

# National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202 TDD: (202) 962-3213

Item #5

## **MEMORANDUM**

June 15, 2011

**To:** Transportation Planning Board

**From:** Ronald F. Kirby  
Director, Department of  
Transportation Planning

**RE:** Additional Letters Sent/Received

The attached additional letters sent/received will be reviewed along with other letters sent/received under item #5 of the June 15<sup>th</sup> TPB agenda.

Attachment

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June 15, 2011

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Ronald F. Kirby, Director,  
Department of Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: Applications Submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation: Transportation, Community, and Systems Preservation (TCSP) Competitive Grant Program

## The TPB's Application

At its May 18 meeting, the TPB endorsed an application concept developed by TPB staff for submittal to the US DOT Transportation, Community, and Systems Preservation (TCSP) Program. The application, a copy of which is attached, requests \$160,000 in TCSP funding with a \$40,000 COG match for a total of \$200,000. The project will identify opportunities for promoting housing and employment development close to rail stations by enhancing walk and bike access to and from the stations through a "complete streets" approach. This approach will seek to moderate demand pressures on the transportation system by encouraging rail ridership in reverse-commute directions on trains that are currently operating with plenty of available capacity, or by selling the same seat twice in peak commute directions (where one group of commuters alights at a mixed-use suburban location and another group boards). The final product of the TCSP project will be an inventory of up to 25 rail stations with high promise for housing and employment development, and an accompanying list of high-impact transportation capital projects to improve access to these stations that could be quickly implemented should funding become available from the public or private sectors.

## Applications Submitted by other Agencies

Several other agencies in the Washington region submitted applications for TCSP funding:

- Prince George's County: "Prince George's County Green Roads Program – Ager Road"  
\$5 million (\$4 million in TCSP funding, \$1 million from Prince George's County funds)
- Prince George's County: "MD 450 Bladensburg"  
\$1.25 million (\$1 million in TCSP funding, \$250,000 from MDOT funding)
- Prince George's County: "MD 5 Branch Avenue Metro Phase 2"  
\$1.25 million (\$1 million in TCSP funding, \$250,000 from MDOT funding)
- Arlington County: "Multimodal Improvements to Army Navy Drive"  
\$6 million (\$4.8 million in TCSP funding, \$300,000 from FHWA design work already completed, \$900,000 from Arlington County capital improvement program)
- Fairfax County: "Tysons Corner Neighborhood Access Improvements"  
\$9.71 million (\$1 million in TCSP funding, \$8.71 million from Federal CMAQ funds, Virginia State CMAQ Matching funds, Fairfax County Local funds)
- District Department of Transportation: "Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Study"  
\$1.5 million (\$1.2 million in TCSP funding, \$300,000 from DDOT funding)
- District Department of Transportation: "Intersection Reconstruction of East Capitol Street and Benning Road"  
\$6.5 million (\$5.2 million in TCSP funding, \$1.3 million from DDOT funding)

Attachment: TPB TCSP Application





## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Eco-Driving Launch Partners

**From:** Marygrace Parker – Freight, Mobility, Safety & Security Coordinator

**Date:** June 7, 2011

**Subject:** Green Corridors Initiative Eco-Driving Program Second Launch Details

The I-95 Corridor Coalition's Green Corridors Initiative Working Group launched the pilot of a corridor-wide Eco-Driving Campaign at the end of May, right before the Memorial Day weekend. The launch received very positive agency and media response. The purpose of the campaign is to *educate drivers* about *easy changes they can make* to reduce fuel consumption and wear and tear on their vehicles – *simultaneously saving money and reducing environmental impacts*. The Coalition is now interested in partnering with additional agencies for a second launch around the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend. The message of this launch will shift a bit to include tourist travel in cities (to see fireworks, etc.). There are many opportunities to link this message with other multimodal travel options in urban regions up and down the Eastern Seaboard. This memo describes the elements of the program launch for interested launch partners.

**Background:** The I-95 Corridor Coalition decided to build on the important work going on at some member states regarding the impact that, through some easy actions, drivers can have on their fuel usage. These eco-driving tips have particular significance to the long-distance driver, and thus an appropriate message to be disseminated at the Coalition level.

To provide a consistent message, the program is modeled after North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) successful Drive Green, Save Green program (<http://www.ncdot.org/programs/drivegreen>). Many of the tips highlighted in this program match well with the long-distance traveler message. The Coalition's campaign targets long-distance travelers in the 16 Coalition states, and the member agencies interested in promoting this type of program themselves. The Coalition's Eco-Driving Website can be viewed at <http://i95coalition.org/i95/CoalitionEcoDrivingCampaign/tabid/216/Default.aspx>. The project products, available for free for any interested agency, include public awareness posters targeted to a Coalition-wide audience, and web site graphics. At a later date, a tool kit will be developed based on this effort for agencies that are interested in launching a similar program in their state or region.

The initial program launch coincided with Memorial Day weekend 2011, and the start of the summer driving season. For this initial pilot launch, the I-95 Corridor Coalition partnered with New York State Department of Transportation, Maryland State Highway Administration, and the Delaware Department of Transportation.

The Coalition is now planning to do a "relaunch" of the program to coincide with the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend. Some MPOs have expressed interested, and there is an opportunity to adjust the message a bit to include gas and energy saving tips for tourists and residents of major



metropolitan areas who will be attending fireworks and other major events during the summer months. The Coalition will print another round of posters with additional partner logos for this second launch.

#### *What is the program Launch?*

The purpose of the Eco-Driving program launch is to bring media attention to this multi-state effort to share information about simple actions that any driver can do, and which simultaneously save money and reduce carbon emissions. Each of the launch partners will be provided with:

- **Posters** - to distribute to rest areas and other appropriate locations for this program. The posters includes the logos of NCDOT, the I-95 Corridor Coalition and the launch partner agencies. *Posters will be shipped directly from the Coalition's printing contractor to the participating pilot agencies. Launch partners will be notified when materials are shipped.*
- **Website graphics** - to post, as appropriate, on their websites. These can link to the I-95 Corridor Coalition home page and Eco-Driving page should the agencies desire. In addition, as noted above, the I-95 Corridor Coalition Eco-Driving page will link to each of the launch partner sites. Here is one example of how a partner agency featured the program on their website: <https://www.nysdot.gov/ecodriving>.
- **Press release outline/template** - for each agency to customize and distribute the week of the launch. The outline includes:
  - A general message about the program
  - A placeholder for an agency-specific message/quotation (e.g. Commissioner/Secretary's message of their reason for participation and/or mention of related programs)
  - Brief background about the I-95 Corridor Coalition and the member agency as a participant
  - A message from George Schoener, Executive Director of the I-95 Corridor Coalition for optional inclusion

#### *I-95 Corridor Coalition launch plans and contacts*

- The I-95 Corridor Coalition website ([www.i95coalition.org](http://www.i95coalition.org)) has information posted on its home page on the initiative which links to an "Eco-Driving" page focused on the "Drive Green, Save Green" campaign (<http://i95coalition.org/i95/CoalitionEcoDrivingCampaign/tabid/216/Default.aspx>). The page will denote the pilot partners (including links to the agencies respective websites), contain information on the I-95 Coalition pilot Eco-Driving program effort and links to related eco-driving efforts or educational information on this topic (i.e., EPA sites, Massachusetts' "Hypermiler" program).

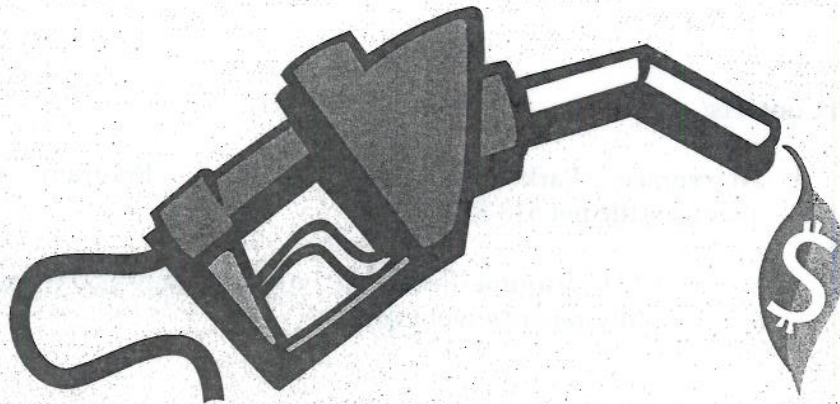
- Coalition Contacts:
  - Marygrace Parker, Coalition staff - Program information - [i95mgp@ttlc.net](mailto:i95mgp@ttlc.net) 518-852-4083
  - CC to Virginia Reeder, @ [vreeder@camsys.om](mailto:vreeder@camsys.om) and Patty Reich @ [patty.reich@telvent.com](mailto:patty.reich@telvent.com)

*What do we need from the launch partners?*

- Logos - we would like to include your logo on the updated version of the poster. Please provide a non-PDF file of the logo you would like to see on the poster.
- Press plan - what final plans are, when they will launch (go live) website and news release, who they will distribute to (i.e, local media, wire services, print, radio, TV., etc.) to coordinate parties and "launch" for I-95 website and press releases.
- Website address - we will need agencies to send us the link address we will use on our website to bring viewers to the State agency site.

**Note: To meet the July 4<sup>th</sup> deadline, we need a commitment from launch partner agencies by Tuesday, June 14. If your agency is interested in becoming a partner but is not able to participate for this launch, please let us know that you are interested for a future date. If there are additional partners, the Coalition will do another launch to coincide with the Labor Day weekend.**





## DRIVE GREEN, SAVE GREEN

create a lean, green, money-saving machine

Following these simple driving tips can equal extra cash to spend on your travels—together, they can save you as much as \$80 on a 700-mile round trip. For more information, visit [www.i95coalition.org](http://www.i95coalition.org).



### *Before hitting the road...*

**Get the junk out of your trunk. Save: \$.04–\$.08/gallon**

An extra 100 pounds reduces gas mileage by up to 2%.

**Fully inflate your tires. Save: \$.11/gallon**

Experts estimate a quarter of all vehicles run on underinflated tires.

**Change your oil. Save: \$.04–\$.08/gallon**

Using manufacturer recommended grade of motor oil improves fuel economy by 1–2%.

**Tighten your fuel cap. Save: 30 gallons/year**

One of the easiest possible ways to keep gas in your tank.

### *On the road...*

**Slow down and save. Save: \$14 by driving 60 MPH instead of 70 MPH**

Each 5 MPH you drive over 60 MPH is like paying an additional \$0.24 per gallon.

**Avoid aggressive driving. Save: \$1.25/gallon**

Speeding, rapid acceleration and hard braking can reduce gas mileage by 33% at highway speeds.

**Use cruise control. Save: \$.54/gallon**

This helps maintain a constant speed and improves fuel economy up to 7%.



\*Numbers based on 700-mile trip; 24 MPG vehicle mileage; \$3.79/gallon gas price; and E.P.A. estimated savings.





U. S. Department  
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration  
Region III  
1760 Market Street, Suite 500  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-656-7100  
215-656-7260 (fax)

Federal Highway Administration  
DC Division  
1900 K Street, N.W., Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-219-3536  
202-219-3545 (fax)

May 24, 2011

The Honorable David Snyder, Chairman  
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
c/o Mr. Ronald Kirby, Director of Transportation Planning  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capital Street, NW, Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20002-4201

Dear Chairman Snyder:

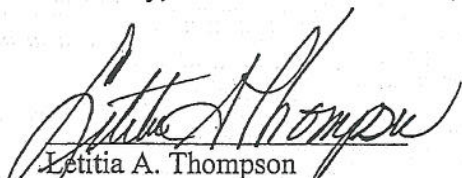
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed a joint review of the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Washington, D.C. urbanized area, which includes the administration of Metropolitan Planning Program and State Planning and Research Program activities.

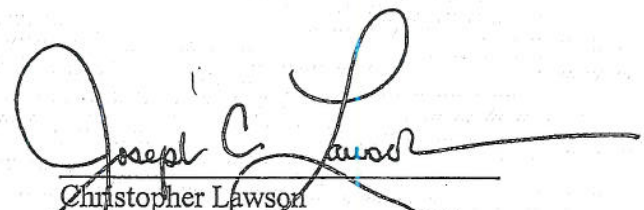
Based on this review, we have determined that the FY 2012 UPWP is consistent with the Statewide Planning and Metropolitan Planning Final Rules of February 14, 2007. We find that all appropriate transportation related planning work is included and that the UPWP meets the Federal requirement for a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive metropolitan planning process. As a result, we approve the FY 2012 UPWP effective April 25, 2011.

Our authorization is subject to the availability of federal funds for transportation planning activities in the urbanized area. The Transportation Planning Board may request funding for the program in accordance with established procedures.

Should there be any questions concerning this approval action, please direct them to Sandra Jackson, FHWA District of Columbia Division, 202-219-3521, or Melissa Barlow, FTA Region III-D.C. Metro office, at 202-219-3565.

Sincerely,

  
Letitia A. Thompson  
Regional Administrator Region III  
Federal Transit Administration

  
Christopher Lawson  
Division Administration  
Federal Highway Administration

cc: Kwame Arhin, FHWA, MD  
Ivan Rucker, FHWA, VA  
Michele Destra, FTA  
Joanne Sorenson, VDOT  
Lyn Erickson, MDOT  
Mark Rawlings, DDOT  
Tom Harrington, WMATA  
Amy Inman, VDRPT