



# TPB ENDORSED INITIATIVES: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

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Michael Farrell  
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Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the TPB Technical Committee  
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National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item 4

# Presentation Items

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- Background: LRPTF Initiatives
- Questions and Feedback



# TPB Endorsed Initiatives

- At the end of last year, the TPB endorsed seven initiatives after working through a year-long process with its Long-Range Plan Task Force (LRPTF)
  - Optimize Regional Land-Use Balance
  - Regionwide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Transitways
  - Metrorail Core Capacity Improvements
  - Employer-Based Travel Demand Management Policies
  - Regional Express Travel Network
  - **Improve Access to Transit Stations**
  - **National Capital Trail**
- The board is interested in how to monitor and encourage the implementation of projects, programs, and policies that support the initiatives
- TPB subcommittees are tasked with conducting discussions and soliciting feedback from members for near and long term future implementation

# National Capital Trail

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- What are the impediments to realizing the full potential of this initiative?

## Feedback:

- The scope is too limited to get full buy-in from regional leadership
- The scope is too limited to achieving significant mode shift
- Lack of expertise in trail development from some of the TPB member jurisdictions
- Budget constraints from member jurisdictions



# National Capital Trail

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- What specific actions (including projects, programs, and policies) can your jurisdiction take to advance the National Capital Trail?

## Feedback:

- Each jurisdiction should become an advisory member of the Capital Trails Coalition
- Jurisdictions could create an item on their respective TIPs to be allocated to trail projects



# National Capital Trail

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- What resources are needed to enable you to take actions?

## Feedback:

- Funding for concept plans and feasibility studies
- Technical assistance to member jurisdictions for trail development project delivery
- Capacity building to NPS for environmental review
- Funding for all levels of trail development (from concept plan to 100% design)

# National Capital Trail

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- What actions can the region collectively take?

## Feedback:

- Expand the vision of the National Capital Trail to the trail network as defined by the Capital Trails Coalition
- Adopt the Criteria for Network Inclusion as defined by the Capital Trails Coalition
- Triple the funding available for the TLC grant program
- Expand the Capital Trails Coalition network to cover all TPB Member jurisdictions.
- Adopt the Capital Trails Network as an Unfunded Initiative in Visualize 2045
- Invest in public outreach and engagement to build support for a regional trail network



# National Capital Trail

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- What actions can the region collectively take?

## Feedback:

- Design a regional bicycle and pedestrian counting methodology that includes both permanent and manual counts.
- Implement a regional bicycle and pedestrian count program
- Host annual summits to cover trail maintenance, issue reporting, and emergency response
- Develop and implement a campaign to increase trail use
- Ensure transportation equity is considered in trail network
- Prioritize funding to projects in low-income communities of color





# Access to Transit

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- What are the impediments to realizing the full potential of this initiative?

## Feedback:

- The realization and understanding of the concept to move people instead a personal vehicles, funding and cooperation from agencies with relevant jurisdiction (i.e. city or state DOTs).
- Implementing this initiative will require continuing staff-level cooperation among the involved jurisdictions, NVTC, statewide transit funding agencies (e.g., DRPT), WMATA, and TPB.
- Political will and funding
- Existing local roadway networks and land uses, institutional and jurisdictional barriers, funding and prioritization challenges



# Access to Transit

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- What actions can the region collectively take?

## Feedback:

- Provide spoken instructions for all crosswalks near high-capacity transit stations (and that they are maintained)
- Research and publish a report regarding station access for people with disabilities
- Give signal priority for pedestrians and bicyclists near high-capacity transit stations
- Ensure transportation equity is considered in access improvements
- Increase the radius of study around high-capacity transit stations
- Change land use policies in the suburban counties to encourage denser development adjacent to Metrorail stations.



# Beyond the TPB Endorsed Initiatives

- What what else could be done to advance walking and bicycling more aggressively, beyond just these two initiatives?

## Feedback:

- TPB commits to Vision Zero, creates an action plan, including preparing resources for all TPB member jurisdictions to commit to Vision Zero
- Include a comprehensive active transportation element in the constrained long-range plan
- Fully integrate active transportation into regional travel demand models
- Implement comprehensive, ongoing count programs for regional trails and bikeways
- Adopt level of traffic stress as regional planning methodology for bicycle networks
- Provide trainings for transportation planners for level of traffic stress methodology
- Ensure that jurisdictions include protected bike lanes in engineering and design manuals
- Ensure that jurisdictions adopt NACTO guidance for warrants
- Expand bikeshare with focus on transportation equity
- Implement universal bike education across the region
- Implement Trail Ranger programs across the region, modeled off (or an expansion) of the DDOT/WABA Trail Ranger program



# Beyond the TPB Endorsed Initiatives

- What else could be done to advance walking and bicycling more aggressively, beyond just these two initiatives?

## Feedback:

- Invest in a bicycle-friendly driver program for fleet managers, metro bus drivers, and for-hire vehicle operators.
- Fund bicycle outreach and encouragement programs
- Research and publish best practices for ride hailing service policies in urban areas regarding bikes (parking in bike lanes, dooring, crash reporting and follow up)
- Fund and advertise research, resources, and tools to better understand, track, build consistency in self-reporting of bicycle and non-motorized crashes throughout the region
- Establish regional standards for police reporting of crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians
- Give Level of Service (LOS) less weight in regional transportation decision making
- Strengthen mechanisms that require developers to build or fund development of trails, bikeways, sidewalks and other active transportation infrastructure related to their development.

# Next Steps

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- The purpose of this roundtable was to begin a discussion of ideas concerning three of the seven TPB Endorsed Initiatives. Notes from today's discussion will be made available
- For the September 18 meeting we will have a follow-up discussion concerning these initiatives, and work towards building a consensus
- September/October timeframe, findings from these discussion will be compiled into a briefing for the TPB



## Michael Farrell

(202) 962-3760

mfarrell@mwkog.org

[MWCOG.ORG/TPB](http://MWCOG.ORG/TPB)

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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002



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