



MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Technical Committee
FROM: Kanathur Srikanth, TPB Staff Director
Eric Randall, TPB Staff
SUBJECT: WMATA Funding and Launch of the DMV Moves Regional Transit Initiative
DATE: May 2, 2024

This memorandum summarizes recent developments regarding funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA, or Metro) and the joint launch of a regional transit initiative by WMATA and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

WMATA Budget Update

On April 25, the WMATA Board approved the agency's FY 2025 operating and capital budgets, avoiding potentially severe cuts in service for the upcoming fiscal year, with significant amounts of new funding from the District, Maryland, and Virginia. However, state legislative actions, particularly in Virginia, may still impact available revenues. You may access WMATA's FY 2025 budget summary documents [here](#).

Joint COG WMATA Boards Meeting, May 1

In February of 2024 the COG board adopted a [resolution](#) accepting the recommendations from the Chief Administrative Officers Workgroup on WMATA Cost Structure on a pathway to fully fund WMATA's FY 2025 Operating budget and also committing to work at a regional level to find a long term predictable and sustainable financing model for WMATA. On April 1, 2024, COG Board Chair Charles Allen sent a [letter to the WMATA Board](#) of Directors Chair, Paul Smedberg, requesting the convening of a joint meeting by the two boards "to develop a long-term solution that fully addresses the complex transit needs of our region." WMATA Chair Smedberg responded affirmatively: "we graciously accept your invitation to partner and work towards viable solutions in the next year to address our region's transit needs for generations to come."

On May 1, the COG board and the WMATA board held a joint special meeting and adopted a [resolution](#) partnering COG and WMATA to "develop, a unified vision for transit service and predictable, dedicated, and sustainable funding for public transportation in the National Capital Region including regional, local, and commuter transit services, including Union Station, operating in close coordination and cooperation providing a seamless, safe, and efficient experience to users in support of regional mobility, equity, and climate and environmental goals." This initiative or effort is named DMV Moves.

The work will be directed by a regional task force with representatives from the District, Maryland, Virginia, and the Federal government. The work of the task force will be assisted by two advisory groups, Government Partners Advisory Group and Community Partners Advisory Group. TPB Chair,

Ms. Christina Henderson is on the regional task force as a member of the District delegation, and the TPB's Community Advisory Committee (TPB-CAC) and Access for All Advisory Committees (TPB-AFA) are on the Community Partners Advisory group. TPB staff will be assisting the TPB-CAC and TPB-AFA, as well as the COG and WMATA team in this effort.

The description of the DMV Moves initiative, the scope of work for the task Force and the two advisory groups along with the roster of members / agencies may be found below. Also available is a Video of the Joint COG-WMATA May 1 meeting.

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2024/05/01/cogwmata-boards-of-directors--joint-meeting-cog-board/>

Joint COG-WMATA Press Release

<https://www.mwcog.org/newsroom/2024/05/01/cog-wmata-launch-historic-initiative-dmvmoves-to-create-a-unified-vision-and-sustainable-funding-model-for-public-transit-in-the-region/>