One Region Moving Forward

District of Columbia

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Bowie

College Park Hon. Muriel Bowser

Frederick Chairwoman

Frederick County National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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Greenbelt
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777 North Capitol Street NE
Washington, DC 20002

May 4, 2011

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*Adjunct Member

Dear Chairwoman Bowser:

Thank you for the opportunity to brief the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) on the newly established Incident Management and Response Steering Committee at the TPB's April 20 meeting. I consulted with Montgomery County Councilmember Phil Andrews, who chairs the Steering Committee and the COG Board Executive Committee concerning two issues identified by the TPB.

Future Briefings and Consultation

The action plan adopted by the COG Board on March 9 outlining Steering Committee goals and tasks builds heavily on the work of the TPB, especially concerning the role of MATOC. The Steering Committee expects to have sufficient work in place by late June to warrant a progress briefing to the COG Board in July and would welcome the opportunity to brief the TPB also. Additional briefings can be provided as work advances, if desired.

Both the COG Board and TPB will have the opportunity to review and comment on the Steering Committee's final draft report in the fall prior to adoption. Project staff will work closely with Mr. Kirby to schedule.

TPB Representation on the Steering Committee

The action plan adopted by the COG Board specifically identified 17 appointees to the Steering Committee, in addition to Chairman Andrews, who also chairs the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council. The Steering Committee includes senior representatives from the three state Departments of Transportation, WMATA and MATOC, ensuring strong input on transportation matters and familiarity with TPB policy and program priorities.

In addition to the TPB engagement described above, the Steering Committee will look to TPB resources to identify recommendations to address transportation action plan tasks. Rather than appoint specific TPB representatives to serve on the Steering Committee, this approach is designed to ensure that the TPB as a whole will have an opportunity to shape this work as it moves forward and make the most effective use of COG Board and TPB policy oversight roles.

In closing, I would also like to thank the TPB for its advocacy on behalf of MATOC, which has played a growing role in regional incident management and response, and is envisioned by the Steering Committee as having an even greater role and resources in the future.

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

David J. Robertson Executive Director

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