

MEETING NOTES

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS TECHNICAL TASK FORCE

DATE: Friday, October 27, 2000

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

PLACE: COG, 777 North Capitol Street, NE
First Floor, Room 4/5

CHAIR: Emil Wolanin, Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation

VICE CHAIRS: Wils DerMinassian, D.C. Department of Public Works
Donald McCanless, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Alex Verzosa, City of Fairfax

ATTENDANCE:

Armen Abrahamian, PG Co. DPW&T, aabrahamian@pg.co.md.us
Howard Benn, Montgomery Co. DPW&T, howard.benn@co.mo.md.us
Brien Benson, George Mason University, bbenson@gmu.edu
Zia Burleigh, VDOT, burleigh_zm@vdot.state.va.us
Cassandra Callaway, USDOT/Volpe Center, callaway@volpe.dot.gov
Karen Cavallo Miller, Battelle/ Partners In Motion, cavallok@battelle.org
Tony Clarke, Edwards & Kelcey, cclarke@ekmail.com
Bennett Elbo, Prince William County, belbo@pwcgov.org
Alazar Feleke, MSHA, afeleke@sha.state.md.us
John Frankenhoff, DCDPW, jfrankenhoff@dpw.dcgov.org
Craig Franklin, Trichord, Inc., caf@trichord-inc.com
Michael Harris, PB Farradyne, harrism@pbworld.com
Doug Hansen, Fairfax County DOT, doug.hansen@co.fairfax.va.us
Fatimah Hasan, MDOT, fhasan@mdot.state.md.us
Craig Maxey, WMATA, cmaxey@wmata.com
Glenn McLaughlin, MSHA/CHART, gmclaughlin@sha.state.md.us
Frank Mirack, FHWA
Leisa Moniz, USDOT/Volpe Center, moniz@volpe.dot.gov
Doug Parker, Multisystems, dparker@multisystems.com
Jean Yves Point-du-Jour, MSHA/OOTS, jpoint-du-jour@sha.state.md.us
JR Robinson, VDOT, robinson_jj@vdot.state.va.us

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Sharmila Samarasinghe, NVTC, sharmila@nvtc.org
Peter Steele, Prince William County, psteele@pwcgov.org
Amy Tang, VDOT, amytang@vdot.state.va.us
Phil Tarnoff, University of Maryland, tarnoff@eng.umd.edu
Rich Taylor, Wilbur Smith Assoc., richardtaylor@wilbursmith.com
Kenneth Todd, National Committee on Bicycling and Walking
Alex Verzosa, City of Fairfax, DPW, averzosa@ci.fairfax.va.us
Ron Welke, M-NCPPC, welke@mncppc.state.md.us
Jeris White, VDOT, white_jj@vdot.state.va.us.
Charlene Wilder, Federal Transit Administration, charlene.wilder@fta.dot.gov

COG Staff:

Malaika Abernathy, mabernathy@mwcog.org
Stephen Dickstein, sdickstein@mwcog.org
Andrew Meese, ameese@mwcog.org

ACTIONS:

1. Review of Notes from the September 22, 2000 Meeting

Andrew Meese called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. The following changes were made to the September 22, 2000 meeting notes:

3. Update on Regional Payment Systems Study, Page 3

-On November 30, 2000, the TPB would be hosting a conference on potential *transportation funding needs in the region*.

8. Reports from the Working Groups/Subcommittees/Focus Areas, Page 6

Partners In Motion 3rd bullet-

-In October there would be a replacement of the Agency server *with Web Tops*.

2. Report of the Regional Electronic Payment Partnership Project

JR Robinson presented the final report of the Regional Electronic Payment Partnership Project. This project was initiated in 1998 as a result of issues raised by Electronic Payment Systems (EPS) Working group. This study proposed to complement other EPS efforts in the region by:

- Engaging a representative sample of stakeholders through a sequence of interviews;
- Identifying a longer-term vision for a multi-modal, multi-agency EPS system;
- Proposing a practical Action Plan that builds on current programs.

The highlights of the Action Plan recommendations were as follows:

- Hold a Stakeholder workshop
- Identify funding requirements and mechanisms
- Explore third party partnerships

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- Seek political support
- Designate a collaborative regional organization
- Create a common vision
- Identify deployment issues
- Plan initial deployments
- Develop regional operating agreements and business structure
- Establish regional interoperability mechanisms
- Define migration path and implementation program
- Expand private partnership outreach

Mr. Robinson discussed various possibilities in executing this action plan. Some issues that were raised were the following:

- **Stakeholders:** Identifying specific stakeholders that could support and guide this initiative. Having political support and buy-in would be necessary for a project of this nature.
- **Contracting agency:** Another concerning factor may include identifying a contracting regional organization, which would lead and implement a project of this depth and nature. WMATA was discussed as a feasible agency, however issues in operating this project as well as managing its other responsibilities could be of concern.
- **Migration Path:** Creation of a migration strategy especially for the participating agencies would be necessary to implement this plan. The study recommends that each agency would choose when to migrate to the updated format, however the framework on achieving this level of service should be further guided.
- **Regional or National effort:** This effort should be considered at this level since the potential benefits of providing the best possible quality service for the customers in the Washington Region would be greatly increased if the region starts now. If this initiative is delayed then costs of implementation could greatly be increased.
- **Next Steps:** Identifying what actions to take after the completion of this report. The group suggested the following next actions should be considered:
 - Do a study on the benefits of having a regional EPS and include some of the aforementioned issues.
 - Creation of a ten year action plan
 - Funding for the next two years to implement the action plan.
 - Complete a report on the progress of the project.

Additional recommendations from the Task Force include identifying additional venues to discuss the benefits of having a regional EPS. Actions to take this proposal to the Policy Task Force should be considered.

The final report of this study can be requested from Andrew Meese.

3. ITS Strategic Plan and Input to the Constrained Long-Range Plan Development

Mr. Meese discussed the comments received from the ITS Policy Task Force regarding the draft table of Near-Term Technology-Related Unfunded Opportunities. The following highlights were identified by the Policy Task Force:

- Staff should identify a percentage of the estimated funds to represent communication costs (fiber, cable), and operating and maintenance, and staffing figures.
- Distinguish the differences between technology vs. ITS and be consistent with that terminology through out the document.
- Establish cost/benefit analyses to further support an increase of funding for implementing these expansion projects.
- Communicate the value of this plan to the elected officials in a better, less technical way.
- Check additional resources to justify cost estimates for the five project areas.

The Policy Task Force supported this document and expects this list to be among the background materials for the November 30 Transportation Planning Board conference.

Questions of including cost/benefit analysis in supporting the regions unfunded opportunities were to be further addressed by COG staff.

4. Reports from Groups/Focus Areas

ITS Policy Task Force: The ITS Policy Task Force met on October 2, 2000. The following items were discussed at this meeting: ITS Strategic Plan and Inputs to the Constrained Long Range Plan; Update and Proposed Organizational Structure of CapWIN; Briefing on 511 for Traveler Information; and a review of the activities and projects of the ITS Technical Task Force. The next Policy Task Force would meet on November 20, 2000.

511: George Mason completed a white paper on 511. Comments on the report have been received from the 511 working group. Todd Kell would be the new chair of the Working Group. Virginia, DC and Maryland were to identify key representatives who could guide or report on their jurisdictions' actions regarding 511. Mr. Robinson would be working with this working group to establish a regional inventory of existing telephone information services as well as identifying possible funding sources to support this initiative.

Partners In Motion: Karen Cavallo Miller stated the following progress with PIM:

- PIM Website is complete with Web Tops (the Web-able data mechanism for the agencies).
- The data mart is complete with over 30 standard reports for the agencies to access.
- Data for the speed maps were being collected from the agencies. Training for the agencies regarding accessing the system is in progress.
- Upgrading transit web pages is expected to continue throughout November and December.
- PUSH demo was in progress. Sixty agencies have signed up. Disseminating the information has been problematic.

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A detailed progress report on PIM would be given at the next Operations group meeting or the ITS Technical Task Force Meeting.

CapWIN: The first Executive Ad-hoc committee meeting had been scheduled for Tuesday, November 28, 2000 at 12:30. Numerous vendors had expressed interest in participating in CapWIN. A formal RFP for the acquisition of CapWIN was in progress.

Traffic Signals and Operations: Jeris White reported the committee received a briefing on the George Mason University study. Arlington County and DC would be participating in an operational test in the near future. Further discussion on the development of a Content Suite was discussed. This information tool would be available as a Web based tool, CD-ROM, and brochure. The next Working Group meeting had been scheduled for Friday, December 8, 2000 at 10:00 am.

Professional Capacity Building: Mr. White reported that the ITS Training Courses have been successful. The initial course, titled Managing Transportation Projects for Success, was successfully held in October. The public policy course had had little response, and options regarding this course were being explored. Class brochures were made available at the back of the room. Those wanting additional information regarding ITS training could contact Andrew Meese.

Regional ITS Architecture: Glenn McLaughlin discussed the progress of the latest meeting where CSC and PB Farradyne was in the initial data gathering process and should be expected to report during the next Regional ITS Architecture meeting. Efforts to coordinate all the existing ITS Architectures would be discussed during the next meeting,

ITS As A Data Resource: Mr. Meese reported that the TransCore has completed the survey and was in the process of doing face-to-face and telephone meetings with specific agencies. A review of the draft report would be expected for November. Study would be scheduled for completion by February 2001. A meeting of the ITS As a Data Resource Working Group had been scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2000 at 10:00 am.

IDAS Model: No additional information to report at this time.

Federal ITS Survey: Mr. Meese discussed the yearly USDOT ITS Joint Program Office (JPO) Federal ITS Survey. Recommendations on establishing a regional effort with the ITS Task Force where all the agencies would submit one document. Staff would look into inviting a representative from the JPO to discuss and explain the purpose of this survey at a future ITS Technical Task Force meeting.

Nominations for 2001 Task Force Officers: A nominations committee would be appointed by Chair, Emil Wolanin. This committee was to return a list of candidates for the offices of ITS Technical Task Force Chair and Vice Chairs for 2001 to be voted on by the Task Force at the December 15 meeting.

Other Groups/Focus Areas: Nothing to report.

5. Other Business

Mr. Meese announced that Craig Franklin of Trichord and Mary Ann Mijares of M.A. Mijares Engineering had been selected as COG's task order consultant for technical support for ITS planning.

Mr. Meese adjourned the meeting 12:30 pm.