

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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ANNOUNCEMENT Meeting Notes

MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (MOITS) POLICY TASK FORCE AND MOITS TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 19, 2010

TIME: 12:30 PM

PLACE: COG, First Floor, Meeting Room 1

CHAIRS: Hon. David Snyder, City of Falls Church, Chair, Policy Task Force
Sean Kennedy, WMATA, Chair Technical Subcommittee

VICE CHAIR: J.D. Schneeberger, VDOT

Meeting Notes

Attendance:

James Austrich, MPD-SOD
Ed Daniel, Montgomery Co. Police Dept.
Kathleen Frankle, Univ. of Maryland
Craig Franklin, Trichord, Inc.
Bill Gouse, Open Roads
Michael Harris, Virginia DRPT (by phone)
Warren Henry, MD SHA-CHART
Tom Jacobs, Univ. of Maryland
Sarah Jordan, MATOC
Sean Kennedy, WMATA
Yanlin Li (by phone)
Alvin Marquess, MD SHA (by phone)
Amy McElwain, VDOT
Frank Mirack, FHWA
Tom Scherer, Arlington County DES
J.D. Schneeberger, VDOT
Kenneth Vaughn, Trevilon

COG Staff Attendance:

Karin Foster
Andrew Meese
Patrick Powell
Wenjing Pu
Jim Yin

MOITS Policy Task Force and Technical Subcommittee

Notes of the February 19, 2010 Joint Meeting

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1. Welcome and Review of Notes from the December 8, 2009 Meeting

Participants introduced themselves.

2. Regional Emergency Support Function 1 – Transportation Committee Update

Mr. Powell reported. The RESF-1 meeting was canceled due to snow. Regarding UASI for 2010, the CAO/SPG group would meet March 3rd to decide what proposed programs would be funded and what program would be not. The application was due to DHS sometime in April. So far, no transportation projects had been selected by the CAOs/SPG to move forward this year. Though the \$56 million dollars might seem large, once state shares were taken away, 25 percent by federal law devoted to law enforcement, and the need to sustain current projects, only about \$7 or \$8 million would be available regionally across all sectors for new projects.

In response to Mr. Meese's question regarding the previously discussed concept of putting together a regional signal and traffic systems proposal, Mr. Marquess reported he was working with SHA internal staff to identify the current status of traffic signal in the area and tried to find out what need to do in the future. Mr. Marquess hoped the region could come up with some project ideas to prepare for the next round of grant application in the September or October time frame.

3. Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program and Regional Integrated Transportation Information Systems (RITIS) Activities Updates

Mr. Meese spoke to the handout which was presented to the TPB at its February 17 meeting by Gary Euler. One major development was that MATOC Facilitator Buddy Ey had left the program for a new position; Sarah Jordan continued in an expanded MATOC monitoring role. MATOC continued regional activities monitoring. There were an average of 20 regional incidents each month. RITIS continued as a key MATOC component with continuing improvements. Examples referred to several regional incidents to show how MATOC handled these incidents. Regarding the funding, the original federal funding would available till June 30th 2010. However, because of departure of Mr. Ey, and some other factors, the funding would extend to up 3 more months, and staff was looking into a no-cost period of performance extension for the program.

\$1.2 million was estimated to sustain MATOC operation for a year, and that included RITIS activities. MD SHA had distributed a signed letter officially pledging Maryland's \$400,000 share for FY2011. There was no official word from DDOT and VDOT about their potential funding. Other funding sources included limited planning funding from the TPB, a potential \$100,000 from Northern Virginia CMAQ, and a potential additional federal earmark of \$200,000. The bottom line was MATOC would continue in some form. The benefit cost analysis of MATOC was in development and would be completed soon.

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4. Review and Discussion of the Draft MOITS Strategic Plan

Mr. Meese referred to a handout presentation. The MOITS Strategic Plan Draft 1.4 was distributed on February 5, 2010. A number of comments had been received, some of which had not yet been addressed. An executive summary and a few other components still needed to be written.

The plan had four basic components: 1. What should MOITS as committees be looking at? 2. What should member agencies or jurisdictions be doing? 3. What projects should we seek “opportunity funding for? 4. How should performance be measured? Nine emphasis areas provided the structure of the plan’s recommendations.

The plan also addresses best practices as a means to take a more comprehensive look at activities that individual jurisdictions and agencies can be doing to help support regional goals. Each was a process or activity anticipated to be especially effective in achieving a desired outcome, and should be substantially “beyond debate” among stakeholders.

Ms. McElwain recommended making stronger ties from objectives to performance measures. Mr. Meese responded that he and Mr. Franklin would look at ways to strengthen the ties of the performance measures to other parts of the strategic plan, noting that he did not anticipate exact one-to-one correspondences among objectives, emphasis areas, and performance measures because of the many overlaps.

A preliminary program plan of projects was distributed and briefly discussed. Comments were requested.

Staff would integrate comments for another week or so, and anticipated distributing a final draft prior to the March 9 MOITS meeting [this schedule was later extended].