TPB Focus on Freight A Monthly Newsletter

March 2013

TPB Freight Program

- TPB Freight Subcommittee meets on Thursday, April 11th, at MWCOG from 1pm to 3pm in Room 1. Meeting details will be posted on the TPB Freight Subcommittee Web Site closer to the meeting date. <u>TPB Freight Web Site</u>
- TPB freight staff met this month with Fairfax County, City of Fairfax, and City of Falls Church on the "Freight Around the Region" project. The Freight Subcommittee will be briefed.
- March 1, TPB freight staff presented to the Technical Committee on the Freight Around the Region project. <u>Presentation</u>
- TPB's March 14th Citizens Advisory Committee presentation on freight transportation planning led to fruitful discussion among members on how important it is for planners to explain the relationship between goods movement, the economy, and our everyday lives.

TPB Transportation Land-Use Grant Solicitation

The TPB's Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Technical Assistance Program provides focused consultant assistance to local jurisdictions working on creative, forward-thinking, sustainable plans and projects. Any local jurisdiction in the National Capital Region that is a member of the TPB is eligible to apply. Application information is available on the <u>TLC website</u>. A freight-related award was made in FY 2011 for the <u>Frederick County</u> <u>Freight and Freight-Dependent Land-Use Plan</u>.

Implementing MAP-21 Hearing before the House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

Modal Administrators from FHWA, FTA, FMCSA, and NHTSA reported to congressional representatives on MAP-21 implementation efforts. A theme, particularly from FHWA, was how hard DOT is working to maintain MAP-21 deadlines and rulemaking. Mr. Mendez reported that "all rulemakings are on schedule."

FMCSA Administrator, Anne Ferro, was pressed to explain many of FMCSA's efforts to improve safety.

Ms. Ferro discussed the new knowledge test to become an operator, new universal electronic on-bard recorders (by September 2013), the change in hours of service rules (compliance date July 1, 2013), and size and weight regulations. For details on the closely watched Hours of Service final rule, visit the *FMCSA link*.

DOT Administrators Testimony

Upcoming Freight Events

- April 25: Baltimore Metropolitan Counil Freight Movement Task Force meeting and tour of Dominion Sugar, contact Bala Akundi for details, bakundi@baltometro.org
- Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, <u>National Capital Area Roundtable</u> and <u>Baltimore Roundtable</u> events posted.