

**TDM EVALUATION GROUP
MEETING NOTES
November 21, 2006**

1. Introductions

(Please see attached attendance sheet)

2. Commuter Connections TERM Evaluation

Nicholas Ramfos discussed the purpose of the Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs) Evaluation Framework. He stated that the purpose was to document the impacts of the Commuter Connections TERMS. The results are used for regional air quality conformity determination. Mr. Ramfos stated that the document was developed in 1997 and is updated every 3 years to coincide with the TERM Evaluation schedule. Gus Robey asked whether we could show the number of vehicles reduced from the roads. Mr. Ramfos stated that the vehicles reduced could be shown at the regional level but it may be a bit more challenging to show these results at a state or local level. Lori Diggins stated that for some TERMS we may be able to show the impacts at the state or local level.

Eric Schreffler described the update process for the TERM evaluation framework methodology. Performance indicators would be reviewed and identified for use for each of the TERMS. Each TERM will have detail on how to measure the impacts. Data collection and tools will also be reviewed along with the basic impact calculation methodology. The project will also look at long-term evaluation issues and opportunities; including congestion and quality of life issues. The goal is to be able to use the data collection for informational in the region. Next, Mr. Schreffler discussed the project's evaluation principals. Mr. Schreffler commented that the framework methodology has significance and that many regions across the country point to it as a resource.

Ms. Robey asked whether we could examine the effects of the Live Near Your Work project. Mr. Ramfos stated that the project falls under Employer Outreach and perhaps information could be obtained from the employers choosing to participate in the project.

Howard Jennings asked whether or not the information kiosks that have printed information could be evaluated. Ms. Diggins stated that this information could be obtained through the State of the Commute Program. Mr. Ramfos stated that the region would still be evaluating the InfoExpress kiosks given that the evaluation cycle included FY 06 – FY 08 and the kiosks would be in place until the end of the current fiscal year.

Next, Mr. Schreffler discussed the Analysis tools needed for the Employer Outreach program, Given that the region has a minority of employers surveying their employees for travel behavior survey the EPA's COMMUTER model is used to calculate the effectiveness of the TERM. The research team will be looking at other sets of data such as the regional Household Travel Survey, EPA's Best Workplaces for Commuters program, and surveys completed by WMATA around Metrorail stations.

Next, Mr. Schreffler discussed the basic program impact calculation methodology steps taken for the TERM Analysis. Lastly, Ms. Diggins covered the proposed methodological enhancements for the new evaluation period.

A detailed methodology for each of the TERMS will be presented at the December 12th meeting. A draft document would then be prepared for review by the group by the end of December.

3. State of the Commute Survey

Mr. Ramfos stated that the draft questionnaire was in the mailout packet and that there were some proposed changes to the questionnaire. Ms. Diggins gave the background of the demographics of the survey. Some additional questions may be added as a follow-up to question 60 regarding why commuters change their job and/or housing locations. Robert Moore stated that closer attention needs to be given to the quotas for Alexandria and Fairfax given that some zip codes in Alexandria maybe residents actually residing in Fairfax County.

Ms. Diggins asked that if members of the group had changes to the survey to get those edits to COG and we will take a closer look at the recommendations. Mr. Ramfos asked that edits be forwarded to his attention by December 5, 2006. Mr. Ramfos also stated that ample time will be given to discuss the comments and edits at the December 12th meeting.

The next meeting will be held on December 12, 2006.