

# Briefing on the Strategic Plan for the Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Program

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# Overview

- The draft MOITS Strategic Plan was developed over the August 2009 – April 2010 time frame by a consultant team and TPB staff
- Developing such a plan was recommended by MOITS Technical Subcommittee members
- Main desired outcomes of the strategic plan were to guide upcoming MOITS activities, and provide a list of potential regional projects for future funding opportunities
- Strong interest expressed by TPB Chairman Snyder

# Preparation of the Draft Plan

- Consultant team:
  - Craig Franklin, Trichord, Inc.
  - Donna Nelson, Daniel Consultants, Inc.
  - Kenneth Vaughn, Trevilon, Inc.
- MOITS Strategic Plan Working Group
  - Amy McElwain, VDOT, Chair
  - Michael Harris, VDRPT
  - Yanlin Li, DDOT (emeritus)
  - Mena Lockwood, VDOT
  - Alvin Marquess, MSHA
- TPB Staff

# Reconfirming Core Missions of the MOITS Technical Subcommittee

- Advise the TPB and its committees on transportation management, operations, and technology
- Serve as a forum for information exchange on these topics among members
- Coordinate with other key regional activities:
  - The RESF-1 Committee (transportation emergency preparedness planning)
  - MATOC (real-time information coordination)
  - WMATA committees (transit operations and technology efforts)
- And some recommendations for new or enhanced activities

# Building from the TPB Vision

- Two goals from the TPB Vision (1998), along with their associated objectives and strategies, were the key goals for MOITS
  - Management, performance, maintenance, and safety (Goal 3)
  - Technology to maximize system effectiveness (Goal 4)
- The MOITS Strategic Plan builds upon the TPB Vision by identifying four additional “tactical actions”
  - Provide regional situational awareness of transportation system conditions
  - Regionally coordinate operating procedures
  - Inform travelers’ decision-making
  - Integrate systems and processes

# Features of the Strategic Plan

- **Emphasis Areas**
  - Technical topics that are in the MOITS purview and lend themselves to a regional-level focus
- **Best Practices**
  - Anticipated to be especially effective in achieving desired outcomes
- **Performance Measures**
  - Metrics to assess MOITS impacts
- **How MOITS-Related Activities Will Directly Benefit the Public**
  - In addition to agency/systems efficiencies
- **Proposed Projects and Strategic Efforts**
  - A list of priority regional-level projects or activities, and estimates of funding needed
- **Key Recommendations**
  - Guiding the future activities of the MOITS program

# Emphasis Areas Identified in the MOITS Strategic Plan

- Systems engineering-based topics in the MOITS purview
  - ITS Data Warehouse
  - Multi-modal Coordination
  - Transit Signal Priority
  - Interactive Traveler Information
  - Transportation Operations Data Sharing
  - HOV Lane Management
  - Regional Traffic Management
  - Regional Parking Management
  - Maintenance and Construction Activity Coordination
- Other topics are being addressed in venues that convene the necessary stakeholders
  - RESF-1 for emergency topics, WMATA for transit topics, MATOC for day-to-day operations information sharing

# Best Practices

- The Strategic Plan identifies a number of recommended “best practices”
  - Defined as a process or activity anticipated to be especially effective in achieving a desired outcome
- Best practices are structured as recommended general actions for the region or for individual agencies/jurisdictions
- The plan’s proposed projects build in part off of the best practices
- The MOITS Technical Subcommittee serves as a continuing forum for identifying and promoting best practices



# How MOITS-Related Activities Directly Benefit the Public

- **Reduced delays:** through efficient operations and reduced duration of incidents
- **Better availability of information:** through better data through the sources the public knows and relies upon, such as radio traffic reports, web sites, and smart phone apps
- **Better quality of information:** questions such as whether to travel, when to start, what mode to take, and what route to take depend rely upon good information about the status of the transportation system
- **Safety:** reduce the chances of secondary incidents in traffic backups through MATOC and other traffic management programs
- **Better responsiveness of transportation systems to traveler needs:** agencies can better prepare for and provide services that meet needs, such as where and when congestion and traffic incidents occur, or when traffic or transit demands are highest
- Plan also includes performance measures for assessment of activities

# Proposed Projects (1-7) and Strategic Efforts (8-10) – Unfunded

1. Sustain MATOC/RITIS
2. Upgrade RITIS regional ITS data warehouse capabilities
3. Enhance RITIS data sharing capabilities
4. Support 3rd party development of trip planning “apps”
5. Deploy integrated corridor management technologies (pilot)
6. Deploy park-and-ride parking availability information (pilot)
7. Develop special event traffic management plans
8. Develop a regional managed lane facilities (HOV, HOT, ETL) coordination process (e.g. annual summit meetings)
9. Develop a venue and process for coordinating maintenance and construction schedules (e.g., semi-annual meetings)
10. Develop a venue and process for interjurisdictional signal timing coordination

# Key Recommendations Identified in the MOITS Strategic Plan

1. Continue MOITS roles in advising the TPB and regional information exchange
2. Strengthen coordination among MOITS, MATOC, RESF-1, and WMATA
3. Strengthen focus on the tactical actions (situational awareness, operating procedures, informing travelers, and systems interoperability) identified in the strategic plan
4. Strengthen MOITS role in developing regional project proposals
5. Encourage best practices
6. Strengthen understanding of MOITS performance measurement and benefit-cost analysis
7. Inform decision makers on the recommendations of the MOITS Strategic Plan, and encourage funding of recommended projects

# Outlook

- The draft MOITS Strategic Plan slated to go to TPB for the May 19 meeting
- Once finalized, the plan will serve as a major guide for upcoming MOITS activities, and as a source for prioritized project proposals as funding opportunities arise