



TPB APPROVES \$8 MILLION IN “ENHANCED MOBILITY” GRANTS

At its January 20 meeting, the TPB approved nearly \$8 million in funding for a slate of projects that enhance transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The projects will be funded through the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program.

A grant solicitation for these funds was conducted last year, and a TPB selection committee reviewed applications and recommended 21 projects for funding. Jurisdictions and agencies must provide a match to the federal funding. This year the TPB had approximately \$5 million to distribute, and applicants agreed to contribute nearly \$3 in matching funds.

A panel, chaired by Patrick Wojahn, Mayor of College Park, selected the projects for funding based in part on how well they address some of the region’s top unmet mobility needs, identified by the Access for All Advisory Committee as part of the 2014 update of the TPB’s Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan. The selection panel included representatives of transit and human service agencies or non-profits with expertise in specialized transportation.

Wojahn said that the Enhanced Mobility program is helping local governments and human service agencies “struggling with how to provide and pay for these services.” This is demonstrated by the amount of funds requested in the solicitation: the TPB received 24
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TPB APPOINTS MEMBERS OF CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2016

Fifteen individuals, five each representing the region’s three state-level jurisdictions, will serve the coming year as members of the TPB’s Citizens Advisory Committee. The CAC’s charge is to promote public involvement and provide the TPB with advice on regional transportation issues.

The appointment of the 15 committee members was approved by the TPB at its meeting on January 20. Six

of the members were elected by members of the previous year’s CAC, while the remaining nine were appointed by the TPB’s three officers—Chairman Tim Lovain and Vice-Chairmen Bridget Newton and Charles Allen. The TPB also appointed nine alternate members to the committee.

The 2016 CAC will meet for the first time on Thursday, February 11. The committee will have a first look at major
(Continued on page 6)

Upcoming meetings and items of interest:

TPB Meeting: February 17, 2016

- Briefing on project submissions for the 2016 CLRP Amendment
- Briefing on the evaluation of the TLC program and solicitation for the FY 2017 projects

Inside this issue of TPBnews:

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TPB SELECTS “ENHANCED MOBILITY” PROJECTS

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applications asking for \$13.9 million in federal funds, two and half times the amount available. A total of 190 wheelchair accessible vans or small buses were requested. The TPB was able to award approximately \$5 million in federal funds and over 75 vehicles.

Projects selected for funding include travel training, volunteer driver programs, transportation voucher programs, wheelchair accessible taxis, and vehicle acquisitions. A complete list of all 20 selected projects can be found on page 3.

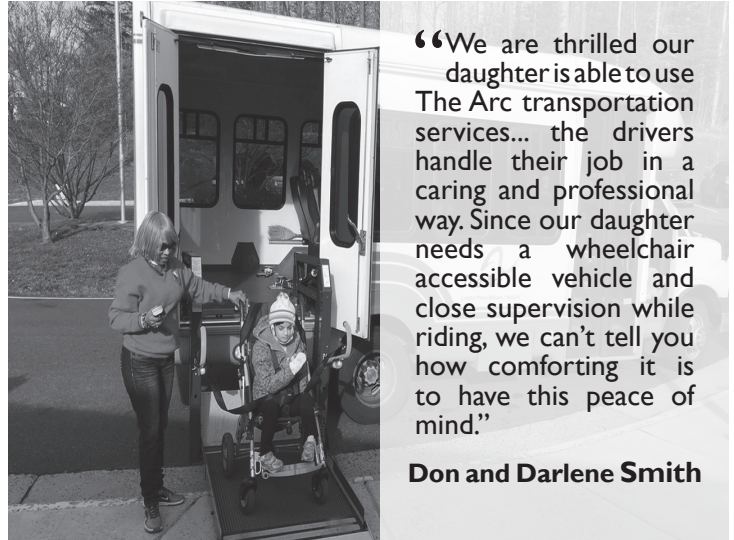
One additional project was funded with unexpended money from the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program. This project will receive \$416,668 in federal funds to support the acquisition of accessible vehicles and to provide operating costs for door-to-door transportation to work for individuals with disabilities.

“ConnectorCard is a great asset for seniors; a wonderful opportunity. It enables seniors to get to the doctor on time and to keep their appointments.”

Ann Wicker

Wojahn pointed out that “the Enhanced mobility grants are a small drop in the bucket in terms of funding, but can impact the everyday lives of some of the most vulnerable population groups in our region.”

Wojahn was honored at the January TPB meeting for his commitment to improving



“We are thrilled our daughter is able to use The Arc transportation services... the drivers handle their job in a caring and professional way. Since our daughter needs a wheelchair accessible vehicle and close supervision while riding, we can't tell you how comforting it is to have this peace of mind.”

Don and Darlene Smith

transportation for people with disabilities. After serving eight years on the TPB, Wojahn will now be serving on the COG Board.

“For someone on Social Security, and nothing but Social Security, (Wheels-to-Wellness) is a complete blessing... people don't understand how good this program really is.”

Sharri Burton

COG was tasked with administering the Enhanced Mobility program in the Washington region by the governors of Maryland and Virginia and the mayor of the District of Columbia in 2013. Prior to Enhanced Mobility, between 2007 and 2013, the TPB awarded more than \$25 million to 66 human services projects—that provide mobility services, programs, and training efforts for older adults, persons with disabilities, and low-income individuals—through the JARC and New Freedom programs.

For more, visit:

www.mwcog.org/tpbcoordination. ◆

“Enhanced Mobility” Projects Approved For Funding in January 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS

Seabury Resources for Aging

ConnectorCard expansion; transportation subsidy program for use on taxis and services like Uber

Geographic focus: District of Columbia

Federal: \$373,116 **Total:** \$746,232

Capitol Hill Village

Volunteer driver program enhancement and increased awareness about transportation options

Geographic focus: District of Columbia

Federal: \$322,983 **Total:** \$403,729

Jewish Council for the Aging

Volunteer driver resource center

Geographic focus: Suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia

Federal: \$250,000 **Total:** \$312,5000

Montgomery County Professional Drivers Union

Support for operating costs, dispatch, training, and marketing of new driver's co-op for wheelchair-accessible taxis

Geographic focus: Montgomery County

Federal: \$159,790 **Total:** \$284,750

Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind

Public transportation orientation and mobility services and internship program

Geographic focus: Region

Federal: \$308,334 **Total:** \$385,418

Lifestyles of Maryland Foundation, Inc.

Volunteer drive program start-up for medical trips from Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties to the Washington region

Geographic focus: Southern Maryland

Federal: \$133,145 **Total:** \$266,290

Sunrise of Maryland, Inc.

Accessibility improvements to adult day center building employing people with intellectual and physical disabilities

Geographic focus: Lanham, Maryland

Federal: \$116,248 **Total:** \$145,310

The Arc of Northern Virginia

Train the travel trainer for schools and human service agencies

Geographic focus: Northern Virginia

Federal: \$250,000 **Total:** \$312,310

Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission

Transportation voucher program on taxis for health-related trips

Geographic focus: Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, Virginia

Federal: \$125,000 **Total:** \$250,000

VEHICLE ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

Woodley House, Inc.

Two accessible minivans to support clients with disabilities who are homeless

Geographic focus: District of Columbia

Federal: \$64,587 **Total:** \$80,734

Yellow Transportation LLC

Seven wheelchair accessible taxis, one 15-passenger bus, and preventative maintenance

Geographic focus: Lanham, Maryland

Federal: \$300,000 (\$145,125 Enhanced Mobility and \$184,875 New Freedom)

Total: \$412,500

Liberty Transportation Management Corporation

Eight wheelchair accessible taxis, preventative maintenance, and operating support

Geographic focus: District of Columbia

Federal: \$330,000 **Total:** \$414,372

The Arc of Prince George's County

Four accessible minivans to support client transportation to community-based programs

Geographic focus: Prince George's County

Federal: \$122,133 **Total:** \$152,667

Jewish Council for the Aging

Three 19-passenger buses and preventative maintenance for providing group trips to older adults

Geographic focus: Montgomery County and the region

Federal: \$270,948 **Total:** \$338,685

Community Support Services

12 minivans and preventative maintenance to provide client transportation and reduce reliance on MetroAccess

Geographic focus: Montgomery County and the region

Federal: \$362,728 **Total:** \$453,410

University of Maryland, College Park

Three 15-passenger buses and operating support for paratransit service on campus

Geographic focus: Montgomery County and the region

Federal: \$383,847 **Total:** \$609,193

Regency Taxi

12 wheelchair accessible taxis to be operated by the Drivers Co-Op

Geographic focus: Montgomery County

Federal: \$375,000 **Total:** \$468,750

The Arc of Greater Prince William / INSIGHT, Inc.

Five 15-passenger buses for client transportation

Geographic focus: Prince William County, Fairfax County, and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, Virginia

Federal: \$252,384 **Total:** \$315,480

Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services

Five replacement vehicles for door-to-door client transportation

Geographic focus: Fairfax County, and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church, Virginia

Federal: \$239,374 **Total:** \$299,217

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Approximately 12 MetroAccess replacement vehicles

Geographic focus: Regional

Federal: \$475,000 **Total:** \$558,824

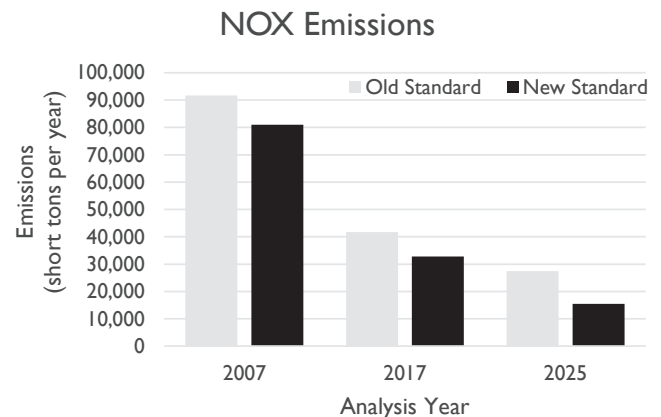
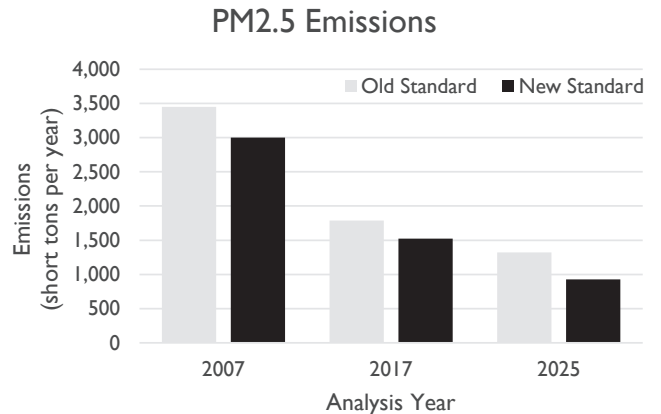
REVISIONS PLANNED FOR “MAINTENANCE PLAN” LIMITS ON FINE-PARTICLE POLLUTION

The TPB on January 20 was briefed on proposed changes to limits capping regional vehicle-related emissions of PM2.5 and precursor nitrogen oxides, or NOx, the two pollutants responsible for fine-particle pollution in the region.

The limits, first established in 2013, are contained in a federally required maintenance plan showing how the region intends to continue to meet federal air quality standards for fine-particle pollution. The proposed revisions would lower the limits in the maintenance plan considerably—by about 30 percent for direct PM2.5 emissions, and about 40 percent for precursor NOx.

Jane Posey, a transportation engineer responsible for the TPB’s air quality planning work, briefed the TPB at its January 20 meeting. She told Board members that the proposed changes reflect anticipated drops in emissions as new federal “Tier 3” standards for vehicle and fuel technology come into effect. She said that the proposed new limits were calculated using an updated version of the federal government’s emissions-forecasting tool, known as MOVES2014, which more accurately reflects the Tier 3 standards.

Posey also told Board members that the proposed emissions caps reflect the latest assumptions about future population and job growth, information about the age and make-up of the region’s vehicle fleet, and new highway and transit projects that have



been funded in recent years and added to the region’s Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP).

Once the revised budgets take effect, which is expected sometime this year, the TPB will use them as part of its annual Air Quality Conformity Analysis, which must show that future emissions under approved transportation plans will remain below approved emissions budgets. If they don’t, the federal government could stop the flow of transportation dollars to the region.

In addition to fine particle pollution, the TPB must forecast emissions of a few other key pollutants, including ozone-forming nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). ♦

GREENHOUSE GAS GROUP PRESENTS DRAFT “CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATIONS”

At its January 20 meeting, the TPB was briefed on a draft set of “consensus recommendations” for strategies to be considered for inclusion in a regional action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The draft recommendations were developed by Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments staff and reviewed on January 7 by a policy-level working group made up of elected official representatives from around the region. The policy group was set up in October 2015 by the COG Board of Directors to build on the work of COG’s Multi-Sector Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MSWG). The MSWG in 2015 analyzed numerous potential emissions reduction strategies across the energy, transportation, land-use, and built environment sectors and in October presented 22 for further consideration.

TPB Planning and Programming Director Bob Griffiths presented the draft “consensus recommendations” to the TPB on January 20. He explained that the strategies were divided into three groups based on the potential level of consensus for implementing them.

“We identified elements of the MSWG strategies that we thought could be implemented regionwide,” Griffiths told Board members. “Then we identified a second tier of strategies that maybe not all jurisdictions could adopt, but some could. And then there were elements that would have to be put off to the future for further consideration,” he said.

Griffiths is heading up the efforts of the MSWG’s transportation sub-group, which so far has recommended improvements to vehicle fuel efficiency, reducing congestion, improving operational efficiency of roadways,

and encouraging greater use of non-driving travel modes as key reduction strategies.

When the policy group of elected officials met on January 7 they asked for additional input on how the strategies would be implemented within each jurisdiction before they agree to formally recommend them for inclusion in the regional action plan. COG staff are gathering input now from local transportation and other agencies and expect to have results by early March.

At the January 20 TPB meeting, Board member Jay Fisette stressed the need for the strategies and actions identified by the working group to be fully integrated into the TPB’s decision making, including as part of periodic updates of the region’s Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP).

“How do we tie the daily and monthly and annual actions at the local, state, regional level to accomplishing our goals? How do we connect them?” he asked. “When you look at our plans, we’re not really getting there. So what else can we do?”

TPB Staff Director Kanti Srikanth informed Fisette and others that greenhouse gas emissions have and will continue to be part of the annual Performance Analysis of the CLRP. Srikanth also said it will be a consideration in upcoming TPB work to identify priority projects that hold the greatest promise for improving the performance of the region’s transportation system.

Learn more about COG’s Multi-Sector Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions at www.mwcog.org/MSWG. ♦

Transportation decisions in our region are made every day at many different levels of government. Learn about the transportation planning process and high-profile project in the DC, MD, and VA, and find resources for your local community.

www.transportationplanninghub.org

WORK CONTINUES ON UNFUNDED CAPITAL NEEDS

At its meeting on January 20, the TPB was briefed on a draft scope of work for a planning process that seeks to improve the future performance of the Washington region's transportation system. The scope of work, a product of the Unfunded Capital Needs Working Group, describes a three phase process for analyzing unfunded transportation projects and conducting outreach to prioritize a list of those projects to be included in the TPB's first Plan of Unfunded Regional Projects.

The first phase would model the performance of the region's transportation system under three scenarios: what if no new projects are implemented; what if only the CLRP projects are implemented; and what if all of the CLRP and unfunded projects are implemented. By exploring how the this range of scenarios will impact

system performance, this analysis will provide context for prioritizing unfunded projects.

During the second phase TPB staff will work with elected officials, jurisdiction and agency staff, and the public to develop a regionally significant list of priority projects with the potential to substantively improve the performance outcomes of the region's CLRP.

The final phase will incorporate the list of unfunded priority projects into the Call for Projects for the 2018 update to the Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP).

The Unfunded Capital Needs Working Group will meet next on March 16. ♦

2016 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Continued from page 1)

additions and changes proposed for inclusion in the 2016 amendment to the region's long-range transportation plan. The group's monthly meeting is generally the first opportunity for members of the public to review documents and briefing materials for the upcoming TPB meeting.

Beyond February, TPB Chairman Tim Lovain hopes the CAC can play a role in advancing some of the priorities he has as Board chairman identified for the coming year. "I hope that we can maybe task the CAC with some work in pursuit of some of these goals," he said at the January 20 meeting.

Lovain also appointed Douglas Stewart, a CAC member from Virginia, to serve as chairman of the committee this year. Stewart has been a member of the CAC for the past two years and is actively involved in a variety of transporta-

tion issues in Northern Virginia.

The TPB normally seeks nominations for the CAC each December. Appointments are typically made at the January TPB meeting.

Learn more about the Citizens Advisory Committee at www.mwcog.org/cac. ♦

Public Comment

Proposed Projects for the 2016 CLRP Amendment

Comment on proposed projects before they are included in the federally required Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the 2016 Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP). The comment periods runs from **February 11** to **March 12**.

www.mwcog.org/tpbcomment

OTHER JANUARY AGENDA ITEMS

The TPB's January 20 meeting also included the following items:

- Approval of an agreement between the TPB and the Calvert-St. Mary's Metropolitan Planning Organization (C-SMMPO) and Calvert County, Maryland
- Approval of funding and transmittal letter for the TPB's 2016 membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Briefing on the implementation of the TPB Regional Priority Bus Project under the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Program
- Review of outline and preliminary budget for the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) ◆

UPCOMING FEBRUARY AGENDA ITEMS

The February 17 TPB meeting is expected to include the following items:

- Briefing on project submissions for the 2016 CLRP Amendment
- Briefing on draft scope of work for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the 2016 CLRP Amendment and the FY 2017-2022 TIP
- Briefing on the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Briefing on the FY 2017 Commuter Connections Work Program (CCWP)
- Briefing on an evaluation of the TLC program and solicitation for the FY 2017 projects
- Update on the development of policy language for the Regional Freight Plan ◆

Not able to attend the monthly TPB meeting?

Listen to a live stream of the TPB meeting, check out recordings from past meetings, and review Board materials at

www.mwcog.org/TPBmtgLIVE.

TO OUR READERS: TPB News to Relaunch as Online-Only Publication

We will soon be re-launching TPB News as an online-only publication, to be distributed via email twice each month. This new email newsletter will continue to include reporting on the TPB's monthly meetings as well as provide access to the calendar of upcoming TPB meetings and events. The new publication will also incorporate in-depth articles that had previously been distributed on a weekly basis as TPB Weekly Report.

This means that the April edition of TPB News is expected to be the last print edition.

We invite you to continue receiving news and information from the TPB by subscribing now to our new email newsletter. Publication is expected to begin in March or April.

SUBSCRIBE NOW:
www.mwcog.org/subscribe

Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please call (202) 962-3275 or email bhampton@mwkog.org.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in this new way!

- TPB News Team

Please note: If you are unable to receive communications via email, please contact our office at (202) 962-3275. We want to work with you to make sure you continue receiving important TPB-related news and information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are at COG unless otherwise indicated. If you are in need of special assistance to participate in meetings, please call (202) 962-3315 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Bicycle racks are located in the parking garage at 777 North Capitol St., NE (Enter from First St., NE).

February 2016

- 5 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 5 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 11 Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 17 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 23 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)

March 2016

- 4 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 4 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 9 Bike to Work Day Steering Committee (10 am)
- 9 Car Free Day Steering Committee (11:30 am)
- 10 Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 15 Ridematching Committee (10 am)
- 15 Commuter Connections Subcommittee (noon)
- 15 Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 15 Regional TDM Marketing Group (2 pm)
- 16 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 18 Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 22 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)
- 24 Aviation Technical Subcommittee (10:30 am)

April 2016

- 1 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 1 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 14 Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 19 Employer Outreach Committee (10 am)
- 20 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 26 Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee (noon)

TPB NEWS TO RELAUNCH AS ONLINE-ONLY PUBLICATION

The new publication is expected to begin in March or April.

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MEETING AUDIO

Stream live audio of TPB meetings and listen to recorded audio from past meetings at:
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This document is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Bryan Hayes at (202) 962-3273 or bhayes@mwcog.org, or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Please allow seven working days for preparation of material.

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