

Freight Subcommittee

November 4, 2010

Freight Subcommittee: Highlighted Projects

Objective:

The objective is for the Freight Subcommittee to highlight 10 important projects to facilitate freight movement in the region that are currently unfunded. The Freight Subcommittee will present these projects to the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) in January 2011 as a package of 10 projects important to the Freight Subcommittee and freight movement in the National Capital Region.

Background:

On July 21, 2010, the TPB approved the first *National Capital Region Freight Plan*. The National Capital Region Freight Project Database has been developed as part of this Plan. The TPB expects a list of highlighted freight projects as a follow-up to the *National Capital Region Freight Plan*. For example, previous *Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans* have also come up with a list of highlighted projects.

Freight Project Database:

The National Capital Region Freight Project Database includes 38 rail projects and 61 highway projects. The Database represents a compilation of projects beneficial to freight movement in our region. All projects were gathered from existing or in-progress plans or reports. The National Capital Region Freight Project Database is the primary source from which to select projects, however, individuals are welcome to recommend an additional project. The Freight Project Database was printed in the July 21, 2010 *National Capital Region Freight Plan*, however, it remains in flux with new updates. Staff intend to update all Freight Projects to the TPB-Freight Subcommittee web site for easier use of up-to-date projects.

Our current short-range Transportation Improvement Program covers projects from 2010 to 2015. Therefore, with regard to the Freight Project Database, those projects that are to complete in these years are not for contention as a “highlighted project”, because they already have dedicated funding sources.

Project Spread

The Freight Subcommittee would like to select projects beneficial to freight movement throughout the National Capital Region and projects that span the region. For this region,

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we propose a selection of four rail projects, two for each major Class 1 railroad, and six highway projects, two based in each state that falls within our region.

Feedback and Comment Period

We welcome your comments and recommendations until November 30. In December, TPB freight staff plans to hold a meeting or conference call with the Freight Subcommittee to finalize the list of selected projects