

# GOALS AND CHALLENGES

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## Policy Framework from April 10 Meeting

TPB Long-Range Plan Task Force  
April 19, 2017



National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

# Goals for LRPTF Activities

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- Provide a comprehensive range of transportation options to promote a strong regional economy and address regional congestion, accessibility and mobility
- Provide reasonable access at reasonable cost to everyone
- Develop and maintain an interconnected system, including a healthy regional core and dynamic activity centers with a mix of jobs, housing and services in a walkable environment
- Prioritize state of good repair: Give priority to asset management, performance, maintenance and safety of all modes and facilities
- Use the best available technology to maximize system effectiveness
- Plan and develop a system that enhances and protects natural environmental quality, cultural and historic resources and communities
- Achieve better inter-jurisdictional coordination of transportation and land use planning
- Achieve enhanced funding for regional and local priorities that cannot be met with current/forecast funding sources
- Support inter-regional and international travel and commerce



# Challenges LRPTF Seeks to Address

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- **Roadway Congestion:** The region's roadways are among the most congested in the nation, making it harder for people and goods to reliably get where they need to go
- **Transit Crowding:** The transit system currently experiences crowding during peak hours and lacks the capacity to support future population and job growth without reducing ridership
- **Inadequate Bus Service:** Existing bus service is too limited in its capacity, coverage, frequency, and reliability, making transit a less viable option, especially for people with disabilities and limited incomes.
- **Unsafe Walking and Biking:** Too few people have access to safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure or live in areas where walking and bicycling are not practical options for reaching nearby destinations.
- **Development Around Metrorail:** Too many Metrorail stations, especially on the eastern side of the region, are surrounded by undeveloped or underdeveloped land, limiting the number of people who can live or work close to transit and leaving unused capacity in reverse-commute directions on several lines.



# Challenges LRPTF Seeks to Address

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- **Housing and Job Location:** Most housing, especially affordable housing, and many of the region's jobs are located in areas outside of Activity Centers where transit, bicycling, and walking are not safe and viable options.
- **Metrorail Repair Needs:** Deferred Metrorail maintenance over the years has led to unreliability, delays, and safety concerns today, as well as higher maintenance costs.
- **Roadway Repair Needs:** Older bridges and roads are deteriorating and in need of major rehabilitation to ensure safe, reliable, and comfortable travel for cars, trucks, and buses.
- **Incidents and Safety:** Major accidents and weather disruptions on roadways and transit systems cause severe delays and inconvenience. Reducing injuries and fatalities for all users of the transportation system must be prioritized, with particular focus on protecting vulnerable users.
- **Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety:** The number of bicycle and pedestrian fatalities each year is holding steady even as the number of vehicle fatalities has declined steadily.



# Challenges LRPTF Seeks to Address

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- **Environmental Quality:** Increasing amounts of vehicle travel resulting from population and job growth could threaten the quality of our region's air and water.
- **Open Space Development:** Wildlife habitat, farmland, and other open spaces are threatened by construction of new transportation facilities and residential and commercial development.
- **Bottlenecks:** Bottlenecks on the highway and rail systems cause delays in inter-regional travel for both freight and passengers, hurting the region's economic competitiveness.
- **Travel Time Reliability:** Travel times to and from the region's airports are becoming less reliable for people and goods movement.

