

TPB Technical Committee Meeting Highlights

December 7, 2012

The Technical Committee met on December 7 at COG. Five items were reviewed for inclusion on the TPB agenda on December 19.

- TPB agenda Item 8

On May 21, 2012, EPA issued the final designation for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), with the Washington Metropolitan Area designated as marginal nonattainment. This designation requires a new air quality conformity analysis of the Washington region's 2012 CLRP and FY 2013-2018 TIP that will include the region's new 2015 attainment year. The Committee was updated on the draft analysis for the 2015 forecast year air quality conformity analysis of the 2012 CLRP and FY2013-2018 TIP which was released for public comment on November 15. The TPB will be asked to approve the air quality conformity assessment at its December 19 meeting.

- TPB agenda Item 10

At its November 28 meeting, the TPB was briefed on the performance of the 2012 CLRP. One of the most significant regional challenges highlighted by the 2012 CLRP is the need for additional funding for both transit and roadways to address maintenance and rehabilitation requirements and capacity improvements needed to accommodate a growing region. The Committee was briefed on the performance analysis and challenges of the 2012 CLRP and an initial draft letter to the legislatures of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia which expresses TPB support for increases in transportation funding.

- TPB agenda Item 11

On October 10, 2012, FTA issued interim guidance on MAP-21 which states that the MPO should initiate discussions on the designated recipient for the new Section 5310 program. In November, the Board was briefed on how the new program changed the three former FTA programs: Job Access and Reverse Commute, New Freedom, and Elderly and Disabled, and on potential designated recipient(s) for this program in the Washington DC-VA-MD Urbanized Area. The Committee was updated on TPB staff discussions with the DOTs and WMATA about the implementation of the program in the Washington Region.

- TPB agenda Item 12

At the May 16, 2012 meeting, the TPB approved the Complete Streets Policy for the National Capital Region to encourage TPB member jurisdictions and agencies that do not have a policy, or who are revising an existing policy, to adopt a policy that includes common elements that the TPB believes represent current best practices. The Committee was briefed on the results of a survey on the status of Complete Streets policies in the region.

- TPB agenda Item14

MAP- 21 established the Transportation Alternatives Program to fund small projects considered “alternatives” to traditional highway construction. It combines several formerly stand-alone programs, including Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School, and Recreational Trails. In November, the Board was briefed on the new program and the potential role of the TPB in the selection of projects under the program. The Committee was updated on TPB staff discussions with the DOTs about the implementation of the program in the Washington Region.

Four items were presented for information and discussion:

- The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Freight and Multimodalism (OFM) is in the process of developing the Statewide Interim Rail Plan that will be compliant with the Passenger Rail Improvement and Investment Act (PRIIA). The Committee was briefed on PRIIA requirements and rail project needs and policies in the plan as identified by the state’s public and private rail entities.
- Staff briefed the Committee on steps underway to update the Transportation Emissions Reduction Measures (TERMs) tracking sheet to ensure that TERMS are available for use in air quality conformity determinations should the need for additional reduction measures arise.
- A web-based clearinghouse is under development on the region’s transportation planning activities. Drawing from the TPB Citizens Guide, this clearinghouse will provide explanations of how transportation decisions are made at the local, state and regional levels, and will provide information and links regarding various planning activities that affect the decisions that are ultimately reflected in the CLRP. Staff briefed the Committee on the site’s organization and features and solicited member review and comments.
- The transportation improvement program (TIP) is a complex technical document that provides a multi-modal listing of numerous projects, studies and programs throughout the region for which the obligation of federal funds has been programmed. Staff briefed the Committee on an initial version of a more “user-friendly” guide and summary of the FY 2013-2018 TIP.

**TPB TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES
ATTENDANCE - December 7, 2012**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DDOT Mark Rawlings
 Anthony Foster

DCOP -----

MARYLAND

Charles County Jason Groth
Frederick Co. Ron Burns
City of Frederick Tim Davis
Gaithersburg -----
Montgomery Co. Gary Erenrich
Prince George's Co. Vic Weissberg
Rockville -----
M-NCPPC
 Montgomery Co. -----
 Prince George's Co. Faramarz Mokhtari
MDOT Lyn Erickson
 Roy Gothie
MTA -----
Takoma Park -----

VIRGINIA

Alexandria Pierre Holloman
Arlington Co. Dan Malouff
City of Fairfax -----
Fairfax Co. Calvin Lam
Falls Church -----
Loudoun Co. Robert Brown
Manassas -----
Prince William Co. Rick Canizales
NVTC Claire Gron
PRTC Nick Alexandrow
VRE Christine Hoeffner
VDOT Randy Hodgson
VDRPT Tim Roseboon
NVPDC -----
VDOA -----

WMATA

WMATA Danielk Wesolek

FEDERAL/OTHER

FHWA-DC -----
FHWA-VA -----
FTA -----
NCPC -----
NPS -----
MWAQC -----

COG Staff

Ron Kirby, DTP
Gerald Miller, DTP
Elena Constantine, DTP
Andrew Austin, DTP
Dan Sonenklar, DTP
Mark Pfoutz, DTP
Robert Griffiths, DTP
Ron Milone, DTP
Jane Posey, DTP
Andrew Meese, DTP
John Swanson, DTP
Wendy Klancher, DTP
Eric Randall, DTP
Jinchul Park, DTP
Michael Farrell, DTP
Jonathan Rogers, DTP
Karin Foster, DTP
Ben Hampton, DTP
Feng Xie, DTP
Dusan Vuksan, DTP
Yu Gao, DTP
Sunil Kumar, DEP
Paul DesJardin, DCPS

Other Attendees

Nicole Katsikides, MDOT
Jack VanDop, FHWA
Randy Carroll, MDE
Bill Orleans, HACK