

Freight Program Update

Karin Foster

kfoster@mwccog.org

May 14, 2009

TPB Freight Program History

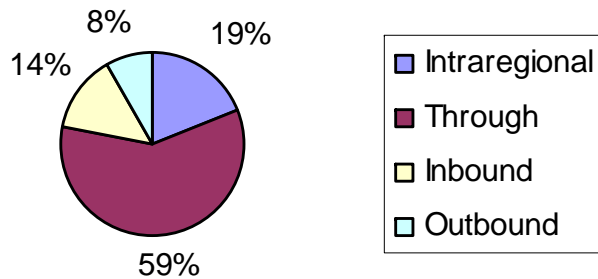
- *Enhancing Consideration of Freight in Regional Transportation Planning* (Cambridge Systematics, May 2007)
- November 2007 Freight Staff
- April 2008 Freight Subcommittee kick-off

Integrate Freight Report Outline

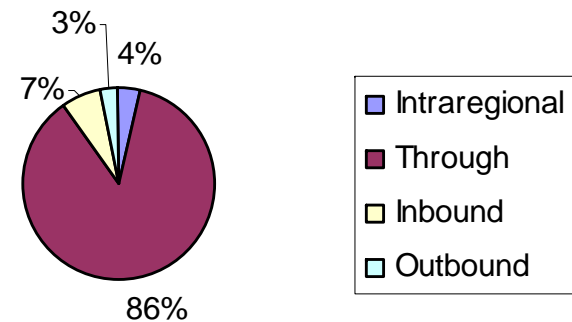
- Introduction
- National Capital Region Freight Movement and Impacts
- Methods of Integration
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Next Steps
- Link to Report:
 - <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/ZF5cWVhW20090422144032.pdf>

Regional Freight Movements

**Estimated Freight Movement
by Tonnage (2002)**



**Estimated Freight Movements
by Value (2002)**



Source: Quoted in *Enhancing Consideration of Freight in Regional Transportation Planning*, May 2007, p2-30.

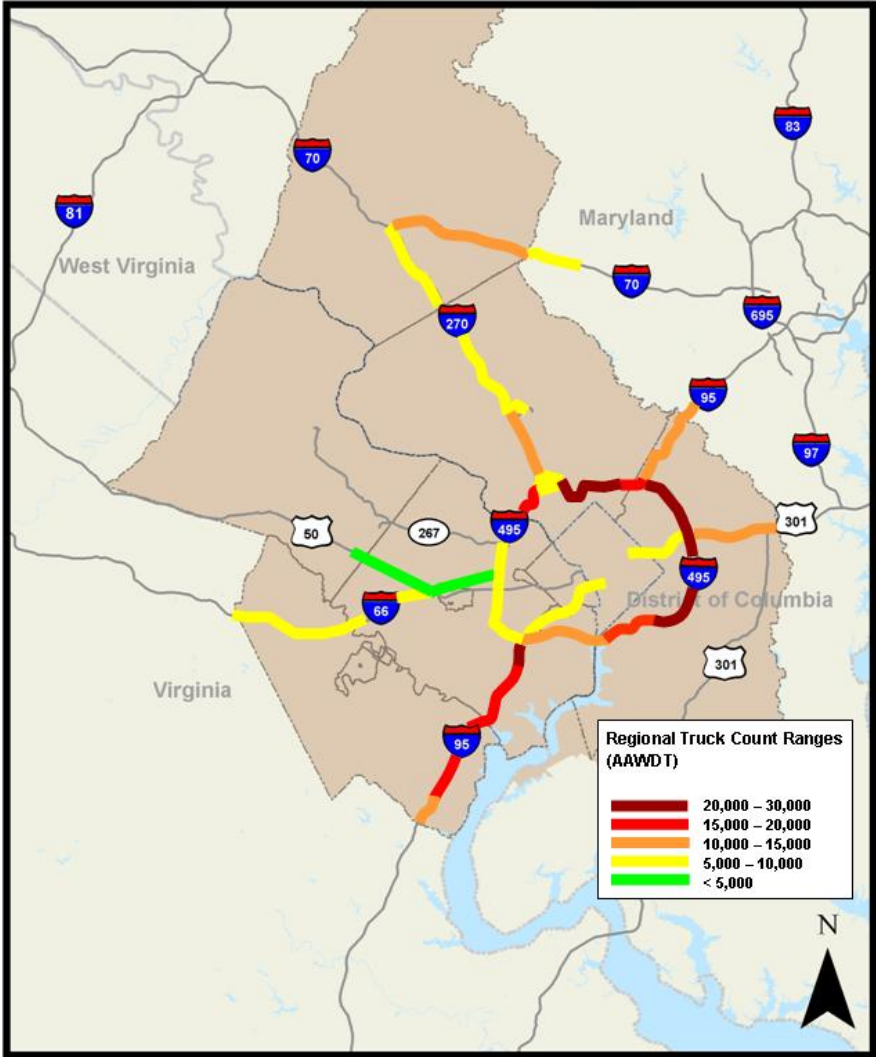
Truck Movements



- Carry 76% of total tonnage and 80% of total value of goods to, from, within the region
- Top tonnage: waste/scrap and gravel
- Top value: machinery/textiles
- Truck tonnage projected to grow 106% by 2030
- Heavy truck and medium truck volumes projected to increase by 38% and 47% in 2030 (2002 base)

Sources: Total tonnage, value, projected tonnage quoted in *Enhancing Consideration of Freight in Regional Transportation Planning*, May 2007, p2-30,37, from FHWA FAF. Truck volumes based on COG/TPB traffic models.

Estimated Regional Truck Counts



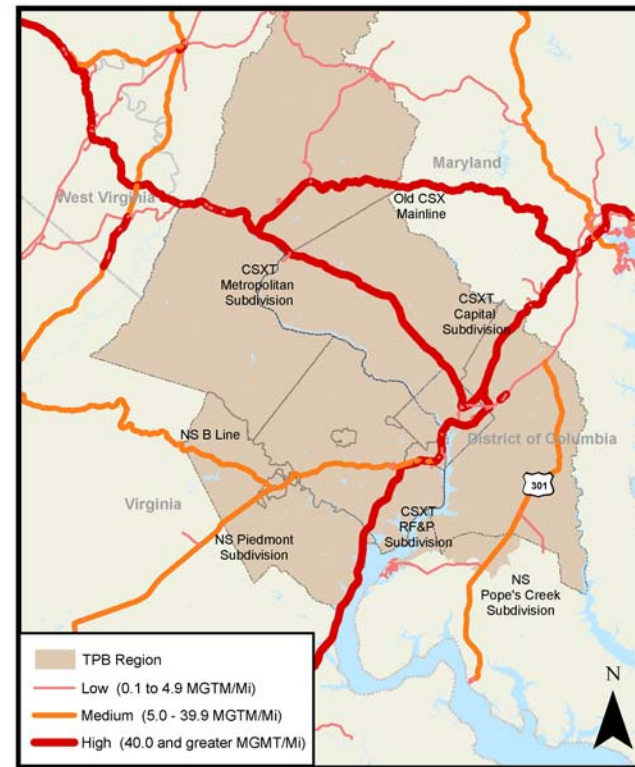
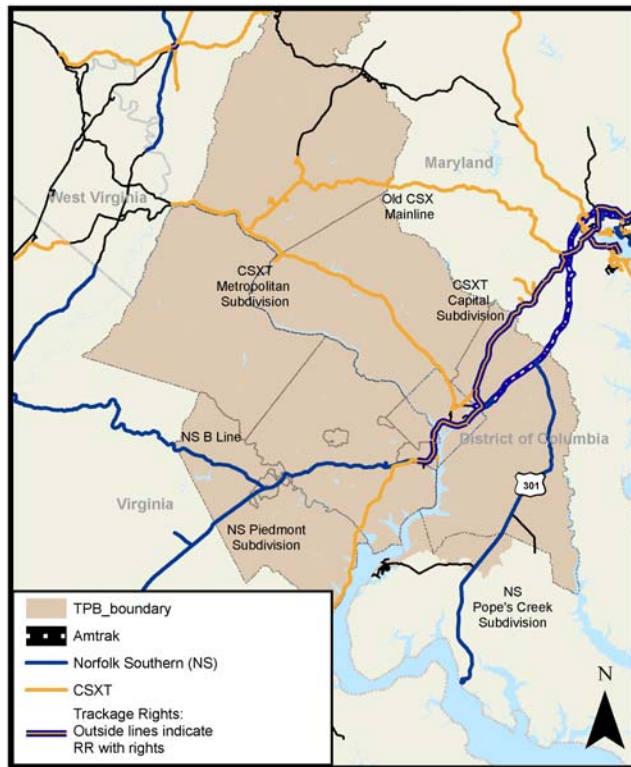
Source: VA DOT, MD DOT, District DOT, and COG/TPB, 2003.

Rail Movements



- Two Class 1 Railroads: CSX, NS
- “Through” corridor, 5% of rail trips stop in the region
- Private infrastructure, costly to maintain
- Top tonnage: coal and gravel
- Top value: Motorized vehicles, coal
- Rail tonnage is projected to grow by 50% by 2030

Rail Density



Source: US DOT, 2006

Growth's Impacts

- Increased Congestion
- Decreased Access to Clients
- Loss of Competitiveness
 - Guernsey Office Products built additional warehouse in MD to provide better access to DC

Integrate Freight Methodology

- NCHRP 594 *Guidebook...*
 1. Freight Point of Contact
 2. Understanding Regional Freight System
 3. Linking Freight and Transportation Planning and Programming Activities
 4. Freight Data Needs Assessment and Collection
 5. Outreach
 6. Freight-related Training and Outreach Opportunities;
 7. Advocacy

Staff Outreach

- Freight world=working with private sector folks, working in a different realm, outreach very important
 - *Focus on Freight e-newsletters*
 - Attend MPO and association meetings
 - Maintain Freight Subcommittee Web Site

Freight Subcommittee

- Bimonthly meetings
 - Chairman Mr. Weissberg
- Sample Meeting Topics:
 - I-95 Corridor Coalition Intermodal Committee Freight Activities
 - CSX National Rail Gateway Report
 - FedEx operations
 - Guernsey Office Products operations

Freight Stakeholder Survey

- Objective: Gain input “from the field” on transportation in the region
- Telephone Survey: Shippers, receivers, wholesalers, etc.
- Contacts, sorted by jurisdiction, sorted by total tonnage within the jurisdiction, called top 15%
- To date 35 Surveys completed

Stakeholder Survey Feedback

- For many surveyed it was difficult to identify specific transportation recommendations
- Traffic and rush hour congestion the most significant challenge to doing business in the region
- Congestion on the I-495, I-95, and I-66 facilities were repeatedly mentioned as important

Stakeholder Survey Feedback Cont.

- Access to existing roads (I-66 inside the Beltway, US-50 weight limits)
- Traffic circle radii too small, damage trucks
- More specific comments will be added to the Metropolitan Washington Regional Freight Projects Database (e.g. traffic circles damage trucks)

Freight Project Database

- Potential projects beneficial to goods movement in our region will be drawn from:
 - I-95 Mid-Atlantic Truck Operations Study (MATOPs)
 - I-95 Mid-Atlantic Rail Operations Study (MAROPs)
 - MD State Freight Plan (underway, June 09)
 - VA State Freight Plan (underway, June 09)
 - CSX National Gateway Report
 - Stakeholder Outreach Survey
 - Freight Subcommittee and Stakeholder Input

Example Potential Projects To Date

■ Rail Projects

- CSX Rail clearance projects, 6 in DC
- Regional Rail Advanced Traffic Information System

■ Truck Projects

- I-70 Reconstruct and Widen, Washington County Line to west of Mt. Phillip Rd.
- I-270 Reconstruct and Widen I-370 to Frederick County Line
- US 50 Reconstruct and Widen DC Line to MD 410

Next Steps

- Recommendations to Integrate Freight include:
 - Enhance the freight section of the CLRP during the next major update.
 - Scan CLRP projects, identify projects that support goods movement. Draft a letter of support for these projects on behalf of the Freight Subcommittee.
 - Compile freight projects that fall within our region from other transportation plans.

Next Steps Cont.

- Work towards developing a detailed National Capital Region Freight Plan that incorporates these projects and analyze data available about freight flow in the region.
- Maintain the current Freight Subcommittee, *Focus on Freight* e-newsletter, and outreach. Continue to compile and analyze data to better understand the regional freight system.