and each cycle is on a biennial schedule. There are 5 steps to the process used to rate projects; Program Funding, Project Application, Project Screening, Evaluation/Screening, and Prioritization. Transportation projects are scored and prioritized using 5 metrics; Congestion Mitigation, Economic Development, Accessibility, Safety, Environmental Quality, and Land Use. Once projects are scored and prioritized, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) selects the projects for funding.

### 3.4.6 MOBILE DEVICES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

#### 3.4.6.1 Mobile Devices

The increasing number of people with mobile internet-capable devices, such as smartphones and tablets, combined with the availability of real-time travel data, is changing the way travelers receive information and make decisions on their choice of mode, route, and/or departure time. Most travelers now carry a mobile device with maps and GPS allowing for information to be tailored to their location. DOTs, transit agencies, private transportation providers, and other third parties have developed mobile versions of websites and mobile applications (apps) to make it easier for travelers to receive information on their devices.

- Both Maryland 511 and Virginia 511 provide a mobile version of their website. Commuters can sign up to get email and text alerts about travel time and incident information on preferred routes.
- WMATA provides real-time rail arrivals on the mobile version of its website.
- Many bus operators make real-time arrival information and/or static schedules available on their mobile websites and/or make data available to third party websites and applications. NextBus is one of the most popular bus information apps.
- MARC provides real time incident and delay alerts through text, and email to commuters. The MARCTracker website provides live GPS train locations.
- Capital Bikeshare, carshare, and ridehailing (Uber, Lyft) companies have mobile apps which allow users to make travel decision on the spot.
- Traffic information, based on data sources such as INRIX, is available through a number of apps (INRIX, Google Maps, and WAZE being among some of the most popular. See Section 3.4.6.2 for more information about WAZE.)
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are sent by authorized government alerting authorities. These alerts can contain information that is valuable to the traveling public such as extreme weather warnings and local emergencies requiring evacuation or other immediate action.<sup>139</sup>
- Commuter Connections has developed a mobile version of its website and mobile apps for a number of services. See Section 3.2.1.3.

Safety while using the devices while traveling remains a concern; all three states have laws against distracted driving and texting while driving.

#### 3.4.6.2 Social Media

The traveling public is now oriented toward the use of social media for many aspects of their lives. The social media landscape is constantly evolving and it is causing the transportation sector to rethink its model for providing information. Transportation agencies in the region have adopted social media as a means of sharing information with a large segment of the public. Instead of providing information

---

<sup>139</sup> <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/wea>

only on a central website that the user has to visit, social media provides a way to deliver that information to users through a forum to which they already subscribe, such as Twitter which is one of the most popular social media sites for the transportation sector. In addition, social media can provide a means for agencies to receive information from users in order to better manage the system.

- MDOT, VDOT, DDOT, and many other transportation agencies use Twitter to share information.
- Local police departments use Twitter to provide preliminary information and updates on active incidents.
- WMATA uses different Twitter accounts to share general information, Metrorail information, Metrobus information, and crime prevention tips. Supplemental two-way customer support has been provided on the Metrorail and Metrobus feeds.<sup>140</sup>
- WAZE<sup>141</sup> is a community-based traffic and navigation app. WAZE goes beyond other apps that provide traffic data by providing a crowdsourcing component. Users can passively contribute to providing traffic information by having the mobile app open while driving. They can also contribute by sharing information about incidents and other travel conditions.
- MATOC uses its own Twitter account to provide updates on incidents. It follows other twitter feeds (including police departments, local jurisdictions, transit agencies, news organizations, etc.) and crowdsourcing websites like WAZE to obtain more timely and accurate information about incidents.

### 3.5 Additional System Capacity

#### 3.5.1 DOCUMENTATION OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL SYSTEM CAPACITY

Federal regulations state that any project proposing an increase in Single-Occupant Vehicle Capacity should show that congestion management strategies have been considered. The specific language from the Federal Rule states that Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) shall provide for:

*“an appropriate analysis of reasonable (including multimodal) travel demand reduction and operational management strategies for the corridor in which a project that will result in a significant increase in SOVs is proposed to be advanced with Federal Funds. If the analysis demonstrates that travel demand reduction and operational management strategies cannot fully satisfy the need for additional capacity in the corridor, and additional SOV capacity is warranted, then the congestion management process shall identify all reasonable strategies to managed the SOV facility safely and effectively.”*

In the Washington region, the TPB is ensuring that all proposed SOV capacity increasing projects (except those which are exempt) show that congestion management strategies have been considered to effectively manage the additional capacity. This is being done with agencies completing a “CMP Documentation Form” when submitting a proposal for projects in the long-range plan and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

A sample CMP documentation form was developed to provide guidance to agencies completing these forms<sup>142</sup> (Appendix F). Agencies completing these forms are able to cite various ongoing strategies in the region, local jurisdiction, and corridor in the vicinity of their project.

---

<sup>140</sup> [https://www.wmata.com/service/bus/bus\\_youtube\\_facebook\\_metroalerts.cfm](https://www.wmata.com/service/bus/bus_youtube_facebook_metroalerts.cfm)

<sup>141</sup> <https://www.waze.com/about> (Accessed May 10, 2016).

<sup>142</sup> TPB, *Call for Projects for the 2013 CLRP and FY 2013-2018*, Approved on October 17, 2012. [http://www.mwcog.org/clrp/resources/2013/Call\\_for\\_Projects.pdf](http://www.mwcog.org/clrp/resources/2013/Call_for_Projects.pdf)

### **3.5.2 WHERE ADDITIONAL SYSTEM CAPACITY IS NEEDED AND HOW THE ADDITIONAL SYSTEM CAPACITY WILL BE MANAGED EFFICIENTLY**

The long-range transportation plan, updated regularly, identifies where major roadway capacity expansions are planned. The TPB, through the long-range transportation plan, asks that congestion management strategies be considered for these capacity increases. In the Washington region, all proposed SOV capacity increasing projects (except those which are exempt), show that congestion management strategies have been considered to effectively manage the additional capacity. These types of strategies could be of demand or operational management, or both, as outlined in this report. Many of these strategies are considered before any capacity-increasing project is adopted.

Visualize 2045, through the CMP, strongly encourages consideration and implementation of strategies such as the following to manage both existing and future additional roadway capacity:

- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies, such as Commuter Connections programs.
- Traffic Operational Improvements
- Public Transportation Improvements
- Intelligent Transportation Systems technologies
- Combinations of the above strategies.

Roadway capacity increases may be needed in specific locations for a number of reasons including bottleneck removal, safety improvements, economic development, and other reasons. Managing this capacity through the CMP is key. An example is the US 301 Nice/Middleton Bridge replacement. The investment has downstream impacts on MDOT SHA's system, especially concerning traffic and potential improvements in the Waldorf area. The bridge replacement will double roadway capacity, improve emergency response, and permit for better traffic flow during maintenance and inspection.

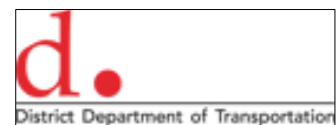
### **3.6 Project-Related Congestion Management**

There have been examples in the Washington region of successfully implemented project-related congestion management for major construction projects. Strategies include providing incentives for commuters to give up driving alone and try transit, carpooling, vanpooling, and other alternatives, disseminating more information about construction projects and congestion, improving alternative routes, providing fire and rescue equipment and staff for emergency services along with additional police services, adding additional spaces to park-and-ride lots, providing additional shuttle bus services, etc.

Some successful examples of implementing project-related congestion management during construction include the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project, the I-95/I-495 Springfield Interchange project, the DDOT South Capitol Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge projects, and Northern Virginia Megaprojects.

#### ***11th Street Bridges Project***

During the construction phases of the DDOT 11th Street Bridge project, which was completed in September 2015, <sup>143</sup> several congestion management approaches were considered and the following was implemented to mitigate congestion and keep traffic moving:



- Maintain three lanes of traffic in each direction across the river;
- Provide additional transit enhancements during peak traffic periods;
- Provide traveler information systems, including low power highway advisory radio, and Intelligent Transportation Systems, including real-time message signs with alternate route suggestions;
- Provide updated freeway guide signing within the immediate project area that reflects temporary access routes during the various phases of construction. Also provide way-finding signage for freeway access points on local roads in the project study area; and event management systems, such as roving tow services.

### **Northern Virginia Megaprojects**

Northern Virginia Megaprojects<sup>144</sup> were a series of large-scale and simultaneous transportation improvements aimed to ease congestion and provide alternatives to travelers. The projects currently underway include 95 Express Lanes, I-95 Auxiliary and Shoulder Improvements, Dulles Metrorail and BRAC Projects.



In 2007, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began a new program of congestion management during the construction of megaprojects. The megaproject-related congestion management provides both “Commuter Solutions” and “Employer Solutions”.

“Commuter Solutions” included resources on teleworking, vanpooling, carpooling, Guaranteed Ride Home, and walking/bicycling.

“Employer Solutions” provided assistance to employers to help them create new approaches or enhance existing services to keep their employees moving during construction.

### **SafeTrack**

WMATA’s SafeTrack was an accelerated track work plan to address safety recommendations and rehabilitate the Metrorail system to improve safety and reliability. The plan condensed approximately three years’ worth of work into one year and is doing so by extending maintenance time by expanding maintenance time on weeknights, weekends, and middays periods as well as 15 “Safety Surges”, long duration track outages for major projects in key parts of the system.



SafeTrack was completed with minimal impact on the road system.<sup>145</sup>

---

<sup>145</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/about-us/newsroom/2016/07/19/how-safetrack-has-impacted-traffic-on-area-roadways-so-far-metro-traffic-monitoring/>



## 4. STUDIES OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Defining, analyzing and assessing congestion management strategies are important components of the CMP. This chapter reviews performance measures adopted by the TPB and its subcommittees and the effectiveness of demand and operational management strategies. Several important studies of strategies are also documented in this chapter as examples.

### 4.1 Review of Performance Measures

#### 4.1.1 INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMANCE MEASURES

A performance measure, or indicator, is a means to gauge and understand the usage of a transportation facility, or the characteristics of particular travelers and their trips. The performance measure/indicator may refer to a particular location or “link” of the transportation system.

Performance measures can be either quantitative or qualitative. It may refer to the experience of a traveler on a trip between a particular origin and a particular destination. It may summarize all trips or trip makers between a particular origin and destination pair. Or, it may describe the operation of one mode of transportation versus another.

Federal regulations<sup>146</sup> state that the CMP should include:

*“Definition of congestion management objectives and performance measures to assess the extent of congestion and support the evaluation of the effectiveness of congestion reduction and mobility enhancement strategies for the movement of people and goods.”*

The fields of transportation planning have typically used mode-specific performance measures or indicators to gauge conditions on the system. These include motor-vehicle specific performance measures such as traffic volumes, capacities, and level-of-service.

The TPB adopted a set of performance measures in the 1994 Congestion Management System (CMS) Work Plan. Since then, there has been an evolution towards more traveler-oriented metrics in conveying congestion and related information to the general public. Some of the measures are leveraged by emerging highway performance monitoring activities such as the I-95 Corridor Coalition Vehicle Probe Project that provides probe-based continuous monitoring.

In the Final Rule on "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program" which became effective on May 20, 2017 [82 FR 22879]<sup>147</sup>, FHWA established a set of performance measures for State departments of transportation (State DOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to use as required by Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The measures in the final rule are to be used by State DOTs and MPOs to assess the performance of the Interstate and non-Interstate National Highway System (NHS) for the purpose of carrying out the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP); to assess freight movement on the Interstate System; and to assess traffic congestion and on-road mobile source emissions for the purpose of carrying out the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program.

---

<sup>146</sup> Federal Register, Vol. 81, No.103, May 27, 2016.

<sup>147</sup> Docket No. FHWA-2013-0054, RIN 2125-AF54, Federal Register - Vol. 82, No. 11, Pg. 5970 - January 18, 2017: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-18/pdf/2017-00681.pdf>.

#### **4.1.2 MAP-21/FAST ACT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

The MAP-21 and FAST Acts transformed the Federal-aid highway program by establishing new requirements for performance management to ensure the most efficient investment of Federal transportation funds. Performance management increases the accountability and transparency of the Federal-aid highway program and provides a framework to support improved investment decision-making through a focus on performance outcomes for key national transportation goals. State DOTs and MPOs will be expected to use the information and data generated as a result of these regulations to inform their transportation planning and programming decisions.

Performance measures in four areas, relevant to the congestion management process, were defined in the final rule on "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program" are summarized in Table 4-1, including:

- percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the Interstate.
- percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the non-Interstate NHS.
- percentage of Interstate system mileage providing for reliable truck travel time (Truck Travel Time Reliability Index)
- annual hours of peak hour excessive delay per capita

TPB, in conjunction with state DOTs, works to analyze these measures and set associated targets.

**Table 4-1: Performance Measures in the final rule on "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program"**

| Areas                                     | Measures  | Metrics                                 | Equations  | Thresholds  | Time Periods<br>(in a Calendar Year)  | Geographic Areas  | Data   | Target Scope                         |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Performance of the Interstate             | Percent of the Interstate System providing for Reliable Travel                    | Level of Travel Time Reliability (LOTR) | 80 <sup>th</sup> TT / 50 <sup>th</sup> TT  | Reliable: LOTTR < 1.50  | 6:00 am-10:00 am, M-F<br>10:00 am-4:00 pm, M-F<br>4:00 pm-8:00 pm, M-F<br>6:00 am-8:00 pm, S-S        | Interstate  | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments  | Statewide target;<br>MPO-wide target |
|   | Percent of the Interstate System where peak hour travel times meet expectations   | Peak Hour Travel Time Ratio (PHTR)      | Longest PHTT / Desired PHTT in that hour the longest PHTT occurred                                       | Meet expectation: PHTR < 1.50   | Could be any one of the 6 peak hours: 6:00 am-9:00 am, 4:00 pm-7:00pm in non-Federal holiday weekdays | Interstate in urbanized area with population over 1 million                       | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments;<br>3) Desired Peak Period Travel Time | A single urbanized area target       |
| Performance of the Non-Interstate NHS     | Percent of the non-Interstate NHS providing for Reliable Travel                   | Level of Travel Time Reliability (LOTR) | 80 <sup>th</sup> TT / 50 <sup>th</sup> TT  | Reliable: LOTTR < 1.50  | 6:00 am-10:00 am, M-F<br>10:00 am-4:00 pm, M-F<br>4:00 pm-8:00 pm, M-F<br>6:00 am-8:00 pm, S-S        | Non-Interstate NHS  | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments  | Statewide target;<br>MPO-wide target |
|   | Percent of the non-Interstate NHS where peak hour travel times meet expectations  | Peak Hour Travel Time Ratio (PHTR)      | Longest PHTT / Desired PHTT in that hour the longest PHTT occurred                                       | Meet expectation: PHTR < 1.50   | Could be any one of the 6 peak hours: 6:00 am-9:00 am, 4:00 pm-7:00pm in non-Federal holiday weekdays | Non-Interstate NHS in urbanized area with population over 1 million               | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments;<br>3) Desired Peak Period Travel Time | A single urbanized area target       |
| Freight movement on the Interstate System | Percent of the Interstate System Mileage providing for Reliable Truck Travel Time | Truck Travel Time Reliability           | 95 <sup>th</sup> Truck TT / 50 <sup>th</sup> Truck TT  | Reliable: Annual Average Truck Travel Time Reliability < 1.50   | 24/7/365  | Interstate  | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments  | Statewide target;<br>MPO-wide target |
|   | Percent of the Interstate System Mileage Uncongested                              | Average Truck Speed                     | Arithmetic mean of Truck Speeds (leading to inconsistency between average speed and average travel time) | Uncongested: Truck Speed > 50 mph   | 24/7/365  | Interstate  | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments  | Statewide target;<br>MPO-wide target |
| Traffic Congestion                        | Annual Hours of Excessive Delay per Capita  | Vehicle-hours of delay per capita       | Delay * volume   | Delay occurs if speed < 35 mph on Interstate (FC1), freeways and expressways (FC2); and < 15 mph on principal arterials (FC3) and all other NHS | 24/7/365  | NHS in nonattainment or maintenance urbanized area with population over 1 million | 1) Travel Time Data Set;<br>2) Reporting segments;<br>3) Hourly traffic volume           | A single urbanized area target       |

### 4.1.3 TRAVELER-ORIENTED CMP PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Since the TPB development of the CMP performance measures in 1994 (see Section 4.1.4), there has been an evolution towards more traveler-oriented metrics in conveying congestion and related information to the general public. Some of the measures are leveraged by emerging highway performance monitoring activities such as the I-95 Corridor Coalition's Vehicle Probe Project that provides probe-based continuous monitoring. Earlier in this report, the following four measures were used, with the first two quantifying congestion and the latter two travel time reliability. The 2010 [Strategic Plan for the Management, Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems \(MOITS\) Program](#)<sup>148</sup> adopted Travel Time Index, Buffer Time Index and Planning Time Index as three regional indices of travel conditions and traveler's experience.

#### 4.1.3.1 Travel Time Index (TTI)

TTI is defined as the ratio of actual travel time to free-flow travel time, measures the intensity of congestion. The higher the index, the more congested traffic conditions it represents, e.g., TTI = 1.00 means free flow conditions, while TTI = 1.30 indicates the actual travel time is 30% longer than the free-flow travel time. For more information, please refer to [Travel Time Reliability: Making It There On Time, All The Time](#), a report published by the Federal Highway Administration and produced by the Texas Transportation Institute with Cambridge Systematics, Inc. This report uses the following method to calculate TTI:

- 1) Download INRIX 5-minute raw data from the I-95 Traffic Monitoring website (<http://i95.inrix.com>) or the VPP Suite website (<https://vpp.ritis.org>).
- 2) Aggregate the raw data to monthly average data by day of the week and hour of the day. Harmonic Mean was used to average the speeds and reference speeds (Harmonic Mean is only used here; other averages used are all Arithmetic Mean). For each segment (TMC), the monthly data have 168 observations (7 days in a week \* 24 hours a day) in a month.
- 3) Calculate  $TTI = \text{reference speed} / \text{speed in the monthly data}$ . If  $TTI < 1$  then make  $TTI = 1$ . If constraint  $TTI \geq 1$  was not imposed, some congestion could be cancelled by conditions with  $TTI < 1$ .
- 4) Calculate regional average TTI for the Interstate system, non-Interstate NHS, non-NHS, and all roads for AM peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM Peak (3:00-7:00 pm) respectively, using segment length as the weight.
- 5) Calculate the average TTI of the AM Peak and PM Peak to obtain an overall congestion indicator.

#### 4.1.3.2 Planning Time Index (PTI)

PTI is defined as the ratio of 95th percentile travel time to free flow travel time, measures travel time reliability. The higher the index, the less reliable traffic conditions it represents, e.g., PTI = 1.30 means a traveler has to budget 30% longer than the uncongested travel time to arrive on time 95% of the times (i.e., 19 out of 20 trips), while TTI = 1.60 indicates that one has to budget 60% longer than the uncongested travel time to arrive on time most of the times. For more information, please

---

<sup>148</sup> COG/TPB, <http://www1.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/operations/plan/MOITS-Strategic-Plan-Executive-Summary-2010-06-16.pdf>

refer to [Travel Time Reliability: Making It There On Time, All The Time](#), a report published by the Federal Highway Administration and produced by the Texas Transportation Institute with Cambridge Systematics, Inc. This report uses the following method to calculate PTI:

- 1) Calculate TTI = reference speed / speed in the monthly data obtained in step 2 of the above TTI methodology. Do not impose constraint  $TTI \geq 1$ , since the purpose of this calculation is to rank the TTIs to find the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, not to average the TTIs.
- 2) Calculate monthly average PTI: including sorting the data obtained in step 1 by segment, peak period, and month, finding the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile TTI and this TTI is PTI by definition, and averaging the PTIs using segment length as the weight to get regional summaries (for the Interstate system, non-Interstate NHS, non-NHS, and all roads for AM peak (6:00-10:00 am) and PM Peak (3:00-7:00 pm) respectively).
- 3) Calculate yearly average PTI: including sorting the data obtained in step 1 by segment and peak period, finding the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile TTI and this TTI is PTI by definition, and averaging the PTIs using segment length as the weight to get regional summaries.
- 4) Calculate the average PTI of the AM Peak and PM Peak to obtain an overall travel time reliability indicator.

## 4.2 Review of Congestion Management Strategies

### 4.2.1 INTRODUCTION

Federal regulations state that the CMP should include:

*“Identification and evaluation of the anticipated performance and expected benefits of appropriate congestion management strategies that will contribute to the more effective use and improved safety of existing and future transportation systems based on the established performance measures. The following categories of strategies, or combinations of strategies, are some examples of what should be appropriately considered for each area:*

- (i) *Demand Management measures, including growth management and congestion pricing;*
- (ii) *Traffic operational improvements;*
- (iii) *Public transportation improvements;*
- (iv) *ITS technologies as related to the regional ITS architecture; and*
- (v) *Where, necessary, additional system capacity.”<sup>149</sup>*

To address this point, strategy lists have been developed as a way of categorizing congestion management strategies and characterizing the current impact, or potential impact, these strategies have throughout our region.

These lists are modeled after the longstanding Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM) process for air quality in the region. The TERM list was formed as a way of developing additional plan and program elements which could be utilized to mitigate emission increases.

---

<sup>149</sup> §450.322(d), Metropolitan Transportation Planning, Final Rule, Federal Register, May 27, 2016 – emphasis added.

Similarly, lists have been developed for strategies under consideration for Congestion Management. At this time the effort is proposed to be qualitative, as the congestion information is not tied to one specific location. In addition, some strategies are regional while others are local, and a qualitative effort better characterizes the impact they have on the region as a whole.

The following section contains background and summary information of how the Strategy Lists were developed.

#### **4.2.2 DESCRIPTIONS OF STRATEGIES**

The general characteristics of strategies are provided in Table 4-2 and Table 4-3; one for operational management strategies (those strategies contributing to a more effective use of existing systems) and one for demand management strategies (those that influence travel behavior). The qualitative criteria across the top of the lists, and the methodology used to categorize each strategy as “some impact (x)”, “significant impact (xx)”, and “high impact (xxx)” are the same for both tables. The separate tables are simply for the purpose of distinguishing the two types of strategies. A more detailed review of the strategies is provided in Appendix G.

Table 4-2: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Demand Management Strategies Criteria

|  |  | QUALITATIVE CRITERIA       |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  |  | Impacts on Congestion      |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|  |  | Reduces Overall Congestion | Reduces Incident-related Congestion | Supports/Promotes Multi-modal Transportation | Regional Applicability | Local Applicability | Existing Level of Deployment | Ease of Implementation | Cost | Cost Effectiveness | Enhance Existing Programs |
| <b>STRATEGY</b>  |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| <b>C.5.0 Alternative Commute Programs</b>                      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.5.1  | Carpooling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.2  | Ridematching Services  | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.3  | Vanpooling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.4  | Telecommuting  | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.5  | Promote Alternate Modes  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xxx                    | x    | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.6  | Compressed/flexible work weeks   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xxx                    | x    | x                  | xx                        |
| C.5.7  | Employer outreach/mass marketing   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.8  | Parking cash-out   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | x                      | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.5.9  | Alternative Commute Subsidy Program  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | x                      | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| <b>C.6.0 Managed Facilities</b>                                |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.6.1  | HOV  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.6.2  | Variably Priced Lanes (VPL)  | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.6.3  | Cordon Pricing   | xxx                        | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | x                   | x                            | x                      | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.6.4  | Bridge Tolling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | x                         |
| <b>C.7.0 Public Transportation Improvements</b>                |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.7.1  | Electronic Payment Systems   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xx                  | xxx                          | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.7.2  | Improvements/added capacity to regional rail and bus transit                                       | xx                         | xx                                  | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.7.3  | Improving accessibility to multi-modal options   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.7.4  | Park-and-ride lot improvements   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xx                     | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.7.5  | Carsharing Programs  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.8.0 Pedestrian, bicycle, and multi-modal improvements</b> |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.8.1  | Improve pedestrian facilities  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.8.2  | Creation of new bicycle and pedestrian lanes and facilities  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.8.3  | Addition of bicycle racks at public transit stations/stops   | x                          | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | x                  | xxx                       |
| C.8.4  | Bike sharing programs  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.9.0 Growth Management</b>                                 |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.9.1  | Coordination of Regional Activity Centers  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.9.2  | Implementation of TLC program (i.e. coordination of transportation and land use with local gov'ts) | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.9.3  | "Live Near Your Work" program  | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | x    | x                  | xx                        |

- 1. Some Impact (x)
- 2. Significant Impact (xx)
- 3. High Impact (xxx)

Table 4-3: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Operational Management Strategies Criteria

| STRATEGY   |  | QUALITATIVE CRITERIA       |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  |  | Impacts on Congestion      |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|  |  | Reduces Overall Congestion | Reduces Incident-related Congestion | Supports/Promotes Multi-modal Transportation | Regional Applicability | Local Applicability | Existing Level of Deployment | Ease of Implementation | Cost | Cost Effectiveness | Enhance Existing Programs |
| <b>C.1.0 Incident Mngt./Non-recurring</b>          |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.1.1  | Imaging/Video for surveillance and Detection   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.2  | Service patrols  | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.3  | Emergency Mngt. Systems (EMS)  | x                          | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.4  | Emergency Vehicle Preemption   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | x                  | xx                        |
| C.1.5  | Road Weather Management  | x                          | xxx                                 | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.1.6  | Traffic Mngt. Centers (TMCs)   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.7  | Curve Speed Warning System   | xx                         | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.1.8  | Work Zone Management   | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.1.9  | Automated truck rollover systems   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| <b>C.2.0 ITS Technologies</b>                      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.2.1  | Advanced Traffic Signal Systems  | xxx                        | xx                                  | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.2.2  | Electronic Payment Systems   | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.2.3  | Freeway Ramp Metering  | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.4  | Bus Priority Systems   | x                          | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | xx                     | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.5  | Lane Management (e.g. Variable Speed Limits)   | xx                         | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.6  | Automated Enforcement (e.g. red light cameras)   | x                          | x                                   | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.7  | Traffic signal timing  | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.2.8  | Reversible Lanes   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.9  | Parking Management Systems   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.10   | Dynamic Routing/Scheduling   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.11   | Service Coordination and Fleet Mngt. (e.g. buses and trains sharing real-time information) | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.12   | Probe Traffic Monitoring   | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| <b>C.3.0 Advanced Traveler Information Systems</b> |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.3.1  | 511  | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | x                   | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.3.2  | Variable Message Signs (VMS)   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.3.3  | Highway Advisory Radio (HAR)   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | x                  | xx                        |
| C.3.4  | Transit Information Systems  | xx                         | xx                                  | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.4.0 Traffic Engineering Improvements</b>      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.4.1  | Safety Improvements  | x                          | xxx                                 | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.4.2  | Turn Lanes   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.4.3  | Roundabouts  | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | x    | xx                 | xx                        |

- 1. Some Impact (x)
- 2. Significant Impact (xx)
- 3. High Impact (xxx)



## **4.3 Examples of Strategies Studies**

### **4.3.1 ANALYSIS OF TRANSPORTATION EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURES (TERMs)**

#### **4.3.1.1 Overview**

Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs) are strategies or actions employed to offset increases in nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from mobile sources. The TPB first adopted TERMs in FY 1995.

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) and SAFETEA-LU require metropolitan planning organizations and DOTs to perform air quality analyses, to ensure that the transportation plan and program conform to mobile emission budget established in the State Implementation Plans (SIP). Consequently MPOs and DOTs are required to identify TERMs that would provide emission-reduction benefits and other measures intended to modify motor vehicle use.

Selection of the TERMs requires quantitative as well as qualitative assessment. The quantitative assessment includes specific information on the benefits, costs, and expected air-quality benefits. Qualitative criteria includes ranking based on the subjective criteria's such as ease of implementation, how to implement, and synergy with other measures.

The effects of TERMs on GHG reduction in the Washington region were analyzed in the "What Would It Take" Scenario Study (see Section 4.3.3).

#### **4.3.1.2 Findings and Applications to Congestion Management**

Most TERMs are intended to reduce either the number of vehicle trips (VT), vehicle miles traveled (VMT), or both. These strategies may include ridesharing and telecommuting programs, improved transit and bicycling facilities, clean fuel vehicle programs or other possible actions. These TERMs are not only important to offsetting increases in NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC, but many are important in congestion management by reducing trips and miles of travel.

The Washington region has adopted and implemented several TERMs with the sole aim of reducing emissions, such as the addition of clean diesel bus service, taxicabs with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) cabs, and CNG buses. However, many TERMs also have an impact on congestion management. Examples of some of these congestion-mitigating TERMs that have been implemented included upgrading traffic signal systems, telecommuting programs, park-and-ride lots, and pedestrian facilities.

### **4.3.2 SCENARIO PLANNING**

#### **4.3.2.1 "CLRP Aspirations" Scenario**

Presented in 2013, the "CLRP Aspirations" scenario was an integrated future land use and transportation scenario for building on the key results of previous TPB scenario studies. It included concentrated land use growth in Regional Activity Centers, a regional network of variably priced lanes, and a high quality bus rapid transit network operating on the VPL network for the current planning horizon year 2040. Relative to the 2012 CLRP baseline for 2040, the full CLRP Aspirations Scenario showed increases in trips of all modes (auto person trips, transit trips, and non-motorized trips) due to the increase in population, both auto and transit capacity, and shifts in land use that

enable more non-motorized trips. The Scenario showed a slight decrease in VMT, a decrease in VMT per capita, and a significant decrease in regional vehicle-hours of delay.<sup>150</sup>

#### 4.3.2.2 “What Would It Take?” Scenario

Completed in May 2010, the “What Would It Take?” scenario started with the adopted COG non-sector specific goals for reducing mobile source greenhouse gas emissions for 2030 and beyond. It assesses how such goals might be achieved in the transportation sector through different combinations of interventions that include increasing fuel efficiency, reducing the carbon-intensity of fuel, and improving travel efficiency. The study found that:

- Strategies analyzed to date do not achieve regional goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and additional strategies can and should be analyzed.
- Goals are difficult to meet and will require emission reductions in all three categories: Vehicle efficiency (CAFE improvement), alternative fuel (cellulosic ethanol), and travel efficiency (strategies aimed at reducing VMT, congestion, and delays).
- While major reductions can come from federal energy policies, local governments can make significant reductions quickly.
- Some strategies may not have major greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction potential, but have multiple benefits worth exploring through benefit-cost analysis (e.g. the MATOC program).

The study also recommended nine potential local actions that can be implemented quickly to reduce GHG.

#### 4.3.2.3. Multi-Sector Working Group

This group comprised senior staff from transportation, planning, and environment sectors of COG member agencies including state departments of transportation. A consultant studied effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gases from the transportation, land use and built environment sectors. Many of the strategies studied had the added benefit of reducing vehicle trips and vehicle miles of travel affecting congestion positively. This was a study under the direction of the COG Board of Directors and the January 2016 Technical Report on Multi-Sector Approach to Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Metropolitan Washington Region was published.<sup>151</sup>

#### 4.3.2.4. Long-Range Plan Task Force

In 2016 and 2017, TPB formed this task force to identify a limited set of regionally significant projects, programs, and policies above and beyond what is in the region’s current long-range transportation plan. The Task Force and supporting consultants identified and analyzed a number of long-range planning strategies, many of which could address congestion. Following the Task Force’s work, Seven Endorsed Initiatives were included in Visualize 2045 planning.<sup>152</sup>

---

<sup>151</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2016/08/01/multi-sector-approach-to-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions-in-the-metropolitan-washington-region-final-technical-report/>

<sup>152</sup>

<http://mwcog.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=debc2550777b4cc2bae2364c7712a151>

### 4.3.3 MATOC BENEFIT-COST ANALYSIS

The Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program is a joint program of VDOT, MDOT, DDOT, WMATA and TPB. It aims to provide real-time situational awareness of transportation operations in the National Capital Region (NCR), especially during emergencies and other incidents with significant impacts on travelers and on the transportation systems of the region.

A benefit-cost study has been carried out to quantify the effectiveness of this program which shows a \$ 10 benefit for every \$ 1 spent on the program.

### 4.3.4 MOITS STRATEGIC PLAN

The Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems program (MOITS – since renamed Systems Performance, Operations, and Technology [SPOT] program) of the TPB developed a strategic plan for the program dated June 16, 2010 and the plan is available on MWCOG website.<sup>153</sup> The Strategic Plan defined and promoted potential regional projects or activities for the management, operations, and application of advanced technology for the region's transportation systems, as well as to advise member agencies on management, operations, and transportation technology deployments for meeting common regional goals and objectives.

The MOITS Strategic Plan built upon the TPB Vision by identifying four key tactical actions toward achieving and building upon the goals, objectives, and strategies of the Vision. It identifies nine emphasis areas derived from the National ITS Architecture, seven proposed projects out of which three have been implemented, and two are in the planning stage three strategic efforts out of which two are being considered for implementation, and a number of “best practices” for consideration by the member agencies and jurisdictions. The Plan also recommended use of a few key performance measures, including travel time index, buffer time index and planning time index, which are already used in this CMP Technical Report. The Strategic Plan concluded with seven key recommendations for the MOITS Technical Subcommittee and Program.

---

<sup>153</sup> <http://www1.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/operations/plan/MOITS-Strategic-Plan-Executive-Summary-2010-06-16.pdf>

## 5. HOW RESULTS OF THE CMP ARE INTEGRATED INTO THE LONG-RANGE PLAN

According to federal regulations, the CMP should be an integrated process in Visualize 2045 rather than a standalone product of the regional transportation planning process. This chapter clarifies this integration.

### 5.1 Components of the CMP Are Integrated in Visualize 2045

There are four major components of the CMP as described in Visualize 2045:

- Monitor and evaluate transportation system performance
- Define and analyze strategies
- Implement strategies and assess
- Compile project-specific congestion management information

In monitoring and evaluating transportation system performance, the TPB uses probe vehicle data to support both the CMP and travel demand forecast model calibration, complementing operating agencies' own information, and illustrating locations of existing congestion. Travel demand modeling forecasts, in turn, provide information on future congestion locations. This provides an overall picture of current and future congestion in the region, and helps set the stage for agencies to consider and implement CMP strategies, including those integrated into capacity-increasing roadway projects.

The CMP component of Visualize 2045 defines and analyzes a wide range of potential demand management and operations management strategies for consideration. TPB, through its Technical Committee, Travel Management Subcommittee, Travel Forecasting Subcommittee, and other committees, reviews and considers both the locations of congestion and the potential strategies when developing Visualize 2045.

For planned (Visualize 2045) or programmed (TIP) projects, cross-referencing the locations of planned or programmed improvements with the locations of congestion helps guide decision makers to prioritize areas for current and future projects and associated CMP strategies. Maps can show correlations between the locations of planned or programmed projects and locations where congestion is being experienced or is expected to occur.

Thus the fiscally constrained list of projects in Visualize 2045 and TIP project selection is informed by the CMP, and implementation of CMP strategies is encouraged. The region relies particularly on non-capital congestion strategies in the Commuter Connections program of demand management activities, and the Systems Performance, Operations, and Technology (SPOTS) program of operations management strategies. Assessments of these programs are analyzed, along with regular updates of travel monitoring to look at trends and impacts, to feed back to future long-range plan cycles.

The TPB also compiles information pertinent to specific projects in its CMP documentation process (form) within the quadrennial long-range transportation plan Call for Projects. This further assures and documents that the planning of federally-funded SOV projects has included considerations of CMP strategy alternatives and integrated components.

### 5.2 Demand Management in Visualize 2045

Demand Management aims at influencing travelers' behavior for the purpose of redistributing or reducing travel demand. Existing demand management strategies contribute to a more effective use

and improved safety of existing and future transportation systems. Visualize 2045 takes a number of demand management strategies into consideration when planning for the region's transportation infrastructure. Such strategies include alternative commute programs, managed facilities (such as HOV facilities and variably priced lanes), public transportation improvements, pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements, and growth management (implementing transportation and land use activities). These strategies are outlined in detail in Section 3.2

In the "Technical Inputs Solicitation" for Visualize 2045 and the TIP, for any project providing a significant increase to SOV capacity, it must be documented that the implementing agency considered all appropriate systems and demand management alternatives to the SOV capacity. A Congestion Management Documentation Form is distributed along with the Call for Projects and a special set of SOV congestion management documentation questions must be answered for any project to be included in the Plan or TIP that significantly increases the single occupant vehicle carrying capacity of a highway.

Regional long-range plans have reflected transportation demand management (TDM) programs, such as employer outreach, marketing, and the regional Guaranteed Ride Home program.

Some projects included in Visualize 2045 and TIP are revised as needed to reflect pertinent TDM study results. For example, the I-95/395 HOV-HOT-Bus Lanes project was revised to reflect the results of the Transit/Transportation Demand Management Study conducted by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and the Technical Advisory Committee in the 2008 CLRP.

Finally, the TPB certifies demand management of the CMP in the overall certification of the transportation planning process in the National Capital Region. The Board finds the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the region and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements.

### **5.3 Operational Management in Visualize 2045**

Part of the CMP effort focuses on defining the existing operational management strategies that contribute to the more effective use and improved safety of existing and future transportation systems. Such strategies include incident management programs, ITS Technologies, Advanced Traveler Information Systems, and traffic engineering improvements. These strategies are outlined in detail in Section 3.3.

Along with demand management strategies, operational management alternatives must also be considered when SOV capacity expanding projects are submitted to the Technical Inputs Solicitation of Visualize 2045 and TIP. The considerations are documented in the Congestion Management Documentation Form.

The TPB also certifies operational management of the CMP in the overall certification of the transportation planning process in the National Capital Region.

### **5.4 Capacity Increases in Visualize 2045 and Their CMP Components**

Federal law and regulations list capacity increases as another possible component of operational management strategies, for consideration in cases of:

- *Elimination of bottlenecks*, where a modest increase of capacity at a critical chokepoint can relieve congestion affecting a facility or facilities well beyond the chokepoint location. For example, widening the ramp from I-495 Capital Beltway Outer Loop to westbound VA 267

(Dulles Toll Road) relieved miles of regularly occurring backups on the Beltway and across the American Legion Bridge.

- *Safety improvements*, where safety issues may be worsening congestion, such as at high-crash locations, mitigating the safety issues may help alleviate congestion associated with those locations.
- *Traffic operational improvements*, including adding or lengthening left turn, right turn, or merge lanes or reconfiguring the engineering design of intersections to aid traffic flow while maintaining safety.

These considerations are included in the Congestion Management Documentation Form in Visualize 2045 and TIP project submissions.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

The 2020 CMP Technical Report hereby concludes with a summary of key findings and important recommendations from throughout the report to improve the Congestion Management Process in the Washington region.

### 6.1 Key Findings of the 2020 CMP Technical Report

1. Congestion – Peak period congestion in the Washington region decreased between 2010 and 2013, and then increased moderately thereafter, but still remaining lower than that of 2010. The Travel Time Index dropped 8.5% between 2010 and 2013, but climbed 3.9% between 2013 and 2019. The percent of congested road miles was 21% in 2010, 11% in 2012, and 14% in 2019 (Sections 2.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.3).
2. Reliability – Travel time reliability in the region improved between 2010 and 2012, and then worsened in 2014, slightly over the 2010 level. The Planning Time Index decreased (improved) by 3% between 2014 and 2019 (Section 2.2.1.2).
3. Bottlenecks – Bottleneck locations in the region have remained fairly consistent. The top ten regional bottlenecks in this report were similar to those in the 2018 report. A segment of I-95 southbound between US-1/EXIT 161 and VA-123/EXIT 160 was ranked the first bottleneck for all time (all hours) in 2019. For peak periods in 2019, I-95 southbound between VA-7100/EXIT 166 and VA-123/EXIT 160 was the top bottleneck. The I-495 Inner Loop between VA-267/EXIT 12 and the American Legion Bridge, which had been 2017’s top bottleneck, placed as the second (all hours) and sixth (peak periods) bottleneck for 2019. (Section 2.2.1.6).
4. Travel Demand Management – Travel demand management continues to be an important tool for day-to-day congestion management. The Commuter Connections program remains the centerpiece to assist and encourage people in the Washington region to use alternatives to the single-occupant automobile. The transit system in the Washington region serves as a major alternative to driving alone – transit mode share is among the highest several metropolitan areas in the country (Section 3.2.1).
5. Walking and Bicycling – Walking and bicycling continue to grow in the region in part due to bikesharing and carsharing options and increasing connectivity in the bicycle and pedestrian network (Sections 3.2.4 and 3.2.5).
6. Variably Priced Lanes (VPLs) - VPLs provide additional options to travelers in the region. Facilities include 95Express, 395Express, 495Express, I-66, and Maryland Route 200 (Intercounty Connector (ICC)) (Section 3.3.2).
7. Regional Transportation Operations Coordination – The Metropolitan Washington Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) continues to play an important role in coordination and communicating incident information during both typical travel days and special events such as severe weather and construction work (Section 3.3.3.4).
8. Real-time travel information – The increasing availability of technology to monitor, detect, and evaluate travel conditions allows operators to make changes to the transportation network through active travel demand management, traffic signal optimization, and integrative corridor management. For travelers, real-time traffic and transit information are available from a

number of sources through mobile applications and mobile versions of websites. Social media provides a mutually beneficial direct connection between transportation providers and users. Mobile applications related to non-auto modes, such as bikesharing and carsharing, allow travelers to be flexible with their mode choices (Section 3.4.6).

## 6.2 Recommendations for the Congestion Management Process

The 2020 CMP Technical Report documents the updates of the Congestion Management Process in the Washington region. Looking forward, the report leads to several important recommendations for future improvements.

1. **Continue the Commuter Connections program.** The Commuter Connections program is a primary key strategy for demand management in the National Capital Region and it is beneficial to have a regional approach. Meanwhile, this program in addition to reducing trips and vehicle miles of travel, reduces transportation emissions and improves air quality.
2. **Continue and enhance the MATOC program and support agency/jurisdictional transportation management activities.** The MATOC program/activities are key strategies of operational management in the National Capital Region. Recent enhancements have included efforts on severe weather mobilization and construction coordination. Future enhancements of the MATOC program should be considered when appropriate to expand the function and participation of the program.
3. **Consider a regional Congestion Management Plan (CMPL).** The FAST Act and the Metropolitan Planning Final Rule call for an optional development of a CMPL that includes projects and strategies that will be considered in the Transportation Improvement Program. Such a CMPL would strengthen the connections between CMP, TIP and CLRP and enable the TPB and its member agencies to better combat congestion in the Washington region.
4. **Continue to coordinate PBPP with the CMP.** Performance measurement and analysis are key components of both requirements, and can be accomplished synergistically.
5. **Continue to encourage integration of operations management and travel demand management components of congestion management for more efficient use of the existing transportation network.** State DOTs are encouraged to continue to explore ATM strategies along congested freeways and actively manage arterials along freeways. Transportation agencies (including transit agencies) and stakeholders are encouraged to work collaboratively along congested corridors.
6. **Pursue sufficient investment in the existing transportation system, which is important for addressing congestion.** Prioritizing maintenance for the existing transportation system as called for in TPB's Regional Transportation Priorities Plan is critical to congestion management.
7. **Consider variable pricing and other management strategies in conjunction with capacity increasing projects.** Variably priced lanes (VPLs) provide an option to avoid congestion for travelers and an effective way to manage congestion for agencies.
8. **Continue to encourage transit in the Washington region and explore transit priority strategies.** The transit system in the Washington region serves as a major alternative to driving alone, and it is an important means of getting more out of existing infrastructure. Local jurisdictions are



encouraged to work closely with transit agencies to explore appropriate transit priority strategies that could have positive impacts on travelers by all modes.

9. **Encourage implementation of congestion management for major construction projects.** The construction project-related congestion management has been very successful in the past such as for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and Northern Virginia Megaprojects.
10. **Continue to encourage access to non-auto travel modes.** The success of the Capital Bikeshare program and the decrease in automobile registrations in the District of Columbia indicate that there is a shift, at least in the urban areas, to non-automobile transportation.
11. **Continue and enhance providing real-time, historical, and multimodal traveler information.** Providing travelers with information before and during their trips can help them to make decisions to avoid congestion and delays and better utilize the existing road and transit infrastructure. Websites such as MATOC's [www.trafficview.org](http://www.trafficview.org), state DOTs' 511 systems, and real-time transit information allow travelers to make more informed decisions for their trips. The value of real-time traveler information can be largely enriched by integrating historical travel information which can provide valuable travel time reliability measures.
12. **Continue to look for ways to safely interface with the public through new technology such as mobile devices and social media.** The increased prevalence of mobile internet-capable devices and social media present a rapidly evolving platform for both disseminating and gathering information. Explore ways to utilize crowdsourced incident information for traffic operations planning.
13. **Encourage connectivity within and between Regional Activity Centers.** The recent refinement of the Regional Activity Centers map, adopted in 2013, helps coordinate transportation and land use planning for future growth. Geographically-focused Household Travel Surveys can collect data which allows planners to see local level travel patterns and behaviors impacting mode shifts.
14. **Continue and enhance the regional congestion monitoring program with multiple data sources.** There are a wealth of sources, both public and private sector, for data related to congestion which have their individual strengths and shortcomings. Private sector probe-based monitoring provides unprecedented spatial and temporal coverage on roadways, but still needs to be supplemented with data from other sources including data on traffic volumes and traffic engineering considerations. There should be continual review of the quality and availability of data provided by different sources and the structuring of a monitoring program in way that is adaptable for potential future changes in data reporting and/or data sources.
15. **Monitor trends in freight, specifically truck travel.** Interrelationships between freight movement and congestion differ from interrelationships between passenger travel and congestion.
16. **Participate in collaborative planning connected and autonomous vehicle readiness.** These emerging technologies will dramatically alter future transportation planning. Standards and interoperability are critical issues and should be addressed through extensive collaboration with a variety of stakeholders.
17. **Monitor impacts of and interactions with shared mobility services.** Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) continue to have an evolving impact on a variety of aspects of congestion

management, mode share, and transportation overall, but data for regional analysis remain scarce. Regulating agencies are encouraged to arrange for TNC data to be collected and shared with the TPB and other official transportation planning and operating entities, to enable analysis of impacts.

18. **Encourage Traffic Incident Management (TIM).** COG's 2018 creation of its Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) initiative highlighted the importance of TIM within congestion management. Continued TIM efforts will be beneficial to the region.

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX A – 2019 PEAK HOUR TRAVEL TIME INDEX**

Note:

1. Calculations and visualizations were provided by the “Trend Map” tool of the Vehicle Probe Project Suite developed by the CATT Lab of the University of Maryland, <https://vpp.ritis.org/>.
2. Peak Hour: 8:00-9:00 am is the regional morning peak hour, and 5:00-6:00 pm is the regional afternoon peak hour, Monday through Friday.
3. Congestion levels are categorized by the value of Travel Time Index:
  - TTI = 1.0: Free flow
  - 1.0<TTI<=1.3: Minimal
  - 1.3<TTI<=1.5: Minor
  - 1.5<TTI<=2.0: Moderate
  - 2.0<TTI<=2.5: Heavy
  - 2.5<TTI: Severe

Figure A1: Travel Time Index on the Interstates and Freeways during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

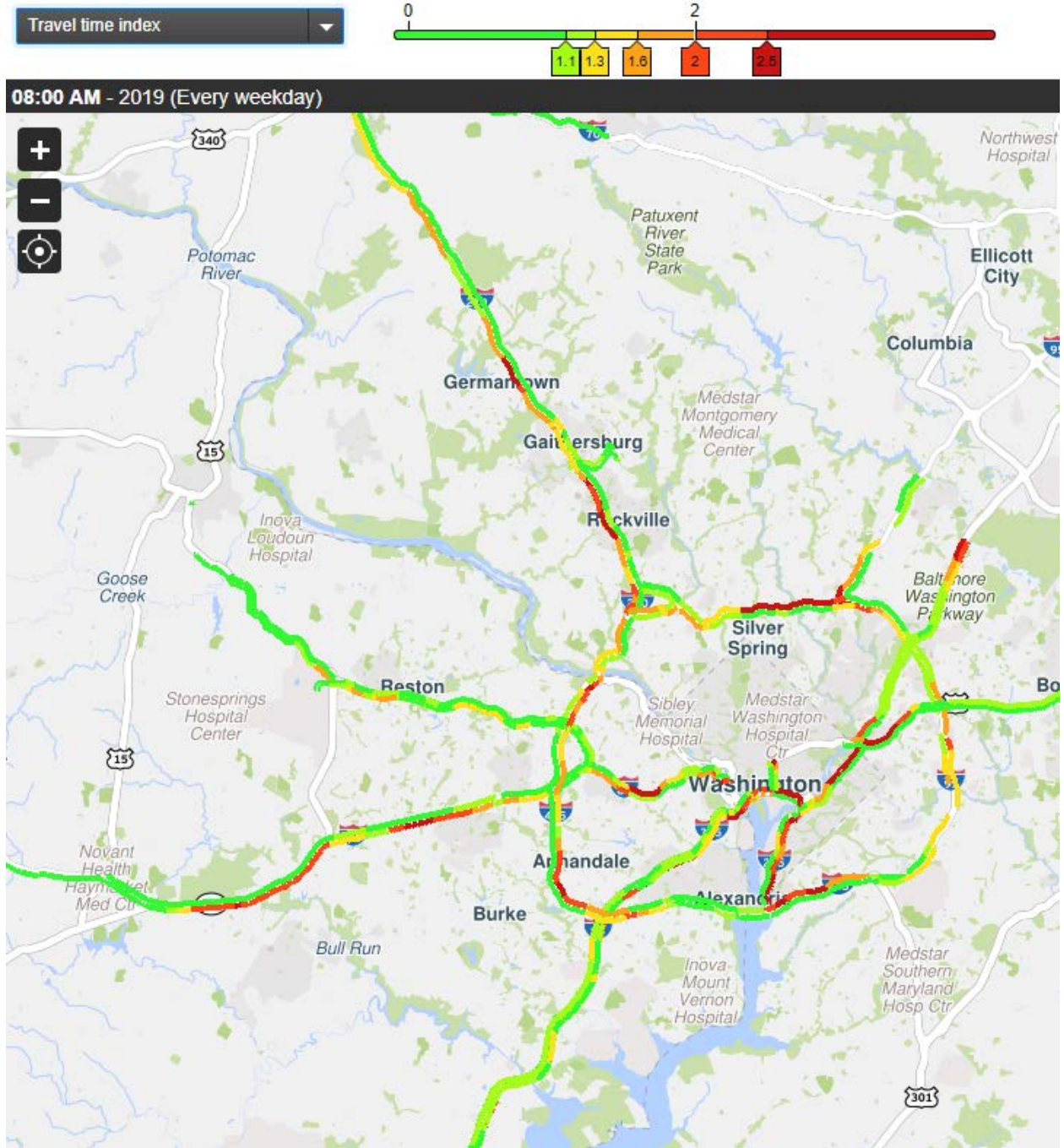


Figure A2: Travel Time Index on the Interstates and Freeways during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

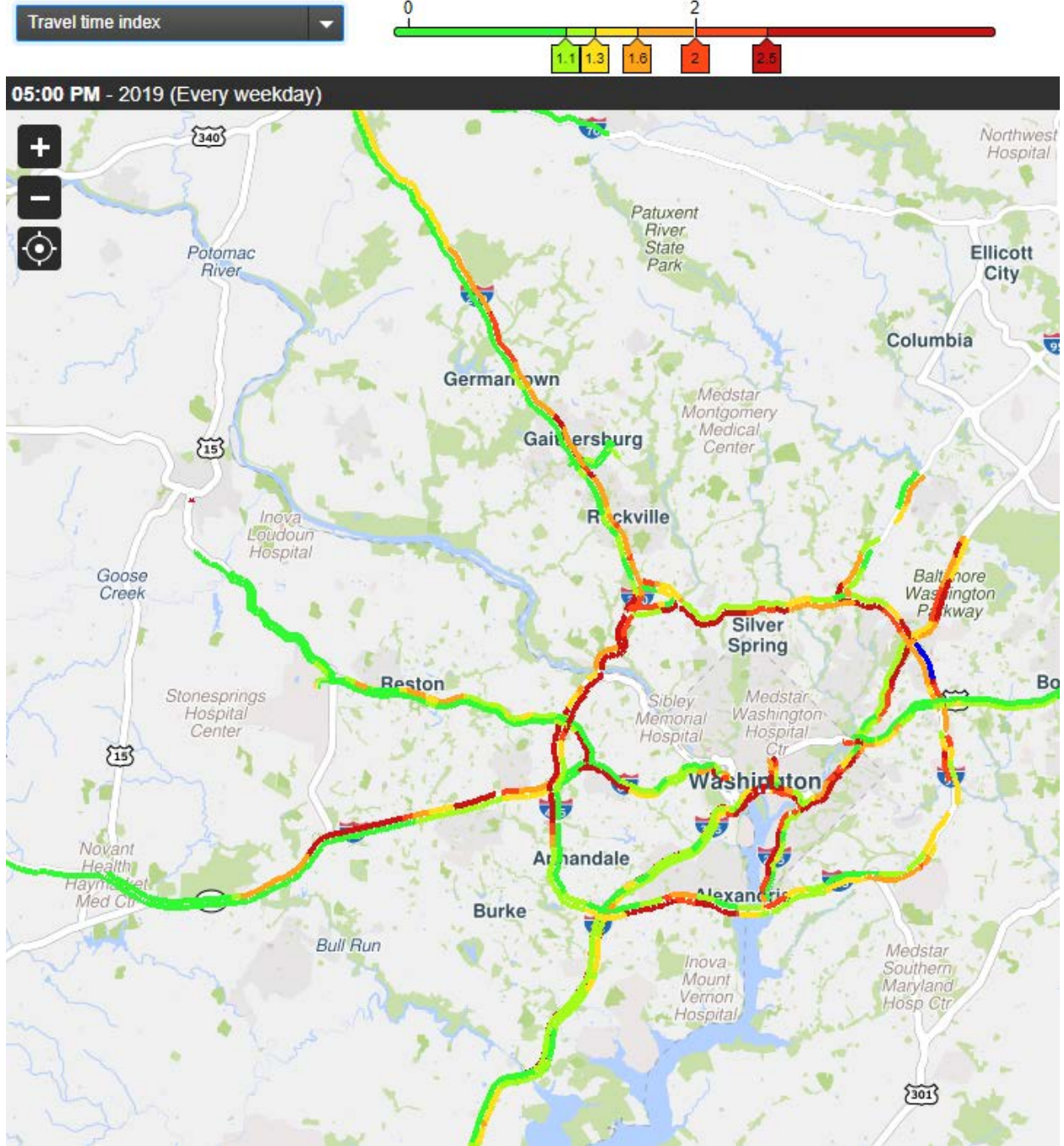


Figure A3: Travel Time Index in DC during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

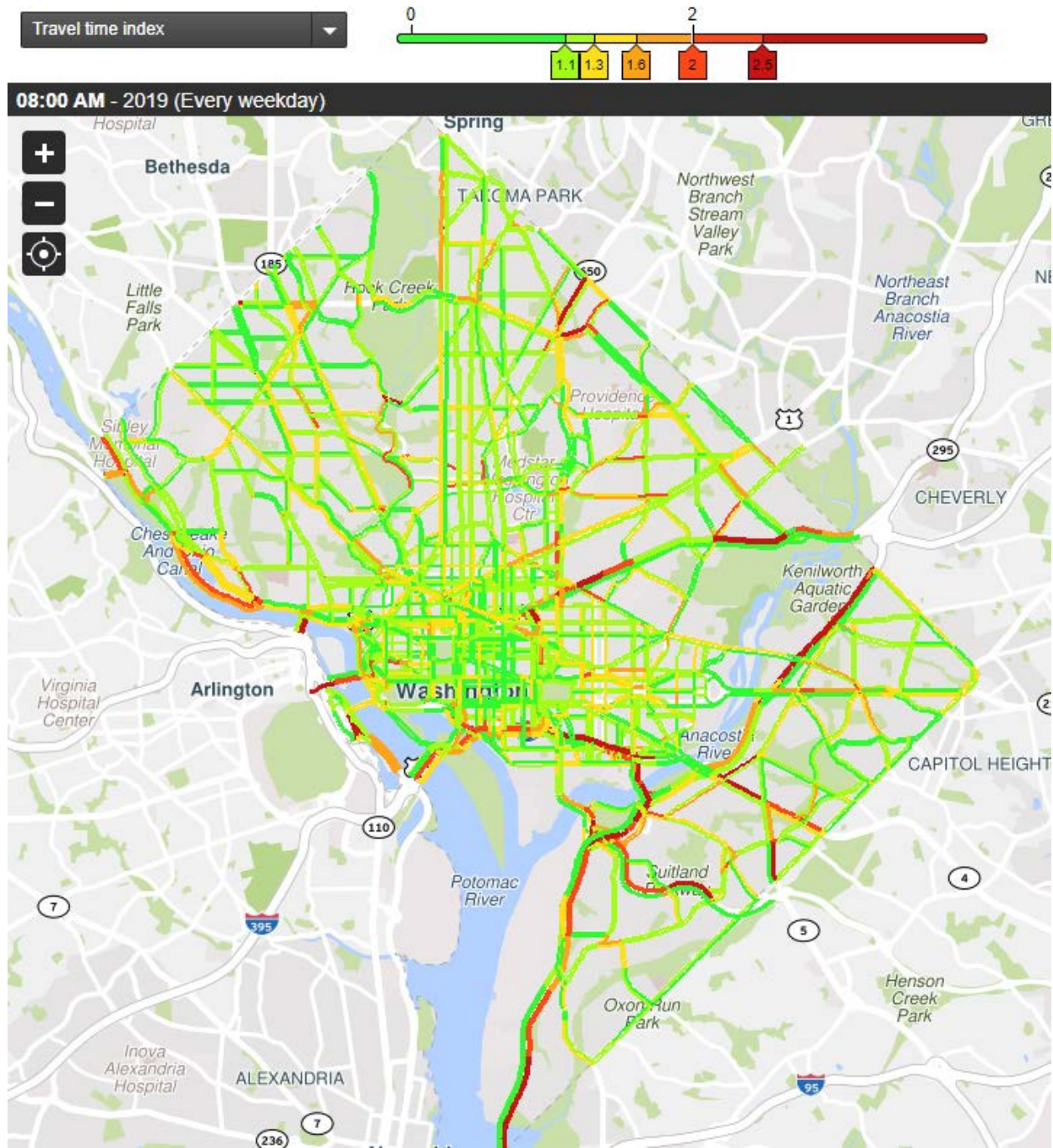


Figure A4: Travel Time Index in DC during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

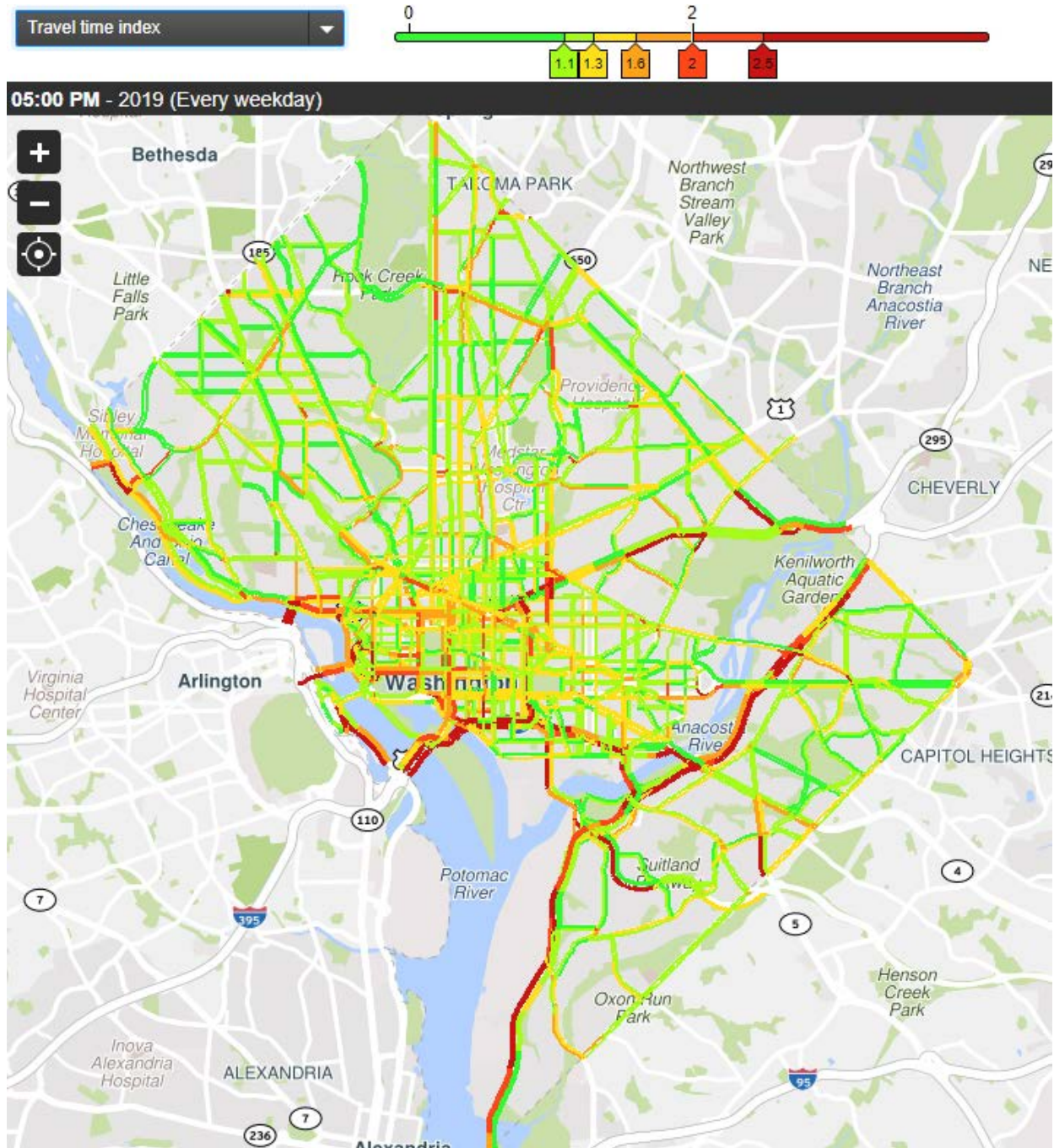




Figure A5: Travel Time Index in Frederick County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

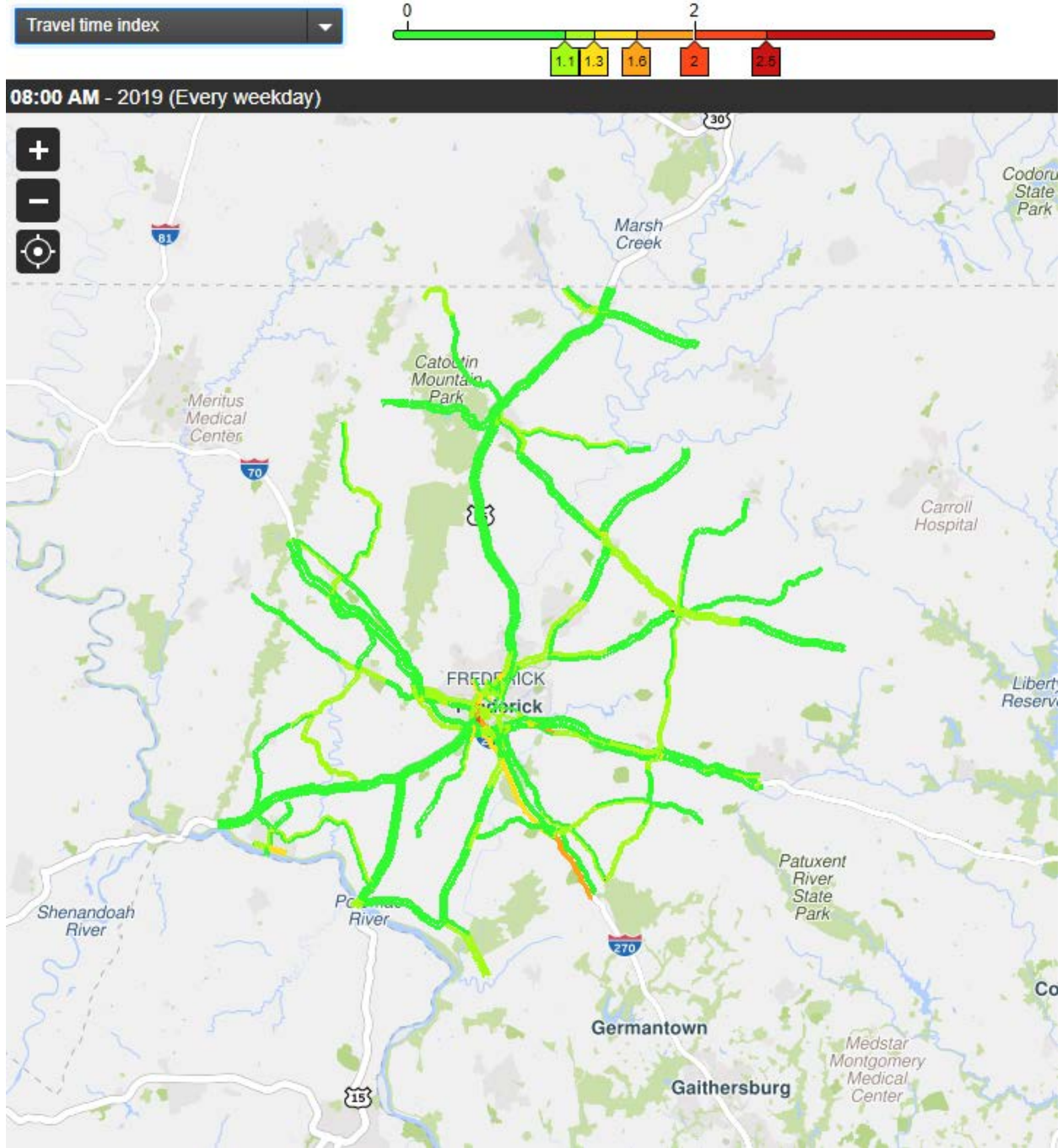


Figure A6: Travel Time Index in Frederick County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

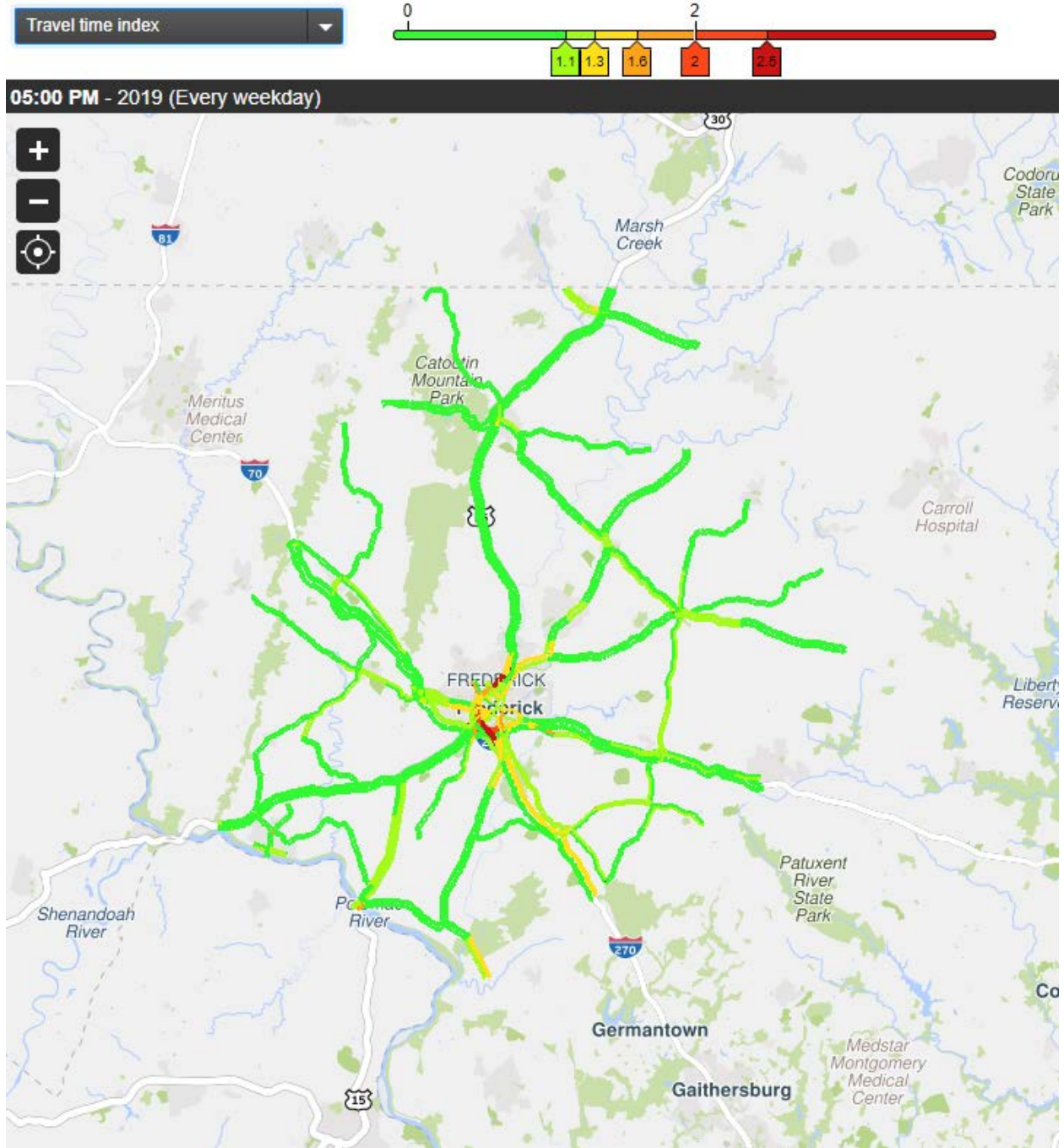


Figure A7: Travel Time Index in Montgomery County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

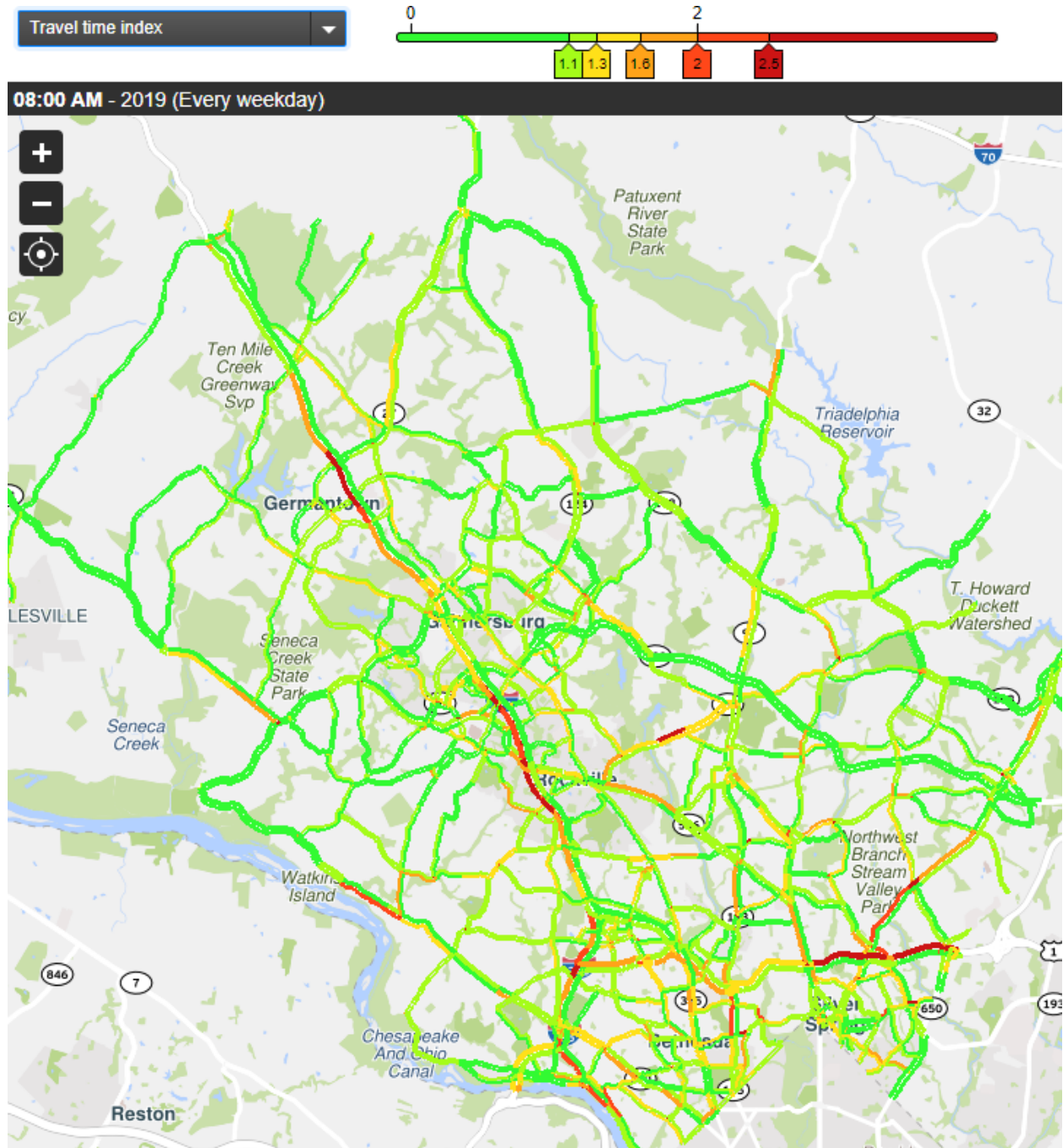


Figure A8: Travel Time Index in Montgomery County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

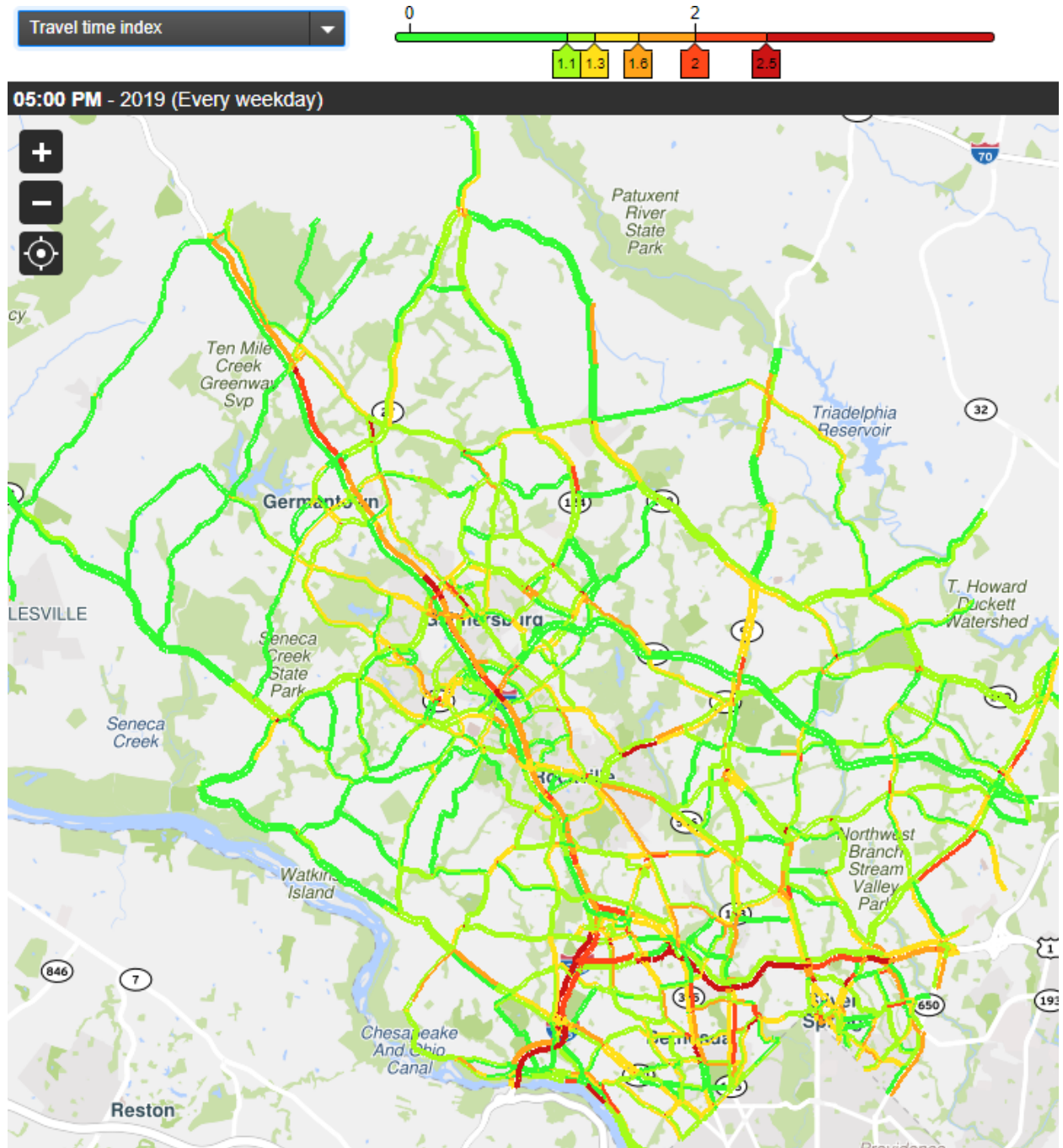


Figure A9: Travel Time Index in Prince George's County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

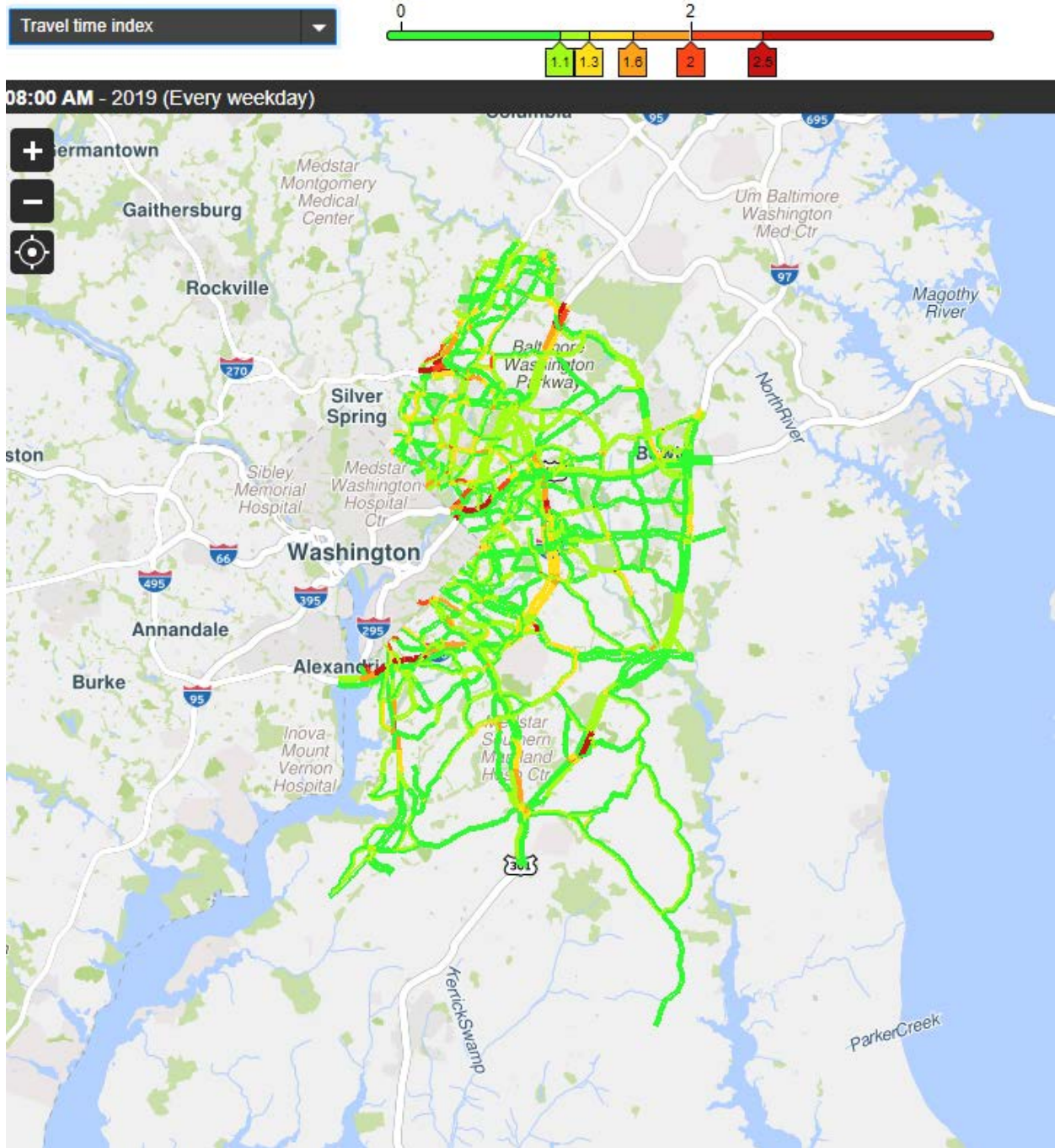


Figure A10: Travel Time Index in Prince George's County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

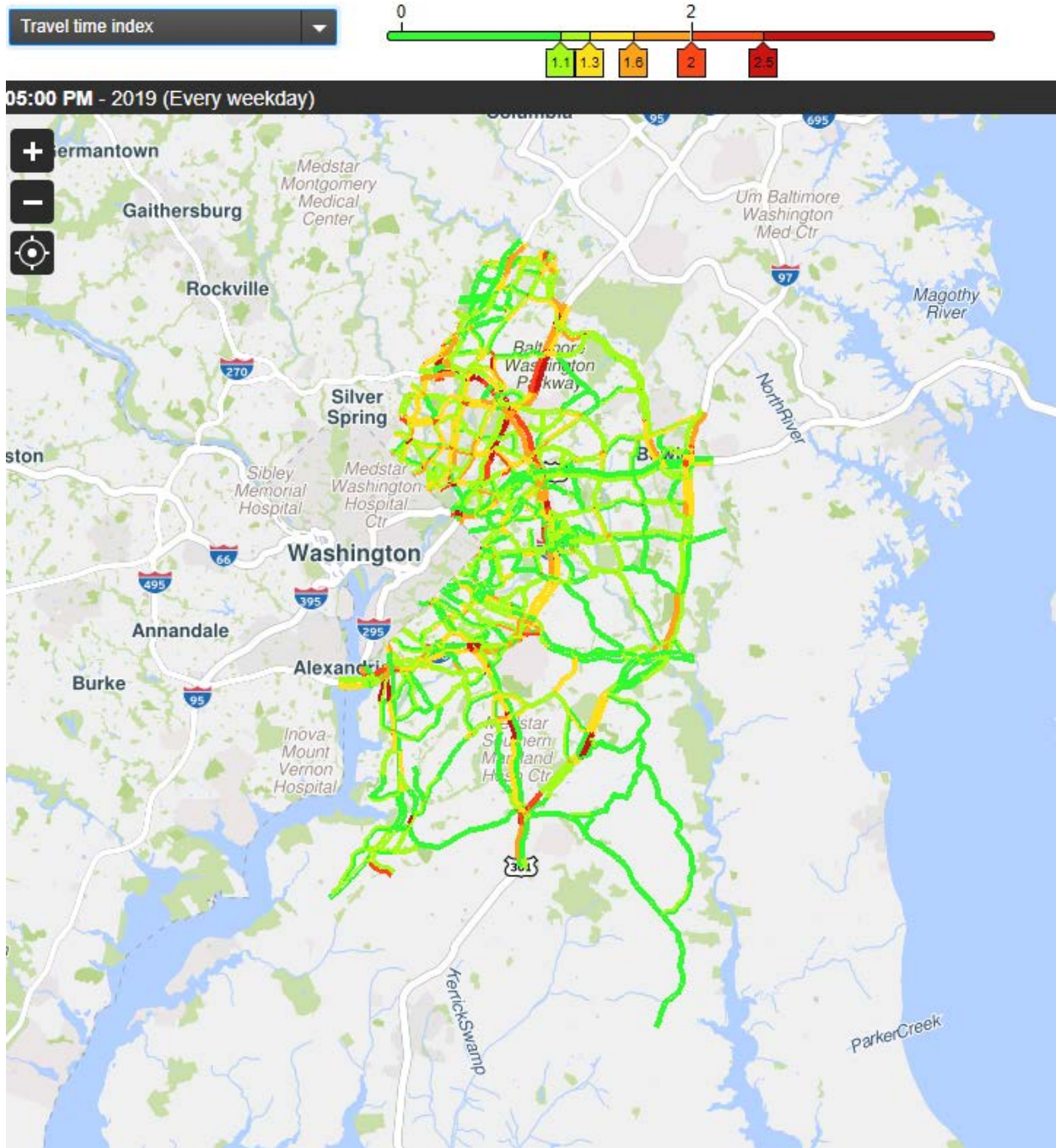


Figure A11: Travel Time Index in Charles County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

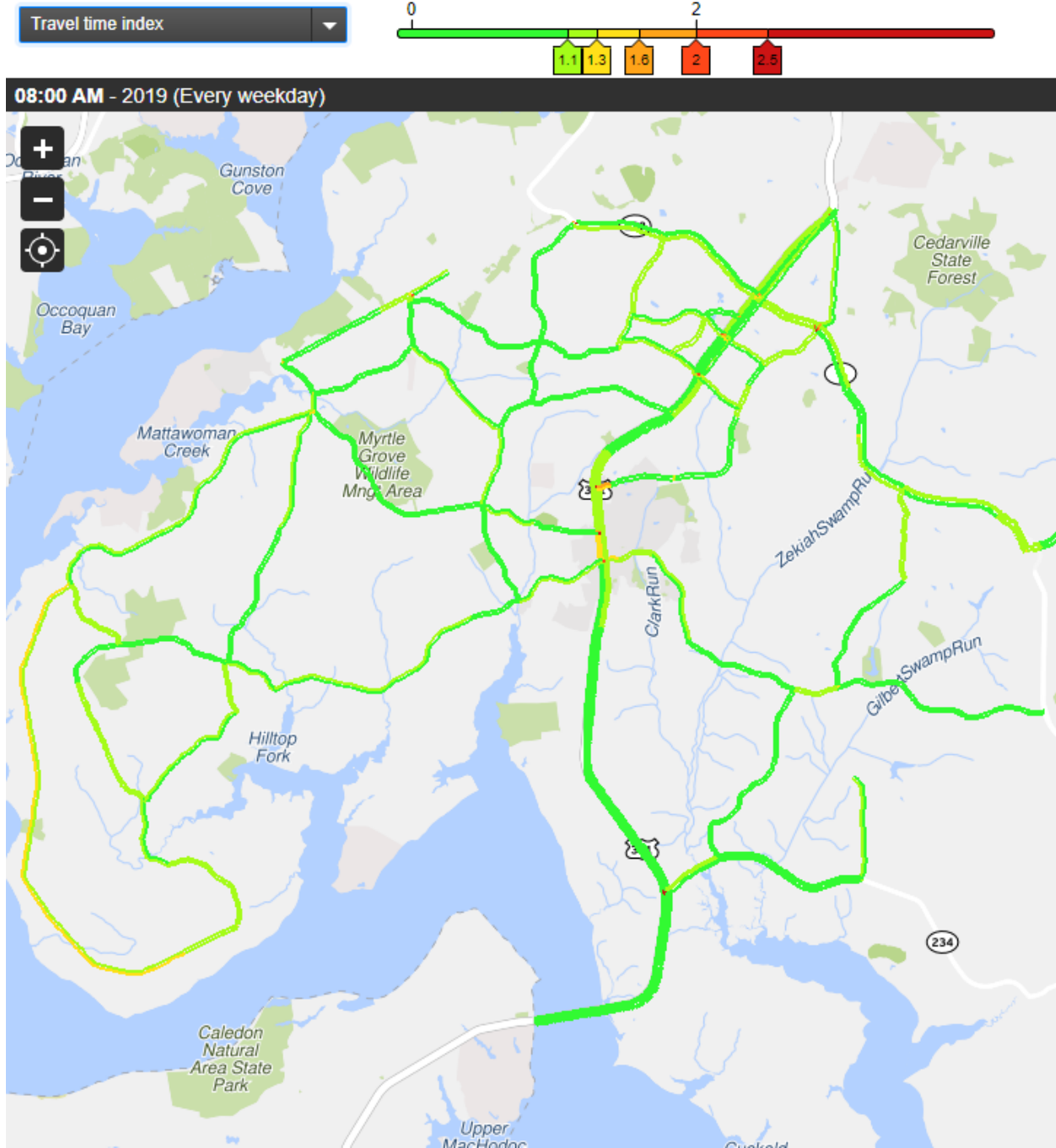


Figure A12: Travel Time Index in Charles County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

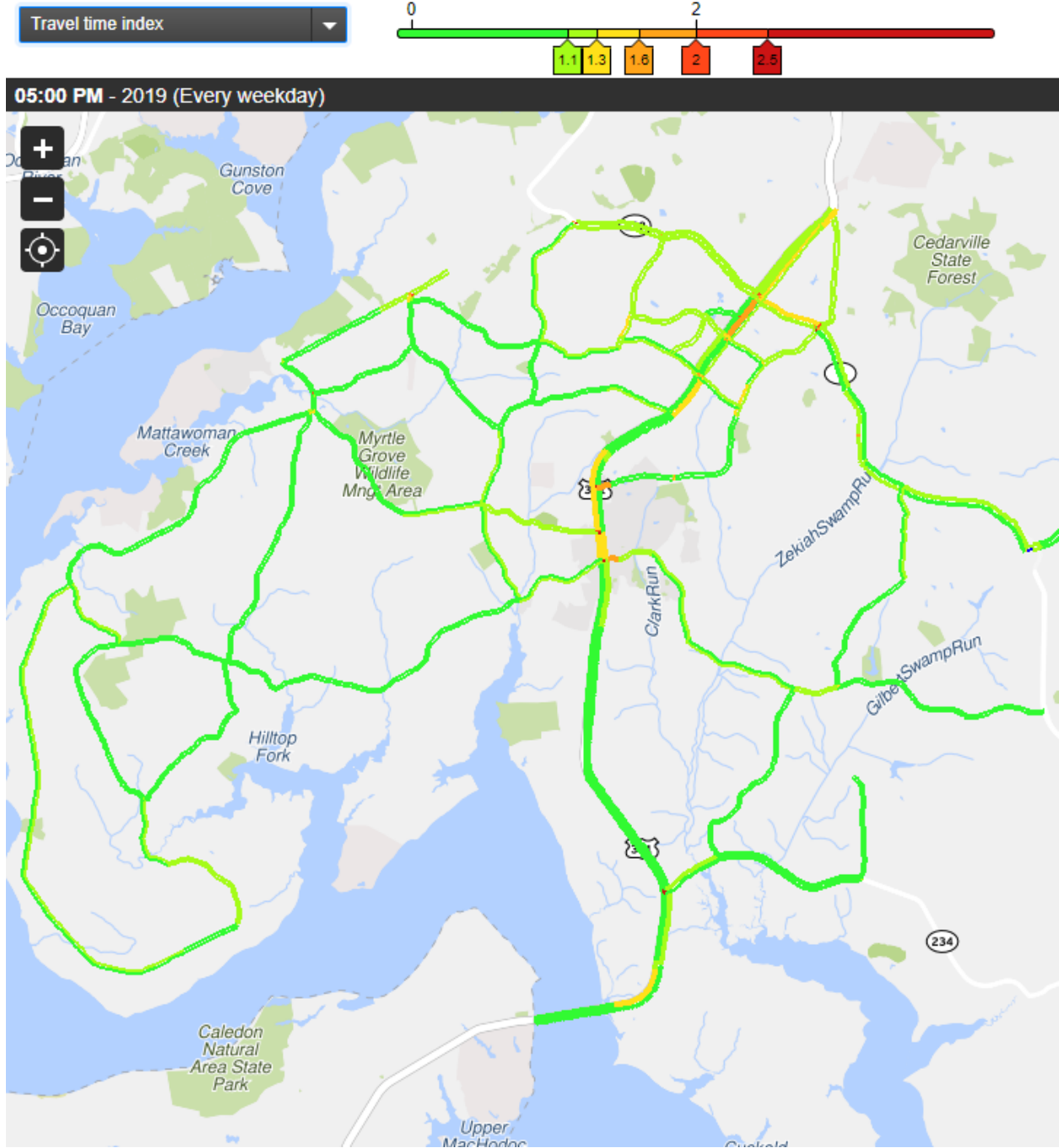




Figure A13: Travel Time Index in Loudoun County, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

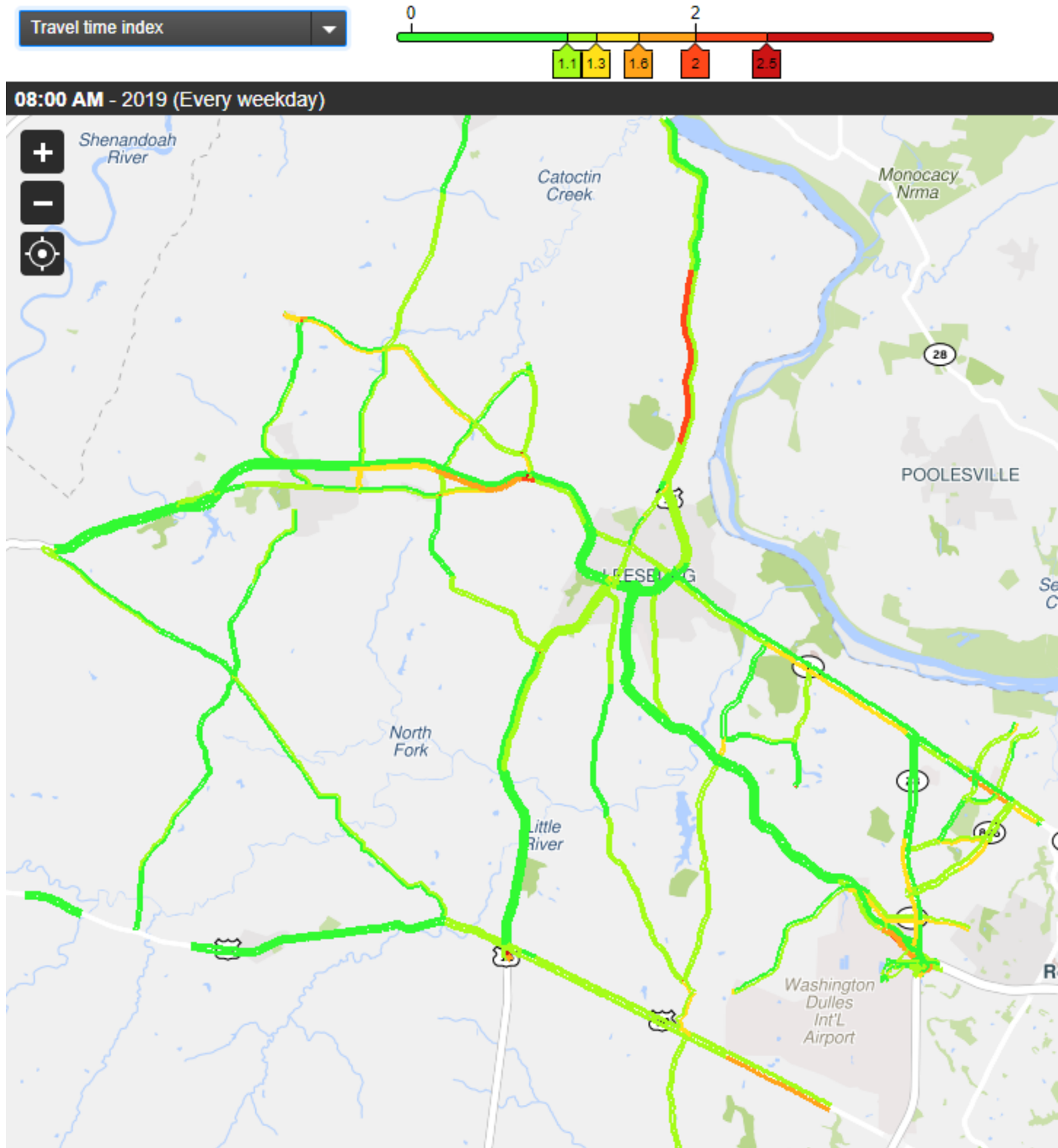


Figure A14: Travel Time Index in Loudoun County, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

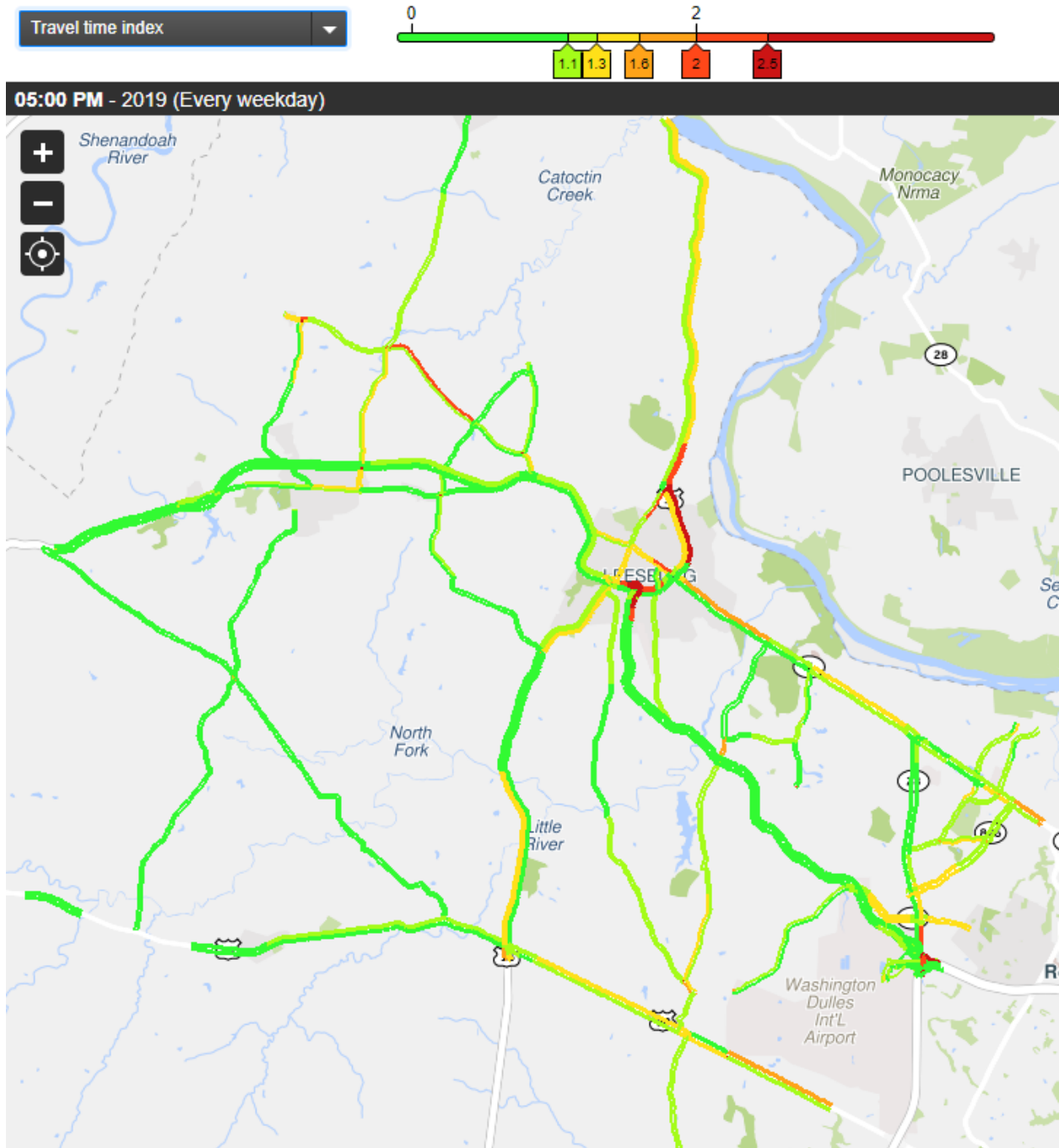


Figure A15: Travel Time Index in Fairfax, Prince William Counties and Cities of Fairfax, Manassas, and Manassas Park, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

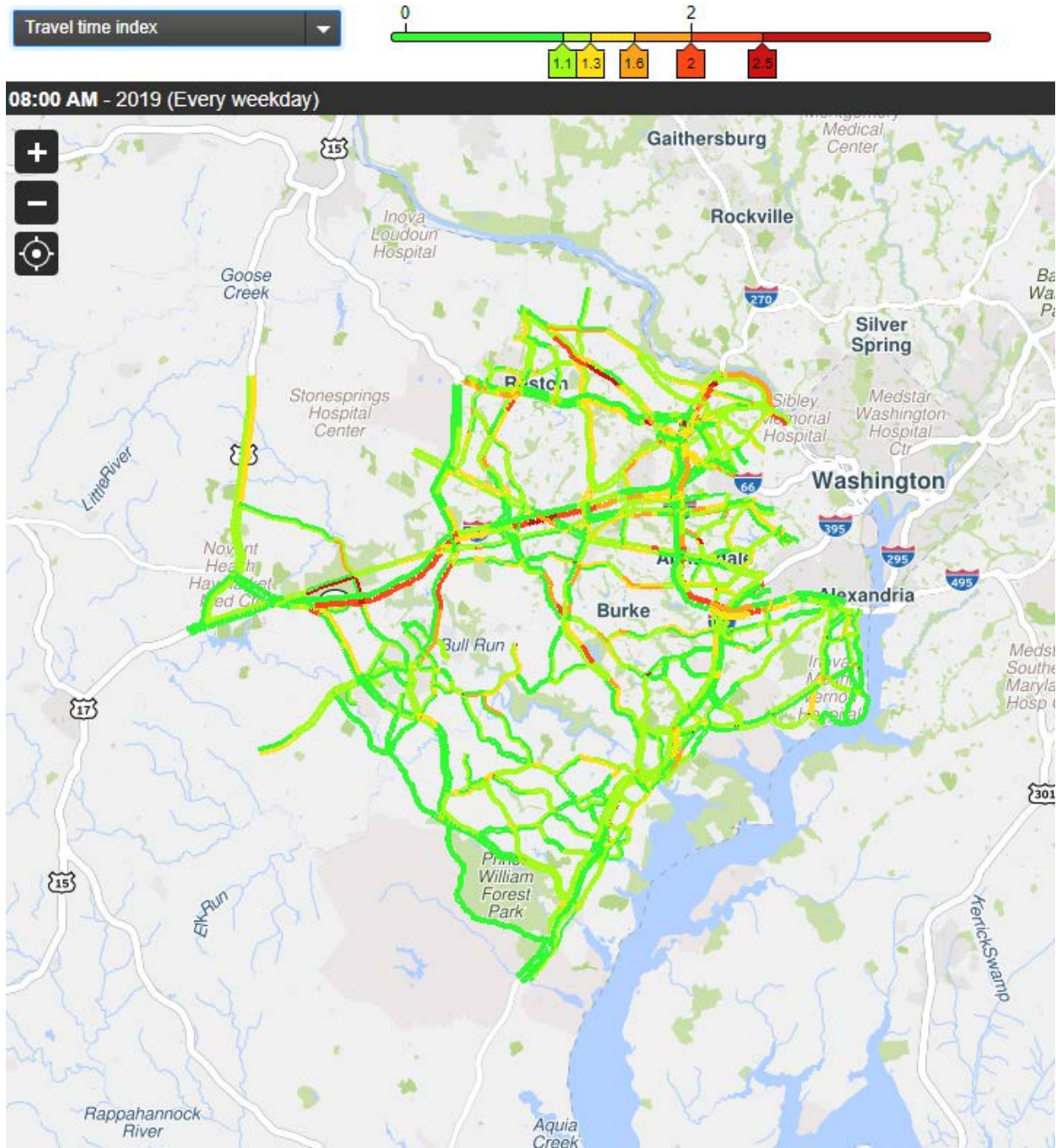


Figure A16: Travel Time Index in Fairfax, Prince William Counties and Cities of Fairfax, Manassas, and Manassas Park, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

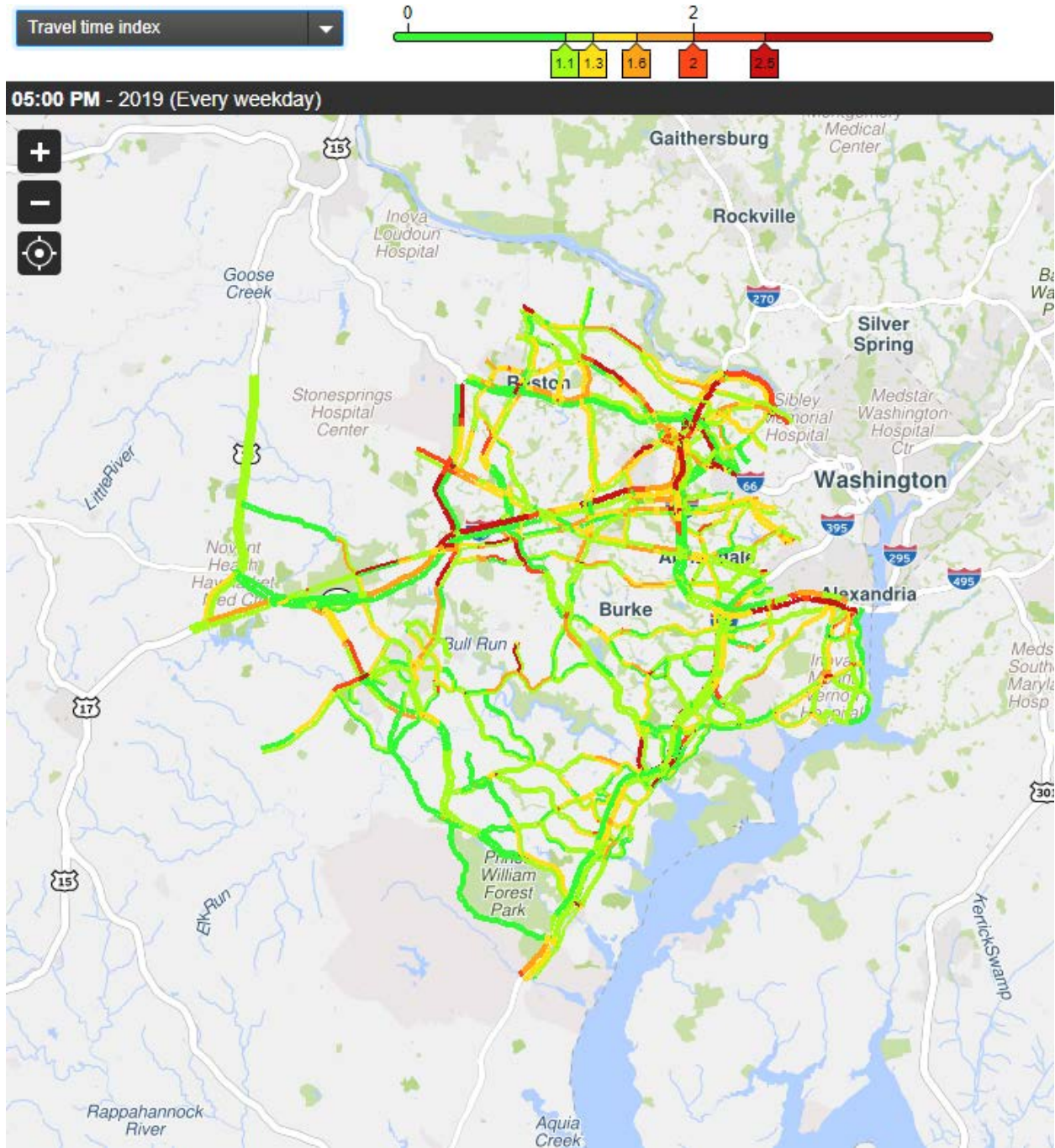


Figure A17: Travel Time Index in Cities of Alexandria, Arlington, and Falls Church, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

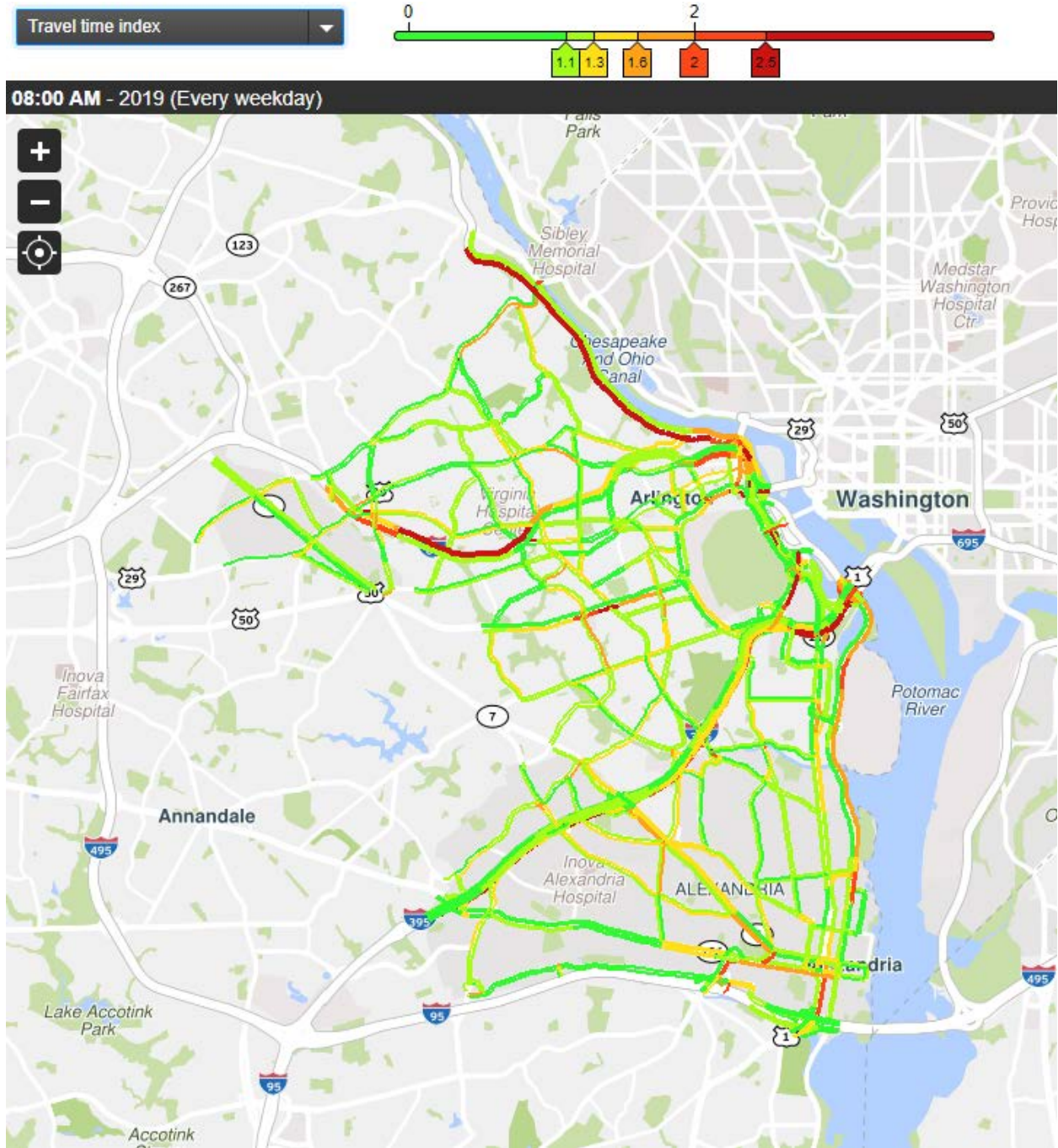
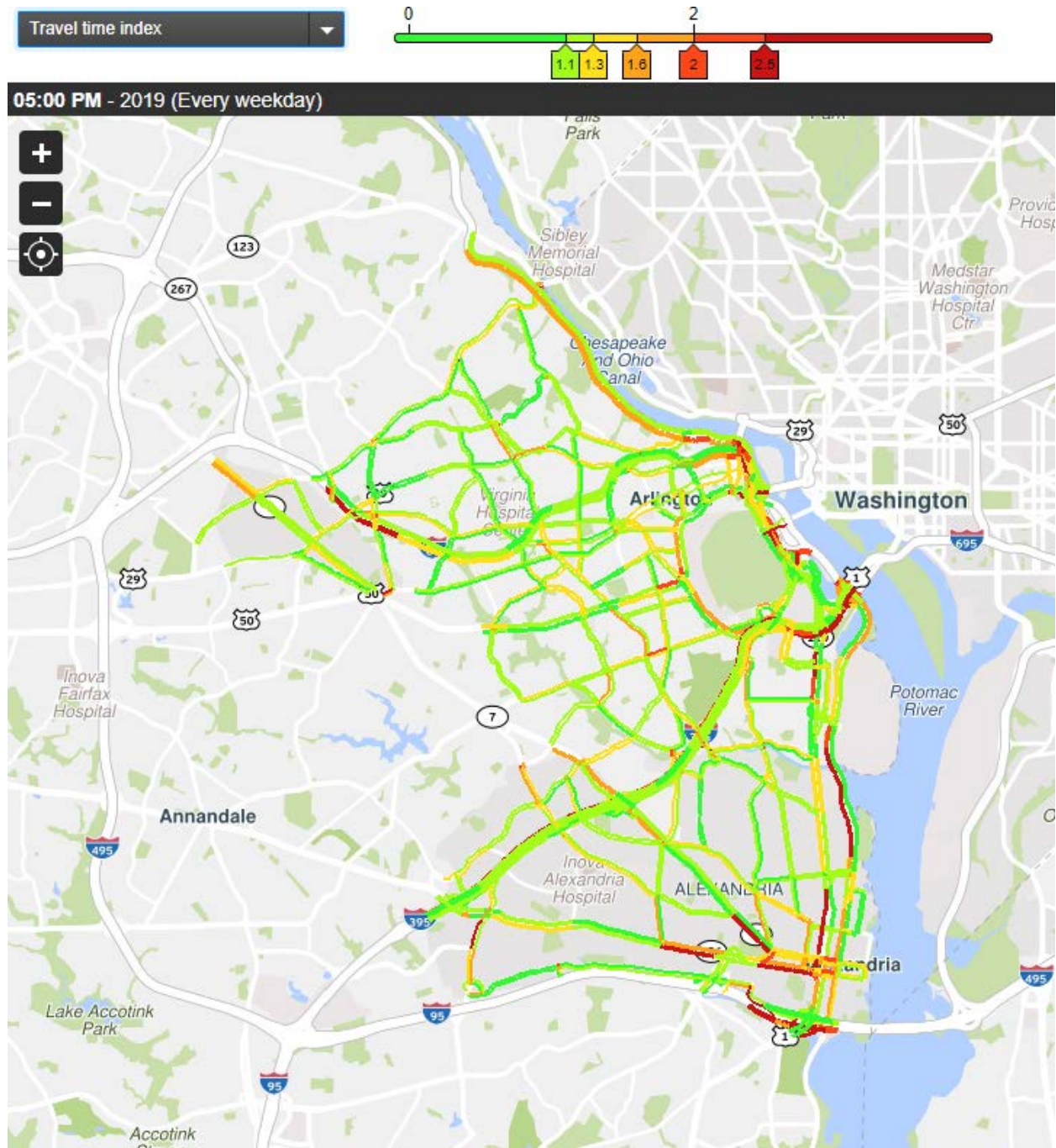


Figure A18: Travel Time Index in Cities of Alexandria, Arlington, and Falls Church, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019



## **APPENDIX B – 2019 PEAK HOUR PLANNING TIME INDEX**

Note:

1. Calculations and visualizations were provided by the “Trend Map” tool of the Vehicle Probe Project Suite developed by the CATT Lab of the University of Maryland, <https://vpp.ritis.org/>.
2. Peak Hour: 8:00-9:00 am is the regional morning peak hour, and 5:00-6:00 pm is the regional afternoon peak hour, Monday through Friday.

Figure B1: Planning Time Index on the Interstates and Freeways during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

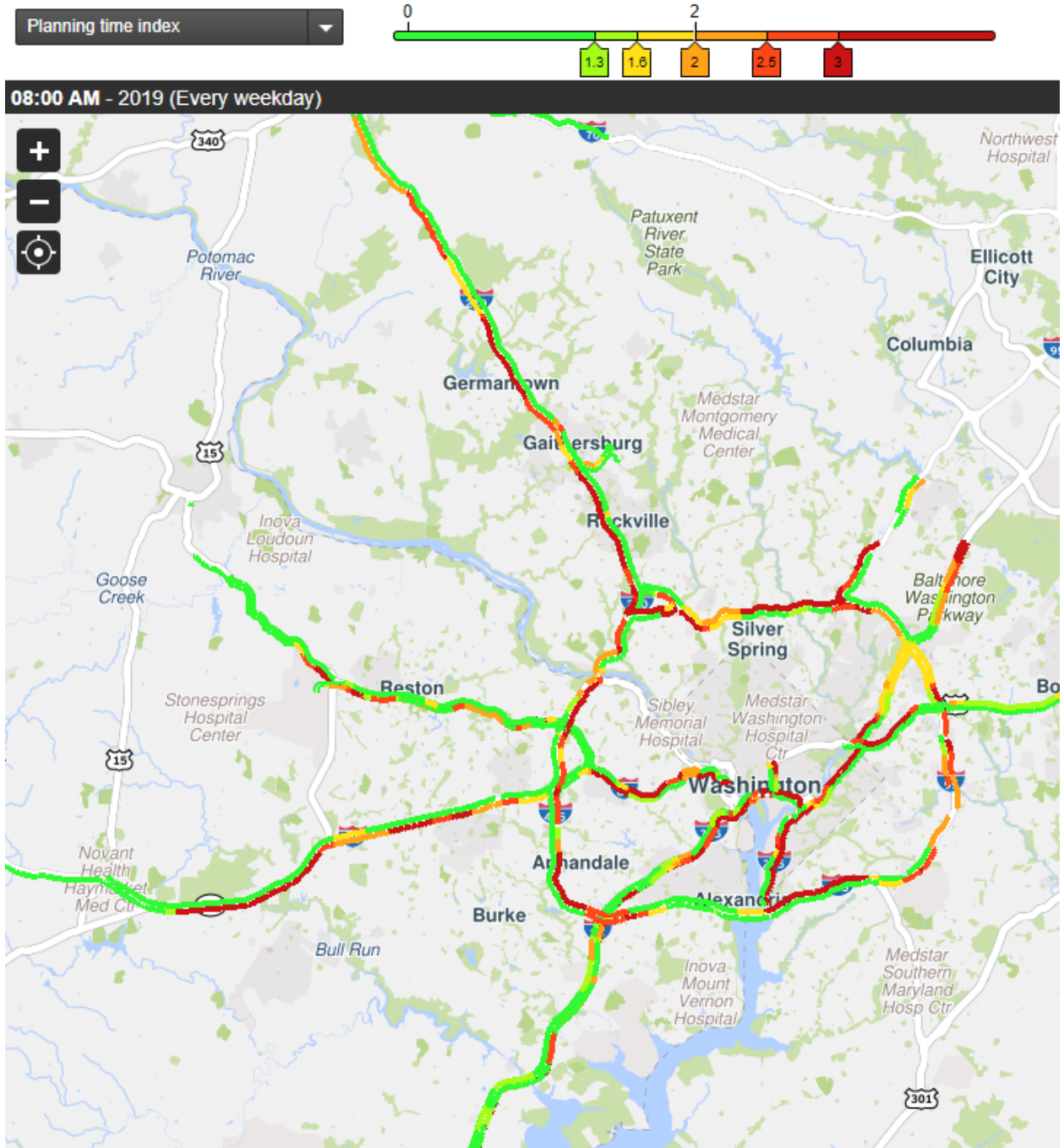




Figure B2: Planning Time Index on the Interstates and Freeways during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

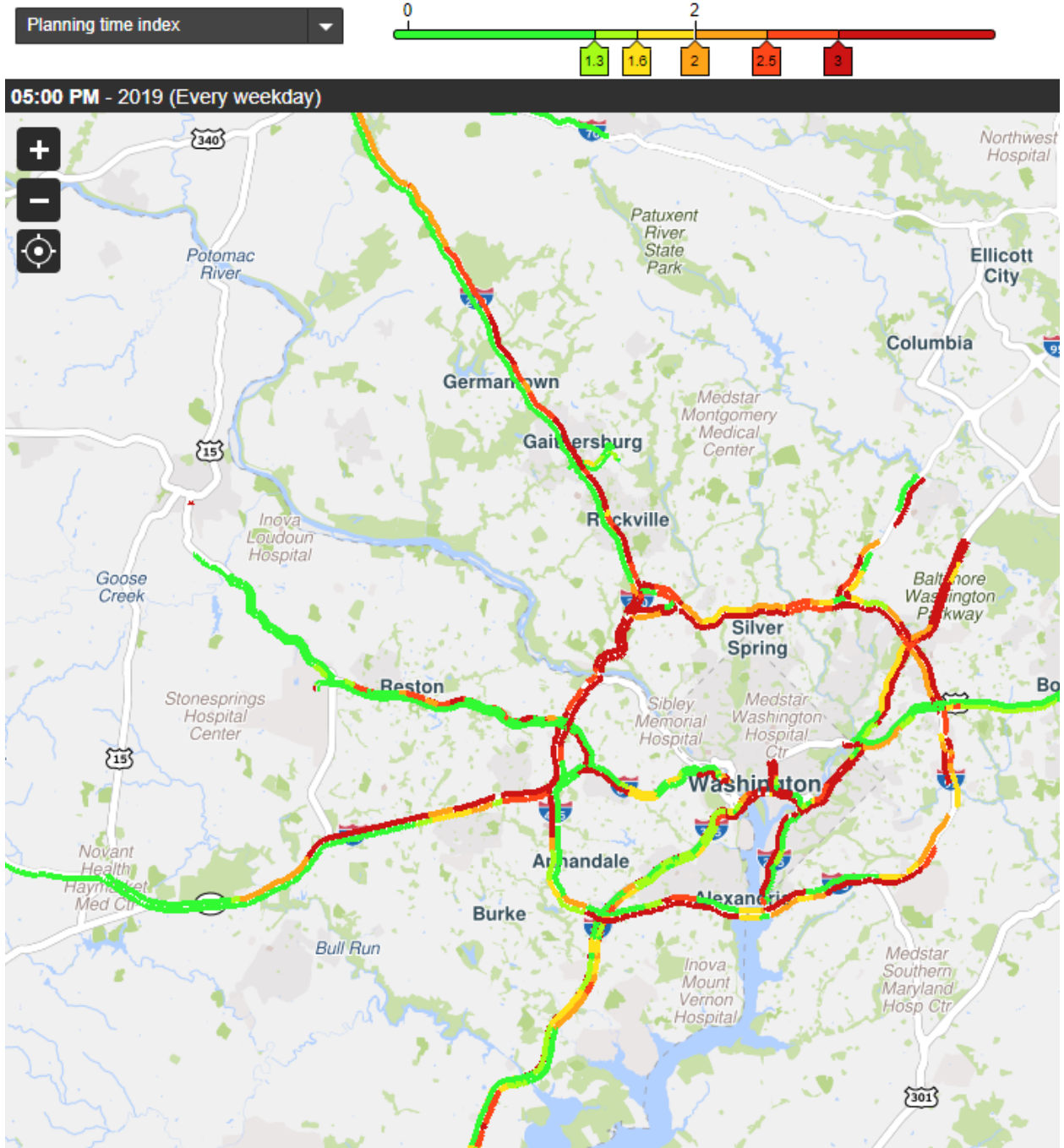


Figure B3: Planning Time Index in DC during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

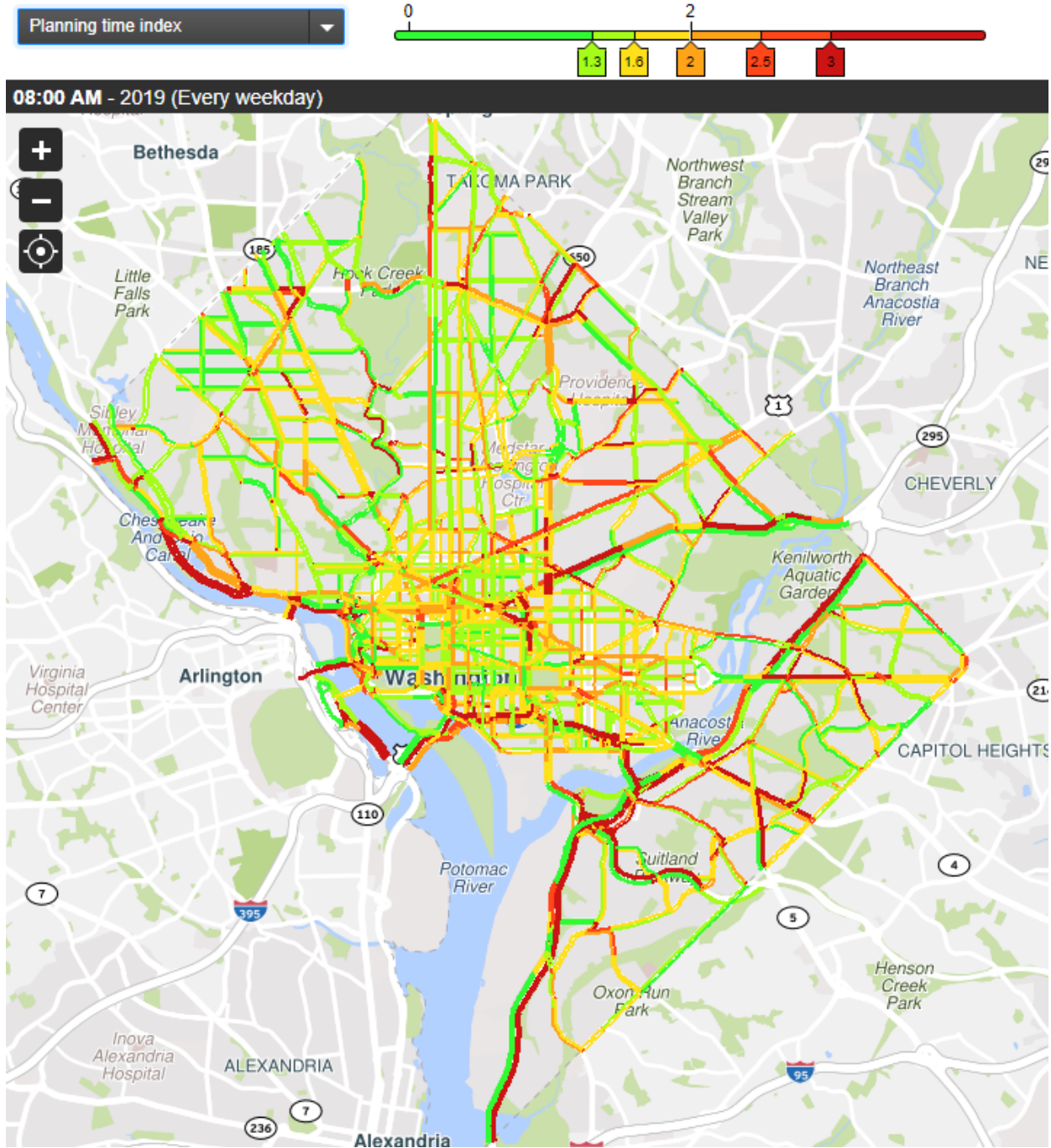


Figure B4: Planning Time Index in DC during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

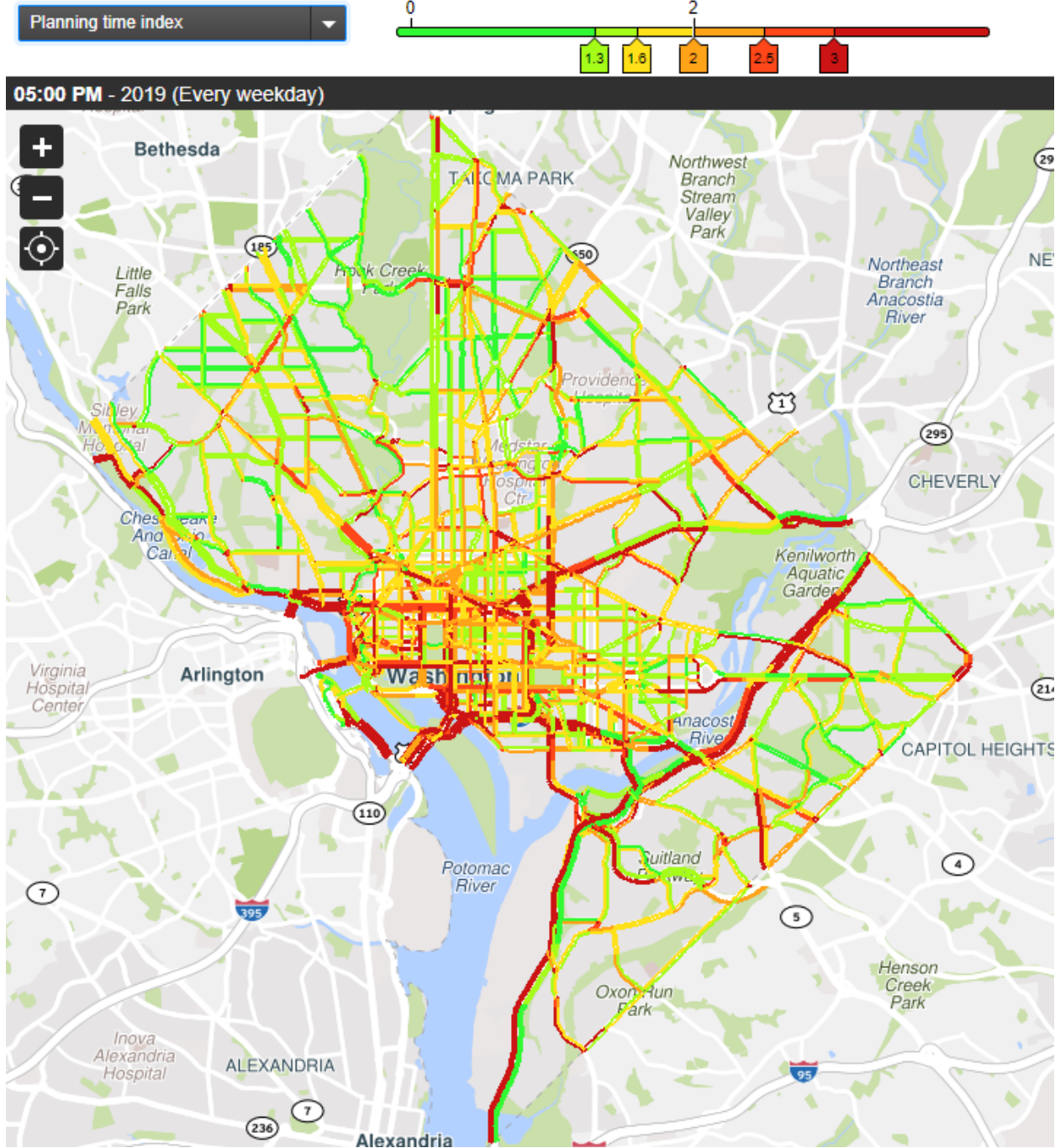


Figure B5: Planning Time in Frederick County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

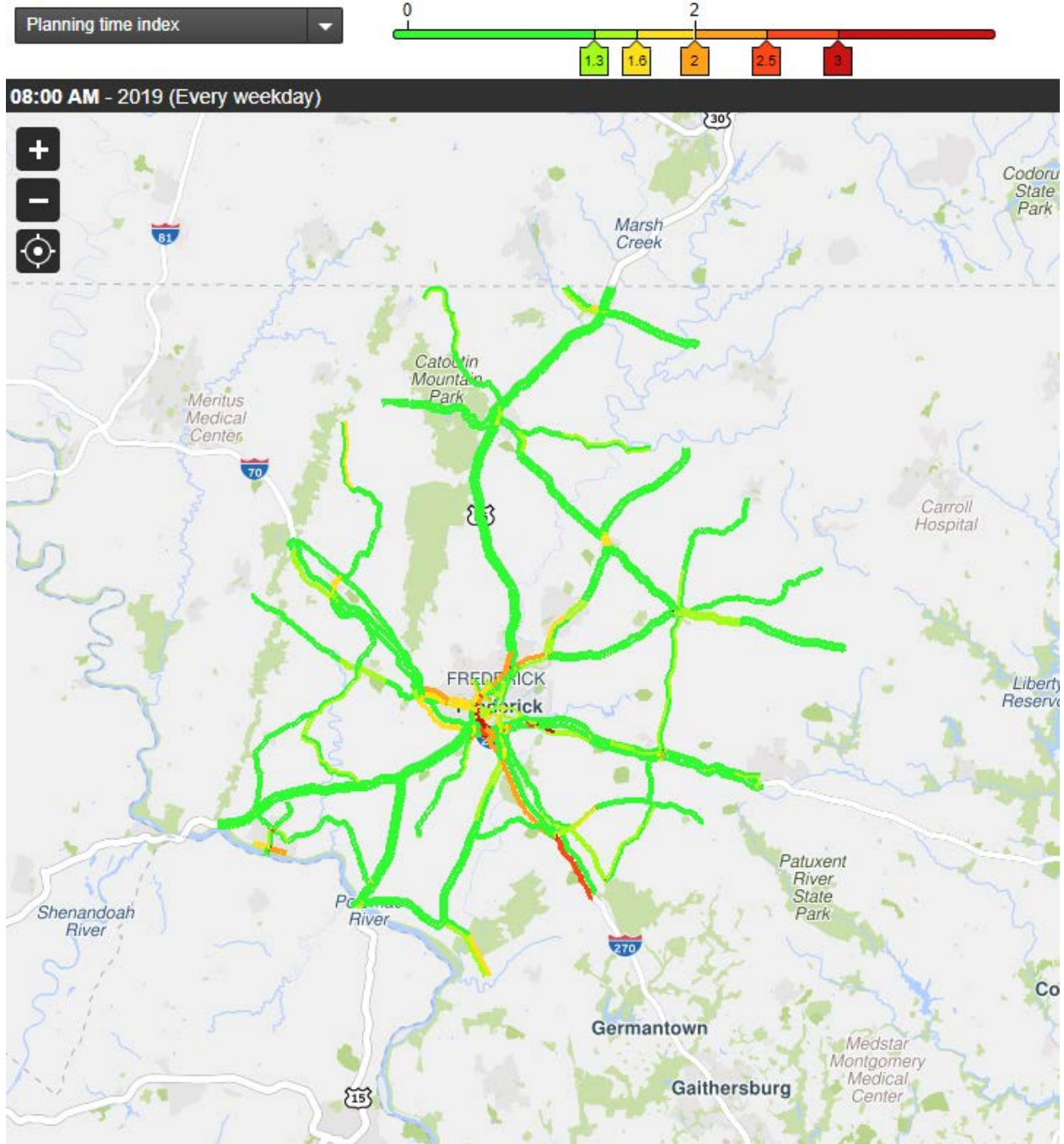


Figure B6: Planning Time Index in Frederick County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

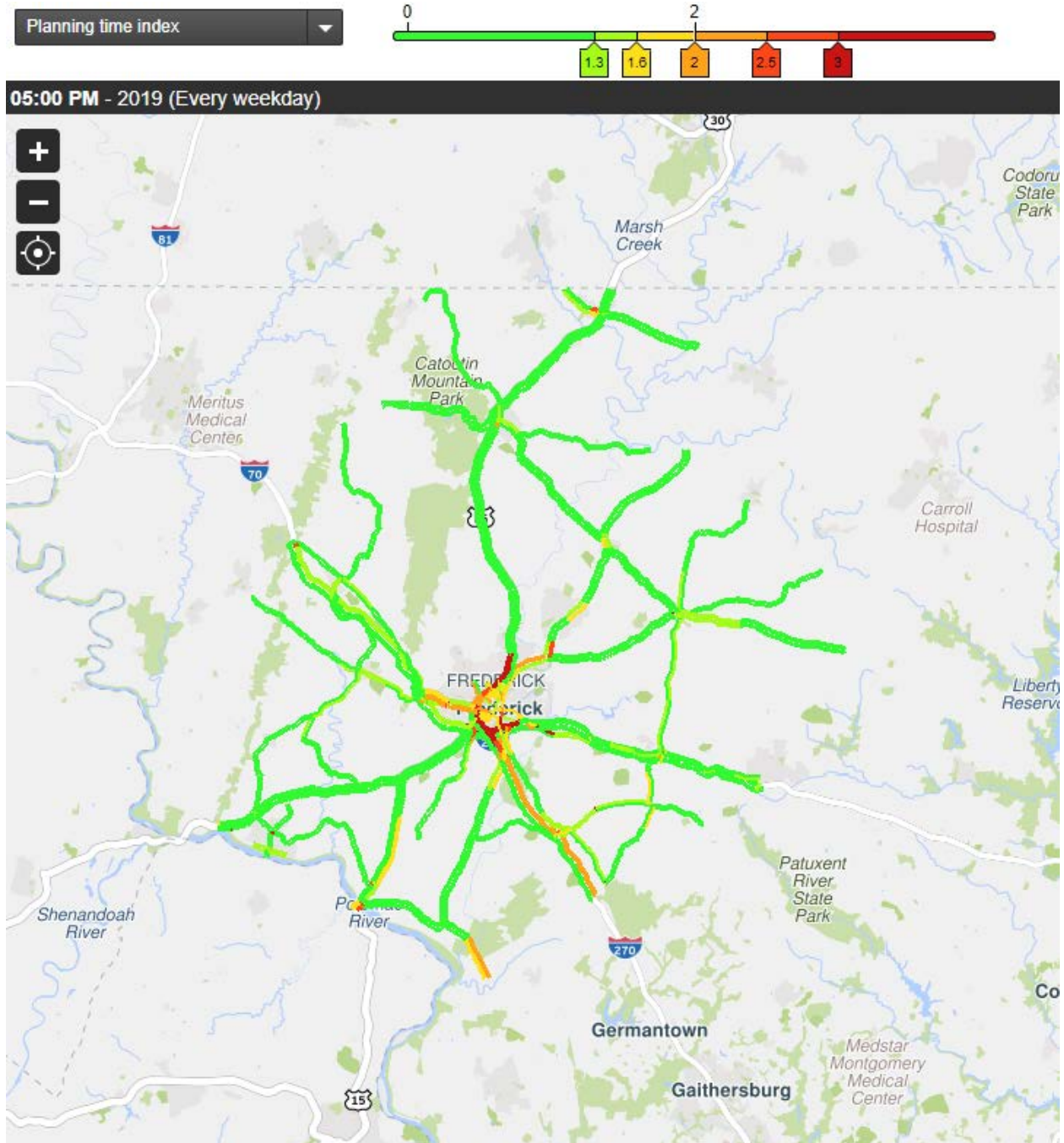


Figure B7: Planning Time Index in Montgomery County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

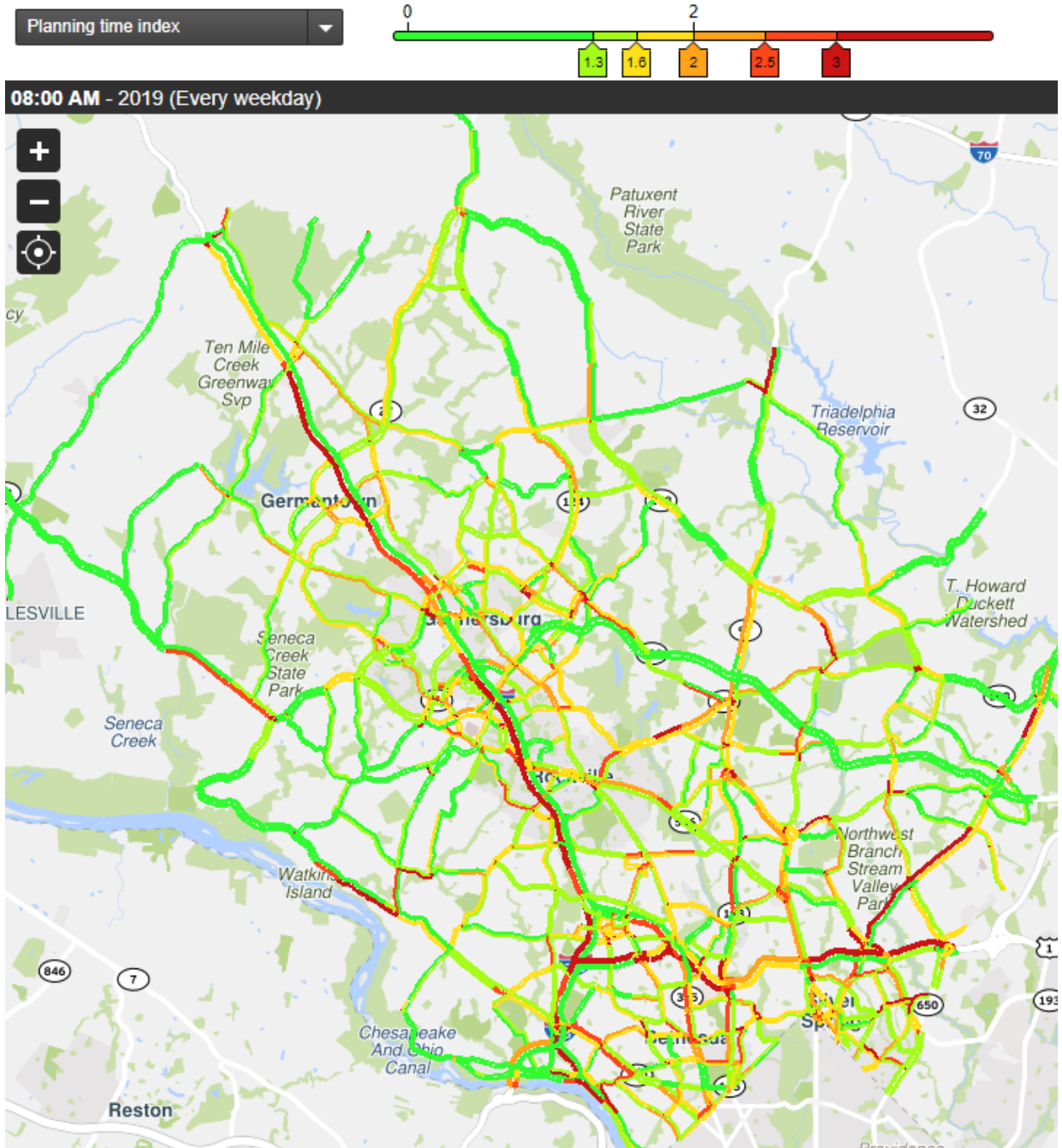


Figure B8: Planning Time Index in Montgomery County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

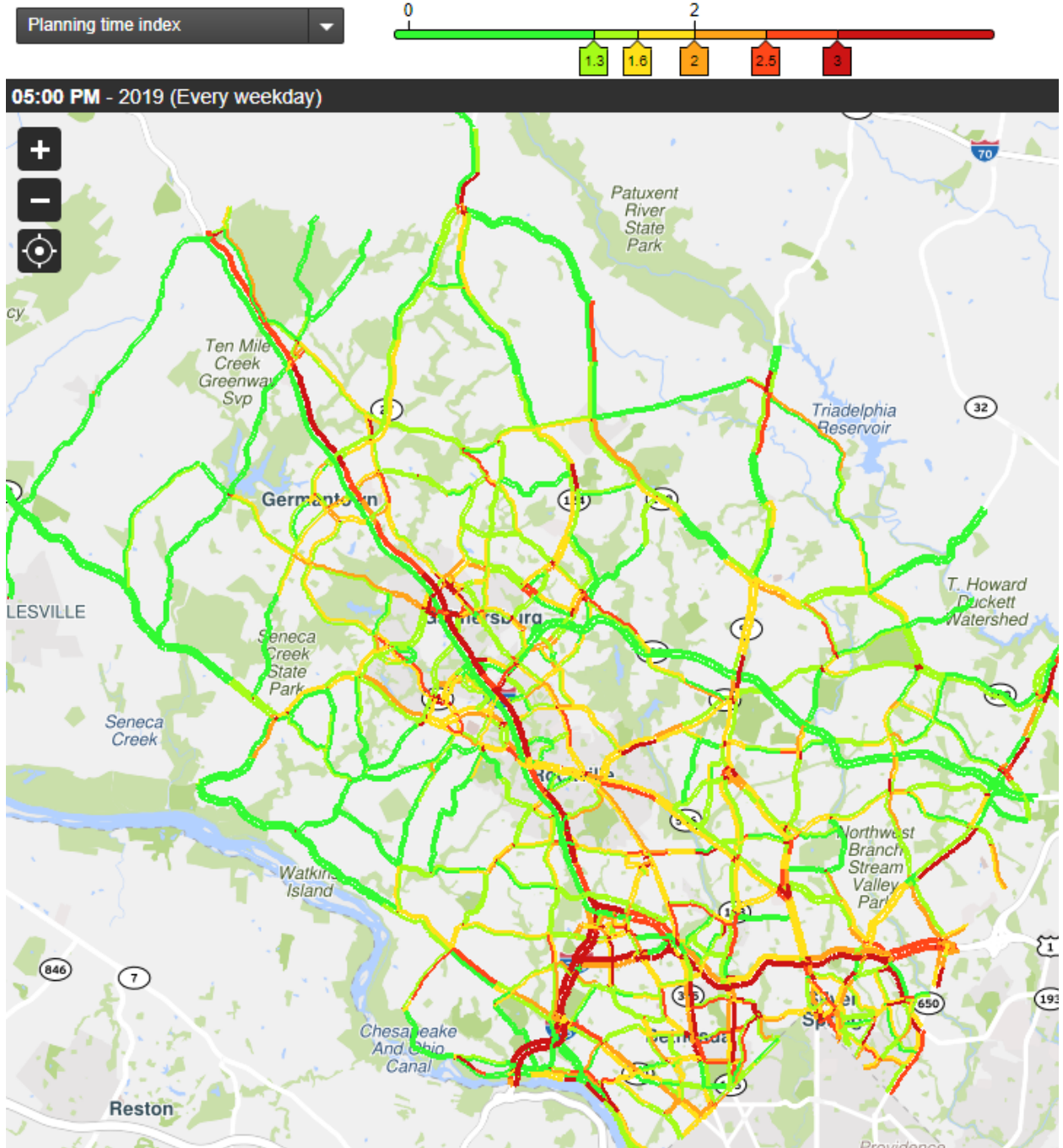


Figure B9: Planning Time Index in Prince George's County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

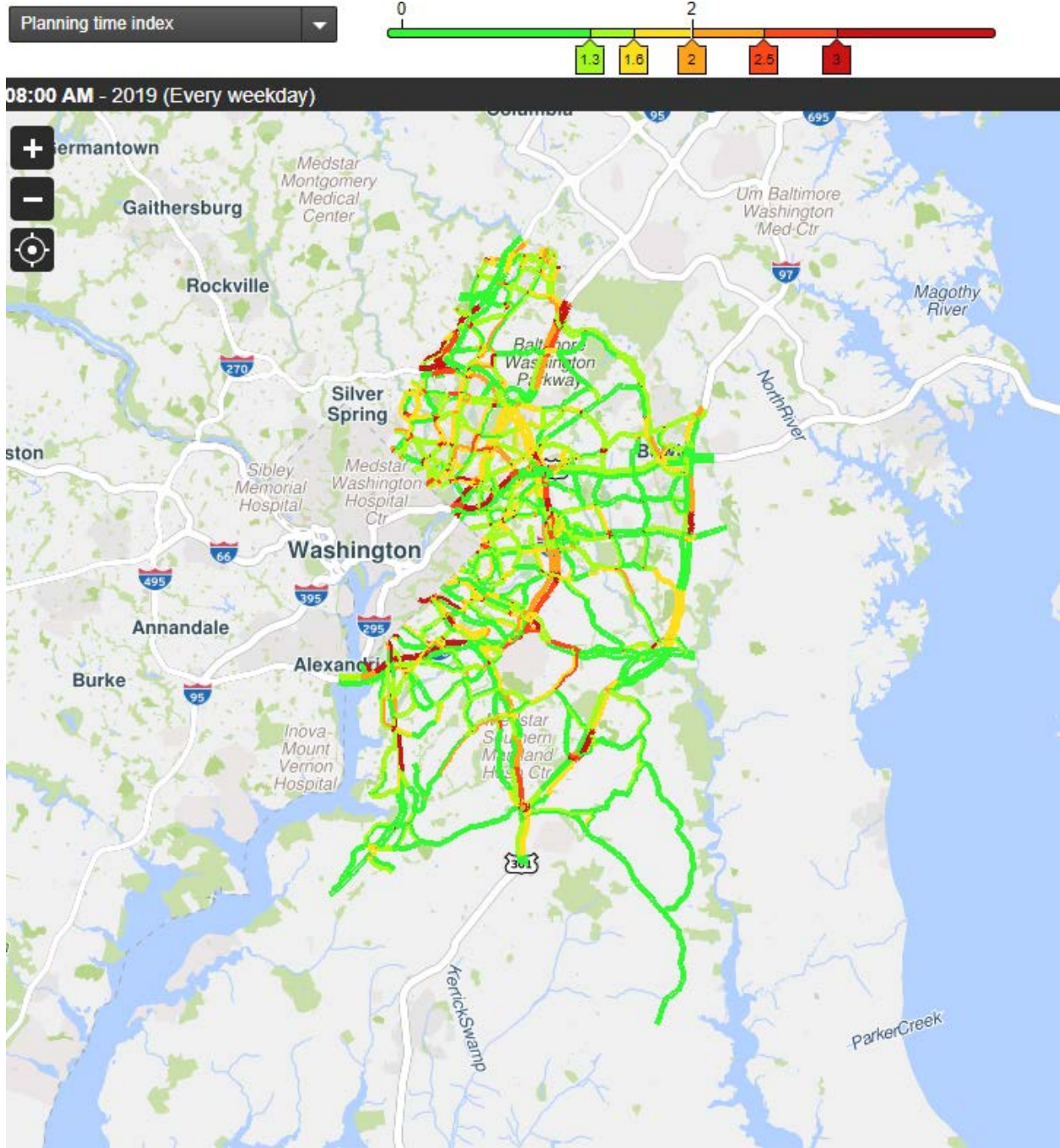




Figure B10: Planning Time Index in Prince George's County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

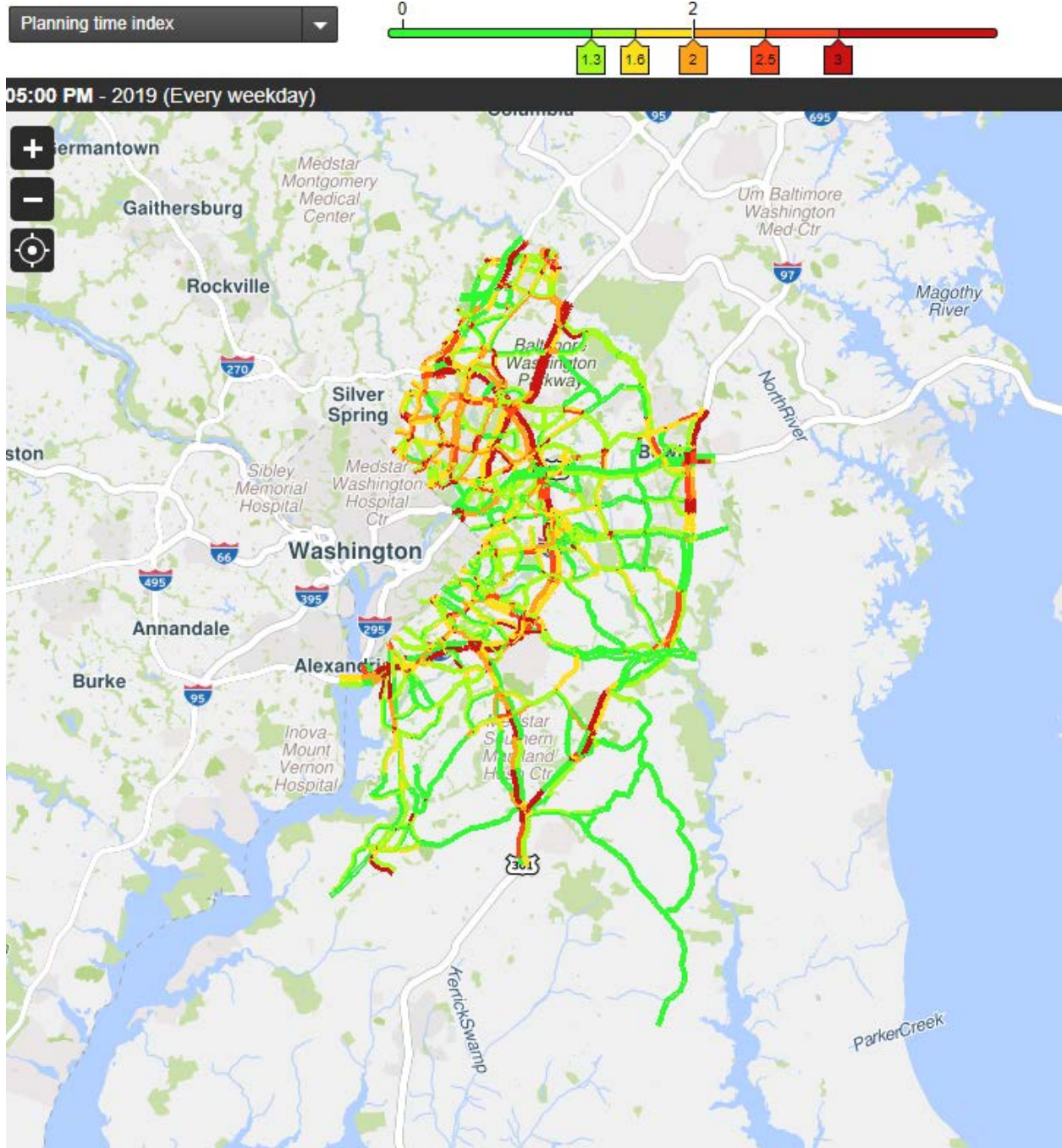


Figure B11: Planning Time Index in Charles County, MD during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

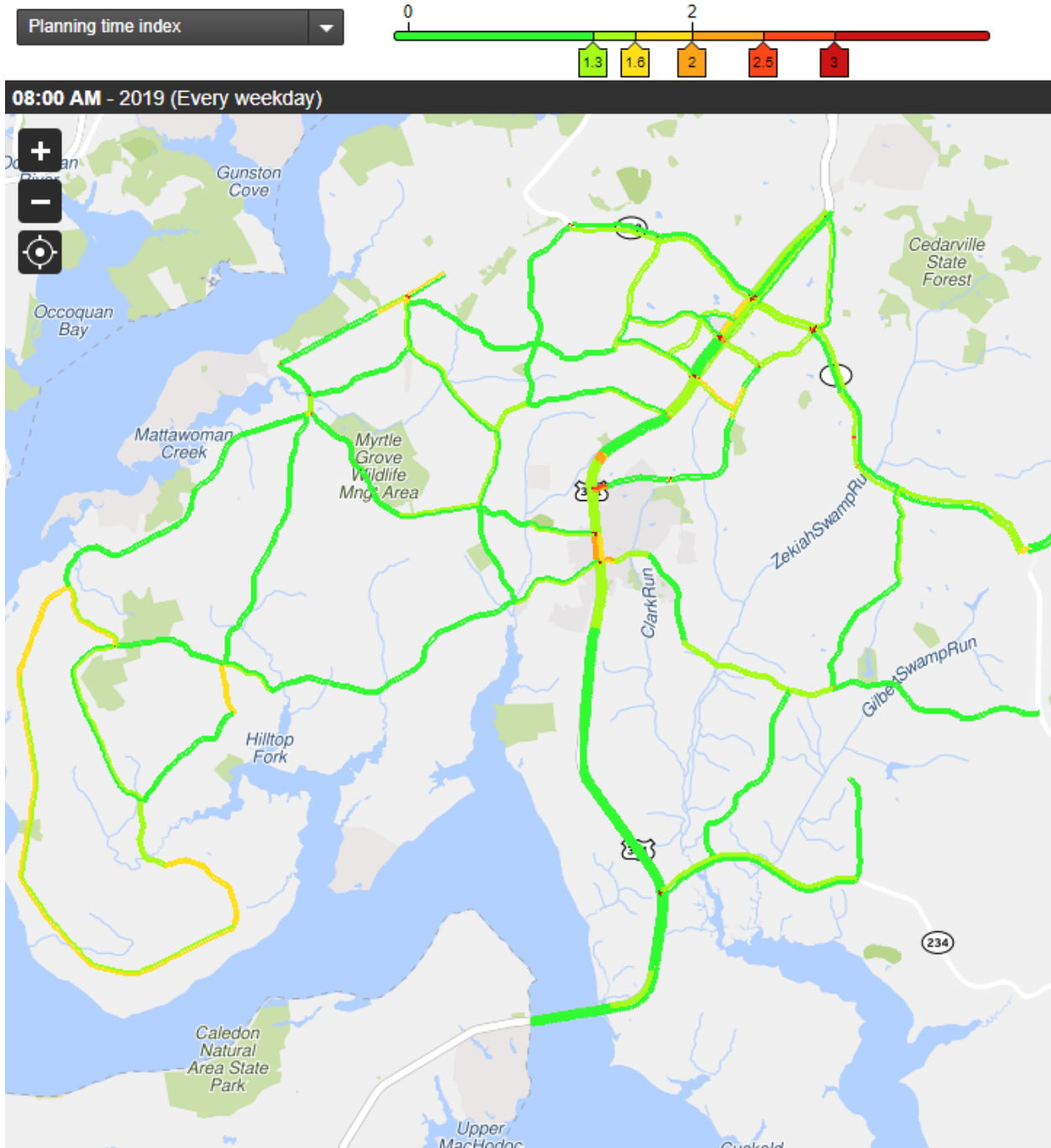


Figure B12: Planning Time Index in Prince Charles County, MD during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

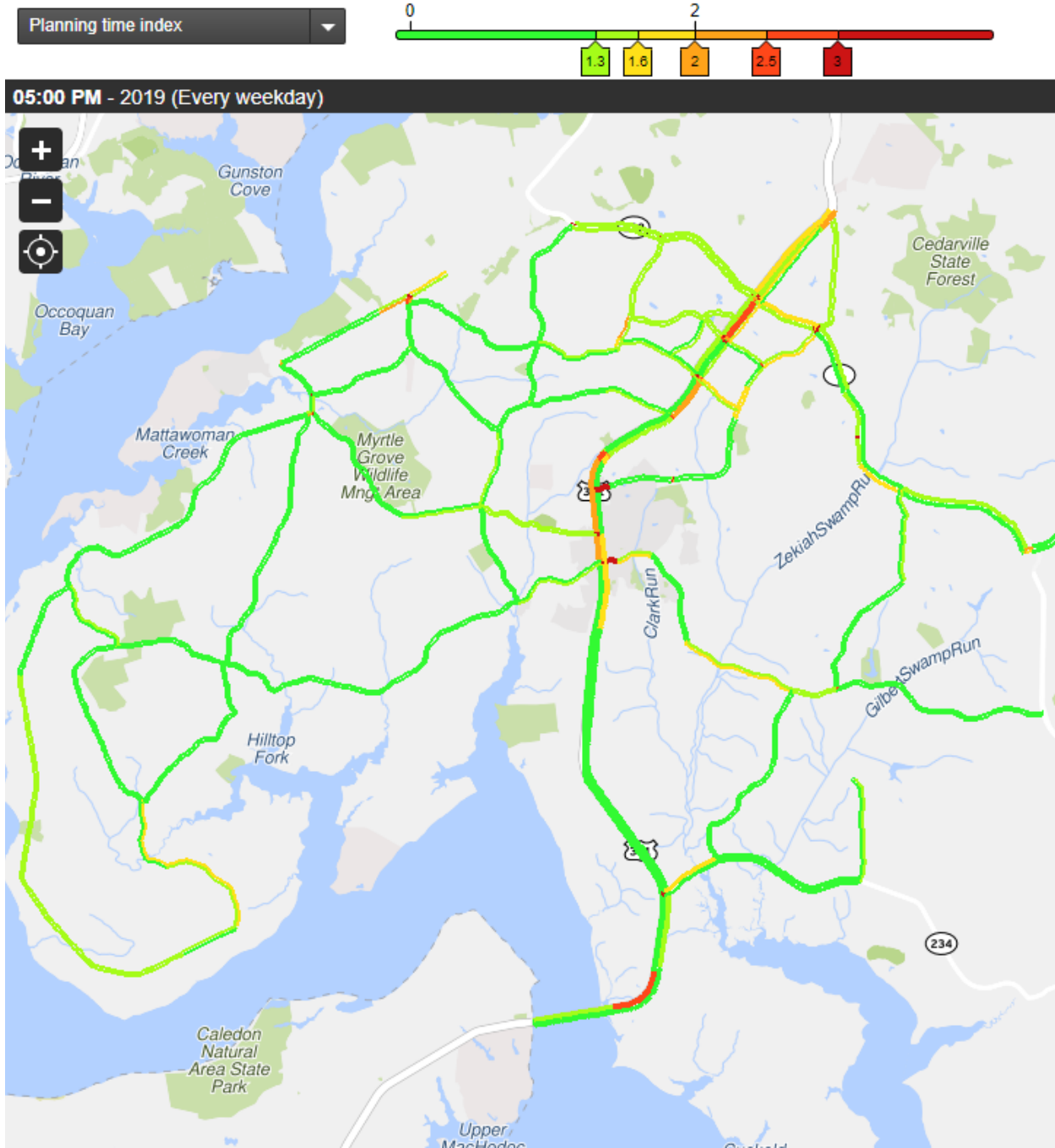


Figure B13: Planning Time Index in Loudoun County, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

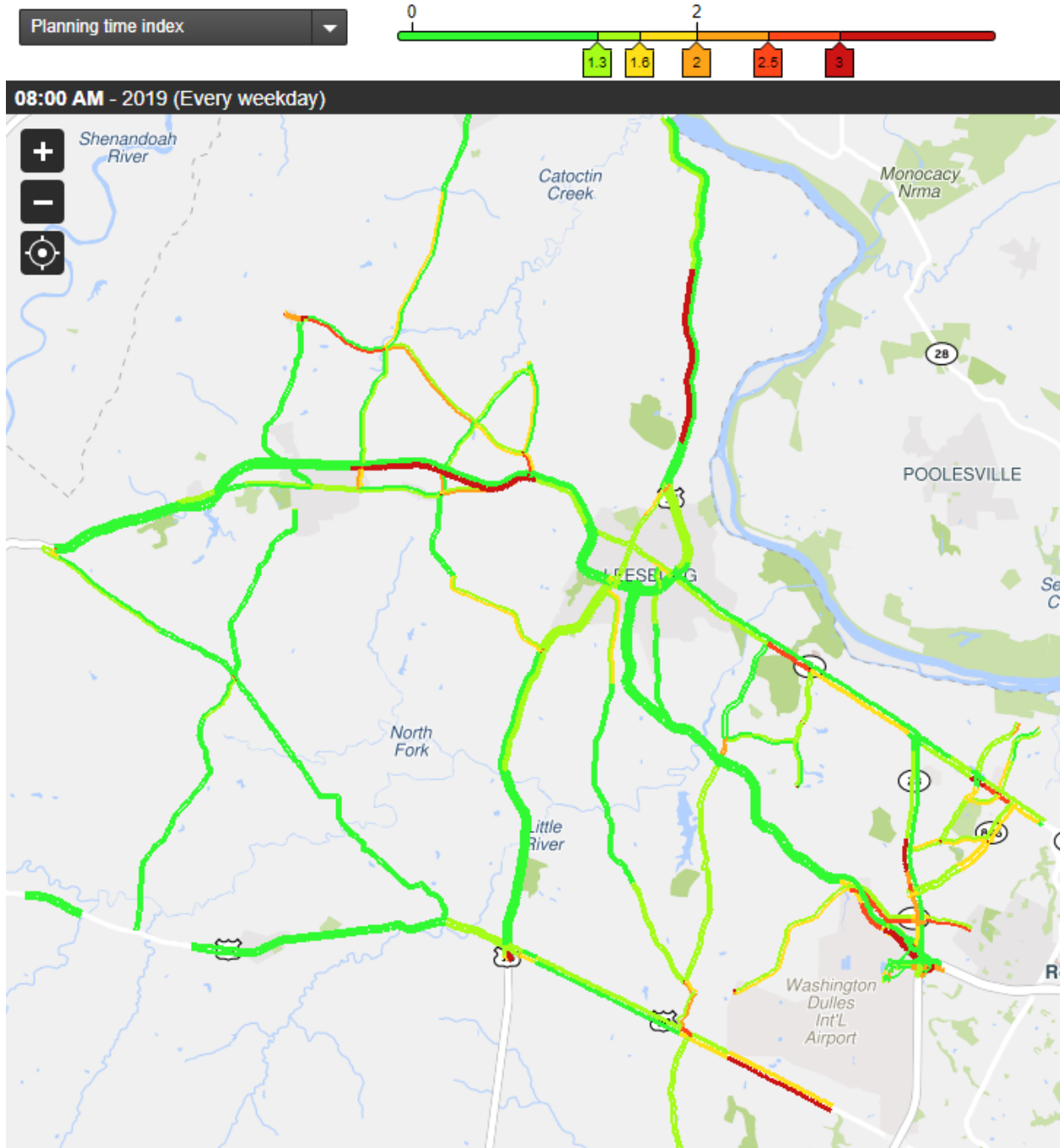


Figure B14: Planning Time Index in Loudoun County, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

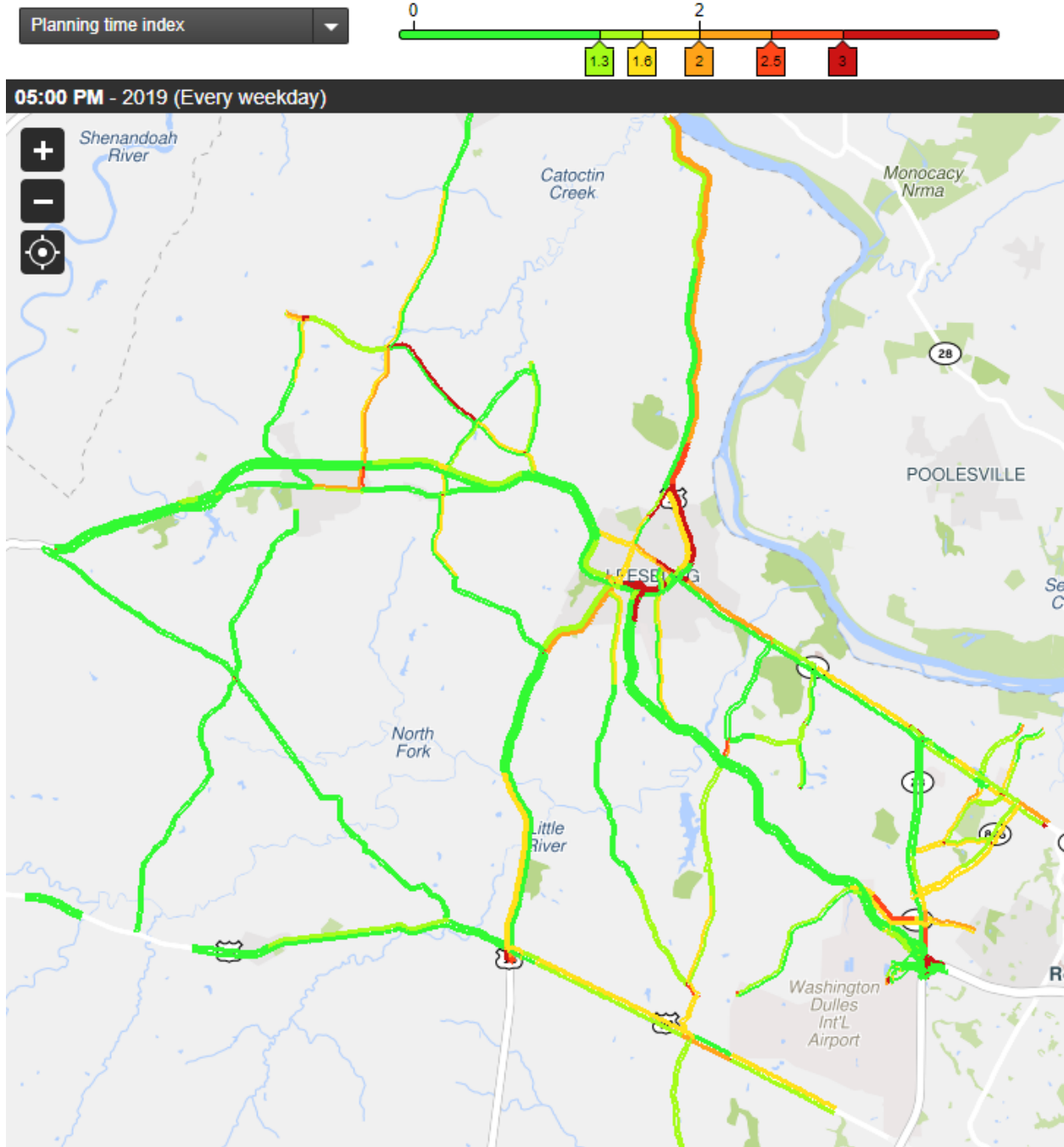


Figure B15: Planning Time Index in Fairfax, Prince William Counties and Cities of Fairfax, Manassas, and Manassas Park, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

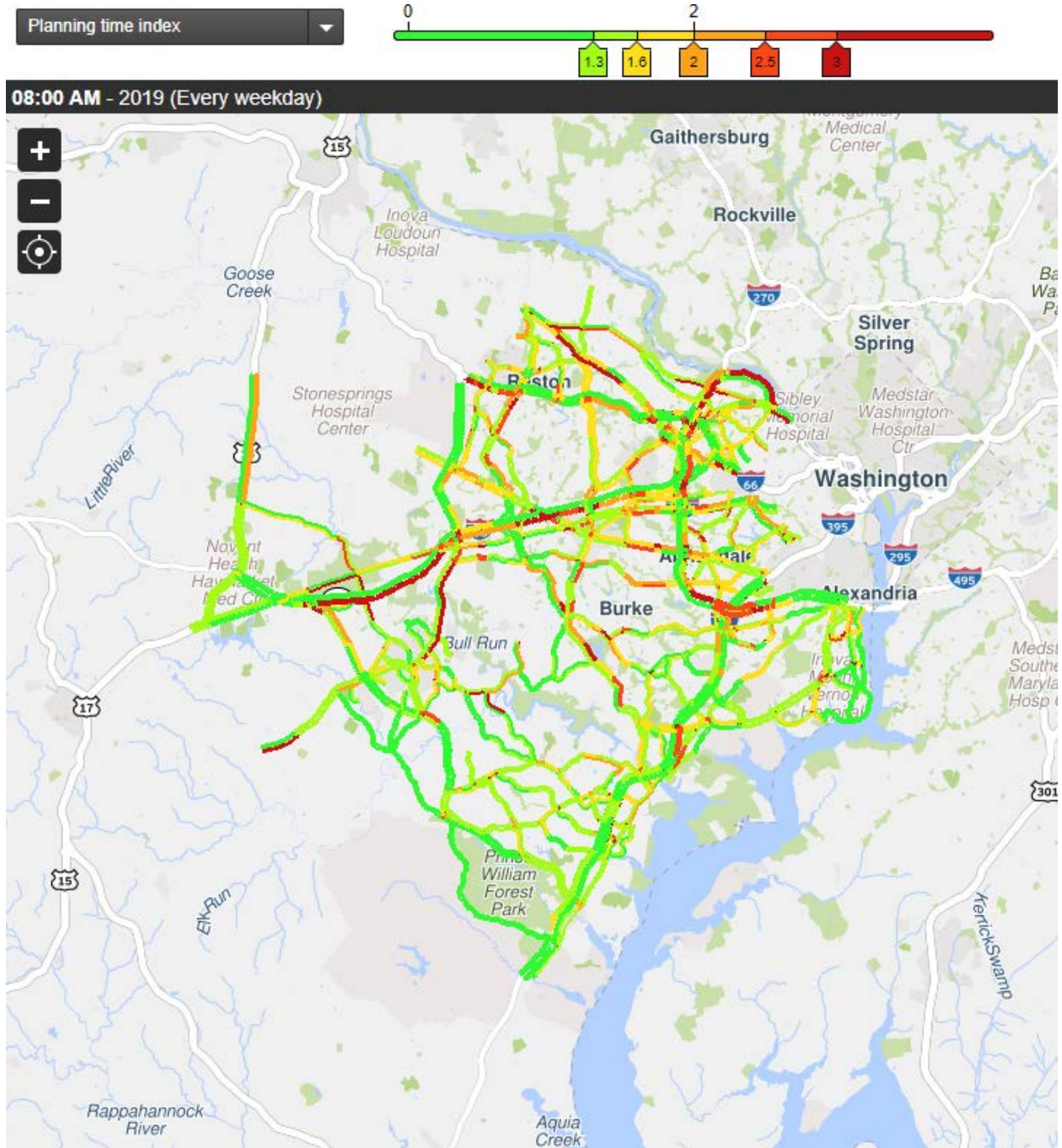


Figure B16: Planning Time Index in Fairfax, Prince William Counties and Cities of Fairfax, Manassas, and Manassas Park, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019

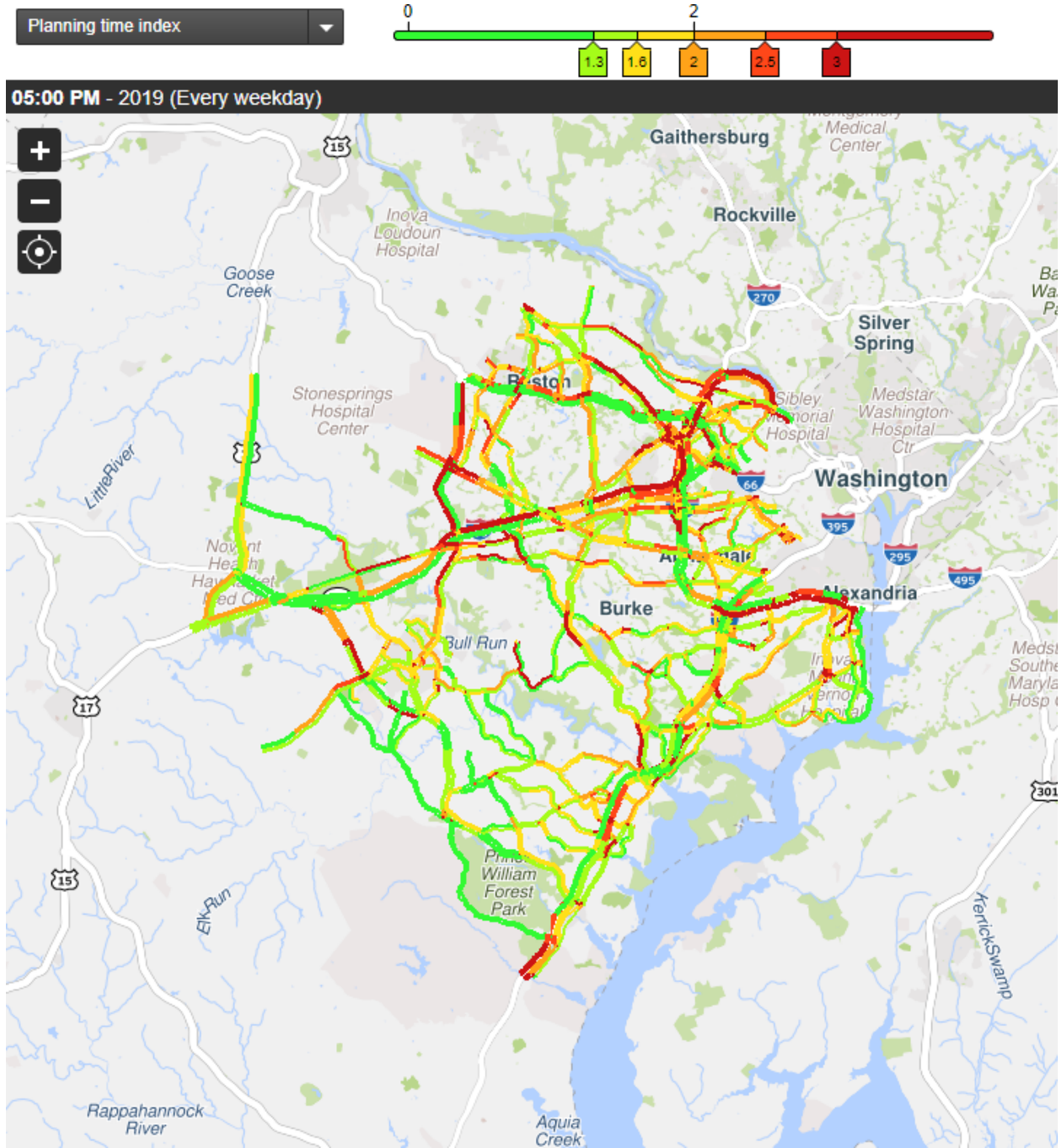


Figure B17: Planning Time Index in Cities of Alexandria, Arlington, and Falls Church, VA during Weekday 8:00-9:00 am, 2019

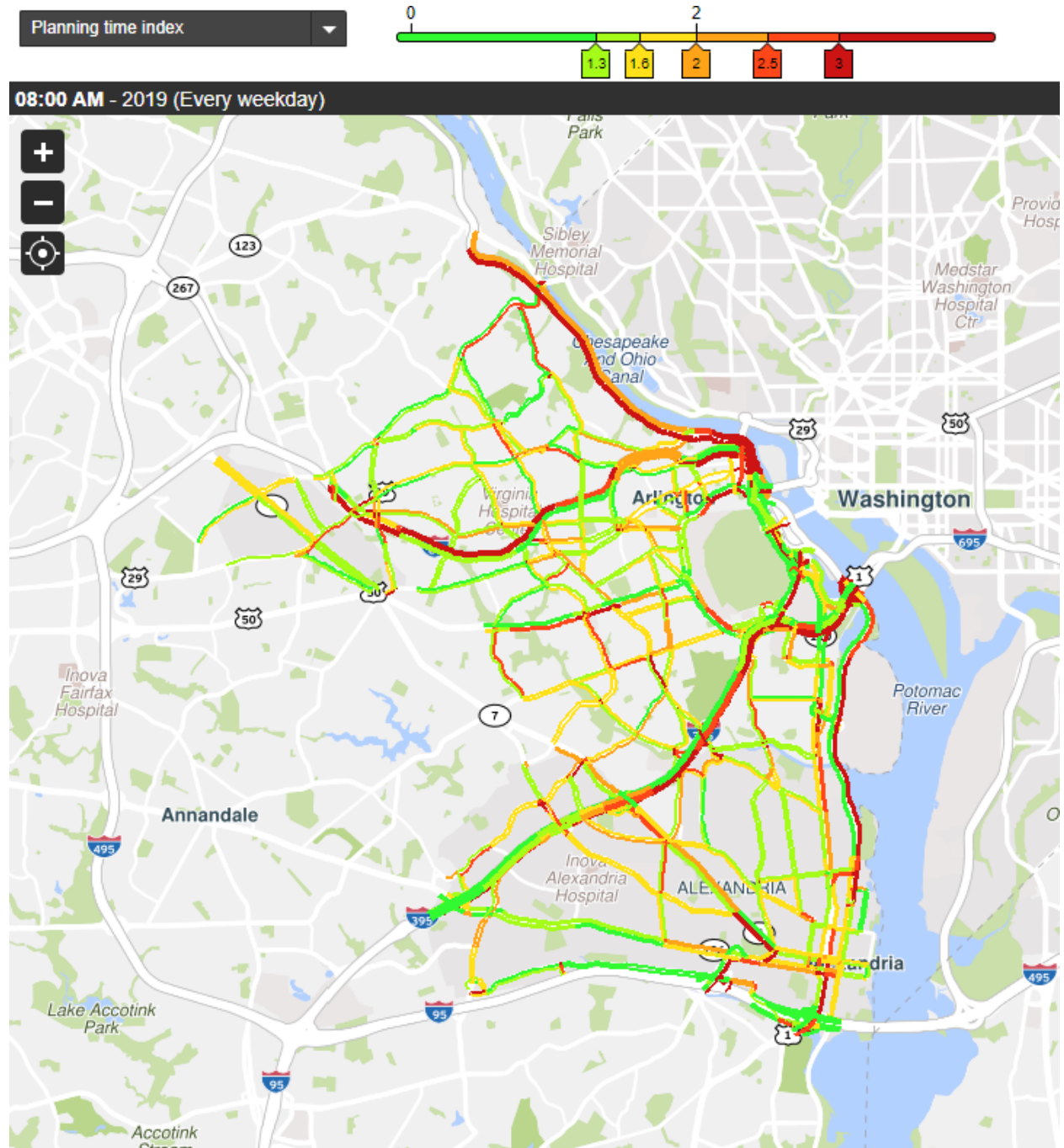
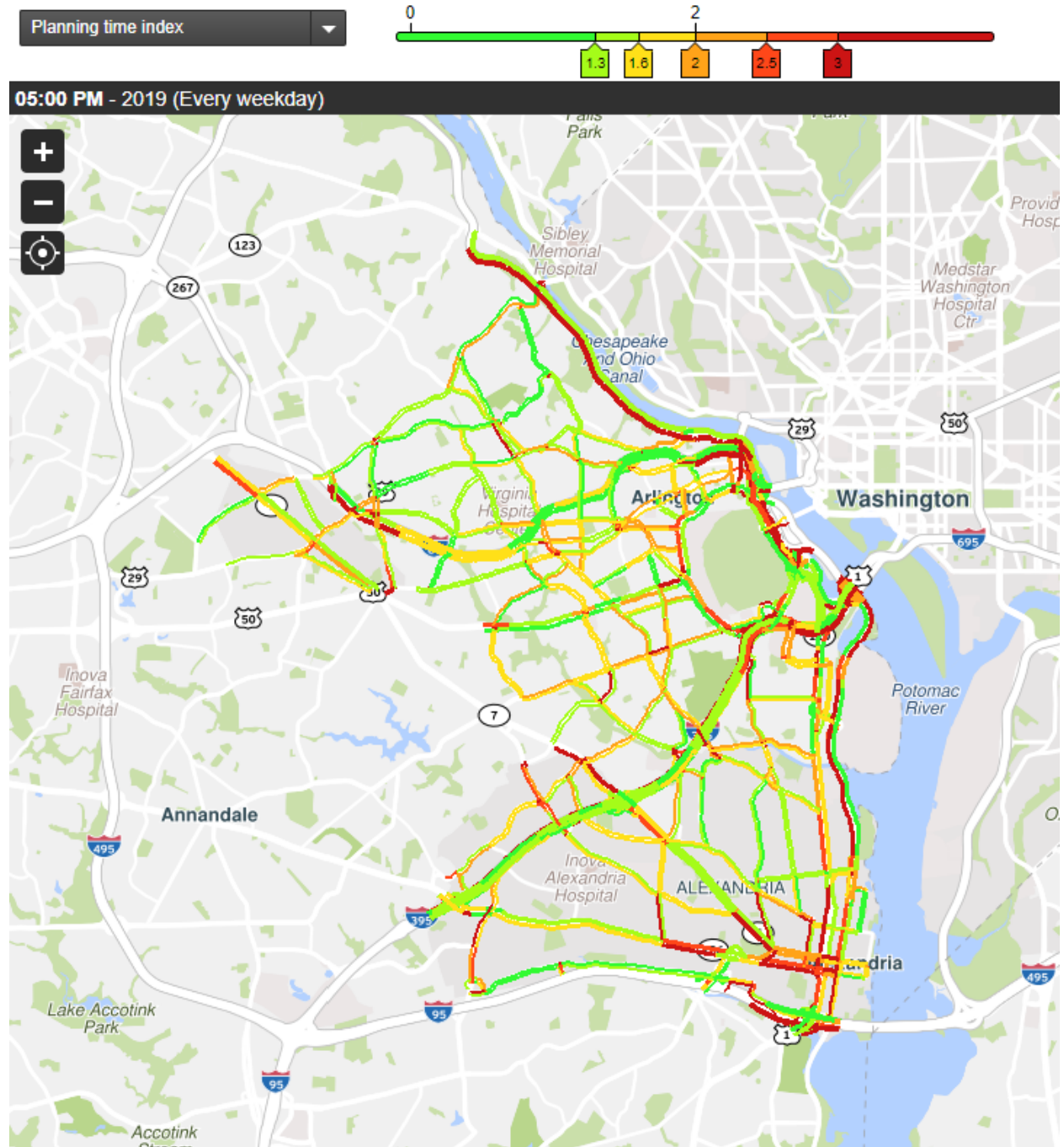




Figure B18: Planning Time Index in Cities of Alexandria, Arlington, and Falls Church, VA during Weekday 5:00-6:00 pm, 2019



## **APPENDIX C – 2010 AND 2017-2019 TRAVEL TIMES ALONG MAJOR FREEWAY COMMUTE CORRIDORS**

Note:

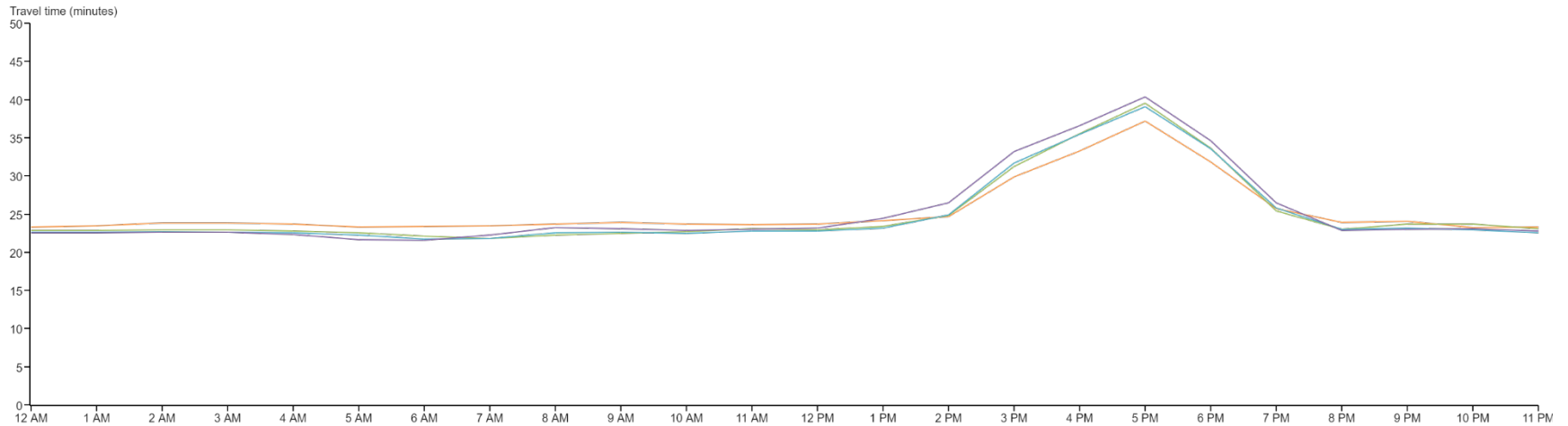
1. Calculation and visualization were provided by the “Performance Charts” tool of the Vehicle Probe Project Suite developed by the CATT Lab of the University of Maryland, <https://vpp.ritis.org/>.
2. There are 18 major commuter corridors defined in this report:
  - C1 I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-70/US-40
  - C2 I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-495/MD-355
  - C3 VA-267 between VA-28/Exit 9a and VA-123/Exit 19
  - C4 I-66 between VA-28/Exit 53 and I-495/Exit 64
  - C5 I-66 between I-495/Exit 64 and Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge
  - C6 I-95 between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169
  - C7 I-95 HOV between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169
  - C8 I-395 between I-95 and H St
  - C9 I-395 HOV between I-95 and US-1
  - C10 US-50 between MD-295/Kenilworth Ave and US-301/Exit 13
  - C11 MD-295 between US-50/MD-201/Kenilworth Ave and MD-198
  - C12 I-95 between I-495/Exit 27-25 and MD-198/Exit 33
  - C13 I-495 between I-270/Exit 35 and I-95/Exit 27
  - C14 I-495 between I-95/Exit 27 and US-50/Exit 19
  - C15 I-495 between US-50/Exit 19 and I-95/I-395/Exit 57
  - C16 I-495 between I-95/I-395/Exit 57 and I-66/Exit 9
  - C17 I-495 between I-66/Exit 9 and I-270/Exit 35
  - C18 I-295 between I-495 and 11<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge
3. Travel times were drawn for only normal weekdays – Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

**Figure C1**

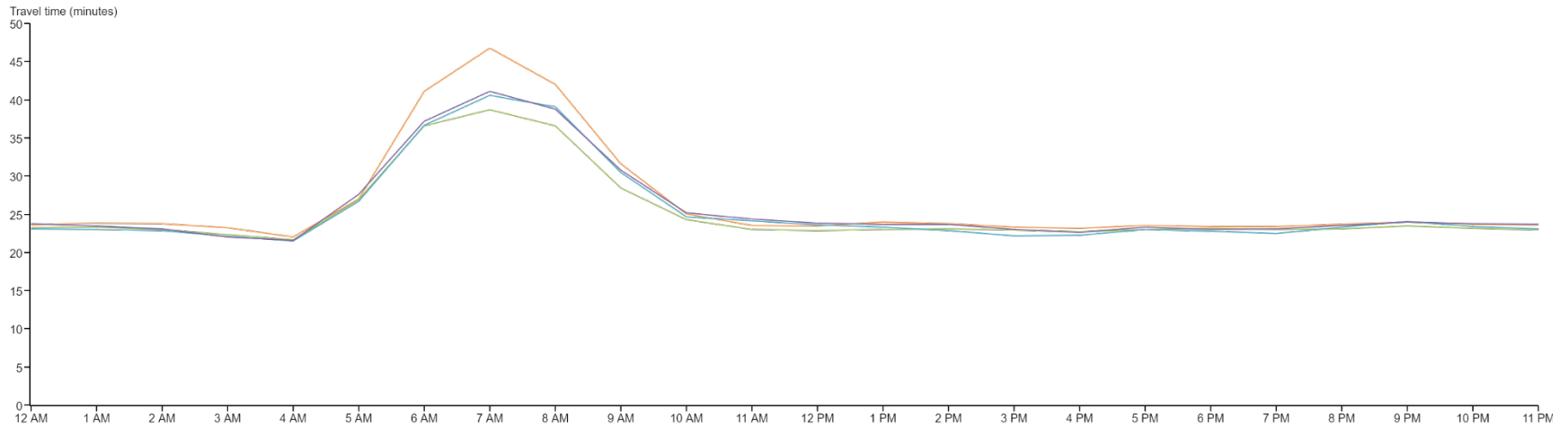
**Travel time for I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-70/US-40**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

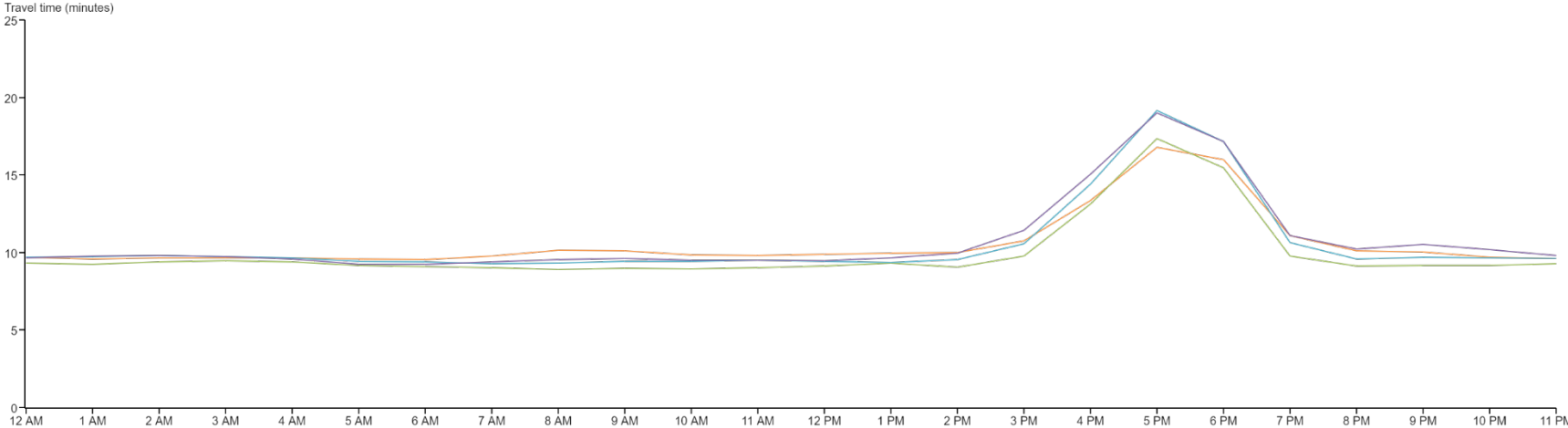
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C2**

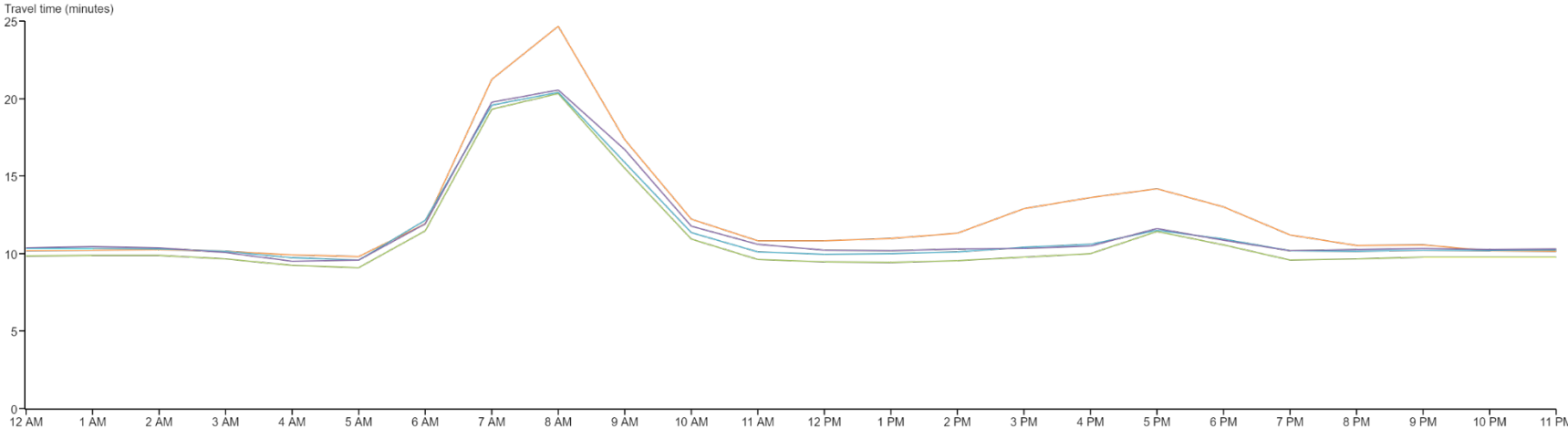
**Travel time for I-270 between I-370/Sam Eig Hwy/Exit 9 and I-495/MD-355**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

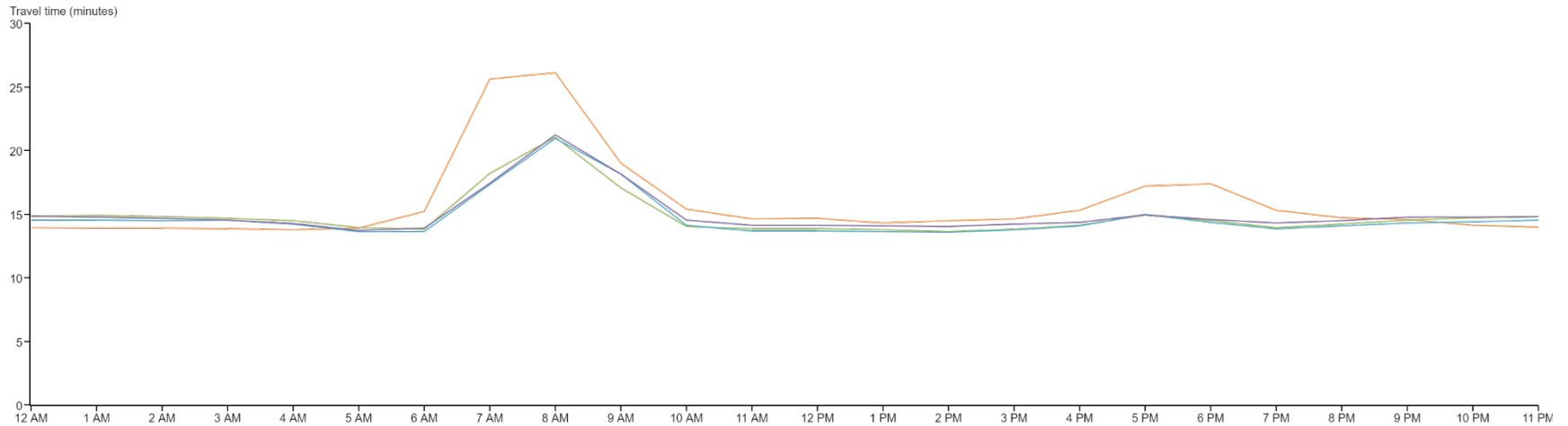
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C3**

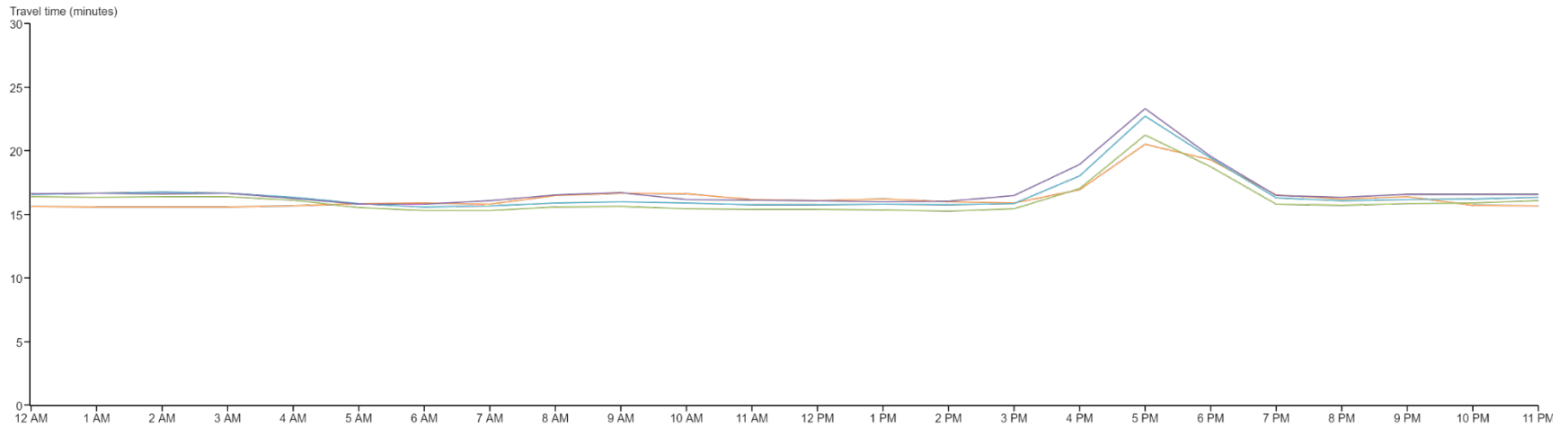
**Travel time for VA-267 between VA-28/Exit 9A and VA-123/Exit 19**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Eastbound**



**Westbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

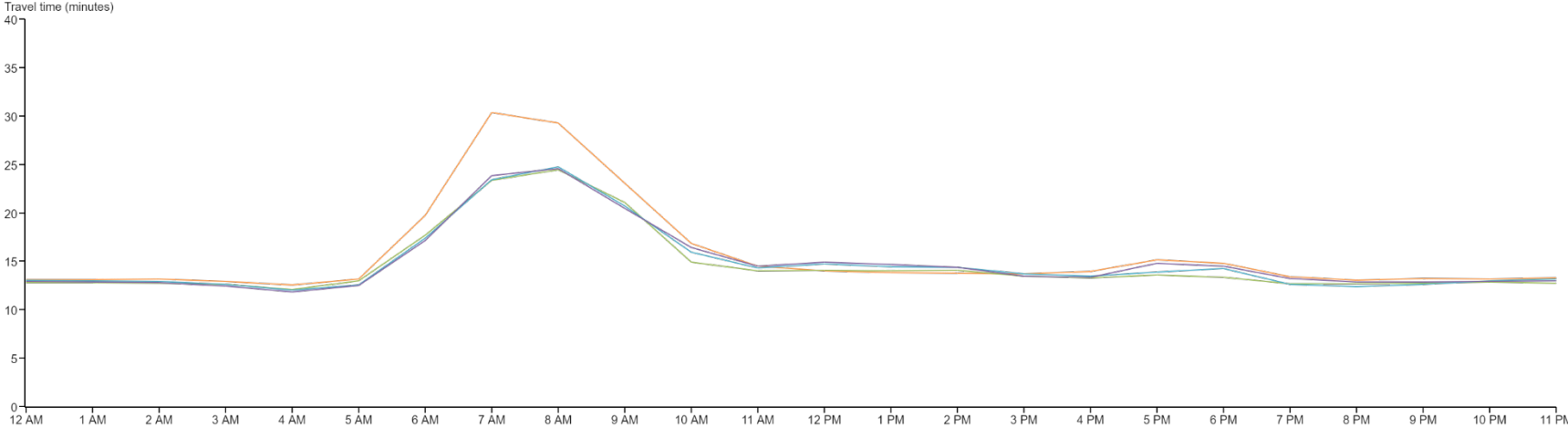
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C4**

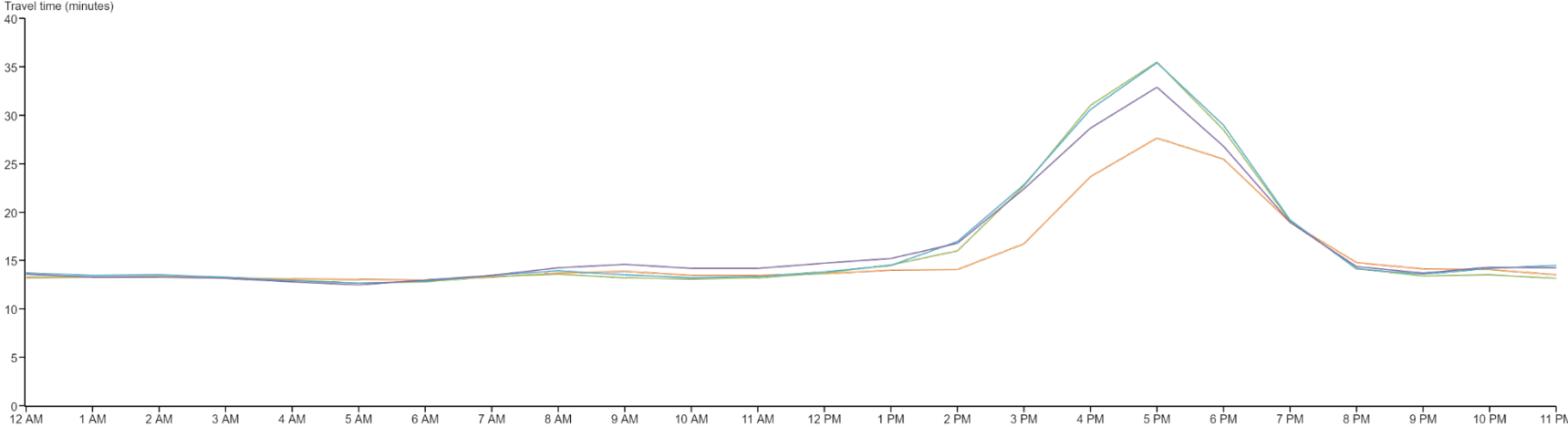
**Travel time for I-66 between VA-28/Exit 53 and I-495/Exit 64**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Eastbound**



**Westbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

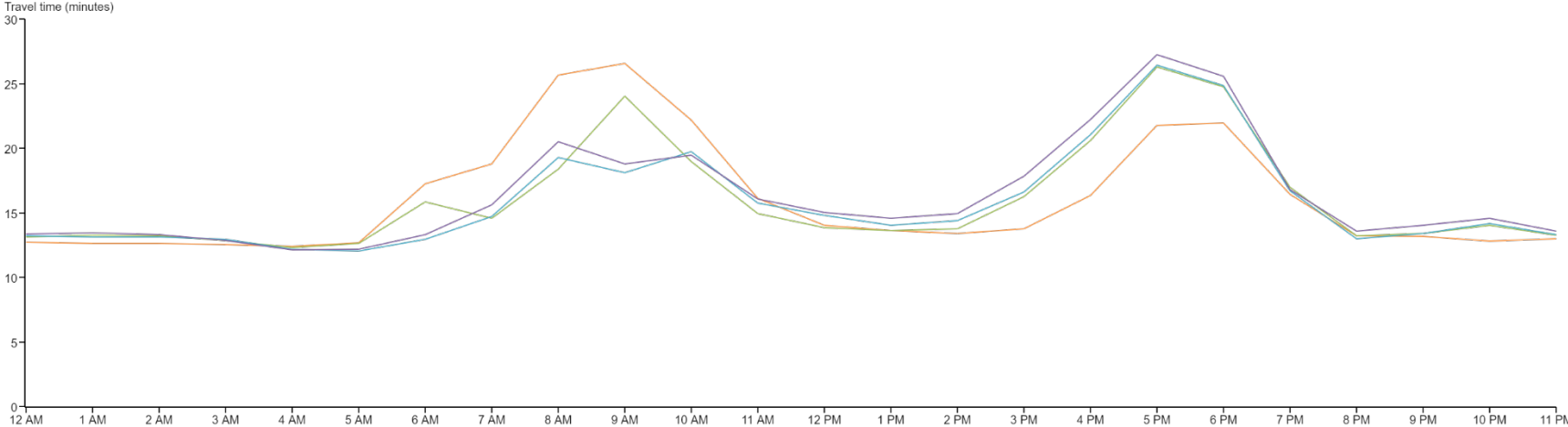
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C5**

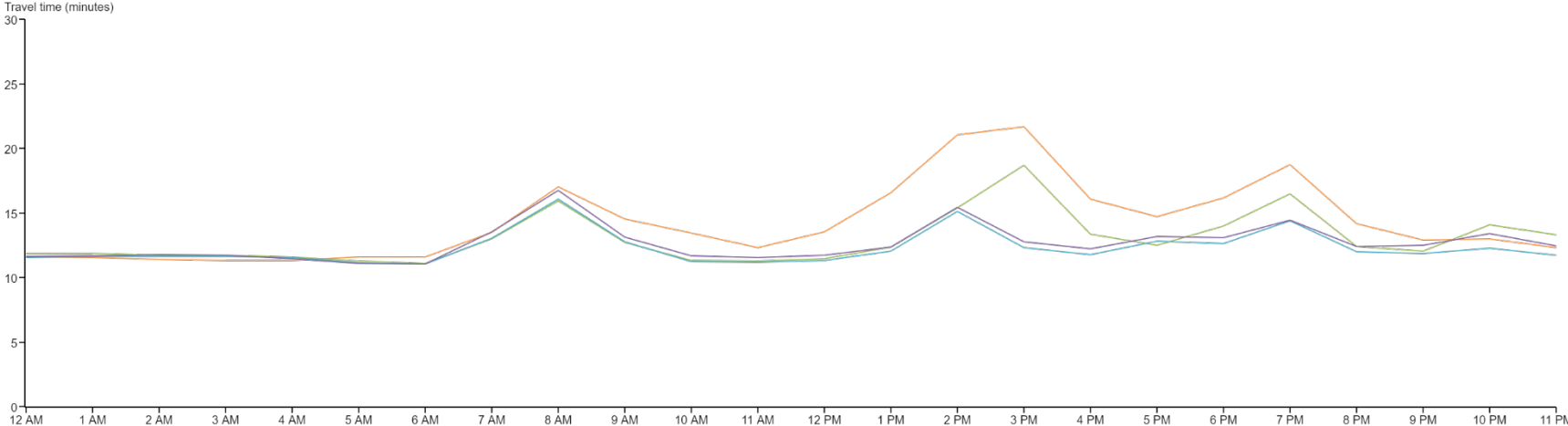
**Travel time for I-66 between I-495/Exit 64 and Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Eastbound**



**Westbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

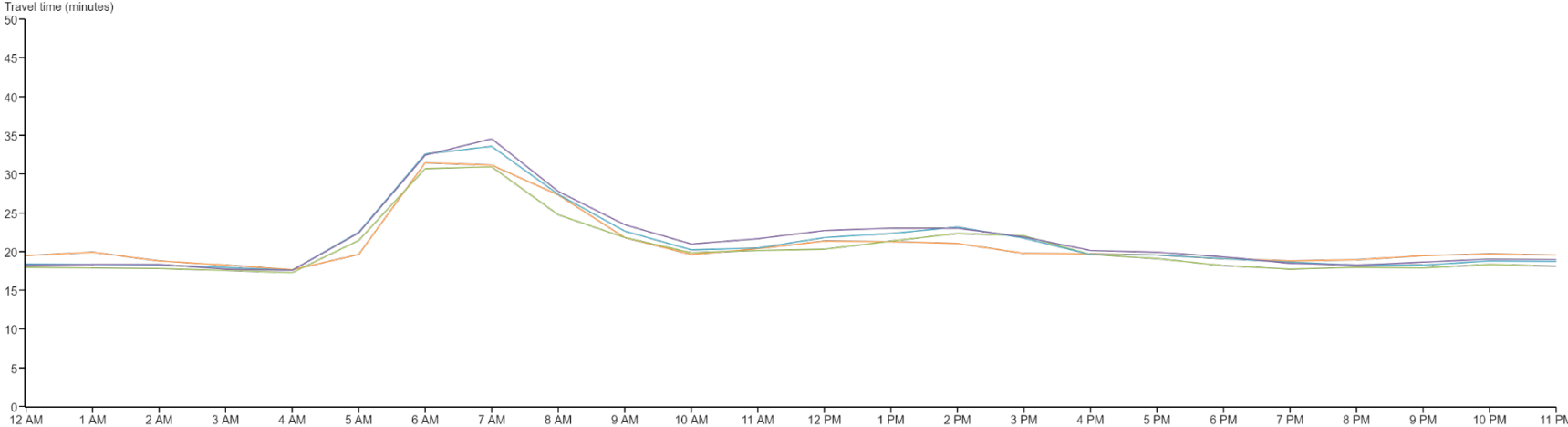
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C6**

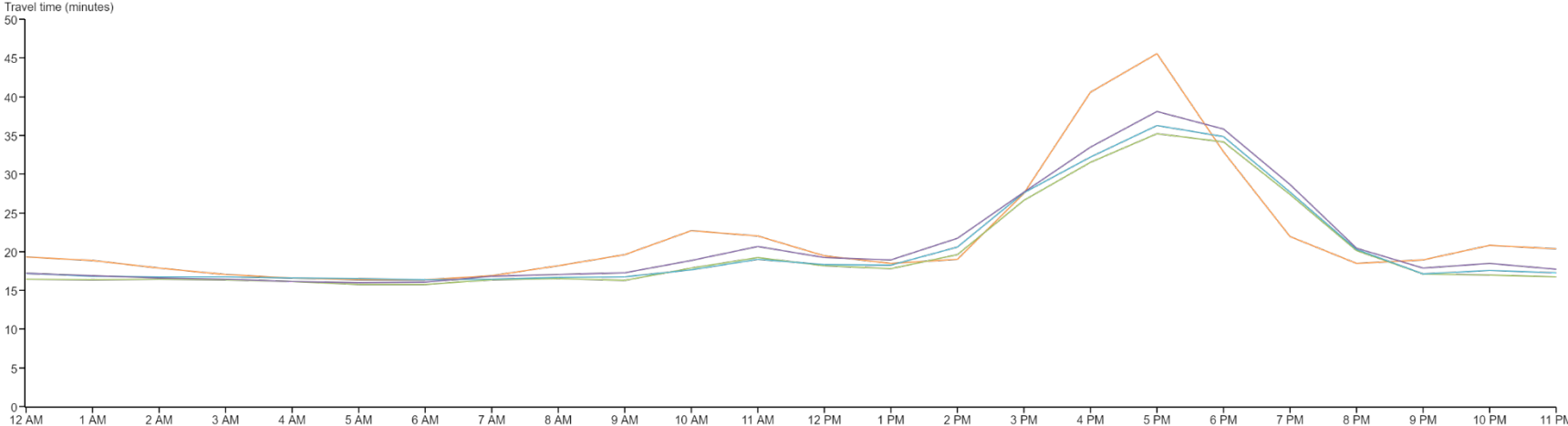
**Travel time for I-95 between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

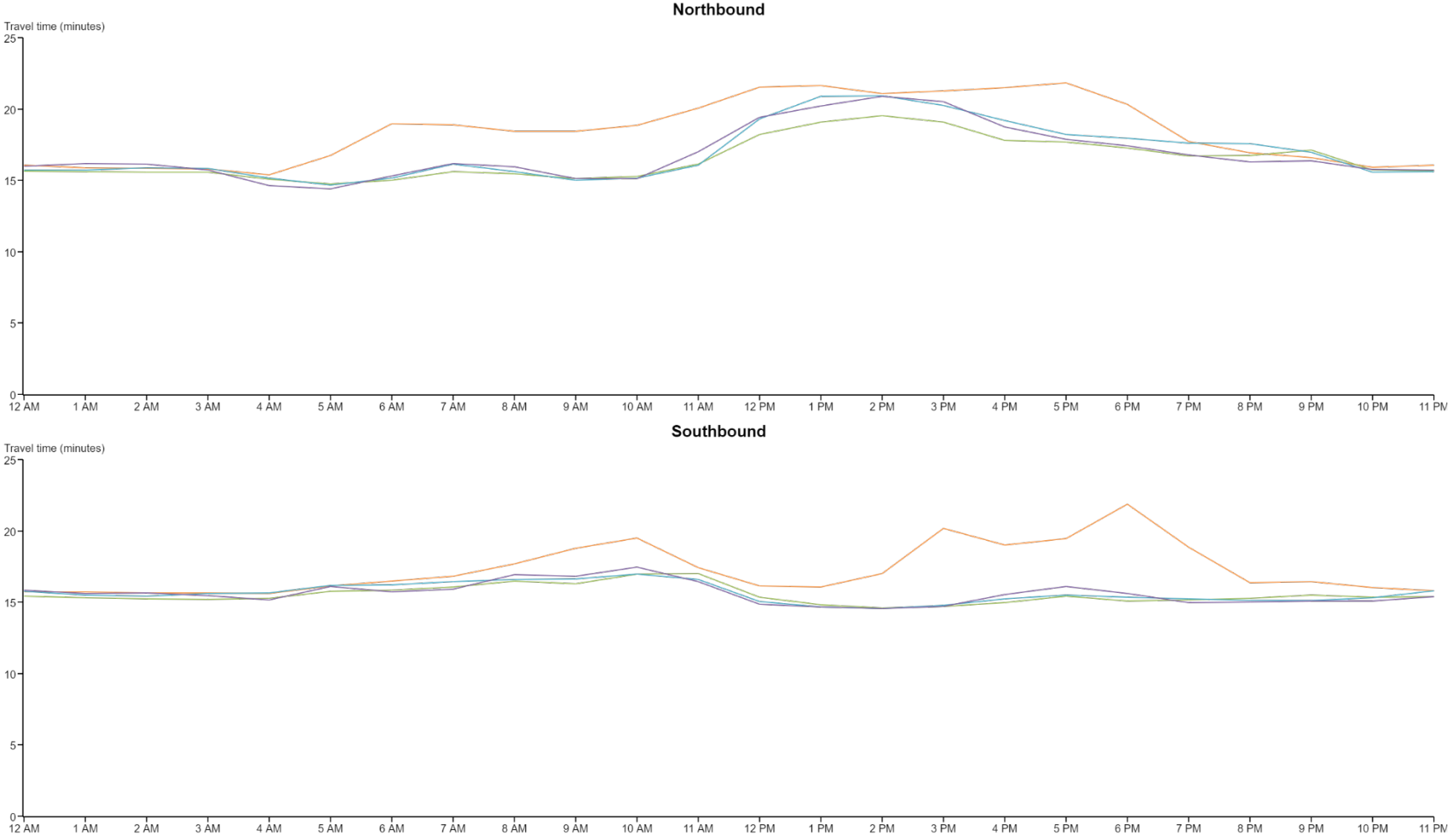
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX



**Figure C7**

**Travel time for I-95 (HOV) between VA-234/Exit 152 and Franconia Rd/Exit 169**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

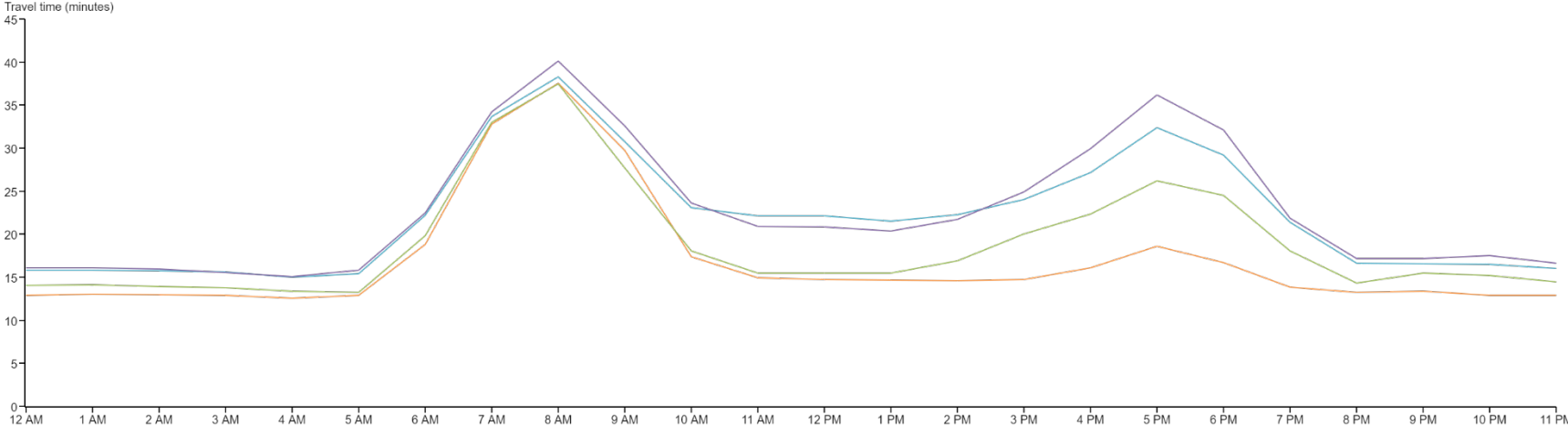
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C8**

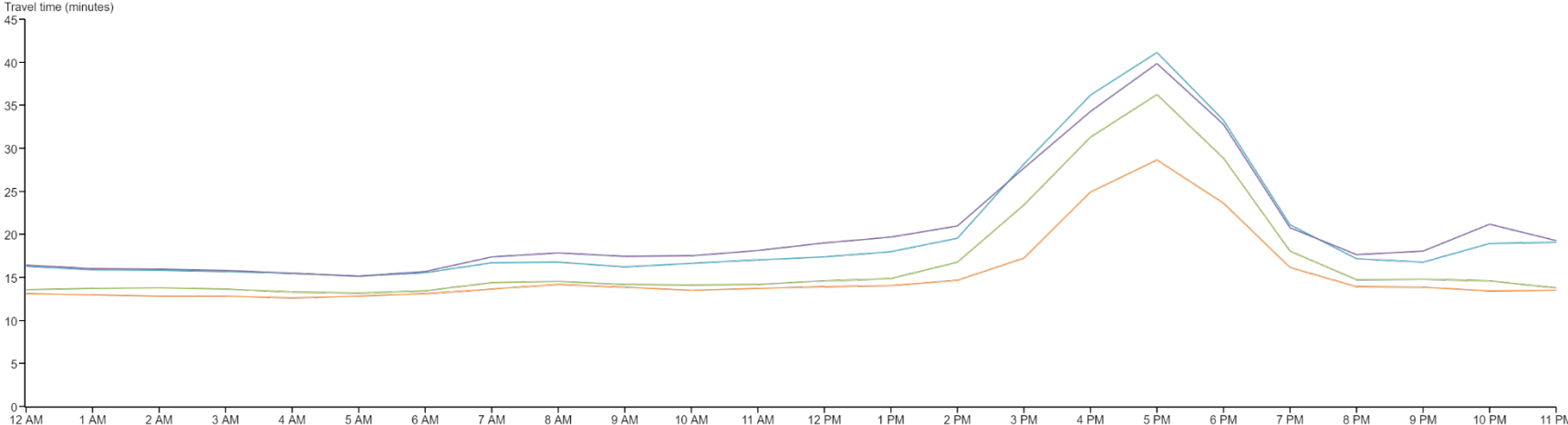
**Travel time for I-395 between I-95/I-495 and H St**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

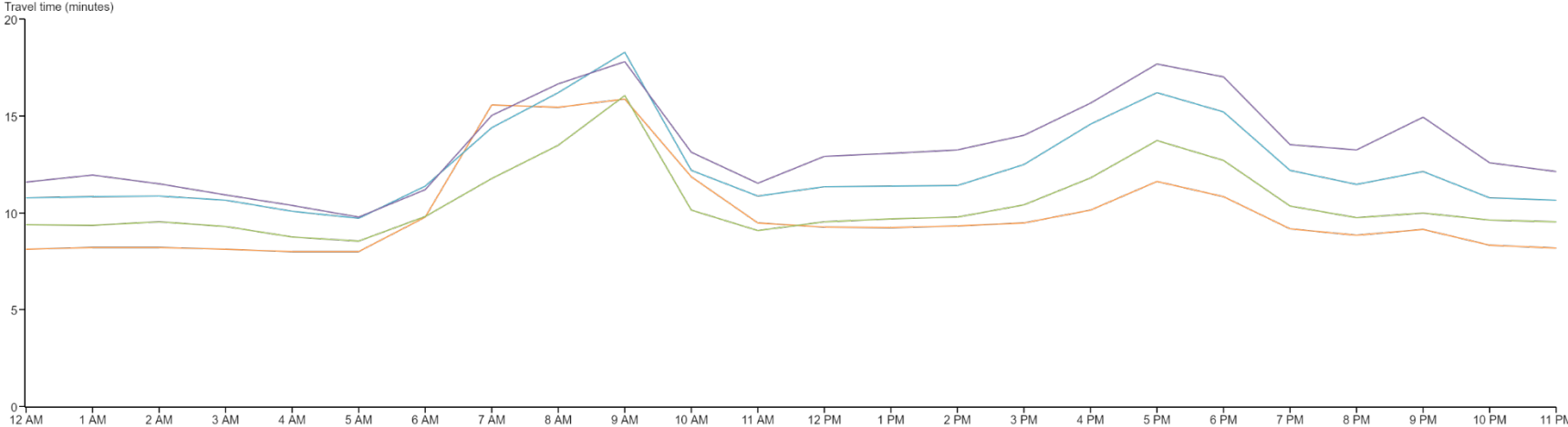
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C9**

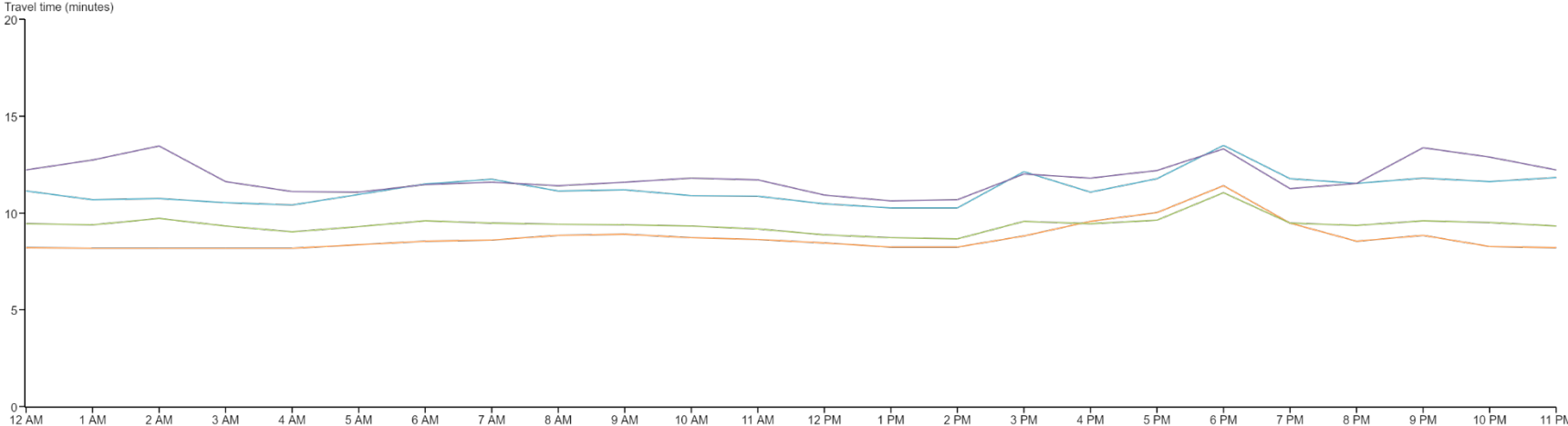
**Travel time for I-395 (HOV) between I-495/I-95 and US-1**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

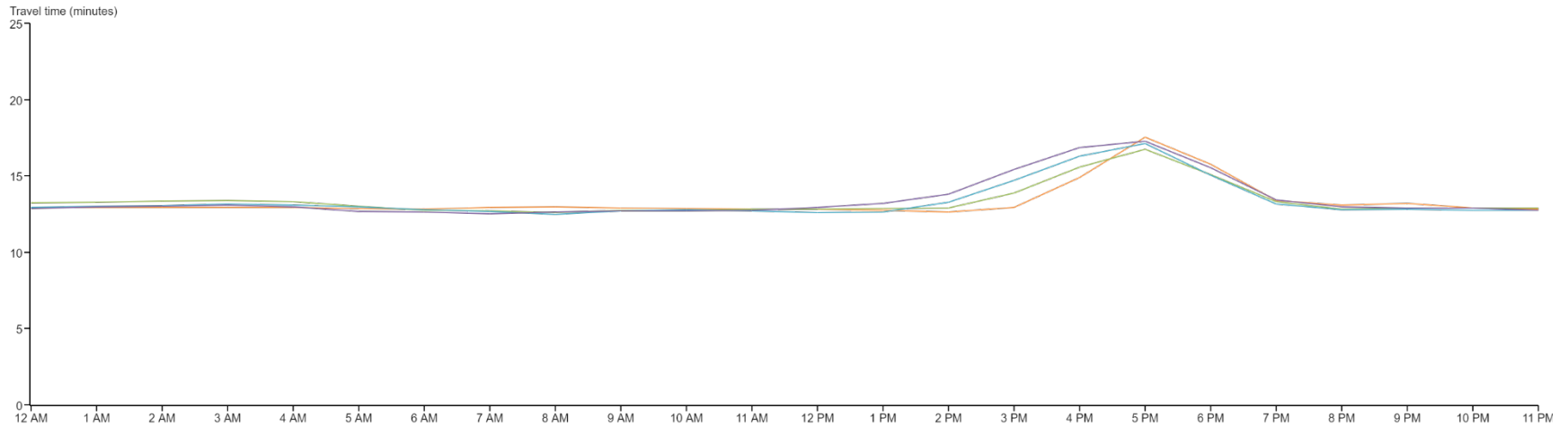
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C10**

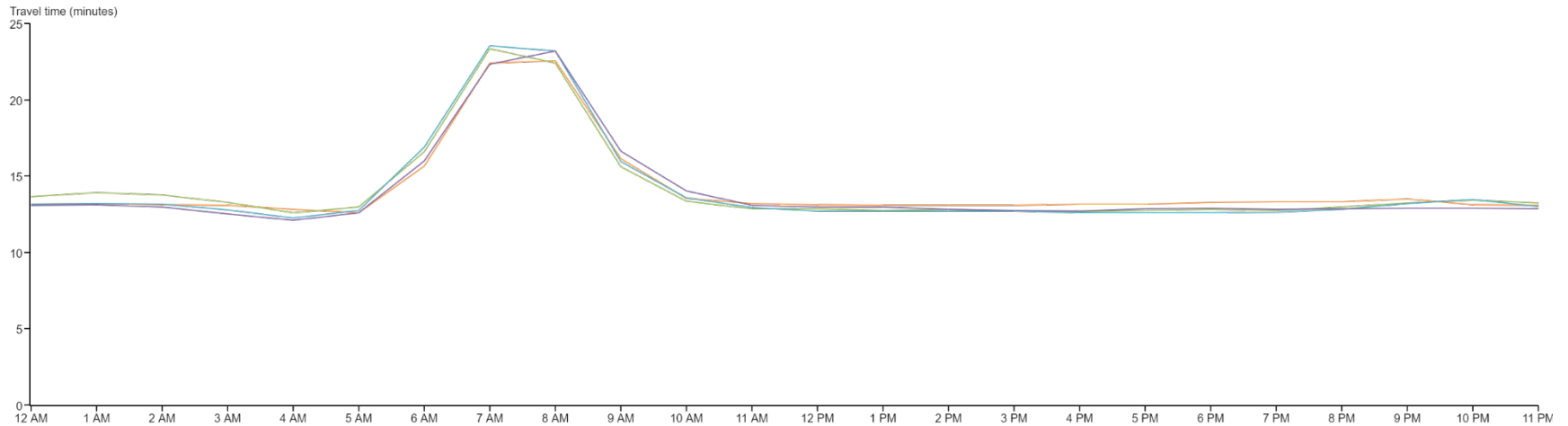
**Travel time for US-50 between MD-295/Kenilworth Ave and US-301/Exit 13**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Eastbound**



**Westbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

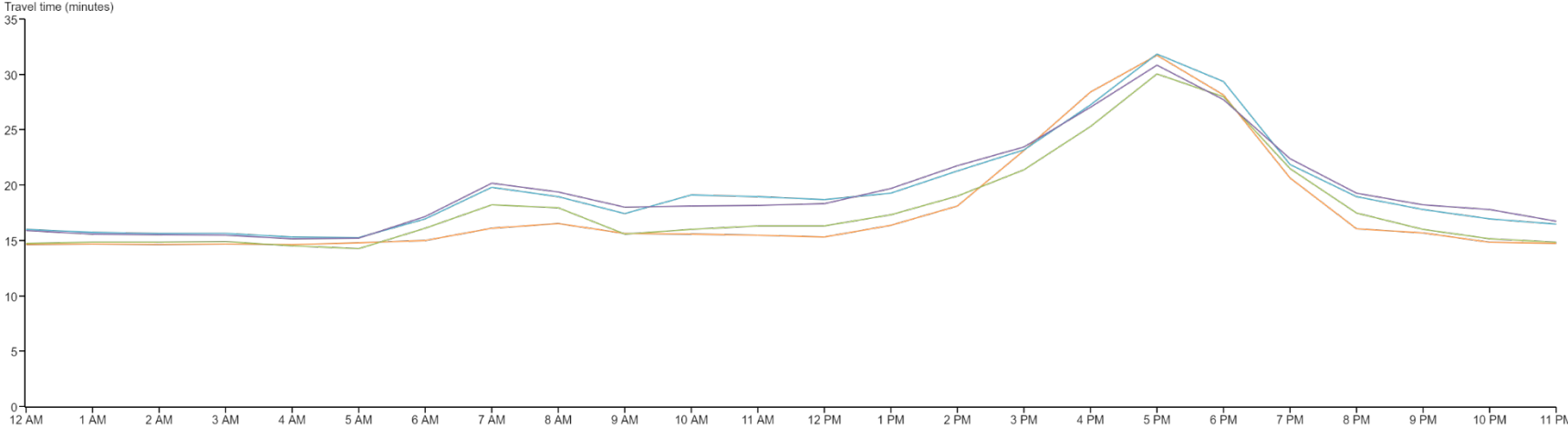
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C11**

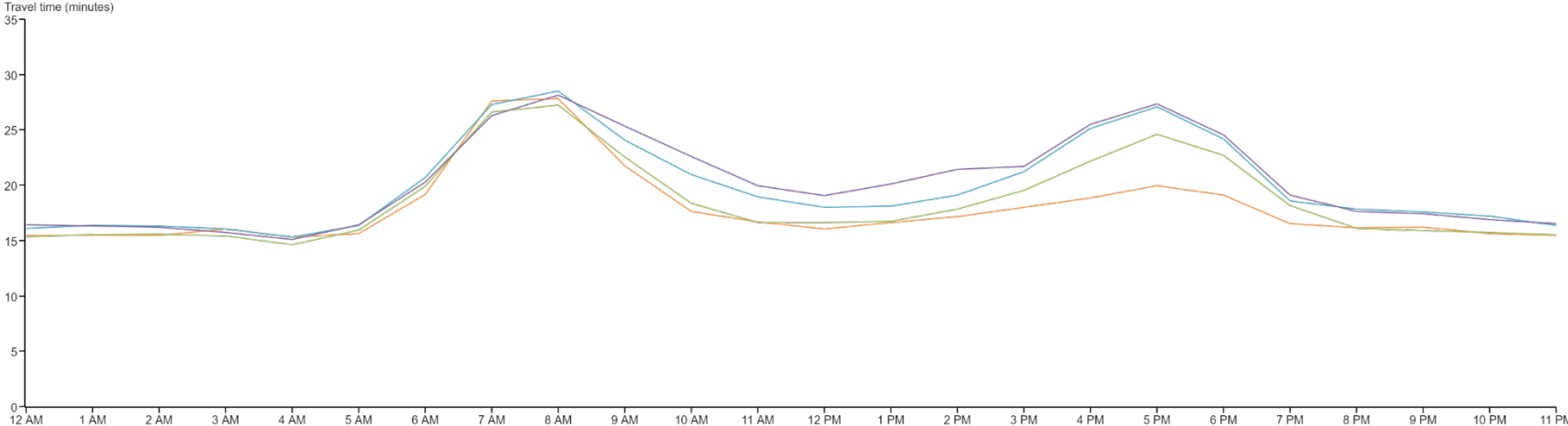
**Travel time for MD-295 between US-50/MD-201/Kenilworth Ave and MD-198**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

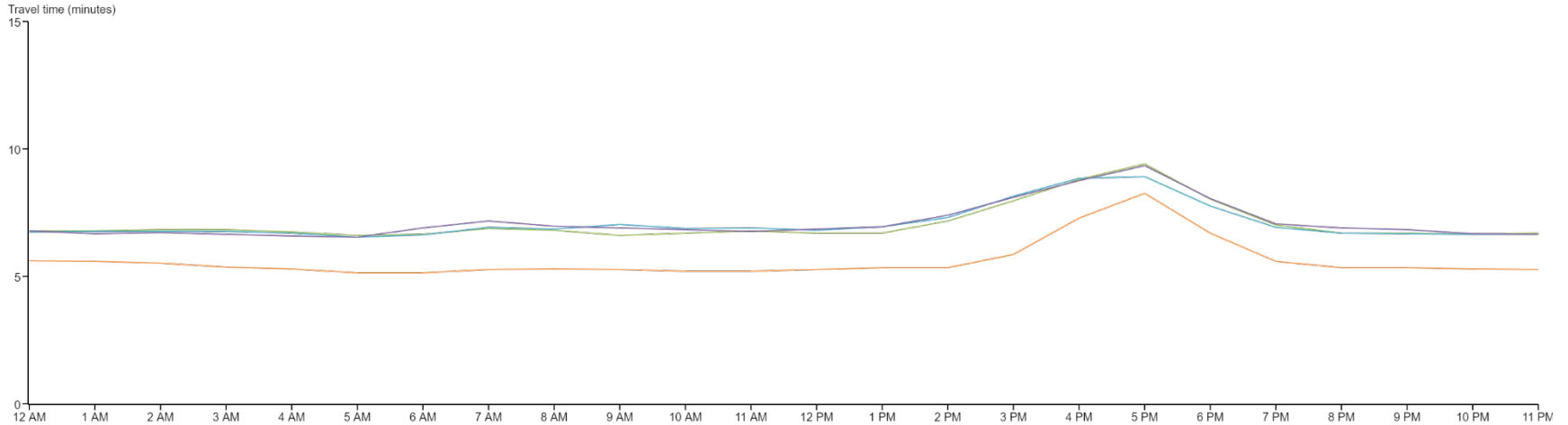
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C12**

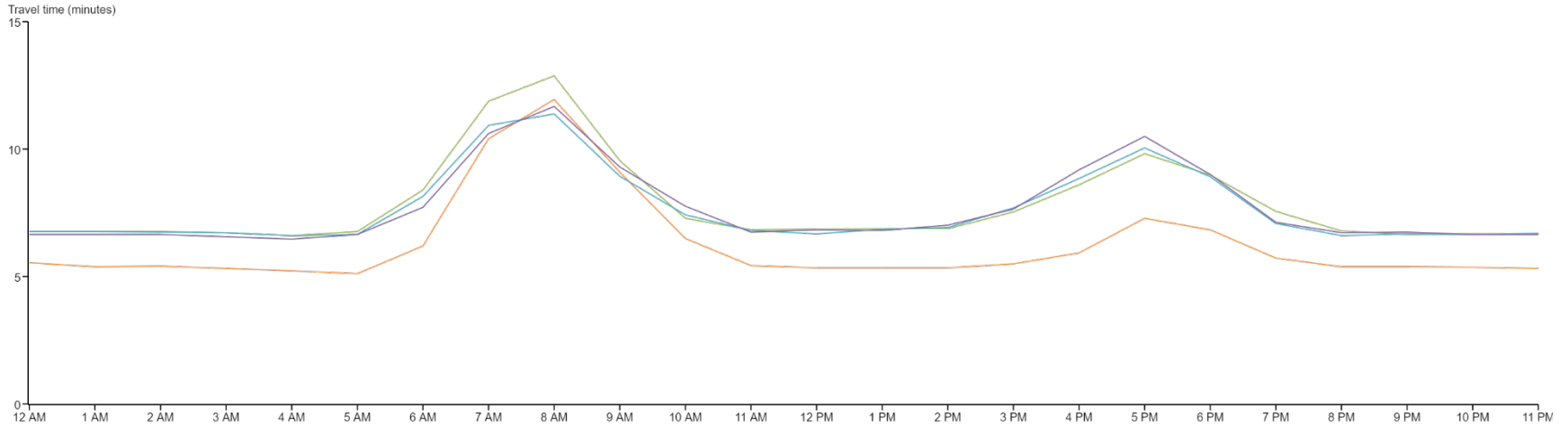
**Travel time for I-95 between I-495/EXIT 27-25 and MD-198/Exit 33**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

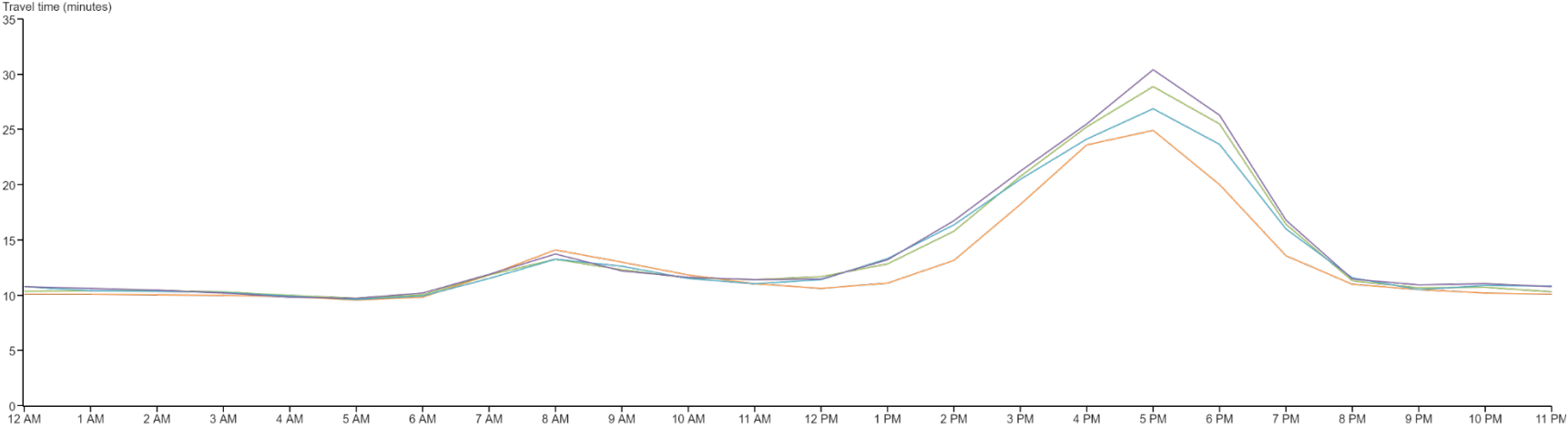
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C13**

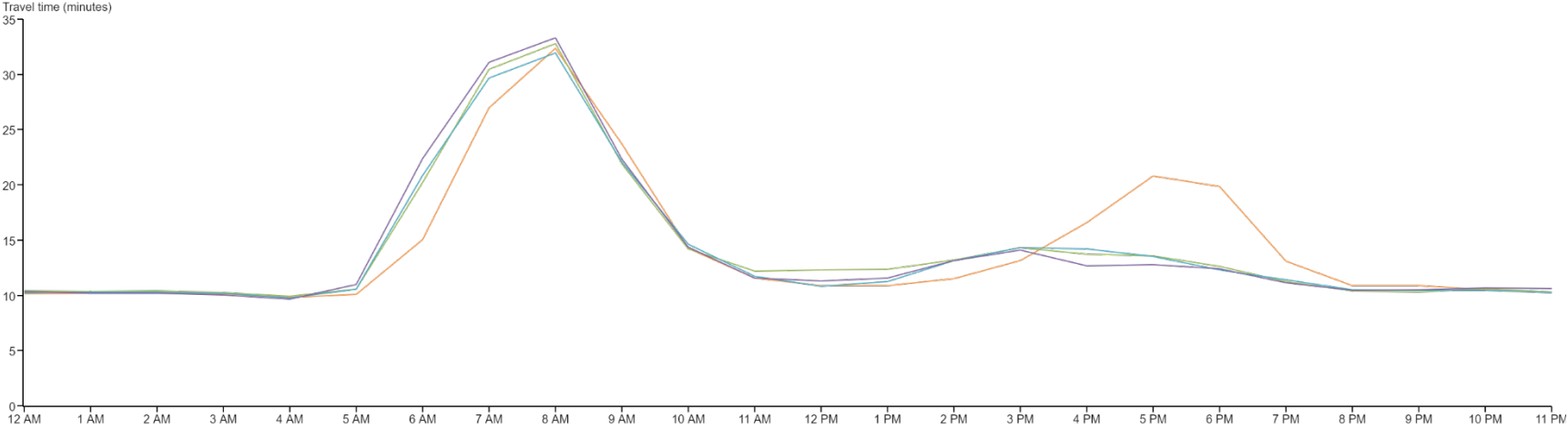
**Travel time for I-495 between I-270/Exit 35 and Exit 27**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Clockwise**



**Counterclockwise**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

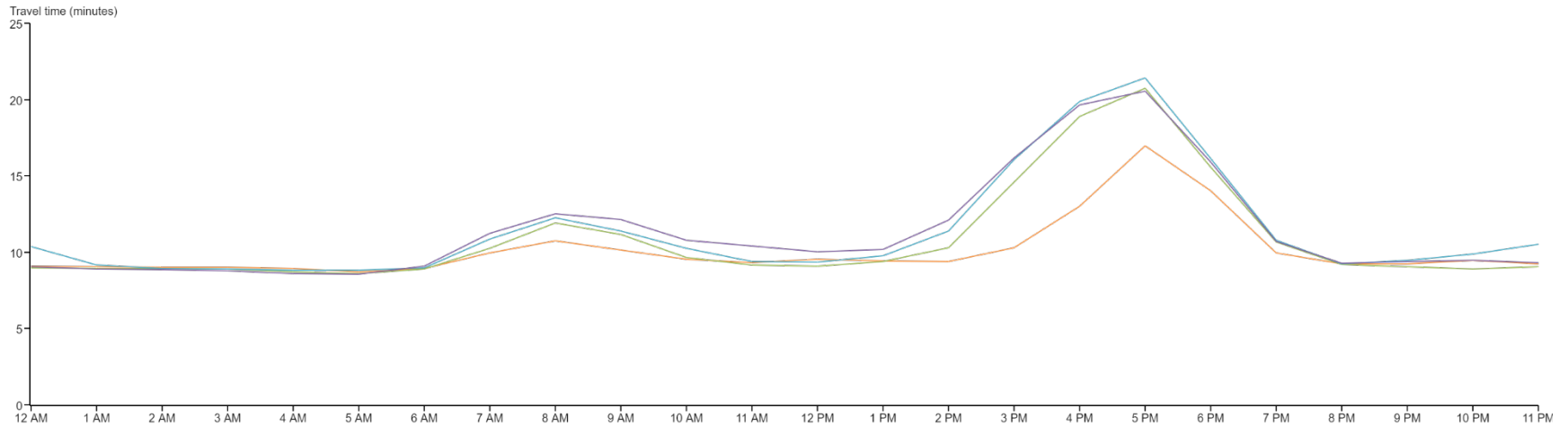
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C14**

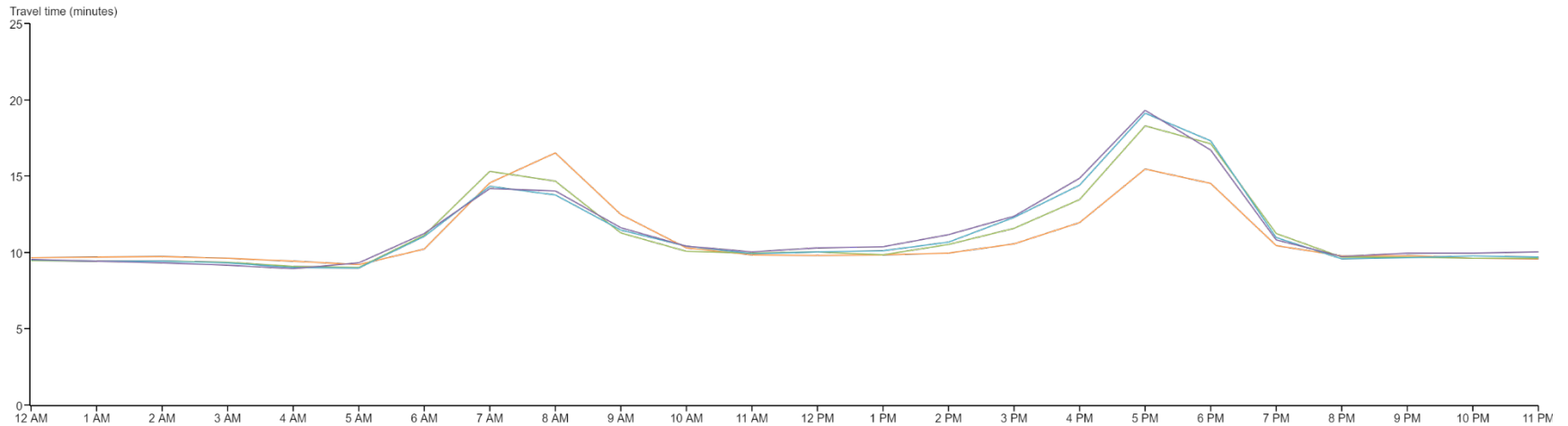
**Travel time for I-495 between Exit 27 and US-50/Exit 19**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Clockwise**



**Counterclockwise**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

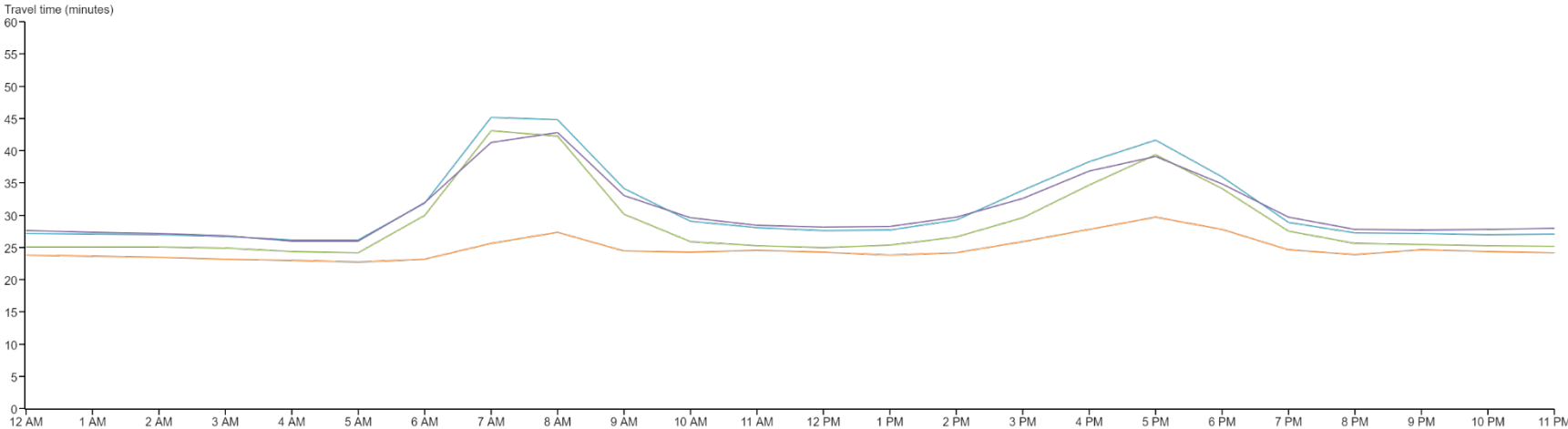


**Figure C15**

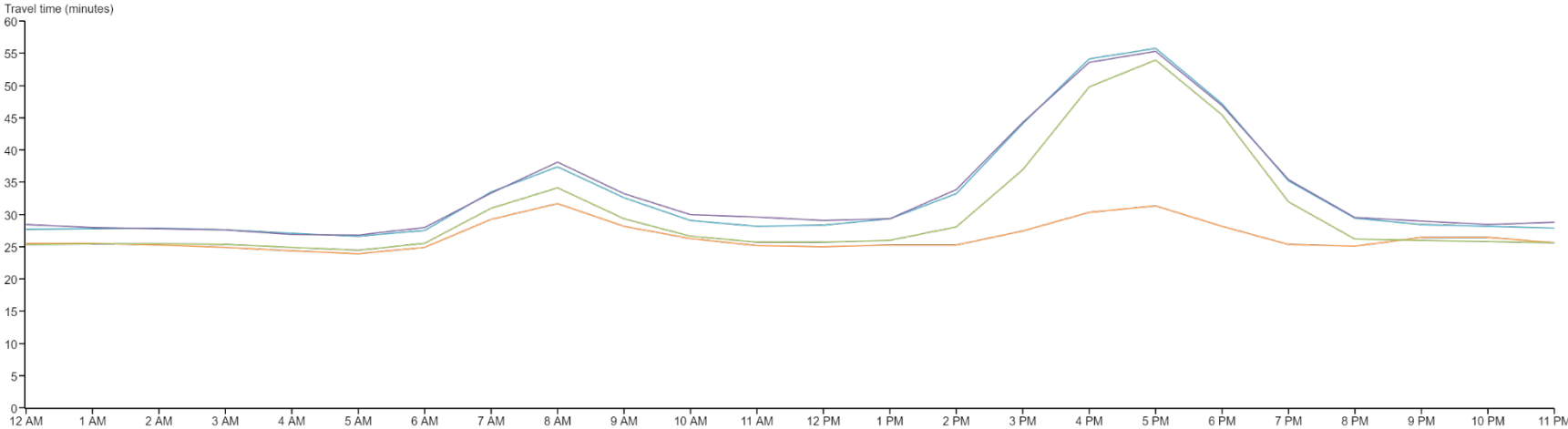
**Travel time for I-495 between US-50/Exit 19 and I-95/I-395/Exit 57**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Clockwise**



**Counterclockwise**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

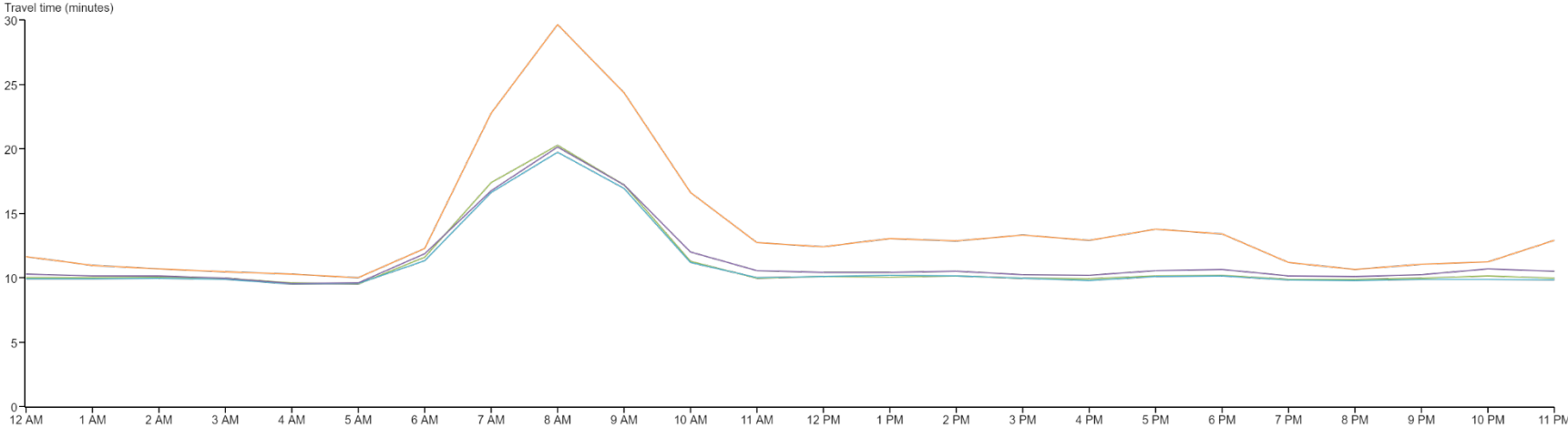
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C16**

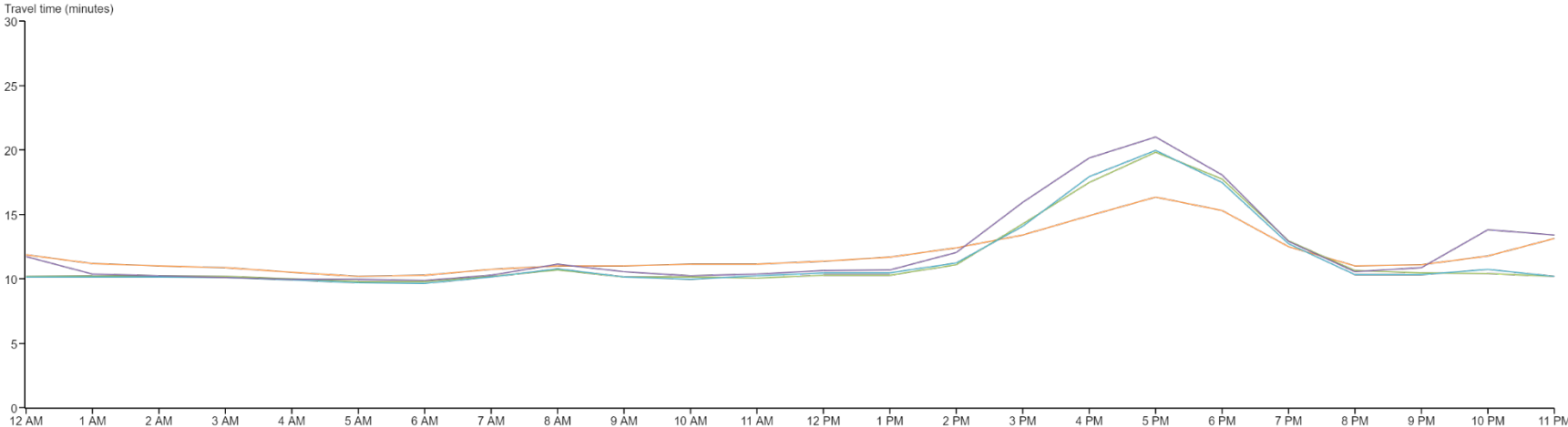
**Travel time for I-495 between I-95/I-395/Exit 57 and I-66/Exit 9**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Clockwise**



**Counterclockwise**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

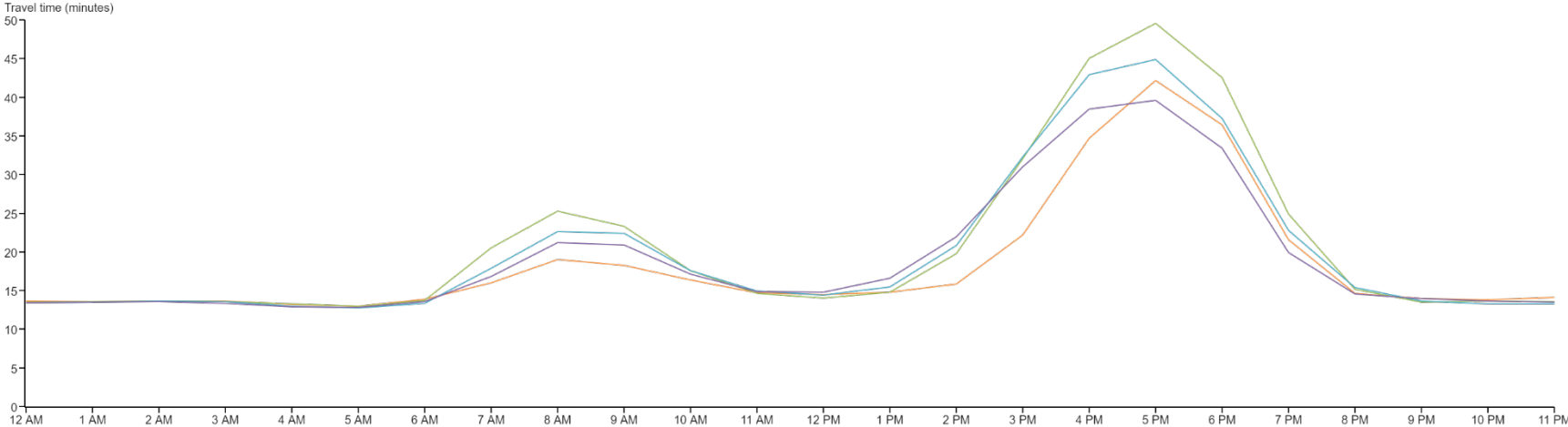
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C17**

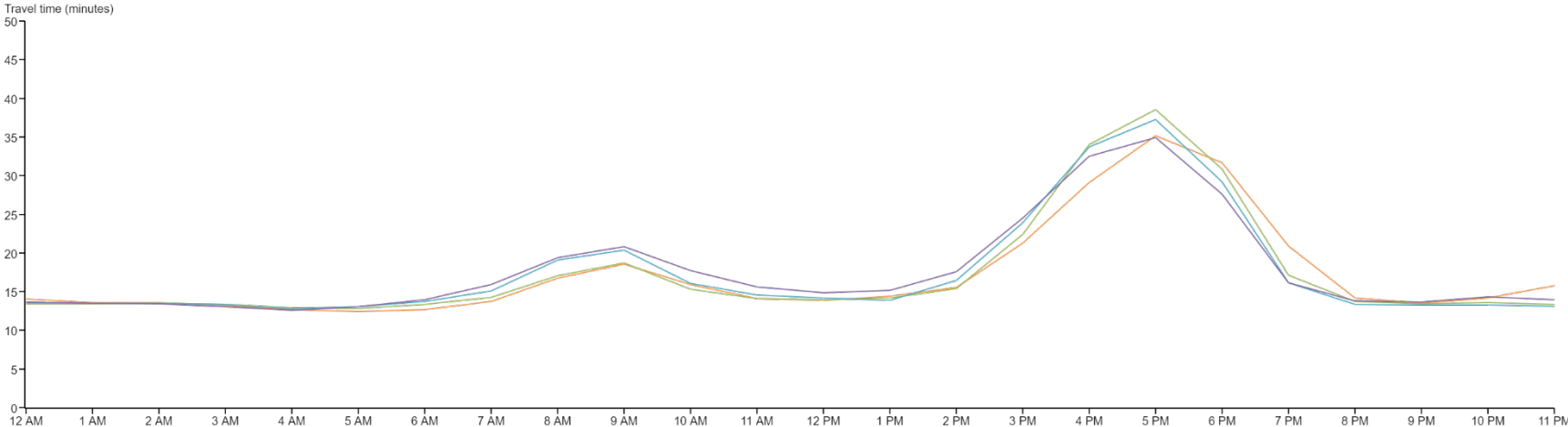
**Travel time for I-495 between I-66/Exit 9 and I-270/Exit 35**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Clockwise**



**Counterclockwise**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

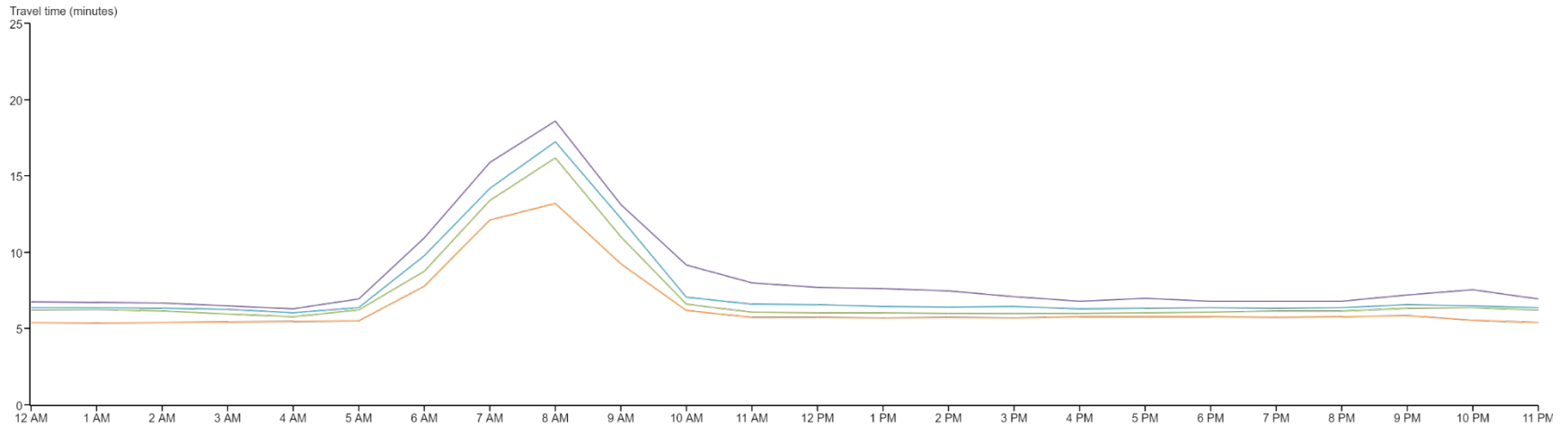
- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**Figure C18**

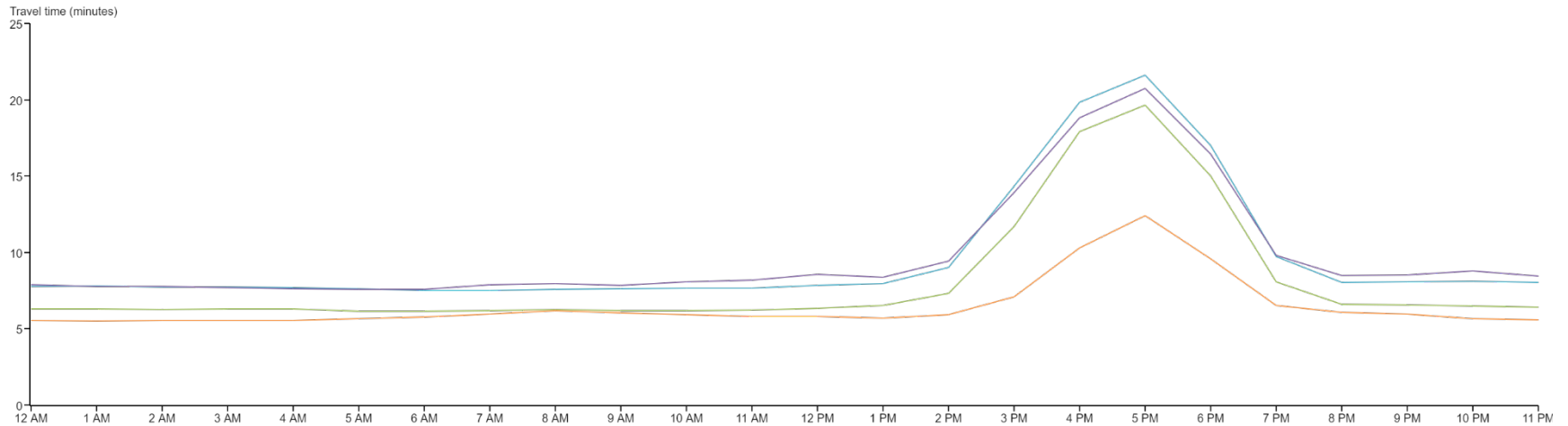
**Travel time for I-295 between I-495/I-95/EXIT 2A-B and 11Th St Bridge**

Averaged per hour for January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

**Northbound**



**Southbound**



Travel time: Time it will take to drive along the roadway segment (Distance Traveled / Speed).

- January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 02, 2018 through December 27, 2018 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 03, 2017 through December 28, 2017 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX
- January 05, 2010 through December 30, 2010 (Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) - INRIX

**APPENDIX D – 2014 PERFORMANCE OF HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE FACILITIES ON FREEWAYS IN THE WASHINGTON REGION**

Table D1: Observed Average Auto Occupancies in the AM Peak Direction during HOV-Restricted Periods (Spring 2014)

| <b>Observed average auto occupancies in the A.M. peak direction during HOV-restricted periods (Spring, 2014)</b> |                                   |   |                                       |   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Facility   | HOV lane average auto occupancies | Number of autos needed to move 1000 persons at HOV occupancy rate | Non-HOV lane average auto occupancies | Number of autos needed to move 1000 persons at non-HOV occupancy - rate |
| I-395 Shirley Highway between Va. 120 (S. Glebe Road) and Arlington Ridge Road                                   | 2.8                               | 360   | 1.1                                   | 910   |
| I-95 Shirley Highway between Va. 286 (Fairfax County Parkway) and Va. 289 (Franconia Springfield Parkway)        | 2.6                               | 380   | 1.1                                   | 910   |
| I-66 between Sycamore Street and Va. 120 (North Glebe Road)  | 1.7                               | 590   | N/A                                   | N/A   |
| I-66 between Va. 243 (Nutley Street) and I-495   | 1.9                               | 530   | 1.1                                   | 910   |
| I-270 between the "split" and Rockledge Drive  | 1.9                               | 530   | 1.0                                   | 1000  |
| I-270Y (I-270 Spur) between the "split" and Democracy Boulevard  | 1.8                               | 560   | 1.0                                   | 1000  |
| Va. 267 (Dulles Toll Road) west of Va. 7 (Leesburg Pike)   | 1.9                               | 530   | 1.1                                   | 910   |
| U.S 50 between Md. 197 (Collington Road) and Md. 704 (MLK, Jr. Highway)  | 1.6                               | 630   | 1.0                                   | 1000  |

1.9

Note:  
 - Average auto occupancy rounded to nearest 1/10.

Table D2: Observed AM Peak Direction Average HOV Auto Occupancies Over Time

| 2014 Observed average HOV auto occupancies<br>in the A.M. Peak Direction Over Time                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Facility  | Year |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|   | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2004 | 2007 | 2010 | 2014 |
| I-395 Shirley Highway between Va. 120 (S. Glebe Road) and Arlington Ridge Road                            | 2.7  | 2.6  | 2.9  | 2.5  | 2.5  | 2.8  | 2.8  |
| I-95 Shirley Highway between Va. 286 (Fairfax County Parkway) and Va. 289 (Franconia Springfield Parkway) | 2.6  | 2.8  | 2.8  | 2.6  | 2.6  | 2.5  | 2.6  |
| I-66 between Sycamore Street and Fairfax Drive  | 1.8  | 1.8  | 1.8  | 1.7  | 1.8  | 1.5  | 1.7  |
| I-66 between Va. 243 (Nutley Street) and I-495  | 2.0  | 1.7  | 1.9  | 2.0  | 1.9  | 1.8  | 1.9  |
| I-270 between the "split" and Rockledge Drive   | 1.9  | 1.7  | 1.7  | 1.9  | 1.5  | 2.0  | 1.9  |
| I-270Y (I-270 Spur) between the "split" and Democracy Boulevard   | 1.9  | 1.8  | 1.8  | 1.5  | 1.8  | 1.9  | 1.8  |
| I-270 between Montrose Road and the "split"   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | 1.7  | 1.6  | 1.9  | 1.9  |
| Va. 267 (Dulles Toll Road) west of Va. 7 (Leesburg Pike)  | N/A  | N/A  | 1.8  | 1.8  | 1.8  | 1.7  | 1.6  |
| U.S 50 between Md. 197 (Collington Road) and Md. 704 (MLK, Jr. Highway)                                   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | 1.6  | 1.9  | 1.8  | 1.9  |

Notes:  
 - Data in table are rounded.

**Table D3: Observed Person Movements in the AM Peak Direction during HOV-Restricted Periods (Spring 2014)**

| <b>Observed person movements in the A.M. peak direction during HOV-restricted periods (Spring, 2014)</b>  |   |   |   |                                |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Facility<br/>And Hours of HOV-restricted operation</b>   | <b>Number of HOV lanes</b>                  | <b>HOV lane person movements (autos, vans, pools, motorcycles and buses) during HOV-restricted period</b> | <b>HOV lane persons per lane per hour</b> | <b>Number of non-HOV lanes</b> | <b>Non-HOV lane person movements during HOV-restricted period</b> | <b>Non-HOV lane persons per lane per hour</b> |
| I-395 Shirley Hwy. between Va. 120 (S. Glebe Rd.) and Arlington Ridge Rd.<br>6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.   | 2   | 27, 200   | 4, 500                                    | 4                              | 21, 600   | 1, 800  |
| I-95 Shirley Hwy. between Va. 286 (Fairfax County Pkwy.) and Va. 289 (Franconia Springfield Pkwy.)<br>6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.                        | 2<br><i>Includes Newington Flyover Ramp</i> | 15, 700   | 2, 600                                    | 4                              | 15, 700   | 1, 300  |
| I-66 between Sycamore Street and Fairfax Drive<br>6:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.  | 2   | 16, 300   | 3, 300                                    | 0<br><i>No non-HOV lanes</i>   | N/A   | N/A   |
| I-66 between Va. 243 (Nuttley Street) and I-495<br>5:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M.   | 1   | 11, 700   | 2, 900                                    | 3                              | 19, 900   | 1, 700  |
| Va. 267 (Dulles Toll Road) west of Va. 7 (Leesburg Pike)<br>6:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.  | 1   | 6, 900  | 2, 800                                    | 3                              | 11, 000   | 1, 500  |
| I-270 between Montrose Road and the "split"<br>6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.   | 1   | 10, 700   | 3, 600                                    | 5                              | 24, 600   | 1, 600  |
| I-270 between the "split" and Rockledge Drive<br>6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.   | 1   | 4, 700  | 1, 600                                    | 3                              | 12, 100   | 1, 300  |
| I-270Y (I-270 Spur) between the "split" and Democracy Boulevard<br>6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.   | 1<br><i>Includes Westlake Drive Ramp</i>    | 5, 900  | 2, 000                                    | 3                              | 12, 600   | 1, 400  |
| U.S. 50 between Md. 797 (Collington Road) and Md. 704 (MLK, Jr. Highway)<br>24 Hours, 7 Days/Week (5:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. assumed in calculations) | 1   | 4, 400  | 900                                       | 3                              | 19, 500   | 1, 300  |

Note:

- All person movements rounded to nearest 100

**Table D4: AM Peak Hour Person Movements during HOV-Restricted Periods (Spring 2014)**

| <b>A.M. peak hour person movements during HOV-restricted periods (Spring 2014)</b>   |   |  |   |                                |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Number of HOV lanes</b>                  | <b>HOV lane person movements (autos, van-pools, motorcycles and buses) during peak hour in HOV-restricted period</b> | <b>HOV lane persons per lane per hour</b> | <b>Number of non-HOV lanes</b> | <b>Non-HOV lane person movements during HOV-restricted period</b> | <b>Non-HOV lane persons per lane per hour</b> |
| I-395 Shirley Hwy. between Va. 120 (S. Glebe Rd.) and Arlington Ridge Rd.<br>7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.                          | 2   | 10,600   | 5,300                                     | 4                              | 8,300   | 2,100   |
| I-95 Shirley Hwy. between Va. 286 (Fairfax County Pkwy.) and Va. 289 (Franconia Springfield Pkwy.)<br>6:30 A.M. to 7:30 A.M. | 2<br><i>Includes Newington Flyover Ramp</i> | 11,500   | 5,800                                     | 4                              | 6,200   | 1,600   |
| I-66 between Sycamore Street and Fairfax Drive<br>7:45 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.   | 2   | 6,900  | 3,500                                     | 0<br><i>No non-HOV lanes</i>   | N/A   | N/A   |
| I-66 between Va. 243 (Nuttley Street) and I-495<br>7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.  | 1   | 3,200  | 3,200                                     | 3                              | 5,200   | 1,700   |
| Va. 267 (Dulles Toll Road) west of Va. 7 (Leesboro Pike)<br>7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.   | 1   | 3,200  | 3,200                                     | 3                              | 4,800   | 1,600   |
| I-270 between the "Split" and Rockledge Drive<br>7:45 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.  | 1   | 1,700  | 1,700                                     | 3                              | 4,600   | 1,500   |
| I-270Y (I-270 Spur) between the "split" and Democracy Boulevard<br>8:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.                                    | 1<br><i>Includes Westlake Drive Ramp</i>    | 2,100  | 2,100                                     | 3                              | 4,300   | 1,400   |
| I-270 between Montrose Road and the "split"<br>7:45 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.  | 1   | 3,800  | 3,800                                     | 5                              | 8,900   | 1,800   |
| U.S 50 between Md. 197 (Collington Road) and Md. 704 (MLK, Jr. Highway)<br>7:15 A.M. to 8:15 A.M.                            | 1   | 1,000  | 1,000                                     | 3                              | 5,100   | 1,700   |

Note:

- All person movements rounded to nearest 100



Table D5: Mean AM Peak Period / Peak Direction Travel Times Over Time by Facility

| Mean A.M. Peak Period / Peak Direction Travel Times Over Time by Facility<br>(95% Margin of Error in Parenthesis)              |                                 |               |               |               |                |                           |                                     |               |                |                |                 |                           |  |      |      |      |      |                           |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|---------------------------|
| Facility   | HOV route travel time (minutes) |               |               |               |                |                           | Non-HOV route travel time (minutes) |               |                |                |                 |                           | Time Savings (HOV Time - Non-HOV Time) |      |      |      |      |                           |
|  | 1997                            | 1999          | 2004          | 2007          | 2010           | 2014 (Methodology Change) | 1997                                | 1999          | 2004           | 2007           | 2010            | 2014 (Methodology Change) | 1997                                   | 1999 | 2004 | 2007 | 2010 | 2014 (Methodology Change) |
| I-95/I-395 (northbound) From Va.234 (Dumfries) to the Pentagon<br><i>HOV route is 28.1 miles</i>                               | 26<br>(+/- 1)                   | 27<br>(+/- 1) | 29<br>(+/- 4) | 31<br>(+/- 6) | 35<br>(+/- 8)  | 29                        | 65<br>(+/- 6)                       | 58<br>(+/- 3) | 66<br>(+/- 15) | 82<br>(+/- 22) | 76<br>(+/- 26)  | 184                       | 39                                     | 31   | 37*  | 51*  | 47*  | 155*                      |
| I-66 (eastbound) From Va.234 Business (Manassas) to Va. end of T. Roosevelt Bridge<br><i>HOV route is 27.8 miles</i>           | 43<br>(+/- 3)                   | 41<br>(+/- 8) | 53<br>(+/- 8) | 48<br>(+/- 9) | 66<br>(+/- 17) | 141                       | 71<br>(+/- 11)                      | 69<br>(+/- 5) | 70<br>(+/- 14) | 76<br>(+/- 13) | 102<br>(+/- 29) | 193                       | 28                                     | 28   | 17*  | 28*  | 10*  | 52*                       |
| Va.267/I-66 (eastbound) From Va.28 to Va. end of T. Roosevelt Bridge HOV route is 23.4 miles<br><i>HOV route is 23.4 miles</i> | N/A                             | 31<br>(+/- 1) | 28<br>(+/- 1) | 26<br>(+/- 2) | 47<br>(+/- 9)  | 54                        | N/A                                 | 51<br>(+/- 5) | 48<br>(+/- 2)  | 33<br>(+/- 5)  | 77<br>(+/- 17)  | 94                        | N/A                                    | 20   | 20*  | 7    | - 14 | 40                        |
| I-270 & East Spur (southbound) From I-370 to Old G'town Road<br><i>HOV route is 8.8 miles</i>                                  | 11<br>(+/- 1)                   | 18<br>(+/- 1) | 13<br>(+/- 2) | 12<br>(+/- 4) | 23<br>(+/- 3)  | 23                        | 16<br>(+/- 3)                       | 22<br>(+/- 4) | 19<br>(+/- 3)  | 20<br>(+/- 8)  | 18<br>(+/- 3)   | 23                        | 5                                      | 4    | 6    | 8    | - 3  | 0                         |
| I-270 and West Spur (southbound) From I-370 to S end of I-270 Spur<br><i>HOV route is 8.6 miles</i>                            | 11<br>(+/- 2)                   | 16<br>(+/- 3) | 14<br>(+/- 7) | 13<br>(+/- 3) | 12<br>(+/- 3)  | 20                        | 17<br>(+/- 4)                       | 23<br>(+/- 3) | 22<br>(+/- 3)  | 18<br>(+/- 5)  | 16<br>(+/- 5)   | 44                        | 6                                      | 7    | 8    | 5    | 6    | 24                        |
| U.S.50 (westbound) From U.S.301/Md.3 to I-95/I-495<br><i>HOV route is 9.0 miles</i>  | N/A                             | N/A           | 9<br>(+/- 0)  | 7<br>(+/- 1)  | 7<br>(+/- 1)   | 13                        | N/A                                 | 13<br>(+/- 2) | 12<br>(+/- 2)  | 8<br>(+/- 2)   | 8<br>(+/- 1)    | 20                        | N/A                                    | N/A  | 3    | 1    | 1    | 7                         |

- Notes:
- Data in table are rounded to whole minutes.
  - I-66 (eastbound) non-HOV route uses I-66 to I-495 (southbound) to U.S.50 (eastbound) to I-66 on T. Roosevelt Bridge
  - Va.267 (eastbound) HOV route uses Va. 267 to Dulles Connector Road to I-66 (eastbound)
  - Va.267 (eastbound) non-HOV route uses Va.267 to I-495 (northbound) to G.Washington Mem. Parkway (southbound) to I-66 on T. Roosevelt Bridge
  - All travel time runs on Va.267 (HOV and non-HOV) performed with an EZ-Pass transponder.
  - Travel time savings shown with an asterisk (\*) are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level using a Tukey Test for 2004-2010. Time savings without an asterisk are not statistically significant.
  - Margins of Error computed at 95% confidence level using two-tailed test.

Table D6: AM Peak Direction Travel Time Summary for HOV and non-HOV Lanes (2014)

| 2014 Regional HOV Monitoring                                      |  |                |                  |                      |              |             |             |               |
|---|--|----------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| A.M. Peak Direction Travel Time Summary for HOV and non-HOV Lanes |  |                |                  |                      |              |             |             |               |
| Facility  | Facility Section   | Length (miles) | HOV Time (mins.) | Non-HOV Time (mins.) | Time Savings |             | Mean Speeds |               |
|   |  |                |                  |                      | In Minutes   | in Min./Mi. | HOV (MPH)   | Non-HOV (MPH) |
| <b>I-95/I-395</b>   | <b>From Va. 234 to the Pentagon</b>  | 27.6           | 29               | 184                  | 155          | 5.6         | 57          | 9             |
|   | <i>Outside Beltway</i>   | 17.5           | 18               | 117                  | 99           | 5.7         | 57          | 9             |
|   | <i>Inside Beltway</i>  | 10.7           | 11               | 36                   | 25           | 2.3         | 60          | 18            |
| <b>I-66</b>   | <b>From U.S. 15 to the T. Roosevelt Bridge</b>                               | 35.3           | 141              | 193                  | 52           | 1.5         | 15          | 11            |
|   | <i>Outside Beltway</i>   | 17.8           | 71               | 97                   | 26           | 1.5         | 15          | 11            |
|   | <i>Inside Beltway</i>  | 10.5           | 11               | 63                   | 52           | 5.0         | 58          | 10            |
| <b>Va. 267</b>  | <b>From Va.28 to the T. Roosevelt Bridge (via Dulles Connector and I-66)</b> | 23.4           | 45               | 94                   | 49           | 2.1         | 31          | 15            |
|   | <i>Va. 267 only</i>  | 14.9           | 28               | 60                   | 32           | 2.1         | 32          | 15            |
| <b>I-270</b>  | <b>From I-370 to I-495 (passing Md. 187)</b>                                 | 9.9            | 23               | 23                   | 0            | 0.0         | 26          | 26            |
|   | <b>I-270Y (I-270 Spur) From I-370 to I-495 (passing Democracy Blvd.)</b>     | 11.0           | 32               | 44                   | 12           | 1.1         | 11          | 15            |
| <b>U.S. 50</b>  | <b>From U.S. 301/Md. 3 to Capital Beltway</b>                                | 6.5            | 13               | 20                   | 7            | 1.1         | 31          | 20            |

Notes:

- Facility Length rounded to nearest 1/10 of a mile
- HOV Times, Non-HOV Times and Time Savings in Minutes rounded to nearest whole minute
- Time Savings rounded to nearest 1/10 of a minute

## **APPENDIX E – SUMMARY OF TRANSPORTATION EMISSION REDUCTION MEASURE (TERM) ANALYSIS REPORT FY 2015-2017<sup>154</sup>**

In addition to air quality benefits, the evaluation results of these TERMS show significant vehicle trips (VT) and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reductions, contributing directly to congestion management in the region.

### **Background**

This report presents the results of an evaluation of four Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs), voluntary Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures implemented by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) Commuter Connections program at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) to support the Washington, DC metropolitan region's air quality conformity determination and congestion management process. This evaluation documents transportation and air quality impacts for the three-year evaluation period between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2017, for the following TERMS:

- Maryland and Virginia Telework – The Maryland portion of this TERM provides information and assistance to Maryland commuters and employers to further in-home and telecenter-based telework programs. The Virginia portion provides assistance to employers and employees participating in the Telework! VA (TWVA) program.
- Guaranteed Ride Home – Eliminates a barrier to use of alternative modes by providing free rides home in the event of an unexpected personal emergency or unscheduled overtime to commuters who use alternative modes.
- Employer Outreach – Provides regional outreach services to encourage large, private-sector and non-profit employers voluntarily to implement commuter assistance strategies that will contribute to reducing vehicle trips to worksites, including the efforts of jurisdiction sales representatives to foster new and expanded trip reduction programs. The Employer Outreach for Bicycling TERM also is part of this analysis.
- Mass Marketing – Involves a large-scale, comprehensive media campaign to inform the region's commuters of services available from Commuter Connections as one way to address commuters' frustration about the commute. Various special promotional events also are part of this TERM.

COG's National Capital Transportation Planning Board (TPB), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Washington, DC metropolitan region, adopted and continues to support these TERMS, among others, as part of the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The purpose of the TERMS is to help the region reduce emissions in support of air quality goals for the region and to meet federal requirements for the congestion management process. The Commuter Connections program is considered integral in regional travel demand management and is included in

---

<sup>154</sup> Nicholas Ramfos, Lori Diggins, Eric Schreffler and Phillip Winters, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Commuter Connections Program 2015-2017 Transportation Emission Reduction Measure Analysis Report, November 21, 2017.  
<https://www.mwcog.org/file.aspx?D=8%2fY1rpdJLtKw6otYYA9fxpS26Ap9ZDIETZI6Mar8mnA%3d&A=PosGAfvOg%2bM76Edp9AdoidpaNpR2HAbX%2bXpyKkc4rT8%3d>

the region's TERMS technical documentation which was updated in October 2015. Travel parameters prior to the year 2010 were captured by the regional travel demand model. Only the effects of the incremental growth of the Commuter Connections program post 2010 will be accounted for in future analysis years in the event the impacts are needed as part of the region's air quality conformity determination.

COG/TPB's Commuter Connections program, which also operates an ongoing regional rideshare program, is the central administrator of the TERMS noted above. Commuter Connections elected to include a vigorous evaluation element in the implementation plan for each of the adopted TERMS to develop information to guide sound decision-making about the TERMS. This report summarizes the results of the TERM evaluation activities and presents the transportation and air quality impacts of the TERMS and the Commuter Operations Center (COC).

This evaluation represents a comprehensive evaluation for these programs. It should be noted, however, that the evaluation is conservative in the sense that it includes credit only for impacts that can be reasonably documented with accepted measurement methods and tools. Note that many of the calculations use data from surveys that are subject to some statistical error, at rates common to such surveys.

A primary purpose of this evaluation was to develop meaningful information for regional transportation and air quality decision-makers, COG/TPB staff, COG/TPB program funding agencies, and state and local commute assistance program managers to guide sound decision-making about the TERMS. The results of this evaluation will provide valuable information for regional air quality conformity and the region's congestion management process, to improve the structure and implementation procedures of the TERMS themselves, and to refine future data collection methodologies and tools.

### **Summary of TERM Impact Results**

The objective of the evaluation is to estimate reductions in vehicle trips (VT), vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and tons of vehicle pollutants (Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), Particulate Matter NO<sub>x</sub> precursors (PM and NO<sub>x</sub>), and Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)) resulting from implementation of each TERM and compare the impacts against the goals established for the TERMS. The impact results for these measures are shown in Table A for each TERM individually. Results for all TERMS collectively and for the Commuter Operations Center (COC) are presented in Table B.

As shown in Table A, the TERMS combined exceeded the collective goals for vehicle trips reduced by 14% and exceeded the VMT goal by about 18%. The TERMS did not reach the emission goals; the impact for NO<sub>x</sub> was 31% under the goal and VOC impact was 10% under the goal, but these deficits were due largely to changes in the emission factors. The TERM goals were set in 2006, using 2006 emission factors. Goals for some TERMS were re-set since the issuance of the FY2012 - 2014 Commuter Connections TERM Analysis Report. Emission factors used in the 2017 evaluation were considerably lower than the factors from 2014 and lower still than the factors used in 2011, reflecting a cleaner vehicle fleet.

When the COC results are added to the TERM impacts, as presented in Table B, the combined impacts exceeded the vehicle trip and VMT reduction goals by 8% and 9%, respectively. The combined TERM - COC program impacts fell 37% short of the NO<sub>x</sub> goal and were 14% below the VOC goal. Again, the change in the emission factors affected the emission results.

Two TERMS, Telework – Maryland Assistance, and Employer Outreach, easily met their individual goals for participation and travel impact. Employer Outreach exceeded vehicle trip and VMT goals by substantial margins. The Employer Outreach for Bicycling TERM component did not meet its goals, but the absolute deficits were small. The Virginia telework component (Telework!VA) also met the goals set for the program.

The impacts for the other two TERMS were below their goals. Vehicle trip reductions and VMT reductions for the Guaranteed Ride Home TERM were about half of the goals set for these impacts, primarily due to declining registrations, compared with 2014 and previous years. The Mass Marketing TERM's vehicle trip and VMT reductions were 6% and 10% short of their respective goals. The Commuter Operations Center and the Software Upgrades TERM also were under their goals for vehicle trips and VMT reduced.

Additional details on the calculations for each TERM and for the Commuter Operations Center are described in individual sections of this report. The reasons for the shortfalls from the goals also are discussed in the individual report sections.

**Table A**  
**Summary of Daily Impact Results for Individual TERMS (July 2014 – June 2017) and Comparison to Goals**

| TERM  | Participation <sup>1)</sup> | Daily Vehicle Trips Reduced | Daily VMT Reduced | Daily Tons NOx Reduced | Daily Tons VOC Reduced |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Maryland Telework Assistance <sup>2)</sup></b>   |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 31,854                      | 11,830                      | 241,209           | 0.122                  | 0.072                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 44,350                      | 14,839                      | 361,204           | 0.096                  | 0.070                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | 12,496                      | 3,009                       | 119,995           | (0.026)                | (0.002)                |
| <b>Virginia Telework Assistance – Telework! VA <sup>2)</sup></b>                          |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 800                         | 155                         | 2,548             | 0.003                  | 0.001                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 1,531                       | 490                         | 9,359             | 0.003                  | 0.002                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | 731                         | 335                         | 6,811             | 0.000                  | 0.001                  |
| <b>Guaranteed Ride Home</b>   |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 36,992                      | 12,593                      | 355,136           | 0.177                  | 0.097                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 16,742                      | 6,398                       | 181,335           | 0.040                  | 0.023                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | (20,250)                    | (6,195)                     | (173,801)         | (0.137)                | (0.074)                |
| <b>Employer Outreach – all employers participating <sup>3)</sup></b>                      |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 1,847                       | 82,524                      | 1,393,783         | 0.561                  | 0.320                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 2,046                       | 102,625                     | 1,841,429         | 0.474                  | 0.350                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | 199                         | 20,101                      | 447,646           | (0.087)                | 0.030                  |
| <b>Employer Outreach – new / expanded employer services since July 2014 <sup>3)</sup></b> |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 91                          | N/A                         | N/A               | N/A                    | N/A                    |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 765                         | 25,936                      | 482,153           | 0.123                  | 0.090                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | 674                         | N/A                         | N/A               | N/A                    | N/A                    |
| <b>Employer Outreach for Bicycling <sup>3)</sup></b>                                      |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 590                         | 404                         | 2,421             | 0.0016                 | 0.0015                 |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 597                         | 373                         | 1,640             | 0.0008                 | 0.0012                 |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | 7                           | (31)                        | (781)             | (0.0008)               | (0.0003)               |
| <b>Mass Marketing</b>   |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 23,168                      | 10,809                      | 181,932           | 0.085                  | 0.025                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 23,016                      | 10,133                      | 163,250           | 0.042                  | 0.019                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   | (152)                       | (676)                       | (18,682)          | 0.043                  | (0.006)                |
| <b>TERMS (all TERMS collectively)</b>   |                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   |                             | 117,911                     | 2,174,608         | 0.948                  | 0.515                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   |                             | 134,485                     | 2,556,577         | 0.655                  | 0.464                  |
| Net Credit or (Deficit)   |                             | 16,574                      | 381,969           | (0.293)                | (0.051)                |

- 1) Participation refers to number of commuters participating, except for the Employer Outreach TERM. For this TERM, participation equals the number of employers participating.
- 2) Maryland impacts represent portion of regional telework attributable to TERM-related activities in Maryland. Virginia impacts represent portion of regional telework attributable to the TW!VA program in Virginia. Total telework credited for conformity is higher than reported for the TERM.
- 3) Impacts for Employer Outreach - all employers participating includes impacts for Employer Outreach – new / expanded employer services since July 2014 and for Employer Outreach for Bicycling.

**Table B**  
**Summary of TERM and COC Results (July 2014 – June 2017) and Comparison to Goals**

| TERM  | Participation   | Daily Vehicle Trips Reduced | Daily VMT Reduced | Daily Tons NOx Reduced | Daily Tons VOC Reduced |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>TERMS (all TERMS collectively)</b>                               |                 |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   |                 | 117,911                     | 2,174,608         | 0.948                  | 0.515                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   |                 | 134,485                     | 2,556,577         | 0.655                  | 0.464                  |
| <b>Net Credit or (Deficit)</b>                                      |                 | <b>16,7574</b>              | <b>381,969</b>    | <b>(0.293)</b>         | <b>(0.051)</b>         |
| <b>Commuter Operations Center – Basic Services</b>                  |                 |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 91,609          | 24,425                      | 512,637           | 0.241                  | 0.115                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 77,662          | 19,949                      | 401,327           | 0.105                  | 0.079                  |
| <b>Net Credit or (Deficit)</b>                                      | <b>(13,947)</b> | <b>(4,476)</b>              | <b>(111,310)</b>  | <b>(0.136)</b>         | <b>(0.036)</b>         |
| <b>Commuter Operations Center – Software Upgrades <sup>1)</sup></b> |                 |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   | 4,681           | 2,379                       | 66,442            | 0.028                  | 0.011                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   | 4,178           | 1,779                       | 51,340            | 0.011                  | 0.006                  |
| <b>Net Credit or (Deficit)</b>                                      | <b>(503)</b>    | <b>(600)</b>                | <b>(15,102)</b>   | <b>(0.017)</b>         | <b>(0.005)</b>         |
| <b>All TERMS plus COC</b>   |                 |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| 2017 Goal   |                 | 144,715                     | 2,753,687         | 1.217                  | 0.641                  |
| Impacts (7/14 – 6/17)   |                 | 156,213                     | 3,009,244         | 0.771                  | 0.549                  |
| <b>Net Credit or (Deficit)</b>                                      |                 | <b>11,498</b>               | <b>255,557</b>    | <b>(0.446)</b>         | <b>(0.092)</b>         |

1) Impacts for Commuter Operations Center – software Upgrades are in addition to the impacts for the Commuter Operations Center – Basic Services. This project was previously part of the Integrated Rideshare TERM.

Table C, on the following page, presents annual emission reduction results for PM 2.5, PM 2.5 precursor NOx, and CO2 emissions (Greenhouse Gas Emissions - GHG) for each TERM and for the COC. COG/TPB did not establish specific targets for these impacts for the Commuter Connections TERMS. But COG has been measuring these impacts for other TERMS, thus these results are provided.

As shown, the TERMS collectively reduce 8.7 annual tons of PM 2.5, 175 annual tons of PM 2.5 precursor NOx, and 264,235 annual tons of CO2 (greenhouse gas emissions). When the Commuter Operations Center is included, these emissions impacts rise to 10.2 annual tons of PM 2.5, 206.2 annual tons of PM 2.5 pre-cursor NOx, and 310,982 annual tons of CO2 (greenhouse gas emissions)..

**Table C**  
**Summary of Annual PM 2.5 and CO2 (Greenhouse Gas) Emission Results for Individual TERMS**

| TERM  | Annual Tons<br>PM 2.5<br>Reduced | Annual Tons<br>PM 2.5<br>Precursor NOx<br>Reduced | Annual Tons<br>CO2<br>Reduced |
|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Maryland Telework Assistance <sup>1)</sup>                                    | 1.275                            | 25.675  | 38,820.0                      |
| Virginia Telework Assistance (TWIVA) <sup>1)</sup>                            | 0.025                            | 0.700   | 1,012.5                       |
| Guaranteed Ride Home  | 0.552                            | 10.585  | 17,664.1                      |
| Employer Outreach – all employers <sup>2)</sup>                               | 6.275                            | 126.775   | 190,093.1                     |
| Employer Outreach – new/expanded employers <sup>2)</sup>                      | 1.650                            | 32.975  | 49,801.5                      |
| Employer Outreach for Bicycling   | 0.000                            | 0.250   | 195.3                         |
| Mass Marketing  | 0.556                            | 11.369  | 16,644.8                      |
| <b>TERMS (all TERMS collectively)</b>   | <b>8.683</b>                     | <b>175.104</b>                                    | <b>264,234.5</b>              |
| Commuter Operations Center – basic services (not including Software Upgrades) | 1.377                            | 28.137  | 41,766.3                      |
| Commuter Operations Center – Software Upgrades                                | 0.150                            | 2.975   | 4,981.1                       |
| <b>All TERMS plus Commuter Operations Center</b>                              | <b>10.210</b>                    | <b>206.216</b>                                    | <b>310,981.9</b>              |

- 1) Maryland impacts represent portion of regional telework attributable to TERM-related activities in Maryland. Virginia impacts represent portion of regional telework attributable to the TWIVA program in Virginia. Total telework credited for conformity is higher than reported for the TERM.
- 2) Impacts for new / expanded employer programs and Employer Outreach for Bicycling are included in the Employer Outreach – all employers.

Finally, Table D shows comparisons of daily reductions in vehicle trips, VMT, NOx, and VOC from the 2017 TERM analysis (July 2014 through June 2017) to results of the 2014 analysis (July 2011 through June 2014). As noted before and as described in the footnotes to the table, the emission factors declined between 2014 and 2017, resulting in decreased emission reductions, even though some of the TERMS achieved greater vehicle trip and VMT reductions in 2017 than in 2014.

The impacts for the Telework TERM and Employer Outreach were substantially higher in 2017 than in 2014. Impacts for GRH and for the Mass Marketing TERMS were lower in the 2017 analysis than in 2014. But the vehicle trip impact for Mass Marketing was only 2% below that for 2014 and the VMT impact was only 6% below 2014. The Commuter Operations Center also had lower impacts in 2017 than in 2014, largely due to a lower than expected application count.



**Table D**  
**Summary of Results for Individual TERMS 7/14– 6/17 Compared with 7/11 – 6/14**

| TERM   | Daily Vehicle Trips Reduced | Daily VMT Reduced | Daily Tons NOx Reduced | Daily Tons VOC Reduced |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Maryland Telework Assistance</b>  |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 14,839                      | 361,204           | 0.096                  | 0.070                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 9,651                       | 205,511           | 0.101                  | 0.051                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | 5,188                       | 155,693           | (0.005)                | 0.019                  |
| <b>Virginia Telework Assistance – Telework! VA</b>                             |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 490                         | 9,359             | 0.003                  | 0.002                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014 <sup>2)</sup>  | N/A                         | N/A               | N/A                    | N/A                    |
| Change   | 490                         | 9,359             | 0.003                  | 0.002                  |
| <b>Guaranteed Ride Home</b>  |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 6,398                       | 181,335           | 0.040                  | 0.023                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 7,711                       | 212,834           | 0.087                  | 0.033                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | (1,313)                     | (31,473)          | (0.047)                | (0.011)                |
| <b>Employer Outreach – All services except Employer Outreach for Bicycling</b> |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 102,252                     | 1,839,789         | 0.473                  | 0.349                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 78,210                      | 1,325,107         | 0.533                  | 0.304                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | 24,042                      | 514,682           | (0.059)                | 0.045                  |
| <b>Employer Outreach for Bicycling</b>   |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 373                         | 1,640             | 0.001                  | 0.001                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 323                         | 1,937             | 0.001                  | 0.001                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | 50                          | (297)             | 0.000                  | 0.000                  |
| <b>Mass Marketing</b>  |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 10,133                      | 163,250           | 0.042                  | 0.019                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 10,294                      | 173,269           | 0.081                  | 0.024                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | (161)                       | (10,019)          | (0.038)                | (0.005)                |
| <b>All TERMS</b>   |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 134,485                     | 2,556,577         | 0.655                  | 0.464                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 106,189                     | 1,918,658         | 0.803                  | 0.412                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | 28,296                      | 637,919           | (0.148)                | 0.052                  |
| <b>Commuter Operations Center (Basic Services + Software Upgrades)</b>         |                             |                   |                        |                        |
| July 2014 – June 2017  | 21,728                      | 452,667           | 0.116                  | 0.085                  |
| July 2011 – June 2014  | 25,641                      | 554,668           | 0.258                  | 0.121                  |
| Change <sup>1)</sup>   | (3,913)                     | (102,001)         | (0.142)                | (0.035)                |

1) Change in emissions is due in part to reduction in emission factors from 2014 to 2017.

2) Telework! VA was not included in the FY 2012-14 TERM analysis.

**APPENDIX F – SAMPLE CMP DOCUMENTATION FORM**

**CONGESTION MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION FORM  
 FOR PROJECTS IN THE 2040 CLRP**



1. Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

|                  | Prefix | Route | Name | Modifier |
|------------------|--------|-------|------|----------|
| 4. Facility:     |        |       |      |          |
| 5. From ( _ at): |        |       |      |          |
| 6. To:           |        |       |      |          |

7. Jurisdiction(s): \_\_\_\_\_

8. Indicate whether the proposed project's location is subject to or benefits significantly from any of the following in-place congestion management strategies:

- Metropolitan Washington Commuter Connections program (ridesharing, telecommuting, guaranteed ride home, employer programs)
- A Transportation Management Association is in the vicinity
- Channelized or grade-separated intersection(s) or roundabouts
- Reversible, turning, acceleration/deceleration, or bypass lanes
- High occupancy vehicle facilities or systems
- Transit stop (rail or bus) within a 1/2 mile radius of the project location
- Park-and-ride lot within a one-mile radius of the project location
- Real-time surveillance/traffic device controlled by a traffic operations center
- Motorist assistance/hazard clearance patrols
- Interconnected/coordinated traffic signal system
- Other in-place congestion management strategy or strategies (briefly describe below:)

9. List and briefly describe how the following categories of (additional) strategies were considered as full or partial alternatives to single-occupant vehicle capacity expansion in the study or proposal for the project.

a. Transportation demand management measures, including growth management and congestion pricing

b. Traffic operational improvements

c. Public transportation improvements

d. Intelligent Transportation Systems technologies

## CONGESTION MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION FORM

e. Other congestion management strategies

f. Combinations of the above strategies

10. Could congestion management alternatives fully eliminate or partially offset the need for the proposed increase in single-occupant vehicle capacity? Explain why or why not.

11. Describe all congestion management strategies that are going to be incorporated into the proposed highway project.

12. Describe the proposed funding and implementation schedule for the congestion management strategies to be incorporated into the proposed highway project. Also describe how the effectiveness of strategies implemented will be monitored and assessed after implementation.

## **APPENDIX G – REVIEW OF CONGESTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

This appendix references the Table 17 and Table 18 on pages 185 and 186, which are repeated on the next two pages for convenience.

### **General Characteristics**

#### ***Strategy Name and Number:***

The strategies down the left-hand side of the lists were developed based on the types of strategies being pursued in the region and elsewhere, and could be considered for implementation in our region. Inclusion of any given strategy on the list does not imply endorsement, but rather is included on the list only for consideration and comparison purposes.

Each strategy has a number associated with it (C.1.0, C.1.1, etc.) to make it easier to find and discuss the strategies. The number is not in any way a ranking.

Those listed in bold italics are the strategy categories and underneath them are the specific strategies in that category.

**Table G1: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Demand Management Strategies Criteria**

- 1. Some Impact (x)
- 2. Significant Impact (xx)
- 3. High Impact (xxx)

|  |  | QUALITATIVE CRITERIA       |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  |  | Impacts on Congestion      |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|  |  | Reduces Overall Congestion | Reduces Incident-related Congestion | Supports/Promotes Multi-modal Transportation | Regional Applicability | Local Applicability | Existing Level of Deployment | Ease of Implementation | Cost | Cost Effectiveness | Enhance Existing Programs |
| <b>STRATEGY</b>  |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| <b>C.5.0 Alternative Commute Programs</b>                      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.5.1  | Carpooling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.2  | Ridematching Services  | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.3  | Vanpooling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.5.4  | Telecommuting  | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.5  | Promote Alternate Modes  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xxx                    | x    | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.6  | Compressed/flexible work weeks   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xxx                          | xxx                    | x    | x                  | xx                        |
| C.5.7  | Employer outreach/mass marketing   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.5.8  | Parking cash-out   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | x                      | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.5.9  | Alternative Commute Subsidy Program  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | x                      | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| <b>C.6.0 Managed Facilities</b>                                |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.6.1  | HOV  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.6.2  | Variably Priced Lanes (VPL)  | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.6.3  | Cordon Pricing   | xxx                        | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | x                   | x                            | x                      | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.6.4  | Bridge Tolling   | xxx                        | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | x                         |
| <b>C.7.0 Public Transportation Improvements</b>                |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.7.1  | Electronic Payment Systems   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xx                  | xxx                          | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.7.2  | Improvements/added capacity to regional rail and bus transit                                       | xx                         | xx                                  | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.7.3  | Improving accessibility to multi-modal options   | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.7.4  | Park-and-ride lot improvements   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xx                     | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.7.5  | Carsharing Programs  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.8.0 Pedestrian, bicycle, and multi-modal improvements</b> |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.8.1  | Improve pedestrian facilities  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.8.2  | Creation of new bicycle and pedestrian lanes and facilities  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.8.3  | Addition of bicycle racks at public transit stations/stops   | x                          | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | x                  | xxx                       |
| C.8.4  | Bike sharing programs  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.9.0 Growth Management</b>                                 |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.9.1  | Coordination of Regional Activity Centers  | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xxx  | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.9.2  | Implementation of TLC program (i.e. coordination of transportation and land use with local gov'ts) | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.9.3  | "Live Near Your Work" program  | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | x    | x                  | xx                        |

Table G2: Congestion Management Process (CMP) Operational Management Strategies Criteria

| STRATEGY   |  | QUALITATIVE CRITERIA       |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  |  | Impacts on Congestion      |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
|  |  | Reduces Overall Congestion | Reduces Incident-related Congestion | Supports/Promotes Multi-modal Transportation | Regional Applicability | Local Applicability | Existing Level of Deployment | Ease of Implementation | Cost | Cost Effectiveness | Enhance Existing Programs |
| <b>C.1.0 Incident Mngt./Non-recurring</b>          |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.1.1  | Imaging/Video for surveillance and Detection   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.2  | Service patrols  | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.3  | Emergency Mngt. Systems (EMS)  | x                          | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xxx                          | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.4  | Emergency Vehicle Preemption   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | x                  | xx                        |
| C.1.5  | Road Weather Management  | x                          | xxx                                 | x  | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.1.6  | Traffic Mngt. Centers (TMCs)   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.1.7  | Curve Speed Warning System   | xx                         | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.1.8  | Work Zone Management   | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.1.9  | Automated truck rollover systems   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| <b>C.2.0 ITS Technologies</b>                      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.2.1  | Advanced Traffic Signal Systems  | xxx                        | xx                                  | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.2.2  | Electronic Payment Systems   | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xx                  | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| C.2.3  | Freeway Ramp Metering  | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.4  | Bus Priority Systems   | x                          | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | xx                     | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.5  | Lane Management (e.g. Variable Speed Limits)   | xx                         | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.6  | Automated Enforcement (e.g. red light cameras)   | x                          | x                                   | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.7  | Traffic signal timing  | xxx                        | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.2.8  | Reversible Lanes   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.9  | Parking Management Systems   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xx                     | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.10   | Dynamic Routing/Scheduling   | xx                         | x                                   | xx   | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xxx  | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.11   | Service Coordination and Fleet Mngt. (e.g. buses and trains sharing real-time information) | xx                         | x                                   | xxx  | xxx                    | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xx                        |
| C.2.12   | Probe Traffic Monitoring   | xx                         | xxx                                 | x  | xx                     | xx                  | x                            | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xx                        |
| <b>C.3.0 Advanced Traveler Information Systems</b> |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.3.1  | 511  | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xxx                    | x                   | xx                           | xx                     | xxx  | xx                 | xxx                       |
| C.3.2  | Variable Message Signs (VMS)   | xx                         | xxx                                 | xx   | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.3.3  | Highway Advisory Radio (HAR)   | x                          | xx                                  | x  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | xx   | x                  | xx                        |
| C.3.4  | Transit Information Systems  | xx                         | xx                                  | xxx  | xx                     | xxx                 | xx                           | x                      | xx   | xx                 | xxx                       |
| <b>C.4.0 Traffic Engineering Improvements</b>      |  |                            |                                     |  |                        |                     |                              |                        |      |                    |                           |
| C.4.1  | Safety Improvements  | x                          | xxx                                 | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xxx                    | x    | xxx                | xxx                       |
| C.4.2  | Turn Lanes   | xx                         | x                                   | x  | x                      | xxx                 | xx                           | xx                     | xx   | xx                 | x                         |
| C.4.3  | Roundabouts  | x                          | xx                                  | x  | x                      | xxx                 | x                            | x                      | x    | xx                 | xx                        |

- 1. Some Impact (x)
- 2. Significant Impact (xx)
- 3. High Impact (xxx)

### **Qualitative Criteria:**

The qualitative criteria listed across the top of the lists are used to show what kind of impact strategies have on various areas. The first three criteria listed are all impacts on congestion. However, there are several other criteria that could be looked at to determine if a strategy should be considered. The following is a definition of each criterion, and the questions we may want to ask when giving each strategy a “high,” “medium,” or “low” indicator:

- **Reduces Overall Congestion**
  - How much of an impact does a strategy have in reducing overall traffic congestion?
- **Reduces Incident-related Congestion**
  - How much of an impact does a strategy have in reducing incidents and incident-related congestion?
- **Support/Promotes Multi-modal Transportation**
  - Does this strategy play a particular role in supporting multi-modal transportation, such as the use of bus, rail, bicycling, or pedestrian facilities?
- **Regional Applicability**
  - Is this the type of strategy that would be easier to implement at the regional level (e.g. alternative commute programs across the region)?
- **Local Applicability**
  - Is this the type of strategy that would be easier to implement at the local level (e.g. Automated Enforcement, which depends greatly on the local laws and law enforcement)?
- **Existing Level of Deployment**
  - Is this strategy implemented anywhere in the region now, and if so, to what extent?
- **Ease of Implementation**
  - How easy is the strategy to implement? Not only in terms of complexity, but in also in terms of funding, and a local jurisdiction’s unique programs and laws. Some strategies are more common and more promising, while others may be more difficult to implement.
- **Cost**
  - How much does a strategy cost to implement?
- **Cost Effectiveness**
  - How much does the value outweigh the cost (i.e. how high are the benefits)? This is different than the previous “cost” category. For example, carpooling may be indicated as low in terms of cost, because the cost is generally low to implement. However, carpooling may be indicated as high in terms of cost effectiveness, because the benefits and value gained in the region far outweigh the cost.
- **Enhance Existing Programs**
  - How well does this strategy fit in with existing strategies in the region? Is it new and something that existing strategies would benefit from? This category, previously broken down into “DC,” “MD,” and “VA,” was collapsed into one category. It was found that when trying to determine if a strategy enhanced existing programs, there was not much variation among the jurisdictions.

### **Some, Significant, and High Indicators:**

Each strategy was given an indicator of “some impact (x),” “significant impact (xx),” or “high impact (xxx),” which was based on a similar nomenclature used in the TERM process. Each indicator was developed from the knowledge and research of what sorts of activities are going on in our region. By

nature of various strategies, some will be evaluated with greater or lesser impacts (e.g. a strategy may be listed as “low” for regional applicability but “high” for local applicability”). That being said, some strategies that are “low” in some categories may be of interest for other reasons.

To further explain and clarify the reason for these indicators, let’s walk through the indicators of one strategy, *C.8.1 – Improve Pedestrian Facilities*:

- Improving pedestrian facilities was thought to have a medium impact on reducing overall congestion in the region. Improving pedestrian facilities provides an alternative mode of transportation and takes some cars off the road.
- Its contribution to reducing incident-related congestion is limited; therefore it is indicated low in that category.
- Improving pedestrian facilities greatly support and promote multi-modal transportation, therefore indicated high.
- It is something that can be implemented region-wide, but is more likely to be applied more on a local level, given the unique programs and laws of jurisdictions (thus a medium indicator for regional applicability and a high indicator for local applicability).
- It has a fairly good existing level of deployment across the region (although given the high demand for pedestrian facilities in this region, some areas are lacking facilities).
- Ease of implementation for improving pedestrian facilities could be less expensive than building new roadways, and it could be easier to implement than ITS technologies. However, challenges such as local approval, and demand for these facilities, still remain. Indicator: medium.
- Cost is neither extremely low nor especially high, and it really depends on what type of pedestrian facility is being implemented. Cost effectiveness was indicated medium, as pedestrian facilities provide a good benefit for what it costs to implement them.
- Improvement of pedestrian facilities enhance existing programs. Pedestrian facilities support local growth management plans and provide access to transit options. Indicator: high.

### ***Tying It All Together:***

The strategy long lists are important to the regional CMP for several reasons:

- The lists outline various existing and potential strategies that could be considered for our region. As congestion is becoming and epidemic here and elsewhere, these strategies will serve as a point of reference to indicate what is being done in this region to address this.
- The “high,” “medium,” and “low” indicators characterize the impact strategies have. They provide a starting point for discussion show that there are various reasons why one may want to implement a strategy. While something may have a high cost, it may also have a high impact on reducing congestion and a high cost effectiveness.
- The lists address federal requirements, which state that the region should identify and evaluate anticipated performance and expected benefits of existing strategies.

As the region continues to grow these are just some of the strategies that could be considered for our region. Many strategies on these lists are ongoing and will continue to be implemented on a greater scale. For other strategies these lists may act as a starting point for future consideration. Regardless, congestion management strategies will be at the forefront of discussion as the Washington region continues to be a dynamic living and working environment.



## Detailed Descriptions of Strategies

Following is a list of congestion management strategies listed in the Strategy Long Lists. The numbers correspond with the numbered strategies in the list.

### **Operational Management Strategies:**

**C.1.0 - Incident Management./Non-recurring** - This category of strategies are aimed at reducing non-recurring congestion; congestion caused primarily by incidents and events. Many of these incident management systems are aimed at clearing an incident so that traffic can resume its normal flow.

- **C.1.1 – Imaging/Video for Surveillance and Detection**
  - Cameras throughout our transportation system, on roadways, at intersections, and at transit stations. Help detect incidents quickly, help emergency response units arrive quickly and help travelers safely negotiate around incidents.
- **C.1.2 – Service Patrols**
  - Specially equipped motor vehicles and trained staff that help in clearing incidents off a roadway and navigating traffic safely around an incident.
- **C.1.3 – Emergency Management Systems (EMS)**
  - EMS notify, dispatch, and guide emergency responders to an incident. Aid in detecting, tracking, and clearing incidents.
- **C. 1.4 – Emergency Vehicle Preemption**
  - Signal preemption for emergency vehicles use sensors to detect and emergency vehicle and provide a green signal to the vehicle. This is important to incident management in that it allows for emergency vehicles to get to the scene of an incident and clear it so that traffic can resume its normal flow.
- **C.1.5 – Road Weather Management**
  - Can take the forms of information dissemination, response and treatment, surveillance monitoring, and prediction, and traffic control. Helps prevent incidents due to inclement weather (snow, ice).
- **C.1.6 – Traffic Management Centers (TMCs)**
  - Centers that collect and analyze traffic data and then disseminate data to the public. Data collection elements might include CCTVs, cameras, and loop detectors. Might relay information to the public through radio, TV, or the Internet. This is important to the public, as it allows them to get information about existing traffic conditions and plan their route and timing accordingly.
- **C.1.7 – Curve Speed Warning System**
  - GPS and digital devices on a highway that assess and detect the threat of vehicles moving toward a curve too quickly. This is important in preventing incidents and thus preventing non-recurring congestion.
- **C.1.8 – Work Zone Management**
  - Can take the form of traffic workers, signs, and temporary road blockers used to direct traffic during an incident or construction. The temporary implementation of traffic management or incident management capabilities can help direct the flow of traffic, keep traffic moving, and prevent additional incidents.
- **C.1.9 – Automated truck rollover systems**
  - Detectors deployed on ramps to warn trucks if they are about to exceed their rollover threshold. If the data concludes a truck’s maximum safe speed is to be exceeded around a turn, then a message sign would flash, “TRUCKS REDUCE SPEED.” This is important in preventing incidents caused by large trucks, and thus preventing non-recurring congestion.

**C.2.0 – ITS Technologies** – This category of strategies can be defined as electronic technologies and communication devices aimed at monitoring traffic flow, detecting incidents, and providing information to the public and emergency systems on what is happening on our roadways and transit communities. Much of what is done with ITS helps in reducing non-recurring and incident-related congestion, and works hand-in-hand with those strategies listed in the above category (C.1.0).

**C.2.1 – Advanced Traffic Signal Systems**

- The coordination of traffic signal operation in a jurisdiction, or between jurisdictions. This is important to congestion, as it reduces delay and improves travel times.
- **C.2.2 – Electronic Payment Systems**
  - These systems can make transit use more convenient by allowing a user to pay for bus, rail, park-and-ride lots, and other transit services with one card. Convenience an appealing factor, and helps increase transit ridership and transfers among different transit modes.
- **C.2.3 – Freeway Ramp Metering**
  - Traffic signals on freeway ramps that alternate between red and green to control the flow of vehicles entering the freeway. This prevents incidents that may occur from vehicles entering the freeway too quickly, and also prevents a backup of traffic on the on-ramp.
- **C.2.4 – Bus Priority Systems**
  - Bus priority systems are sensors used to detect approaching transit vehicles and alter signal timings to improve transit performance. For example, some systems extend the duration of green signals for public transportation vehicles when necessary. This is important because improved transit performance, including a more precisely predicted time for bus arrivals, makes public transit a more appealing option for travelers.
- **C.2.5 – Lane Management (e.g. Variable Speed Limits)**
  - Variable Speed Limits are sensors used to monitor prevailing weather or traffic conditions, and message signs posting enforceable speed limits. These systems can promote the most effective use of available capacity during emergency evacuations, incidents, construction, and a variety of other traffic and/or weather conditions.
- **C.2.6 – Automated Enforcement (e.g. red light cameras)**
  - Still or video cameras that monitor things such as speed, ramp metering, and the running of red lights, to name a few. They are important to preventing non-recurring and incident related congestion.
- **C.2.7 – Traffic Signal Timing**
  - Traffic signal timing plans adjust traffic signals during an incident, during inclement weather, or to improve transit performance. The overall objective is to reduce backups at traffic signals and to increase the level of service.
- **C.2.8 – Reversible Lanes**
  - Traffic sensors and lane control signs reverse the flow of traffic and allow travel in the peak direction during rush hours. This is important to alleviating congestion that may occur in one direction during a peak hour.
- **C.2.9 – Dynamic Routing/Scheduling**
  - Public transportation routing and scheduling can automatically detect a vehicle's location, and dispatching and reservation technologies can facilitate the flexibility of routing/scheduling. This can help increase the timeliness of public transportation, keep transit on schedule, which in turn increases ridership.
- **C.2.11 – Service Coordination and Fleet Management (e.g. buses and trains sharing real-time information)**

- Monitoring and communication technologies in a vehicle that facilitate the coordination of passenger transfers between vehicles or transit systems. This is important and appealing to passengers that use more than one type of transit.
- **C.2.12 – Probe Traffic Monitoring**
  - Using individual vehicles in the traffic stream to measure the time it takes them to travel between two points and also to report abnormal traffic flow caused by incidents. Tracking could be done with the use of cellular phones, and in the future with the installation of a system in the vehicle which would send information to transportation operators. This is important to monitoring recurring and non-recurring congested locations, and travel time.

**C.3.0 – Advanced Traveler Information Systems** – Provide information to travelers which allow them to adjust the timing of their travels or the route that they take to avoid any incidents, construction, or weather problems.

- **C.3.1 – 511**
  - A variety of applications for travelers to use either before their trip or en-route, such as 511 telephone systems, internet websites, pagers, cell phones, and radio, to obtain up-to-date traveler information. This helps travelers plan their timing and routes accordingly.
- **C.3.2 – Variable Message Signs (VMS)**
  - One way ITS operators can share traffic information with travelers is through a Variable Message Sign (VMS) along the roadway. Such signs could provide information on road closures, emergency messages, weather message, and construction. This helps travelers plan their timing and routes accordingly. These signs can also prevent incidents from occurring as they provide warnings about speed, weather, construction, etc.
- **C.3.3 – Highway Advisory Radio (HAR)**
  - Another way ITS operators can share traffic information with travelers is through Highway Advisory Radio (HAR). The radio can provide information on road closures, emergency messages, weather, and construction (such as the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project). Travelers can plan their timing and route accordingly.
- **C.3.4 – Transit Information Systems**
  - Can provide up-to-date transit information, such as arrival times for bus and rail. The WMATA Metrorail display signs depicting arrival times for trains are examples of this. Having this type of information available can increase transit ridership, and can also allow riders to make decisions on what type of transit to use based on up-to-date information.

**C.4.0 – Traffic Engineering Improvements** – Improvements implemented on roadways where congestion problems have occurred in the past or are anticipated to occur in the future. Some of these engineering improvements can be aimed at reducing incidents on a particularly dangerous section of roadway, while others may be attempting to relieve a choke-point or bottleneck.

- **C.4.1 – Safety Improvements**
  - Improvements done to increase safety and reduce incident-related congestion. Examples of some improvements include traffic calming devices, speed bumps, widening or narrowing a roadway, and textured pavement. These safety improvements can prevent incidents and non-recurring congestion resulting from incidents.
- **C.4.2 – Turn lanes**
  - Might be implemented to reduce the queuing of cars waiting to make a right or left turn at an intersection, thus reducing congestion.
- **C.4.3 – Roundabouts**

- Barriers placed in the middle of an intersection, creating a circle, and thus directing vehicles in the same direction. This can help reduce congestion by slowing the speed of cars on a street and/or preventing thru traffic on a neighborhood street.

***Demand Management Strategies:***

**C.5.0 – Alternative Commute Programs** – Provides travelers with options other than the single-occupant vehicle. These programs are aimed in reducing the amount of single-occupant vehicles are on our roadways.

- **C.5.1 – Carpooling**
  - Two or more people traveling together in one vehicle. This reduces the amount of vehicles on the road.
- **C.5.2 – Ridematching Services**
  - Enables commuters to find other individuals that share the same commute route and can carpool/vanpool together. This provides carpooling options for people who may not know of someone to carpool with, thus broadening the carpooling option.
- **C.5.3 – Vanpooling**
  - When a group of individuals (usually long-distance commuters) travel together by van, which is sometimes provided by employers. This reduces the amount of vehicles on the road, which is especially important for long-distance transportation modes.
- **C.5.4 – Telecommuting**
  - Workers either work from home or from a regional telecommute center for one or more days of the week. This reduces the amount of vehicles on the road, especially during rush hour when many commuters are going to work at once.
- **C.5.5 – Promote Alternate Modes**
  - Programs, such as Commuter Connections, or regional Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) provide information to the public on alternative commute programs. This gets the word out about commute options in the region, many who may not have considered alternative commute programs as an option before.
- **C.5.6 – Compressed/flexible workweeks**
  - Employees compressing their work week into a shorter number of days, which allows them to avoid commuting one or more days a week. This reduces the amount of vehicles on the road.
- **C.5.7 – Employer outreach/mass marketing**
  - Organizations, such as Commuter Connections, providing information to employers on the benefits of alternative commute programs for their employees. This allows employers to see the benefits that alternative commute programs can have in their organization.
- **C.5.8 – Parking cash-out**
  - Employees essentially pay their employees not to park at work. The employees receive compensation for the parking space they would have otherwise used if they did not walk, bike, take transit, etc. This encourages more people to leave their car at home in favor of another mode of transportation.
- **C.5.9 – Alternative Commute Subsidy Program**
  - Employees provide a transit subsidy to their employees, which encourages them to use public transit instead of driving to work. This reduces the amount of vehicles on the road.

**C.6.0 – Managed Facilities** – These facilities have restrictions for use of the roadways. In some cases, only those other than single-occupant vehicles can use the lane or roadway. In other cases, a fee is

implemented for single-occupant vehicles. Still, in other case, a fee might be implemented for every car on the roadway entering a city. They all have a common goal of reducing the amount of single-occupant vehicles on the roadways and promoting other forms of transportation.

- **C.6.1 - HOV**
  - High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) are lanes reserved for vehicles with a driver and one or more passengers. This promotes the use of carpools, which can use a less-congested lane on the highway.
- **C.6.2- Variably Priced Lanes (VPL)**
  - Lanes which are typically used by carpools for free, while solo drivers pay tolls that change according to varying congestion levels. This encourages the use of carpooling, but also raises revenue for additional transportation projects that would reduce congestion.
- **C.6.3 – Cordon Pricing**
  - Cordon area congestion pricing is a fee paid by users to enter a restricted area in the city center. This is a way of promoting other alternative modes of transportation, while raising revenue for other transportation projects that would reduce congestion.
- **C.6.4 – Bridge Tolling**
  - Tolling over a bridge, in either one or both directions. This may decrease congestion on a bridge, as people may find an alternative route in lieu of paying the fee. Also, it raises revenue for transportation projects that would help in reducing congestion.

**C.7.0 – Public Transportation Improvements** – These improvements are done to the region’s public transportation to ensure that it remains a safe and viable mode for travelers. Improvements can maintain the amount of users and attract new ones who never considered public transit as an option before.

- **C.7.1 – Electronic Payment Systems**
  - These systems can make transit use more convenient by allowing a user to pay for bus, rail, park-and-ride lots, and other transit services with one card. Convenience an appealing factor, and helps increase transit ridership and ridership between different transit modes.
- **C.7.2 – Improvements/added capacity to regional rail and bus transit**
  - Added capacity and improvements to rail and bus to help keep up with increasing demand on public transportation. This is important in keeping with the growing demand on public transportation as an alternative mode.
- **C.7.3 – Improving accessibility to multi-modal options**
  - Ensuring that connections are provided to multi-modal options, such as bus, rail, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. More connections makes it easier for people to access multi-modal options, thus increasing use.
- **C.7.4 – Park-and-Ride Lot Improvements**
  - Improvements to park-and-ride lots to keep up with increasing demand and growth in the region. Park-and-Ride lots allow people to access public transportation, who may not be able to access it from their home. Improvements to these lots can ensure that this growing need is met and that people can continue to have transit access.
- **C.7.5 – Carsharing Programs**
  - A convenient and cost-effective mobility option for those that typically do not have a need to own a car. This reduces the amount of cars on the road because generally the car is only used when needed, and public transportation or other modes are used most of the time.

**C.8.0 – Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Multi-modal Improvements** – Maintaining and creating new pedestrian, bicycle, and multi-modal facilities is improvement in that it improves accessibility. If something is accessible by a walk or bike path, people are more likely to leave their car at home.

- **C.8.1- Improve Pedestrian Facilities**
  - Improvement and addition of new pedestrian and bicycle facilities to keep up with a growing demand and ensure safety for users. This ensures that those using these facilities will continue to do so, and that potential users will find pedestrian facilities more appealing and accessible.
- **C.8.2 – Creation of new bicycle and pedestrian lanes and facilities**
  - Addition of new lanes to keep up with a growing demand and created new connections throughout the region. This will extend the option of bicycle and pedestrian lanes to those that may not already have access to it, as well as provide increased access to employment, recreation, retail, and housing in the region.
- **C.8.3 – Addition of bicycle racks at public transit stations/stops**
  - Allows people who bike to connect to other forms of transportation. This gives people another option for traveling other than a single-occupant vehicle.
- **C.8.4 – Bike sharing Programs**
  - A convenient and cost-effective mobility option for those that typically do not have a need to own a bicycle. This allows people to shift easily from other forms of transport to bicycle and back again.

**C.9.0 – Growth Management** – Growth Management is the term used in the Federal Rule, but really this term pertains to ensuring the coordination of transportation and land use. In terms of Growth Management we are talking about making sure that everyone has the option to public transportation and alternative modes no matter where they live or work in the region.

- **C.9.1 – Coordination of Regional Activity Centers**
  - Help coordinate transportation and land use planning in specific areas in the Washington region experiencing and anticipating growth. Focusing growth in Regional Activity Centers is important to congestion management, where transportation options for those who live and work there can be provided.
- **C.9.2 – Implementation of TLC program (i.e. coordination of transportation and land use with local governments).**
  - Provides support and assistance to local governments in the Washington region as they implement their own strategies to improve coordination between transportation and land use. The idea is to provide public transit options to everyone in the region.
- **C.9.3 – “Live Near Your Work” program**
  - Supporting the idea that locating jobs and housing closer together can provide alternative commuting options that may not have been options otherwise.

## APPENDIX H-1 – FREEWAY AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY SURVEY

The TPB contracted with Skycomp, Inc. to conduct a systematic aerial study of regional freeway congestion beginning in 1993. The most recent survey was completed in [Spring 2014](#) and the report can be downloaded online<sup>155</sup>. The [Spring 2011](#)<sup>156</sup> and [Spring 2008](#)<sup>157</sup> reports can also be found on COG/TPB's website.

In the aerial photography survey, peak period freeway congestion was monitored on a once-every-three-years cycle during the AM and PM peak periods. It provided a wealth of information on the region's freeways, including the overall conditions of the freeways, specific congested locations, trends over time, and identification of factors associated with the congested conditions.

During a survey period, aircraft followed designated flight patterns along the region's approximately 300 centerline miles of limited-access highways. Survey flights were conducted on weekdays, excluding Monday mornings, Friday evenings, and mornings after holidays, during the following time periods:

- Morning surveying times:
  - 6:00 AM – 9:00 AM outside the Capital Beltway;
  - 6:30 AM – 9:30 AM inside the Capital Beltway.
  
- Evening surveying times:
  - 4:00 – 7:00 PM inside the Capital Beltway
  - 4:30 – 7:30 PM outside the Capital Beltway

During the survey flights, overlapping photographic coverage was obtained of each designated highway, repeated once an hour over three morning and three evening commuter periods (this means that, altogether, there were nine morning and nine evening observations<sup>158</sup> of each highway segment).

Data were then extracted from the aerial photographs to measure average traffic flow density by link and by time period. The density was further converted to level of service (LOS)<sup>159</sup> using methods presented in the *Highway Capacity Manual 2000*. LOS "A" reflects generally free-flow conditions, and levels "E" and "F" reflect the most severe congestion with extended delays, as illustrated in the following diagram (Figure H1-1).

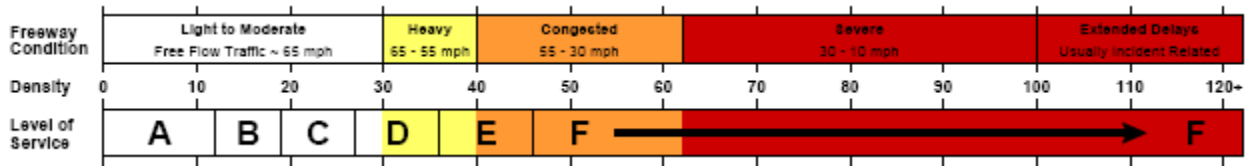
---

<sup>155</sup> *Traffic Quality on the Metropolitan Washington Area Freeway System: Spring 2014 Report*. Prepared by: Skycomp, Inc. (Columbia, Maryland). <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/YF1XV1db20150227142340.pdf>

<sup>158</sup> Prior to the 2014 survey, the total number of observations was 12 for each peak periods. Given the vast availability of the private-sector probe-based traffic data, e.g., the I-95 Vehicle Probe Project data and the National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) data, the role of the aerial photography survey has transformed from being the major source of freeway congestion information to being an independent source that can be used to validate and supplement probe data; more importantly, it can provide unique visual imagery of congestion. Therefore a decision was made to reduce the sample size from 12 to 9 for the 2014 survey.

<sup>159</sup> There are generally six levels of service, A through F. Level of service "A" is the best, describing primarily free-flow conditions, while level of service "F" is the worst, describing flow as unstable and significant traffic delay.

Figure H1-1: Speed, Density and LOS Chart



The most recent peak period survey was conducted in Spring 2014 and the following summarizes the highlights of the survey results.

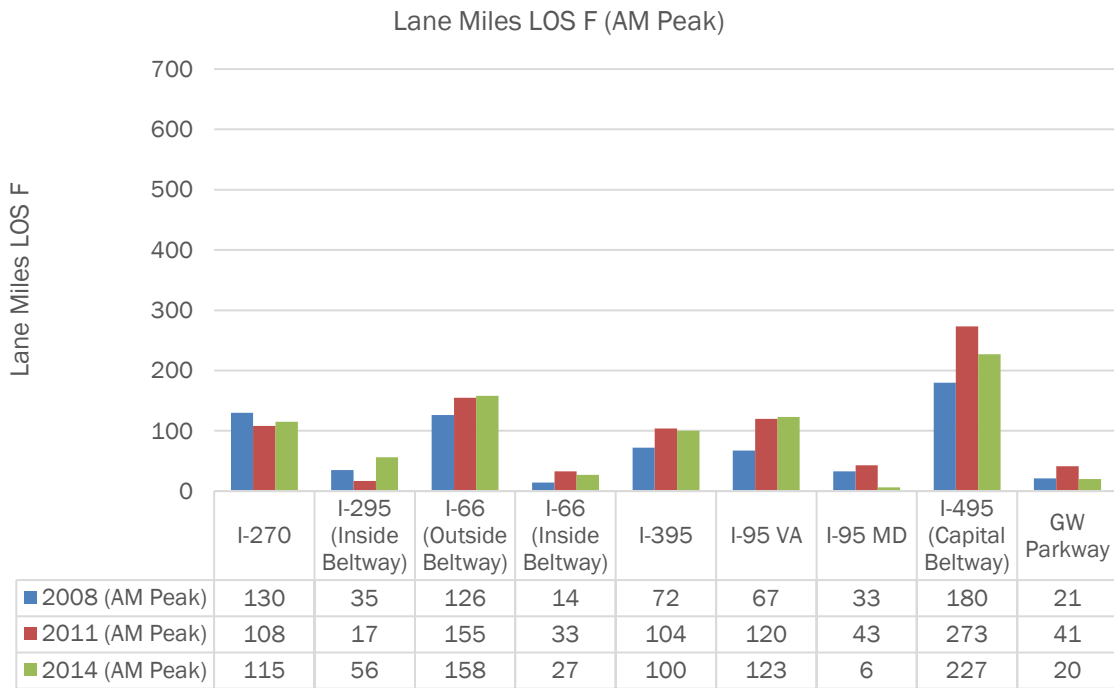
### H-1.1 LANE MILES OF CONGESTION

Overall, the number of lane miles of congestion (LOS F) in the region in 2014 was 2,249, slightly less than that recorded during the 2011 survey, 2,369. The lane miles of congestion at selected facilities in the past three surveys are given in Figure H1-2 and Figure H1-3 for the AM and PM peak respectively.

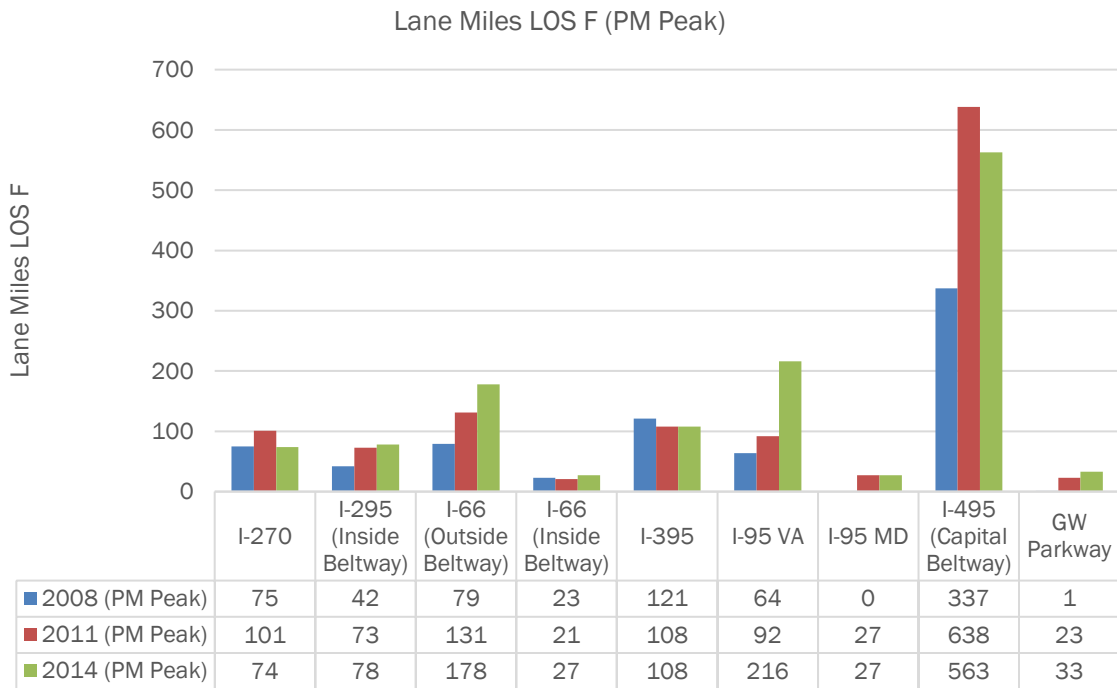
I-66 outside the Beltway and I-95 in Virginia experienced worsening congestion in the past three surveys in both AM and PM peak periods. The Beltway's congestion was the worst during the Spring 2011 survey, a time when the I-495 Express Lanes were under construction; its 2014 congestion was better than 2011 but still worse than 2008.



**Figure H1-2: Lane Miles at LOS F for AM Peak**



**Figure H1-3: Lane Miles at LOS F for PM Peak**



## **H-1.2 IMPROVEMENTS OBSERVED IN THE SPRING 2014 SURVEY**

Figure H1-4 and Figure H1-5 provide overview maps of significant changes in traffic congestion from 2011 to 2014. There were two major capacity increases to the highway system since the 2011 aerial survey.

The completion of Maryland Route 200, also known as the Intercounty Connector (ICC), linking Prince George's County and Montgomery County provided an alternate east-west route for commuters. Levels-of-service A and B were documented on the ICC throughout the morning and evening survey periods.

On I-495 in Virginia, the I-495 Express Lanes between the I-95/395 and VA 267 Interchanges was completed. This four-lane facility for the most part operated at levels of service A and B. Commuters in the general purpose lanes appeared to benefit to some degree as an improvement in levels of congestion along the corridor. In the evening, conditions on the outer loop along this corridor resembled those documented during the 2008 survey before construction began; severe congestion and extensive delays were found here during the 2011 survey while under construction.

## **H-1.3 DEGRADATION OBSERVED IN THE SPRING 2014 SURVEY**

Degraded levels of service were found on several of the major facilities during the morning and evening commuter periods. In most cases, the primary cause was likely an increase in the volume of traffic.

*Morning / I-495 (Beltway):* Traffic congestion on the northwest west side of the Beltway (Inner Loop) traveling from Virginia into Maryland was more severe. One factor contributing to the degradation was the left-side merge associated with the termination of the Express Lanes downstream of VA 267. Another significant increase in congestion on the Beltway was renewed congestion on the Inner Loop in Maryland approaching to the rebuilt Woodrow Wilson Bridge; however, the level of services showed less severe congestion in 2014 vs. 2008 levels. Congestion was not found along this section of the Inner Loop during the 2011 aerial survey.

*Morning / MD-295, DC-295:* A significant decrease in levels of service was found in the southbound direction on DC/MD-295 between Bladensburg and the Anacostia River crossing at Pennsylvania Ave. Improved flow along this section of DC-295 was documented in the 2011 report (attributed to completed construction improvement projects); the 2014 findings show the return of level-of-service F conditions for each of the 3-hours surveyed.

*Evening / I-495 (Beltway):* A new zone of congestion was found on the outer loop of the Beltway in Prince George's County, Maryland. After crossing into Maryland on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, traffic flowed freely until encountering congestion in the vicinity of St Barnabas Rd; congestion typically persisted 4-6 miles downstream to MD-4 (Pennsylvania Ave).

*Evening / I-95 Virginia:* A significant degradation of level of service on I-95 in Virginia was documented during the evening surveys in 2014. This may have been partly attributable to a construction zone where the Express Lanes were being extended from Dumfries Blvd. to Garrisonville Rd. (approximately 10 miles); while all lanes were open during the evening commuter period, the presence of Jersey Barriers may have exacerbated the congestion. Farther south in Stafford County, recurring congestion on the approach to the Rappahannock River increased in both severity and extent since the 2011 survey.

Figure H1-4: Significant Changes (2018-2014) – Morning Peak Period

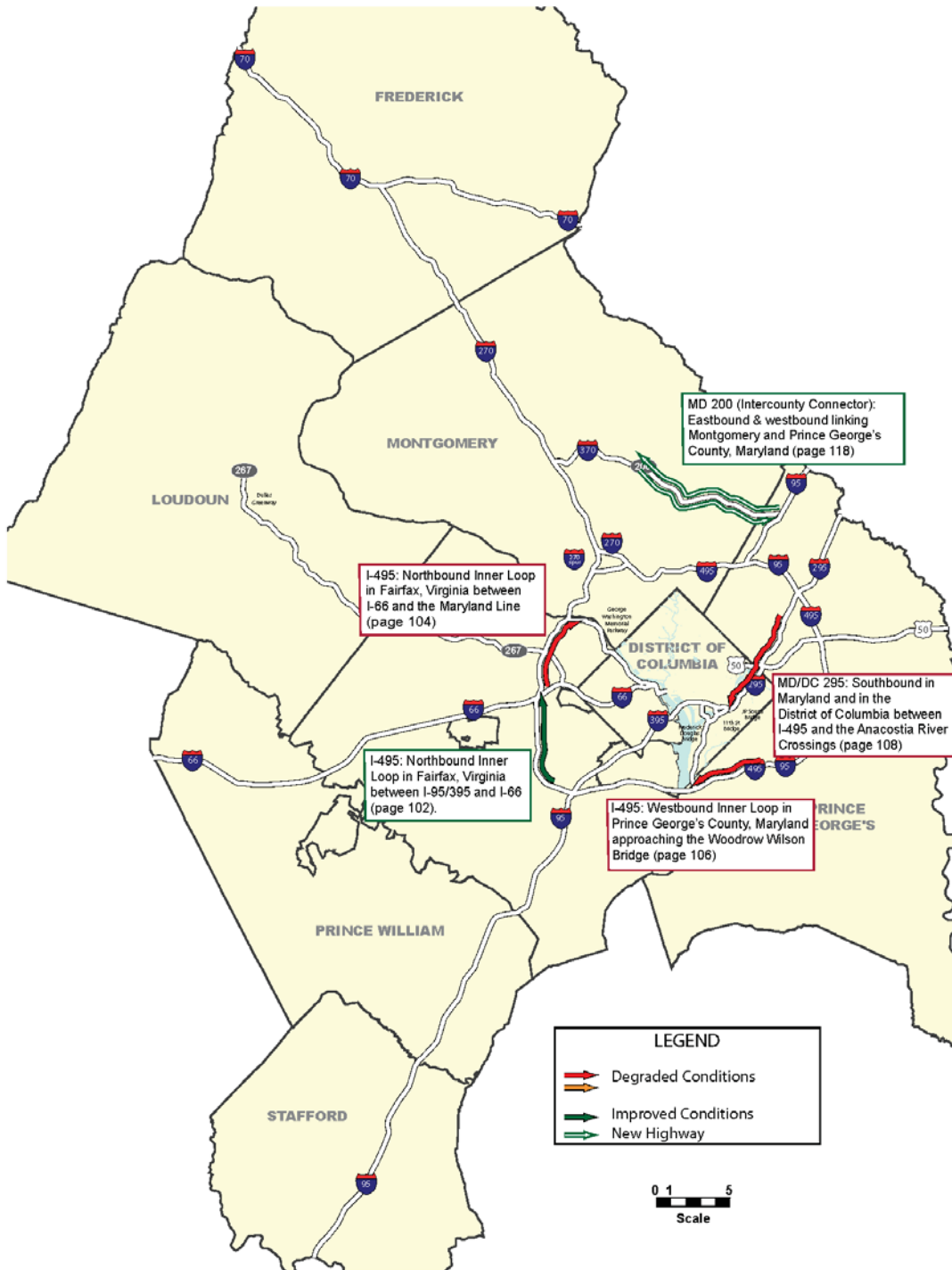
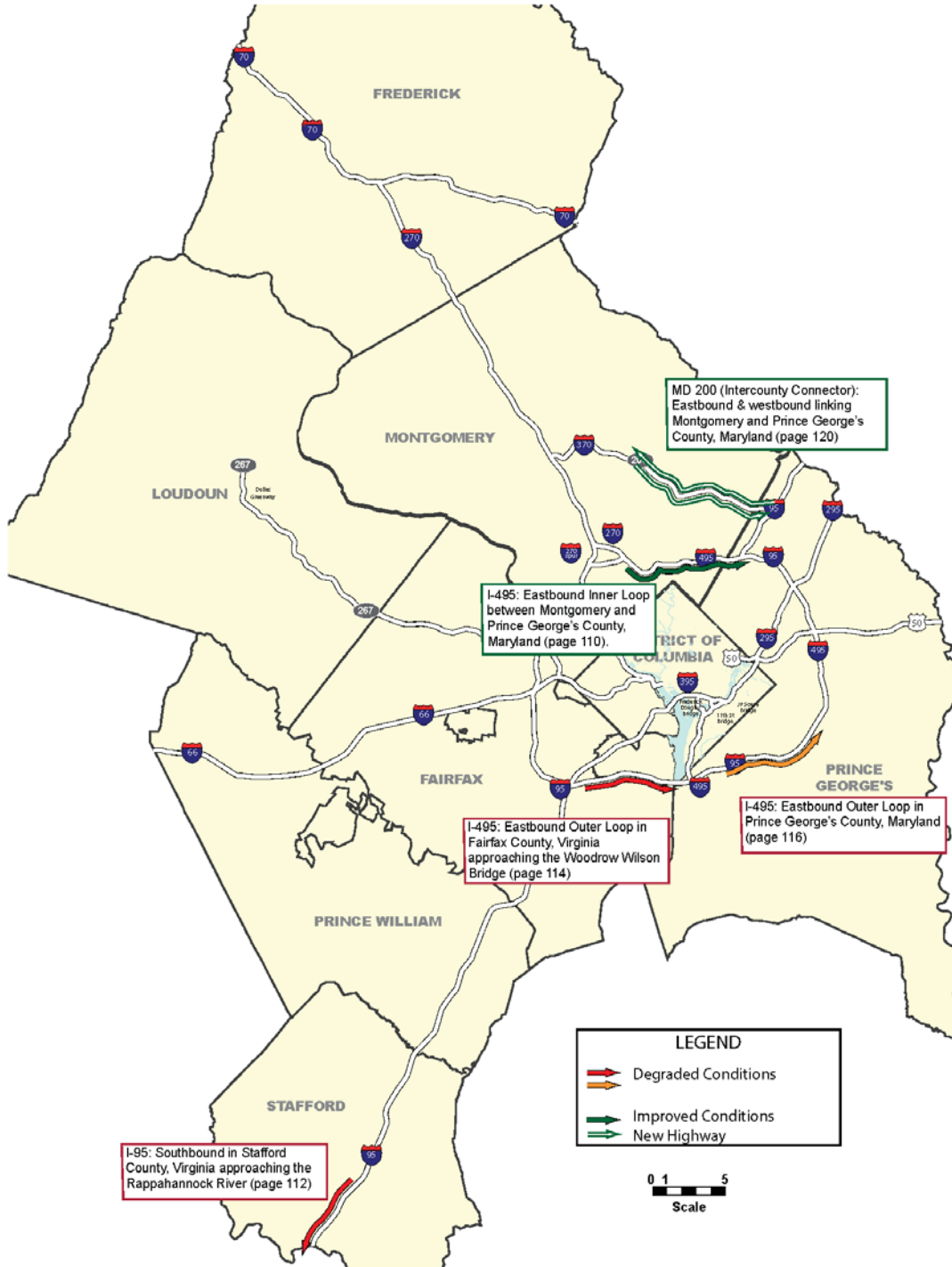


Figure H1-5: Significant Changes (2008-2014) – Evening Peak Period



### H-1.4 SUMMARY CONGESTION MAPS OF THE SPRING 2014 SURVEY

The summary maps of the AM and PM congestion of the Spring 2014 Survey are provided in Figure H1-6 and Figure H1-7.

Figure H1-6: Morning Peak Period Regional Congestion - Spring 2014

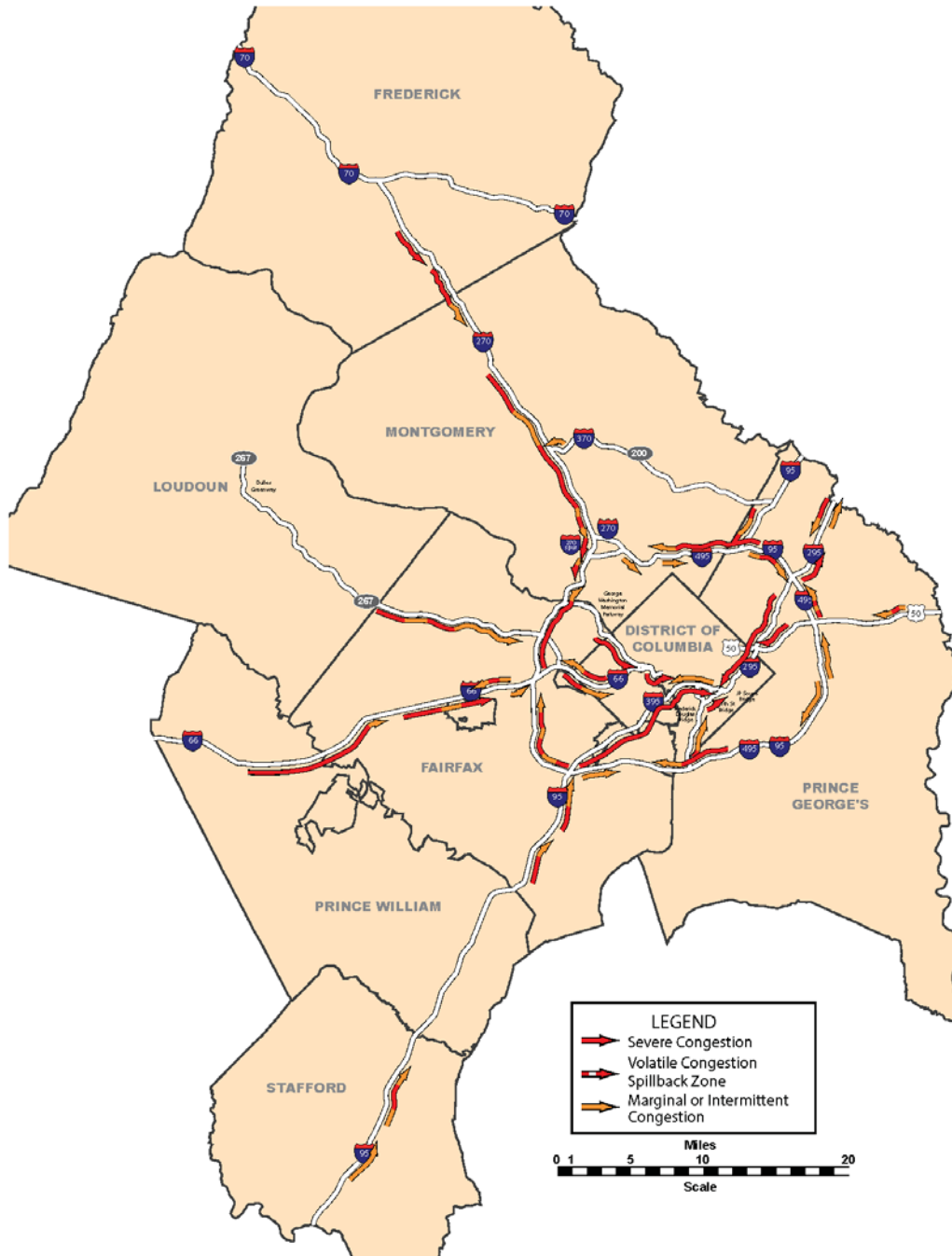
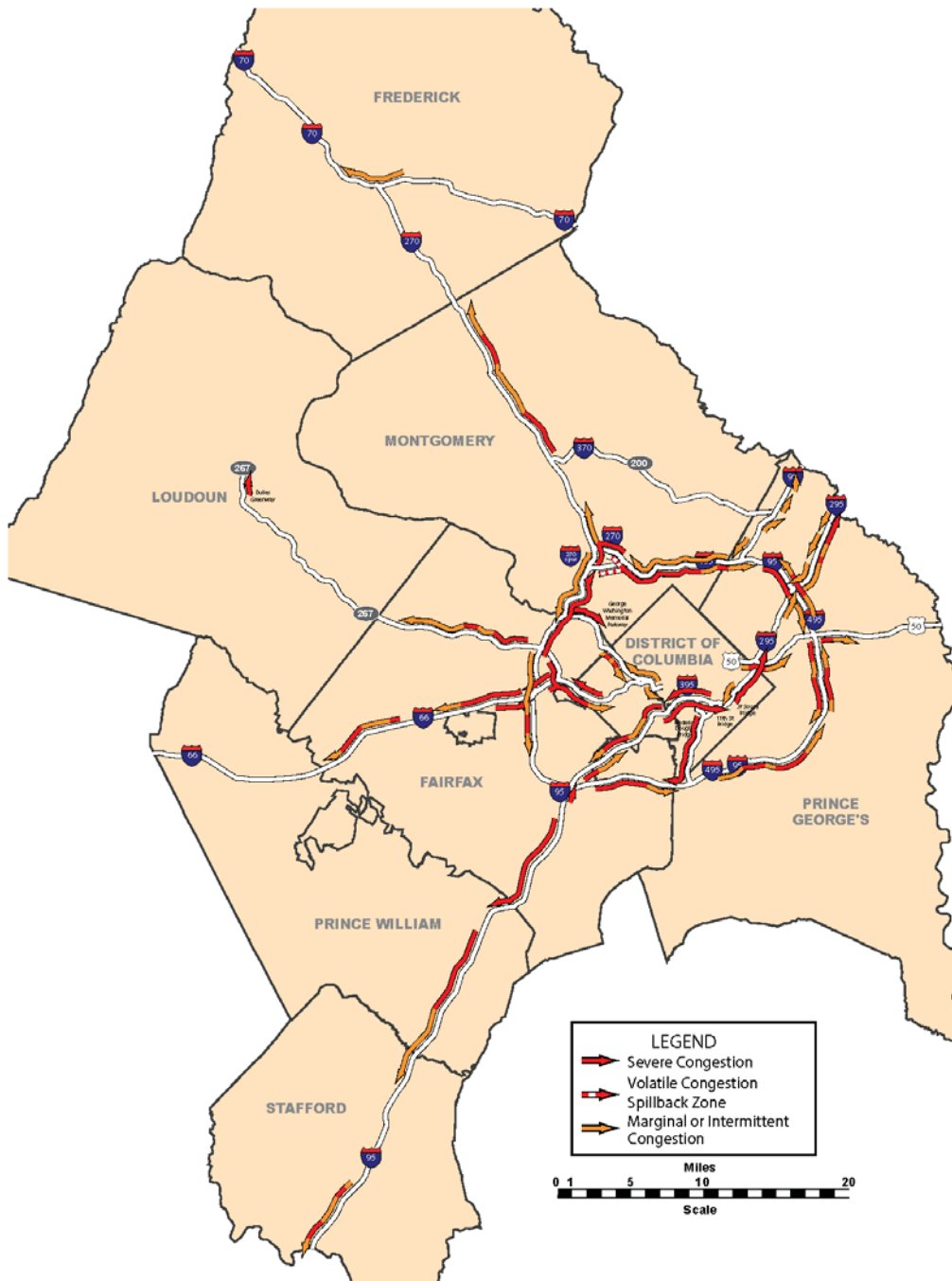


Figure H1-7: Evening Peak Period Regional Congestion – Spring 2014



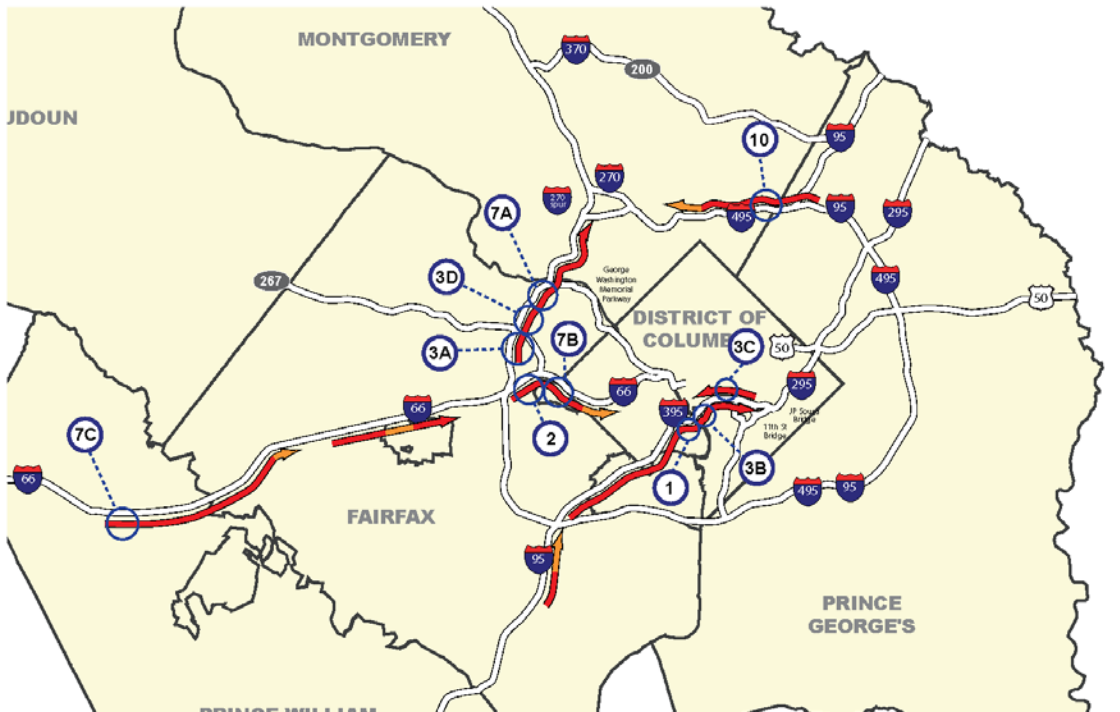
### H-1.5 TOP 10 CONGESTED LOCATIONS IN THE SPRING 2014 SURVEY

Figure H1-8 maps and lists the most congested locations on the region's freeway system. These locations were obtained by ranking the densities of all segments and picking the top ten irrespective of whether they are congested during the AM or PM peak period.

**Figure H1-8: Top Ten Congested Locations – Spring 2014**

*Criteria for the top ten congested locations are as follows:*

- A location is defined as a congested freeway segment, by direction, between interchanges; this congested location is typically within a larger queue.
- Rankings for the top ten are based on the average hourly density value which corresponds to a speed (see table below).
- Construction-related congestion was not included in the rankings unless the location was historically congested in the absence of construction.
- Congestion caused by traffic signals was not included in the rankings.



**Top Ten Congested Segments on the Freeway System (2014)**

| Rank | Route                           | From                         | To                              | Density | Speed Range |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 1    | NB I-395 (8:30-9:30 AM)         | VA 27 (Washington Blvd)      | VA 110 (Jefferson Davis Hwy)    | 150     | 5 MPH       |
| 2    | EB I-66 (6:00-7:00 PM)          | VA 7 (Leesburgh Pike)        | VA 267                          | 140     | 5 MPH       |
| 3A   | Inner Loop I-495 (4:30-5:30 PM) | VA 123 (Chain Bridge Rd)     | VA 267                          | 120     | 5-10 MPH    |
| 3B   | NB I-395 (8:30-9:30 AM)         | VA 110 (Jefferson Davis Hwy) | George Washington Memorial Pkwy | 120     | 5-10 MPH    |
| 3C   | SB I-395 (5:00-6:00 PM)         | 4th St                       | 12th St                         | 120     | 5-10 MPH    |
| 3D   | Inner Loop I-495 (4:30-5:30 PM) | VA 267                       | VA 193 (Georgetown Pike)        | 120     | 5-10 MPH    |
| 7A   | Inner Loop I-495 (5:30-6:30 PM) | VA 193 (Georgetown Pike)     | George Washington Memorial Pkwy | 110     | 10-15 MPH   |
| 7B   | EB I-66 (6:00-7:00 PM)          | VA 267                       | Westmoreland St                 | 110     | 10-15 MPH   |
| 7C   | EB I-66 (6:00-7:00 AM)          | VA 234 Bypass                | VA 234 (Sudley Rd)              | 110     | 10-15 MPH   |
| 10   | Outer Loop I-495 (7:00-8:00 AM) | MD 650 (New Hampshire Ave)   | MD 193 (University Ave)         | 105     | 10-15 MPH   |

*Note: Due to construction at the terminus of the Southeast Freeway, eastbound densities along this corridor were not included in the Top Ten list above.*

### H-1.6 LONGEST DELAY CORRIDORS IN THE SPRING 2014 SURVEY

Beginning in 2008, the freeway aerial survey introduced a new metric – Longest Delay Corridors. The purpose of this metric was to identify corridors which might not have bottlenecks in the “Top Ten Congested Locations” but were long congested corridors. Delay was calculated by estimating the additional travel time during congested conditions over the free flow travel time. Free flow speed was assumed to be 60 mph. Figure H1-9 and Figure H1-10 present the top five congested corridors in the AM and PM peak period.

Figure H1-9: Longest Delay Corridors - Morning Peak Period (Spring 2014)

| Site Name | Road Name    | Time        | Direction  | From                    | To                        | Queue Length (miles) | Estimated Travel Time (minutes) | Estimated Speed (mph) | Estimated Delay (minutes) |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Site #1   | I-66         | 7:30 – 8:30 | Eastbound  | US 29 (Lee Highway)     | VA 243 (Nutley St)        | 18.8                 | 43.3                            | 26                    | 24.5                      |
| Site #2   | I-95 / I-395 | 7:00 – 8:00 | Northbound | US 1 (Richmond Highway) | George Washington Parkway | 18.0                 | 38.2                            | 28                    | 20.2                      |
| Site #3   | I-495        | 7:00 – 8:00 | Outerloop  | I-95                    | MD 185 (Connecticut Ave)  | 7.0                  | 21.7                            | 19                    | 14.7                      |
| Site #4   | DC 295       | 8:00 – 9:00 | Southbound | MD 450 (Annapolis Rd)   | MD 4 (Pennsylvania Ave)   | 5.7                  | 19.9                            | 17                    | 14.2                      |
| Site #5   | I-270        | 7:30 – 8:30 | Southbound | Father Hurley Blvd      | I-270 Western Spur        | 13.1                 | 24.6                            | 32                    | 11.5                      |

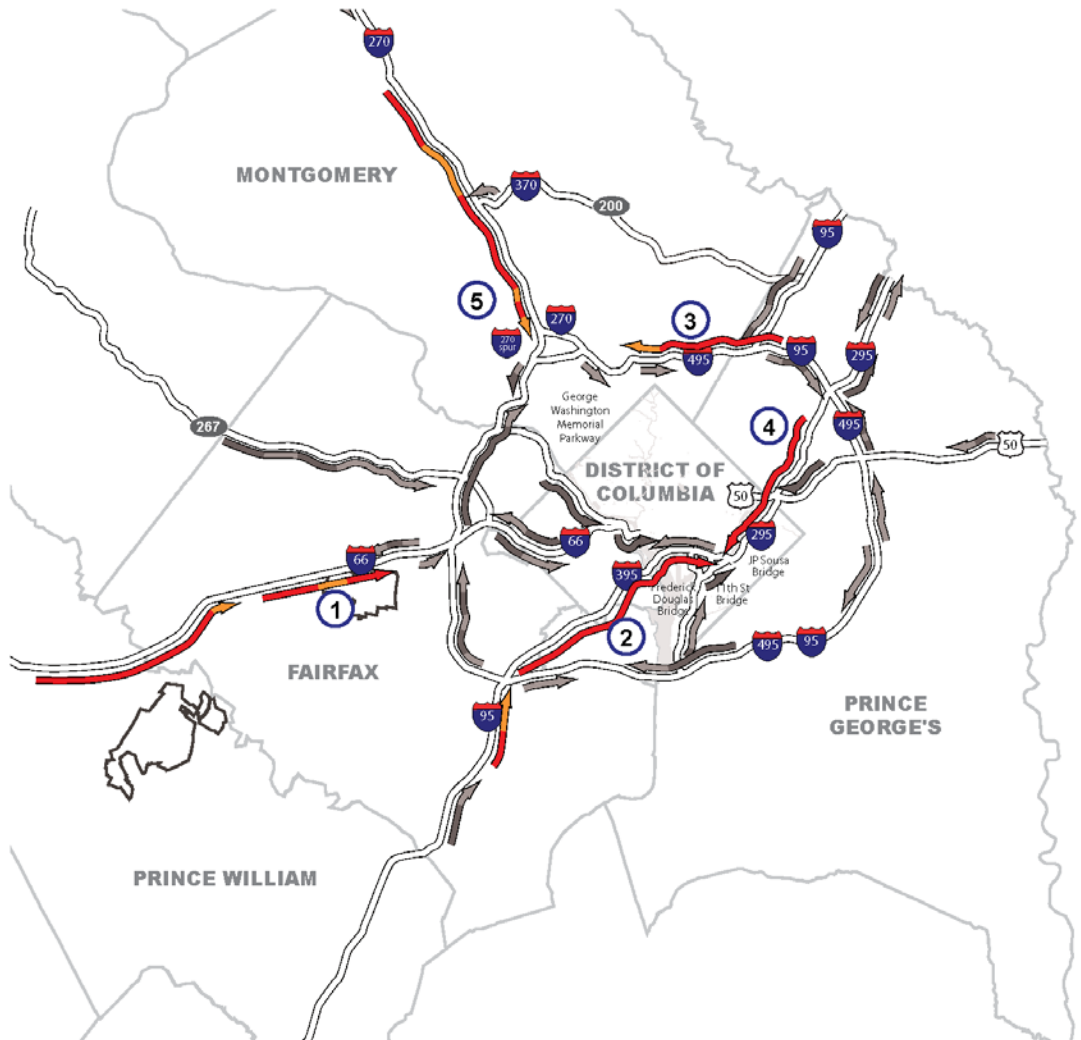
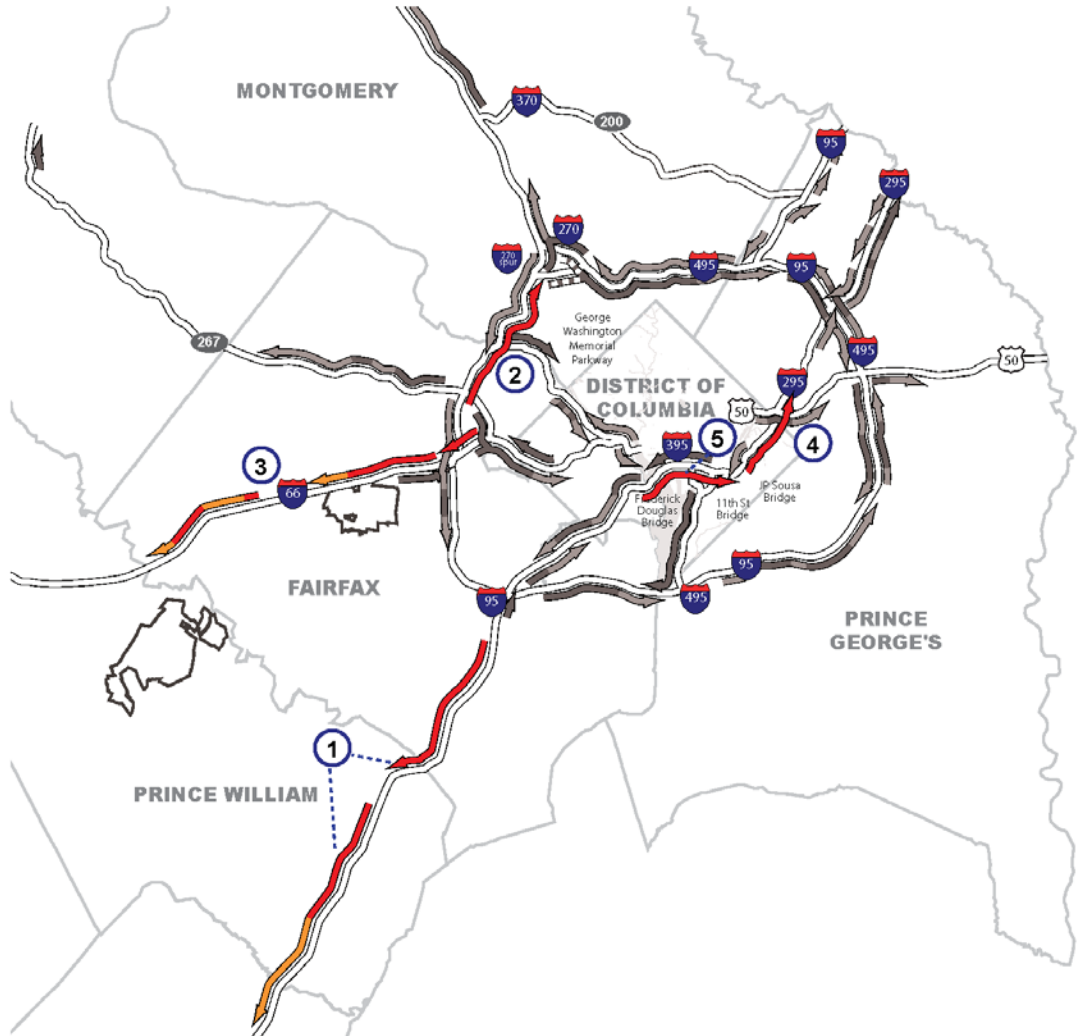




Figure H1-10: Longest Delay Corridors - Evening Peak Period (Spring 2014)

| Site Name | Road Name | Time        | Direction  | From                     | To                 | Queue Length (miles) | Estimated Travel Time (minutes) | Estimated Speed (mph) | Estimated Delay (minutes) |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Site #1   | I-95      | 4:30 – 5:30 | Southbound | Fairfax County Parkway   | Garrisonville Rd   | 23.0                 | 51.5                            | 27                    | 28.5                      |
| Site #2   | I-495     | 4:30 – 5:30 | Innerloop  | VA 7 (Leesburg Pike)     | I-270 Western Spur | 8.4                  | 35.1                            | 14                    | 26.7                      |
| Site #3   | I-66      | 4:30 – 5:30 | Westbound  | VA 7 (Leesburg Pike)     | VA 234 (Sudley Rd) | 18.3                 | 36.6                            | 30                    | 18.3                      |
| Site #4   | DC 295    | 4:30 – 5:30 | Northbound | 11th Street Bridge       | US 50              | 5.0                  | 19.3                            | 16                    | 14.3                      |
| Site #5   | I-395     | 5:00 – 6:00 | Northbound | VA 110 (Jeff. Davis Hwy) | 11th Street Bridge | 3.7                  | 17.5                            | 13                    | 13.8                      |



## **APPENDIX H-2 – ARTERIAL FLOATING CAR TRAVEL TIME STUDY**

Before the existence of private sector probe-based traffic data, the TPB carried out Arterial Floating Car Travel Time Studies from 2000 – 2011 on selected NHS arterial highways in the region. Staff gathered data regarding travel time, speed, and delay using Geographic Positioning System (GPS) technology, with data collection occurring in three-year cycles (e.g., 2005 routes repeated in 2008 and 2011, etc.). Data were collected between the hours of 1:00 PM and 8:00 PM, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, avoiding public holidays or the day after a public holiday. By 2011 the last year of this type of survey, 57 major arterial highway routes in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, totaling 430 centerline miles were monitored. The level of service (LOS) was used to characterize the extent of congestion during the PM peak hour, PM peak period and PM off-peak period of travel<sup>160</sup>. Summary of the 2008-2011 studies can be found in the [2010 Congestion Management Process \(CMP\) Technical Report](#) and the [2012 Congestion Management Process \(CMP\) Technical Report](#). In 2014, there are no plans to repeat or continue the Arterial Floating Car Travel Time Study as the I-95 VPP traffic monitoring covers the vast majority of arterials in the region with unprecedented spatial and temporal granularity.

---

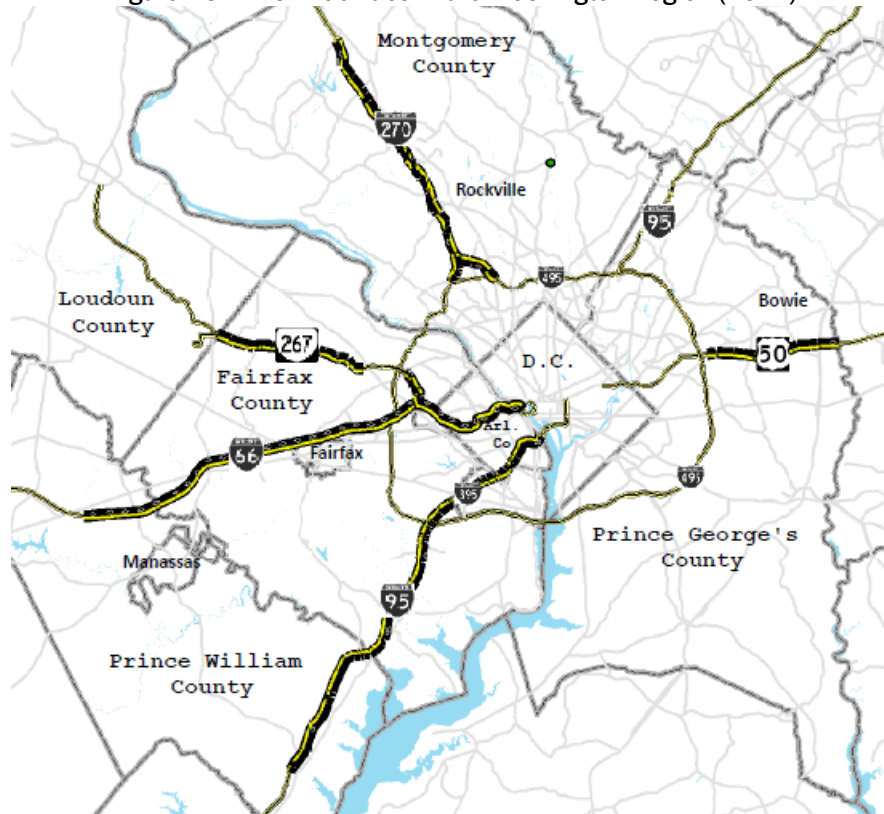
<sup>160</sup> PM peak hour is 5:00-6:00 pm, PM peak period is 4:00-7:00 pm, and PM off-peak period is 1:00-4:00 pm and 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

### APPENDIX H-3 – HOV FACILITY SURVEYS

High occupancy vehicle (HOV) facilities are designed to offer several advantages over conventional lanes and roads, including the increase of person throughput during peak periods. In the Washington area, there are five high occupancy vehicle (HOV) facilities on highways functionally classified as freeways (Figure H3-1). These are:

- I-95/I-395 in the Northern Virginia counties of Prince William, Fairfax and Arlington, and the City of Alexandria (before conversion to I-95 Express Lanes);
- I-66, also in the Virginia counties of Prince William, Fairfax and Arlington (this HOV system includes a section of the Dulles Connector in McLean, connecting to VA 267's HOV lanes (see below));
- I-270 and the I-270 Spur in Montgomery County, Maryland;
- VA 267, connecting to I-66 via the Dulles Connector; and
- U.S. 50 in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Figure H3-1: HOV Facilities in the Washington Region (2014)



The I-95/I-395 and I-66 HOV facilities provide direct access to core employment centers of the region in Arlington County and the District of Columbia. I-270 and the I-270 Spur end at the Capital Beltway (I-495) and the U.S. 50 HOV lanes end just prior to the Beltway. VA 267's HOV system connects directly to I-66, providing access to the regional core from the Dulles Toll Road Corridor. There are arterial HOV lanes and bus only shoulder treatments in the region, but these facilities are beyond the scope of this study. More detailed information about the HOV facilities is provided in Table H3-1.

**Table H3-1 2014 HOV Facility Summary**

| <b>2014 HOV Facility Summary</b>            |  |   |                       |                  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|-----------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| Facility Route Number(s) and Name           | Length   | Facility Description  | Occupancy Requirement | Hybrid Exemption | A.M. HOV Restricted Period and Direction                               | Truck Restrictions   | Motorcycle Restriction                 |
| I-95/I-395 Shirley Highway (see note below) | 28 miles   | 2 lanes, barrier-separated, reversible  | 3                     | Yes              | 6:00 to 9:00 (North)   | Permitted with Occupancy Compliance North of Dale City (Exit 156), Prohibited South of Dale City | <b>Permitted on all HOV facilities</b> |
| I-66  | 28 miles (HOV lane extension to Va. 234 Bypass opened in 2007 after data collection was completed) | 1 Lane Concurrent Flow Outside of the Beltway, 2 Lane exclusive HOV facility inside the Beltway | 2                     | Yes              | 5:30 to 9:30 AM Outside Beltway; 6:30 to 9:00 AM Inside Beltway (East) | Prohibited   |  |
| I-270                                       | 9 miles Southbound; 18 miles Northbound  | 1 Lane Concurrent Flow  | 2                     | No               | 6:00 to 9:00 AM (South)  | Prohibited   |  |
| Va. 267 Dulles Toll Road                    | 23 miles (includes Dulles Connector Road and I-66 from Rosslyn to Dulles Connector)                | 1 Lane Concurrent Flow  | 2                     | Yes              | 6:30 to 9:00 AM (East)   | Permitted with Occupancy Compliance outside Beltway  |  |
| U.S. 50                                     | 9 miles  | 1 Lane Concurrent Flow  | 2                     | No               | HOV-2 restriction in effect 24 hours/day, 7 days/week (West and East)  | Prohibited   |  |

*Note: After data collection for this report were completed, the I-95 part of the Shirley Highway reversible HOV facility, as well as the southern part of the I-395 HOV facility were converted to the 95 Express Lanes, a reversible HOV/Toll facility*

COG/TPB has conducted surveys on the HOV system in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2004, 2007, 2010 and 2014. Some highlights of the most recent 2014 survey<sup>161</sup> were summarized below; more information can be found in Appendix D.

- All of the HOV lanes in spring 2014 were observed to carry more persons per lane during the HOV restricted periods than adjacent non-HOV lanes except on US 50;
- Most of the HOV lanes provide savings in travel times when compared to non-HOV alternatives, especially the barrier separated HOV lanes in the I-95/I-395 corridor in Northern Virginia;
- However, the performance of the concurrent-flow HOV lanes in the I-66 lanes (outside I-495) and along I-270 were at certain points between 10 and 25 MPH slower than adjacent non-HOV lanes, as well as sections of the exclusive I-66 HOV facility inside I-495 (staff examined data from the Vehicle Probe Project (VPP) and found recurring congestion along I-66 eastbound from the Dulles Connector Road to a point between Sycamore Street and Va. 120 [North Glebe Road]); and
- Average auto occupancy in 2014 was little-changed from 2010, even though the HOV lanes in Northern Virginia continue to exempt vehicles with “Clean Air” registration plates from the HOV requirement.

<sup>161</sup> 2014 Performance of High-Occupancy Vehicle Facilities on Freeways in the Washington Region, October 2015. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/bVxfWIZf20151013093838.pdf>

HOV facilities are designed to provide faster travel times and more predictable speeds than parallel non-HOV facilities, which was the general conclusion of this study. It is clear that while HOV facilities aid in improving the operation of the region's roadways, they can also influence traveler behavior and manage the demand of single-occupant travel.

In addition to the HOV facilities, the Washington region also operates three other managed facilities: the Inter-County Connector (MD 200) in Maryland, the I-495 Express Lanes on the Virginia side of the Capital Beltway, and the I-95 Express Lanes<sup>162</sup> in Virginia. Future congestion monitoring activities should also include these facilities.

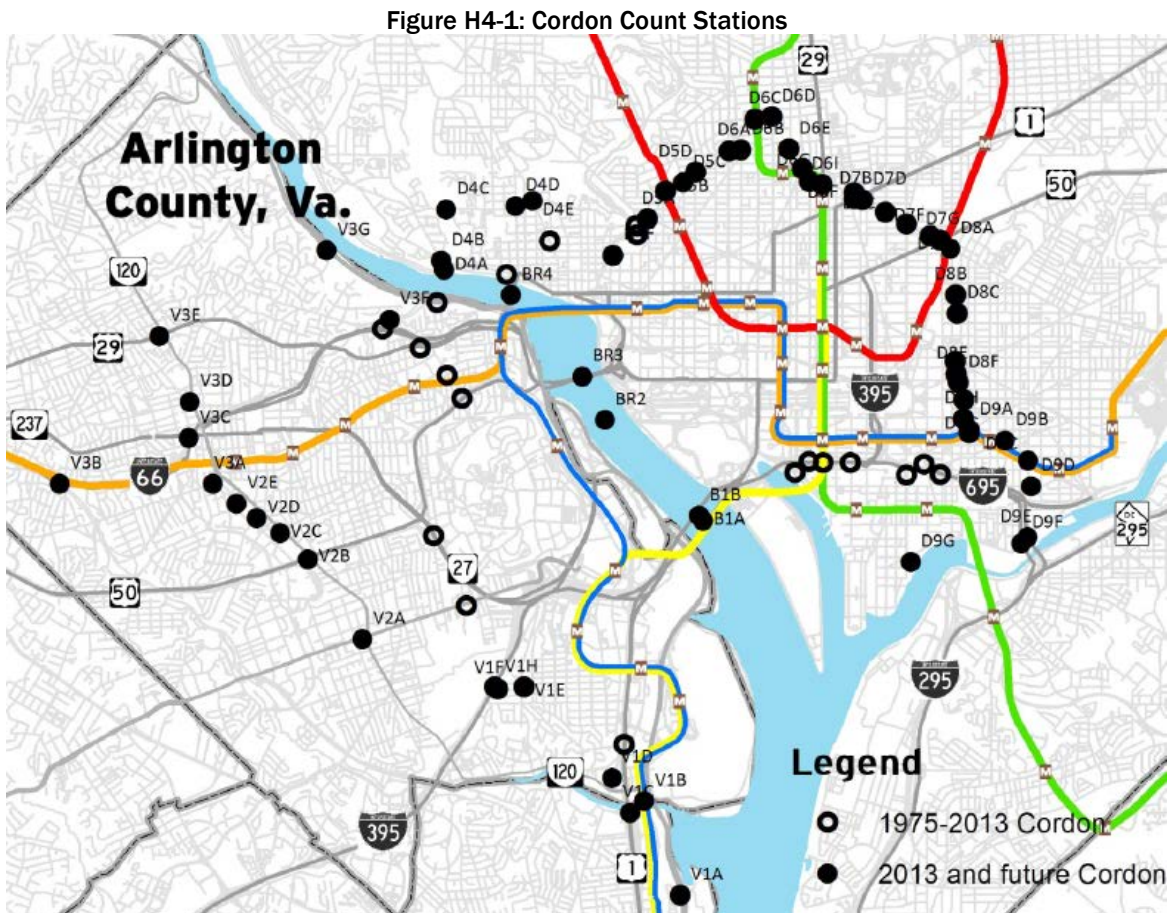
---

<sup>162</sup> Virginia Mega Projects, 95 Express Lanes, <http://www.vamegaprojects.com/about-megaprojects/i-95-hov-hot-lanes/>

## APPENDIX H-4 - CORDON COUNTS

The cordon count program originated from the desire to assess the impact of the construction of the region's Metrorail system starting in the late 1960's. Thus, a cordon line around the Central Business District (the "core") was determined by the inbound point at which there were more destinations (alighting from transit buses) than origins (loadings onto transit buses). The central business district includes the downtown area of the District of Columbia, Georgetown south of "Q" Street, N.W., the U.S. Capitol, and the nearby sections of Arlington County, Virginia, including Rosslyn, the Pentagon, Pentagon City, Crystal City and Reagan National Airport. In later years, additional cordon counts were added to the program, including:

- Vehicle counts, classification, and occupancy were taken on facilities that cross the region's center core cordon.
- Monitoring of freeway routes in the region with HOV lanes.
- Other data collection projects, including counts of commercial vehicles and roadside truck surveys.
- In 2013, a revised cordon line was used in the count and the expanded cordon include "new" employment that has and will happen between 1975 and 2020, as shown in Figure H4-1 below.



These projects help to inform the development of regional travel forecasting computer models and provide an opportunity for trend analysis.

The most recent cordon count study is the 2013 Central Employment Core Cordon Count of Vehicular and Passenger Volumes<sup>163</sup>. This study collected data for the Spring 2013 Central Employment Core Cordon Count of peak period person and vehicle volumes entering the downtown employment area of the District of Columbia and Arlington County, Virginia, designated the Central Employment Core (formerly Metro Employment Core), the largest activity center in the Washington metropolitan region. Data were collected from 5 A.M. to 10 A.M. inbound along two cordon lines, the “traditional” cordon line which dates to the opening of the initial segment of the Metrorail system in 1976, and a revised or expanded cordon.

Most comparisons are made with results obtained from the previous Central Employment Core Cordon Count conducted in Spring 2009, though some are with the Spring 2006 Cordon Count. Between the 2009 and 2013 counts, some demographic and transportation system changes have occurred that may have influenced the numbers of people and how they have commuted into the regional core. Data were not collected during the P.M. peak period for this effort.

Trends and changes in person and vehicle trips by mode are emphasized for the 6:30 - 9:30 A.M. peak period inbound. The following changes were observed:

- 1) Total inbound travel decreased in the A.M. peak period from about 463,000 person trips in 2009 to 446,000 in 2013. Trips crossing the revised cordon in 2013 were about 435,000.
- 2) Inbound peak period transit trips were about 211,000, little changed from 2009. Transit trips crossing the revised cordon line were about 197,000.
- 3) Person trips by automobile in 2013 were about 236,000, a decrease of about 21,000 from 2009. Most of the decrease in person trips were in multiple occupant vehicles (2 or more persons per vehicles), which declined by about 21,000 trips.
- 4) The number of automobiles entering the Central Employment Core in the A.M. peak period has declined from 203,000 in 2009 to about 192,500 in 2013. For the five-hour monitoring period, the decline was similar in absolute terms, from about 273,000 in 2009 to 263,000 in 2013.
- 5) Traffic volumes crossing the revised cordon line were only slightly higher, but person trips were lower.
- 6) About 3,500 bicycles entered the Central Employment Core in the A.M. peak period. In the full five hour monitoring period, almost 5,000 trips by bike were observed.

Figure H4-2 and Figure H4-3 below contain charts that depict the trends in person trips from 1999 to 2013, in the inbound peak period.

---

<sup>163</sup> 2013 Central Employment Core Cordon Count of Vehicular and Passenger Volumes, Draft, December 30, 2013. <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/k11ZXV5e20140127094130.pdf>

Figure H4-2: 2013 Cordon Count Trends in Person Trips: 1999-2013, Inbound 6:30-9:30 am

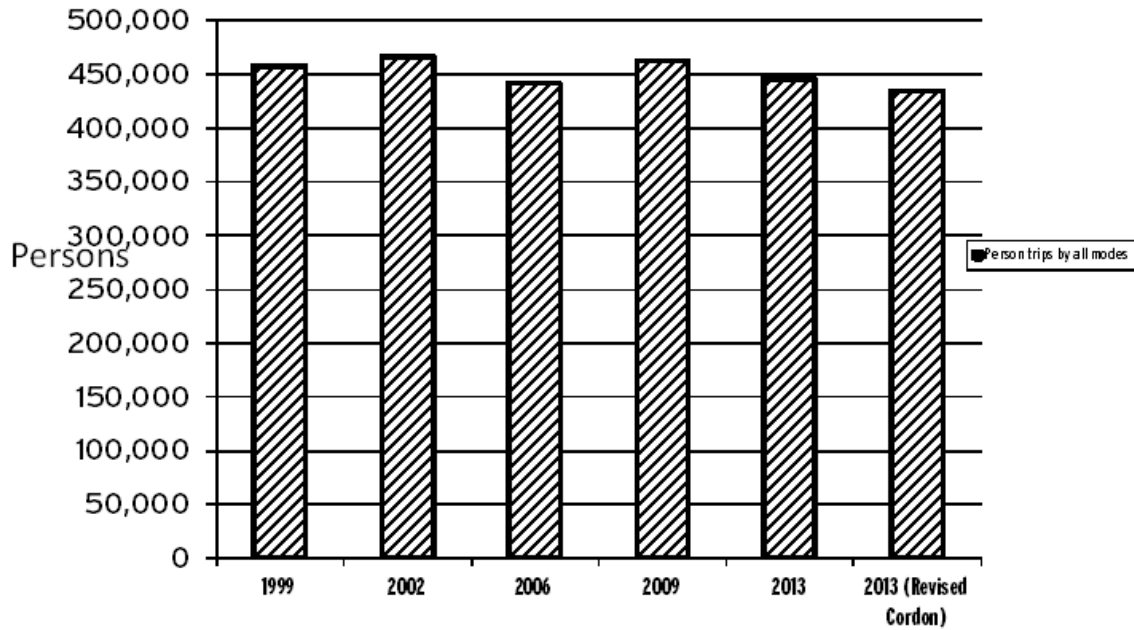
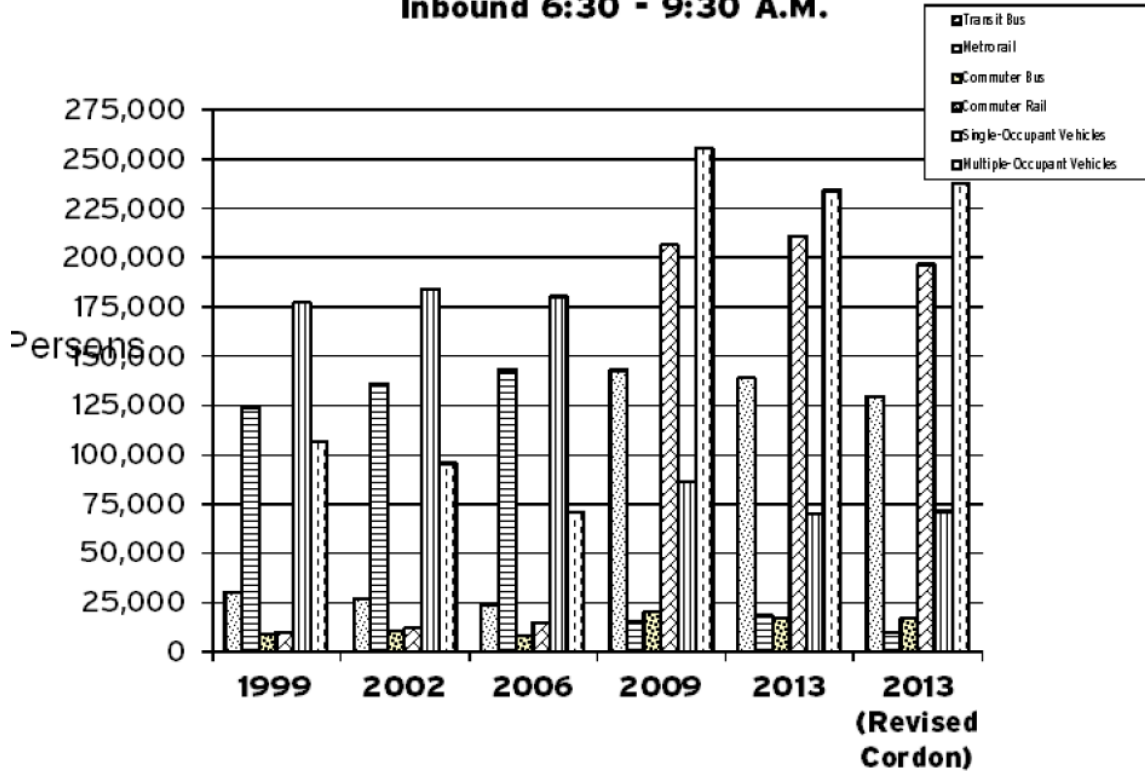


Figure H4-3: 2013 Cordon Count Trends in Person Trips by Mode: 1999-2013, Inbound 6:30-9:30 am  
**Inbound 6:30 - 9:30 A.M.**





## APPENDIX H-5 - PARK-AND-RIDE FACILITIES

There are over 160,000 parking spaces at nearly 400 Park & Ride lots throughout the Washington/Baltimore Metropolitan areas where commuters can conveniently bike, walk or drive to and join up with carpools/vanpools or gain access to public transit. The following statistics provide an idea of why park-and-ride lots play such a popular role in the region's transportation system<sup>164</sup>:

- Two thirds of Park & Ride Lots have bus or rail service available.
- Parking is free at 89% of the Park & Ride Lots.
- More than 25% of Park & Ride Lots have bicycle parking facilities.

In addition to the above statistics, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) strategies such as traveler information systems and electronic payment systems can add to the convenience of park-and-ride lots. In 2009, WMATA and VDOT completed the Feasibility Study of Real Time Parking Information at Metrorail Parking Facilities (Virginia Stations)<sup>165</sup>, evaluating the feasibility of a real-time parking application for the Metrorail system, with the purpose of improving operations efficiency, reducing operating costs by providing guidance to available parking spaces, encouraging more transit usage and reducing congestion.

Commuter Connections also displays a park-and-ride map on their website, which provides users with the location of lots, transit stations in the vicinity, and the location of Telework centers.

Due to the popularity of park-and-ride lots, some are experiencing overcrowding, where demand exceeds supply. This tends to happen at lots at or near Metrorail and commuter rail service. Over the past several years, Maryland State Highway Administration (MDSHA) has taken inventory of the SHA owned and maintained ridesharing facilities in the state<sup>166</sup>. Maryland has 103 park and ride lots located in 20 counties throughout the State providing a total of 12,572 spaces. In 2012, approximately 7,300 spaces were utilized on a given day which accounts for about 60% usage of the total spaces. It is estimated that providing the park and ride lot facilities resulted in 108 million fewer vehicle miles of travel in 2012.

The most recent TPB study on the usage of park-and-ride lots was conducted in 1996. As the region continues to grow and the demand for park-and-ride lots increases, this is an area that may need to be examined more closely. Remove this.

According to the 2008 WMATA Metrorail Station Access & Capacity Study, Metro presently owns and operates 58,186 parking spaces. On an average weekday, almost all of those spaces are occupied. Only a handful of stations—White Flint, Wheaton, College Park-U of MD, Prince George's Plaza, and Minnesota Ave—have a substantial amount of available capacity. Table 2-10 shows parking lot utilization as of October 2006.

---

<sup>164</sup> Source: Commuter Connections, <https://www.commuterconnections.org/park-ride-lots-in-the-metropolitan-washington-baltimore-regions/>

<sup>166</sup> Maryland State Highway Administration, 2013 Maryland State Highway Mobility Report, Sep. 2013. Available: [http://sha.maryland.gov/OPPEN/2013\\_Maryland\\_Mobility.pdf](http://sha.maryland.gov/OPPEN/2013_Maryland_Mobility.pdf)

**Table H5-1 Metro Parking Lot Utilization, October 2006**

| Station and Region            | Lot Capacity  | Average Utilization <sup>12</sup> |            |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
|                               |               | Mon-Thurs                         | Fri        |
| <u>MONTGOMERY COUNTY</u>      |               |                                   |            |
| Grosvenor                     | 1,894         | 103%                              | 92%        |
| White Flint                   | 1,158         | 41%                               | 31%        |
| Twinbrook                     | 1,097         | 84%                               | 70%        |
| Rockville                     | 524           | 104%                              | 101%       |
| Shady Grove                   | 5,467         | 83%                               | 78%        |
| Glenmont                      | 1,781         | 103%                              | 102%       |
| Wheaton                       | 977           | 63%                               | 40%        |
| Forest Glen                   | 596           | 101%                              | 96%        |
| <u>PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY</u> |               |                                   |            |
| New Carrollton                | 3,519         | 98%                               | 88%        |
| Landover                      | 1,866         | 76%                               | 49%        |
| Cheverly                      | 530           | 97%                               | 84%        |
| Addison Road-Seat Pleasant    | 1,268         | 91%                               | 71%        |
| Capitol Heights               | 372           | 88%                               | 82%        |
| Greenbelt                     | 3,399         | 99%                               | 85%        |
| College Park-U of MD          | 1,870         | 68%                               | 64%        |
| Prince George's Plaza         | 1,068         | 67%                               | 60%        |
| West Hyattsville              | 453           | 101%                              | 102%       |
| Southern Ave                  | 1,980         | 98%                               | 89%        |
| Naylor Road                   | 368           | 110%                              | 107%       |
| Suitland                      | 1,890         | 100%                              | 91%        |
| Branch Ave                    | 3,072         | 108%                              | 106%       |
| Morgan Boulevard              | 635           | 95%                               | 87%        |
| Largo Town Center             | 2,200         | 97%                               | 87%        |
| <u>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</u>   |               |                                   |            |
| Deanwood                      | 194           | 95%                               | 82%        |
| Minnesota Ave.                | 333           | 52%                               | 44%        |
| Rhode Island Ave.             | 340           | 95%                               | 94%        |
| Fort Totten                   | 408           | 88%                               | 86%        |
| Anacostia                     | 808           | 89%                               | 71%        |
| <u>NORTHERN VIRGINIA</u>      |               |                                   |            |
| Huntington                    | 3,090         | 99%                               | 93%        |
| West Falls Church-VT/UVA      | 2,009         | 103%                              | 89%        |
| Dunn Loring-Merrifield        | 1,319         | 107%                              | 105%       |
| Vienna/Fairfax-GMU            | 5,849         | 100%                              | 91%        |
| Franconia-Springfield         | 5,069         | 96%                               | 88%        |
| Van Dorn Street               | 361           | 110%                              | 118%       |
| East Falls Church             | 422           | 117%                              | 129%       |
| <b>System Total</b>           | <b>58,186</b> | <b>94%</b>                        | <b>85%</b> |

Source: WMATA

## **APPENDIX H-6 - TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION (BRAC) ACTIONS**

### **H-6.1 WALTER REED**

The Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) is located at 8901 Rockville Pike in Bethesda, Montgomery County. The facility occupies most of the east side of Rockville Pike (MD 355) between Jones Bridge Road and Cedar Lane. Under the BRAC action, this facility represents the absorption of the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center, an Army facility located at 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW in the District of Columbia (now closed), into the Bethesda site previously called the National Naval Medical Center. The Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS) is located on the WRNMMC site.

Employment at the site has increased from about 8,000 in 2008 to about 10,200 in 2012. According to the Walter Reed Web site, about 23% of employees “utilize environmentally-friendly transportation modes to come to work each day.” A new pedestrian tunnel under Rockville Pike linking the site to the Medical Center stop on the Metrorail Red Line and new elevators from near the hospital entrance to the Metro platform are scheduled for completion by September 2017.<sup>167</sup> Additionally, the Maryland State Highway Administration and Montgomery County Department of Transportation are undertaking major intersection improvements at the intersections of Rockville Pike and Cedar Lane / West Cedar Lane (construction underway), Old Georgetown Road and West Cedar Lane (construction underway), and Connecticut Avenue (MD 185) at Jones Bridge Road (construction on the third phase is expected to begin in Spring 2018).<sup>168</sup> For years, these three intersections have consistently been among the most congested in the County. Smaller scale improvements are also being / have been implemented at other intersections along the roads adjacent to the site.

### **H-6.2 MARK CENTER**

The Mark Center (also known as BRAC-133) is located at the southwest quadrant of the interchange of I-395 and Seminary Road in the City of Alexandria. Access to the site is via Mark Center Avenue, which intersects Seminary Road, and Mark Center Drive, which intersects North Beauregard Street. Approximately 6,400 jobs were moved to Mark Center. Adjacent is the Institute for Defense Analysis, which houses about 600 employees. A report with monthly traffic monitoring conducted between August 2011 and November 2013 was released in March 2014.<sup>169</sup>

A new transit bus station with five bus bays, which accommodates service from WMATA Metrobus, Alexandria DASH and private providers was built a short walk from the Mark Center. The Beauregard corridor was one of three corridors studied by the City for high-capacity transit service.<sup>170</sup> The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is building a new reversible ramp from the I-395 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to enable direct access from those lanes to Seminary Road during the morning peak commute period, and from Seminary Road to the HOV lanes in the afternoon commute period. These lanes are limited to HOV-3 (three-person car-pools, van-pools, buses and motorcycles) while in

---

<sup>167</sup> <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/355Underpass/index.html> (Accessed June 6, 2016)

<sup>168</sup> <http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectSchedule.aspx?projectno=M05932125> (12/23/2015 Status Update, Accessed June 6, 2016)

<sup>170</sup> Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study Corridor C (Van Dorn / Beauregard) Recommendation by High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group [https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/tes/info/2011-05-19\\_CWG%20Motion%20on%20Corridor%20C%284%29.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/tes/info/2011-05-19_CWG%20Motion%20on%20Corridor%20C%284%29.pdf)

northbound operation from 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM and southbound from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM. The ramp opened to traffic in January 2016.<sup>171</sup>

### **H-6.3 FORT BELVOIR**

Fort Belvoir is located along Richmond Highway (US 1) and I-95 in Fairfax County. It consists of two separate sites, the larger main post (located on the east and west sides of U.S. 1 south of Mount Vernon Highway (VA 235) and the smaller Fort Belvoir North area (the former Engineer Proving Ground), generally bounded by I-95, the Fairfax County Parkway (VA 286) and the neighborhoods just south of the Franconia-Springfield Parkway (VA 289). The National Geospatial Agency (NGA) is the primary tenant at Fort Belvoir North, while the main post hosts a number of Army functions.

In 2006, there were about 23,300 jobs at Fort Belvoir and Fort Belvoir North. As of 2011, there were about 36,400 jobs on the two sites (there will be additional off-base jobs which are not included in this total).

Transportation improvements in the area included:

- Completion of the final section of VA 286 between Newington and VA 289, including a new interchange on the west side of Fort Belvoir North at Barta Road
- A new ramp from the I-95 Express Lanes (HOV-3 restricted during peak commute times) to Heller Road on Fort Belvoir North
- Widening US 1 from four to six lanes from VA 611 to VA 235. The projects will also include the addition of left and right turn lanes at intersections and connecting roadways, and provision of a multi-use trail, pedestrian sidewalk, and on-road bicycle accommodations. Construction is scheduled to be completed in late 2016.<sup>172</sup>

## **APPENDIX H-7 – PERFORMANCE MEASURES IN THE 1994 CMS WORK PLAN**

### **H-7.1 HOW PERFORMANCE MEASURES/INDICATORS WERE SELECTED FOR THE 1994 CMS WORK PLAN**

In 1993, the CMS Task Force undertook discussion of performance measures/indicators because of the emphasis in federal CMS guidance on this issue, culminating in the publication of performance measures in the 1994 CMS Work Plan<sup>173</sup>. The efforts at the beginning of the process involved a literature search and brainstorming process. An array of possible performance measures were developed based on materials from an FHWA instructional course on CMP. The CMP Task Force worked with these draft lists, adding, deleting, and changing the performance measures to suit the needs of the Washington region. The result was a stratified list of CMP performance measures.

Early in the process, the CMS Task Force was already aware of the gap between the intermodal, locally focused performance measures/indicators available and the multi-modal, wide-area scope desired for congestion management. Other issues were raised, as well, which set the tone of the discussion. The following were taken into consideration:

- Can the particular performance measure/indicator (or the data needed to feed it) be forecast by known tools and capabilities?
- Traditional congestion indicators tended to be precise in scale, addressing a particular link or intersection on the transportation system, yet modeling or forecasting capabilities tended to be rough in scale, forecasting at best, a regional or sub-regional scale. Post processing forecast data would improve the precision at a corridor level. The choice of performance measures may lead or bias the investigator toward only certain kinds of solutions, and eliminate others that may actually be worthy. This was a particular concern expressed by elected officials on the TPB.
- The CMP tries to have a layman's term, "congestion" apply to a technical process. Congestion could be characterized by crowdedness, by delay, or by decreases in traffic speeds. Conversely, crowdedness, delay, and slowing are not all the same phenomenon not always experienced, and not always tantamount to congestion.
- Level of Service appeared to be the most promising alternative to using delay. It has been used frequently in the past, and there is a level of understanding and buy-in from regional decision makers and the public. Level-of service does have some drawbacks, including not being multi-modal. Even though LOS E and F are considered as congested, in urban areas some levels of congestion is considered acceptable. In addition, it is difficult to distinguish from the varying severities of Level of Service "F."

The solution proposed and adopted instead was to choose a whole list of indicators, and apply them where and when relevant. The CMS Task Force reviewed over 100 different performance measures in use or suggested for use by States and localities around the country. This list was then narrowed to a manageable few. Some of the major criteria used to rate the utility of prospective performance measures were the following:

- Had to be clear and understandable.
- Had to be sensitive to modes.

---

<sup>173</sup> CMS Work Plan for the Washington Region, approved by the TPB on September 21, 1994.

- Had to be sensitive to time.
- Based on readily available data.
- Can be forecast.
- Able to gauge the impact of one or more congestion management strategies.

## H-7.2 SELECTED CMP PERFORMANCE MEASURES FROM THE 1994 CMS WORK PLAN

### H-7.2.1 Summary List

Following is a list of performance measures selected:<sup>174</sup>

- *Data for Direct Assessment of Current (or future background) Conditions:*
  - Traffic volumes
  - Facility capacity
  - Speed
  - Vehicle density
  - Vehicle classification
  - Vehicle occupancy
  - Transit ridership
  - Accident/Incident data
- *Calculated performance measures/indicators for congestion assessment:*
  - Volume-to-capacity (V/C) ratio
  - Level of Service
  - Person miles of travel/vehicle miles of travel
  - Truck hours of travel
  - Person hours of delay/vehicle hours of delay
  - Modal shares
  - Safety considerations
  - Vehicle trips
  - Emissions reduction benefits

### H-7.2.2 Descriptions of the Performance Measures

#### **Direct Assessment**

- *Traffic volumes* – number of vehicles crossing a certain point, usually expressed for an average weekday. This indicator would be applicable in corridors or spot locations, and of interest in the assessment of most CMP strategies.
- *Facility capacity* – Typically for highways, and expressed in terms of the number of passenger car equivalents that can pass over a certain point in an hour, given the geometric characteristics and environment of the highway.
- *Speed* – Defined as the average running speed of motor vehicles traversing a section of roadway. Speed as an indicator is applicable in corridors or spot locations, and is of interest in the assessment of most CMP strategies.
- *Vehicle density* – Described as passenger-car-equivalents per lane per mile. It is of interest for highway-oriented CMP strategies such as traffic operations and HOV facilities.

---

<sup>174</sup> As originally identified in the 1994 CMS Work Plan for the Washington Region.

- *Vehicle classification* – Entails determining the proportion of vehicle traffic type passing a given point. Can be passenger cars, trucks, buses, or other vehicle types. It is applicable to spot locations, and is of interest in the assessment of most CMP strategies.
- *Vehicle occupancy* – average number of persons per motor vehicle for a given location. It is applicable region-wide, or on a corridor or spot basis. Can be used in the comparison of corridors.
- *Transit ridership* – average daily volume of passengers on given transit lines or facilities. It is of interest in the assessment of the following CMP strategies: Transportation Demand Management (TDM), transit, congestion pricing, and growth management.
- *Accident/Incident data* – average number of accidents per million vehicle miles of travel by different facility types. Higher accident rates is an indirect indication of congestion.

### **Calculated**

- *Volume-to-Capacity (V/C) Ratio* – ratio of demand flow rate at a given level of vehicle capacity for a roadway. Calculated from available highway data according to national standards in the Highway Capacity Manual. V/C Ratio was analyzed in the 2008-2030 Plan Performance evaluation.
- *Level of Service* – rating of the quality of service provided by a roadway under a given set of operating conditions. A roadway is classified with a letter “A” through “F” with “A” being the least congestion and “F” being the most congested. For LOS F conditions density/speed is used as an indication of the severity of the F. This performance measure is currently used in the Freeway Monitoring Program.
- *Person Miles of Travel/Vehicle Miles of Travel* – sum of all miles of travel by all vehicles for a given area or facility for a given period of time, factored by the vehicle occupancy to gauge person movement.
- *Modal Shares* – indicate the apportioning of person trips among possible transportation modes: single-occupant vehicle (SOV), high-occupancy vehicle (HOV), transit, non-motorized, or other modes of transportation.
- *Safety Considerations* – include empirical or sketch planning evaluation of safety or hazard issues in a given congestion situation or in consideration of potential congestion management strategies.
- *Vehicle Trips* – number of motor vehicle trips from a given origin to a given destination, which may be stratified by mode purpose, time period, vehicle type, or other classifications.
- *Emissions Reductions Benefits* – reductions in criteria pollutant emissions based on reductions in vehicle miles of travel or vehicle trips. Currently, this performance measure is used when analyzing the TERMS for the region.

### **Other Performance Measures for Consideration**

There are a number of performance measures that would be beneficial to congestion management, but the data availability is too limited for use in the CMP. Some of these include:

- *Bicycle usage and pedestrian counts*
  - Very little data on these have been collected in the region, but would be beneficial in areas such as bicycle and pedestrian planning and growth management.
- *Number of congested intersections*
  - Will give an indication of the extent and severity of congestion. Possible sources include traffic volumes, Data Clearinghouse information, and traffic operations models.

- *Hours per day of congestion*
  - Will directly address the need to gauge the extent of congestion on the transportation system. This indicator is dependent upon having travel volumes by time of day.
- *Percent person miles of travel by congestion level*
  - Will allow comparison of the extent of congestion among CMP locations.
- *Percent delay*
  - The total delay (in minutes) divided by the designated threshold (meaning expected, ideal, or free-flow) travel time. For example, a percent delay of 25% would mean that travel time on a certain segment of the transportation system is taking 25% longer than it would be expected to under non-congested conditions.
- *Average duration of incidents*
  - Could be incidents, special events, infrastructure or equipment failures, or other unusual circumstances that lead to a one-time-only or occasional increase in traveler delay.
- *Truck and freight movement involvement with congestion*
  - Impact of truck and freight movement on congestion. Currently the region does not have much data on hand in this area.
- *Percent of person miles of travel by transit load factor*
  - This is the transit analog of highway congestion as described by Level of Service. Load factor indicates the crowdedness of the transit vehicles, thus providing an overall indication of crowdedness on the portion of the transportation system.
- *Person volume-to-person capacity ratio*
  - Used to develop a Level of Service for transportation corridors by taking the sum of automobile and transit capacities. Levels of service are then determined with reference to volume-to-capacity standards.