



# NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

### **TPB FREIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The TPB Freight Subcommittee met on August 6, 2014 at COG. Highlights of the meeting are described below.

#### **Walmart Supply Chain in the Washington DC Market**

Mr. Estrada, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Walmart Supply Chain in the Washington DC Market. Walmart currently operates two stores in Washington, DC and is planning to open three more. The DC market is one of the most challenging locations in which to open new stores not only from a local political standpoint, but also from an infrastructure standpoint. Walmart merchants and store operators develop methods and new store formats to increase sales and better serve customers. Addressing the logistics and supply chain challenges of these new stores are what we take care of. One of the logistics goals is to minimize the costs of delivering to these smaller urban stores despite the requirement to use smaller trucks and less efficient routing. Due to infrastructure limitations in Washington, DC, deliveries to the H Street store are made with 28 foot trailers. This creates challenges because our supply chain has been developed and fine-tuned based on trucks hauling 53 foot trailers. Considerations related to congestion, curbside delivery, permits, etc. add to the complexity of delivering in urban markets. Through initiatives to increase the number of cases per trailer, improve routing, reduce empty miles, and improve packaging and alignments, Walmart has shipped 361 million more cases and driven 287 million fewer miles between 2008 and 2012.

#### **Freight Subcommittee Working Session**

Mr. Schermann led a discussion about the Regional Freight Plan, the Freight around the Region (FATR) project and the upcoming Regional Freight Forum. The Regional Freight Plan (Plan) effort is continuing with an expected completion of the initial draft by the end of the calendar year. The Freight around the Region project will be completed after the Plan is finalized. Staff is still working under the assumption that April, 2015 is the likely best time to hold the Regional Freight Forum.

Mr. Schermann solicited the Subcommittee's input with respect to the draft Plan outline, the most significant freight issues affecting the region, and the draft Regional Freight Network. The subcommittee did not express any concerns with the Plan outline and offered the following regional freight issues:

- The impact of e-commerce
- The value added contribution and work force development opportunities associated with freight
- The impact of shifting hazardous cargo shipments from truck to rail and vice versa
- The format of trucks delivering freight to the region – smaller trucks for dense urban areas
- The challenges associated with delivering freight in areas of intense land use
- Freight scenario planning
- Freight integration into incident management planning
- Identifying freight planning “best practices”

Mr. Schermann then reviewed the process used to develop the draft Regional Freight Network and walked through the results to date. One of the primary reasons for having such a network is to enable the development of freight performance measures. Mr. Schermann requested that the meeting participants review the draft regional freight network and provide their thoughts, comments, and edits within the next couple of weeks.

**Next TPB Freight Subcommittee Meeting: October 2, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Eulois Cleckley, District Department of Transportation  
Zuxuan Deng, University of Maryland  
Debra Dunn, Oregon Trucking Association  
Richard Easley, E-Squared Engineering  
Lyn Erikson, Maryland Department of Transportation  
Douglas Estrada, Walmart  
Stephen Flippin, CSX Transportation  
Diana Herriman, URS Corp  
Christine Hoeffner, VRE  
Sandra Jackson, FHWA  
Donald Ludlow, CPCS Trans  
Chip Millard, FHWA  
Michael Onder, CDM Smith  
Laura Richards, DDOT  
Bill Rogers, TRB  
Norman Whitaker, Virginia Department of Transportation

**MWCOG STAFF ATTENDANCE:**

Lamont Cobb, MWCOG-DTP  
Michael Farrell, MWCOG-DTP  
Bryan Hayes, MWCOG-TPB  
Andrew Meese, MWCOG-DTP  
Erin Morrow, MWCOG-DTP  
Wenjing Pu, MWCOG-DTP  
Jon Schermann, MWCOG-DTP  
Daivamani Sivasailam, MWCOG-DTP  
Lifeng Xu, MWCOG-DTP