

# **Item 13: Briefing on Draft Update to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region**

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Presentation to the  
TPB Technical Committee  
July 9, 2010

# Overview

- This presentation will
  - Highlight major features of the draft update to the 2006 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
  - Show some examples of plan projects implemented since 2006
  - Discuss the project status and schedule



# TPB Bicycle and Pedestrian Activities

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Sub-committee
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
    - Annual list of top priority unfunded projects
  - Design workshops
- “Street Smart” Safety Campaign
- Commuter Connections
  - Guaranteed Ride Home
  - Bike to Work Guide
  - Bike to Work Day
- TLC Program



# The 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

- Identifies major bicycle and pedestrian projects the region wishes to carry out by 2035
  - Contains both funded and unfunded projects
- Incorporates goals and performance indicators for walking and bicycling from:
  - 1999 TPB *Vision*
  - 2010 COG *Region Forward 2050* plan
- Identifies “best practices” likely to be effective in achieving those goals
- Discusses trends in policy, mode share, safety

# Plan Outline

- Chapter 1: Planning context of federal, state, and local bicycle/pedestrian policies and plans
- Chapter 2: Demographic and geographic overview of bicycling and walking in the region
- Chapter 3: Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety
- Chapter 4: Overview of existing facilities
- Chapter 5: Goals and Indicators
- Chapter 6: Best Practices
- Chapter 7: The 2035 Network

# Plan Development

- Oversight
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the TPB Technical Committee
- Project listings
  - Submitted by state and local jurisdictional staffs
  - On-line database
- Criteria for including projects:
  - Of a size and scope to be regionally significant
  - Regional connectivity
  - Access to transit, pedestrian safety
  - Inclusion in jurisdictional/agency plans

# Plan Projects

(Chapter 7 and Appendix A)

- Approximately 400 projects
  - Final deadline for project submissions/edits is July 12<sup>th</sup>
  - View projects at : <http://www.mwcog.org/bikepedplan/>
  - Once the project edits are finished, summary information for Chapter 7 can be tallied
- Chapter 7: The 2030 Network will show:
  - Planned facilities
    - Miles of bicycle lanes, shared-used paths, and signed bicycle routes
    - Pedestrian/bicycle intersection improvements, bridges, or tunnels
    - Major streetscaping projects
    - Estimated cost
  - Progress since 2006
    - Projects completed/mileage of facilities built since 2006
    - Funds invested since 2006

# Cost Estimates: Limitations

- Most estimates are ballpark
  - Projects mostly not yet designed
  - All cost estimates are 2010 dollars
- “Complete Streets”
  - Projects are bid as a whole
    - Construction cost for the bicycle/pedestrian element usually not available
    - Example: Woodrow Wilson Bridge
  - A growing share of bike/ped facilities are provided as part of larger transportation projects
    - Can do unit cost planning-level estimates
- Privately provided facilities not included



# Some projects built since 2006



# Regional Planning Context: Goals & Indicators (Ch. 1, 5)

- TPB *Vision* (1999) calls for
  - Mixed-use, walkable regional activity centers
  - Reduced reliance on the automobile
  - Safe, convenient walking and biking
- COG *Region Forward 2050* plan builds on the *Vision*, adds performance indicators
  - More rapid implementation of projects in the bicycle and pedestrian plan
  - Increase walk and bike mode share
  - Reduce pedestrian and bicyclist deaths & injuries
  - Regular progress reports

# Federal and State Policies

(Chapter 1)

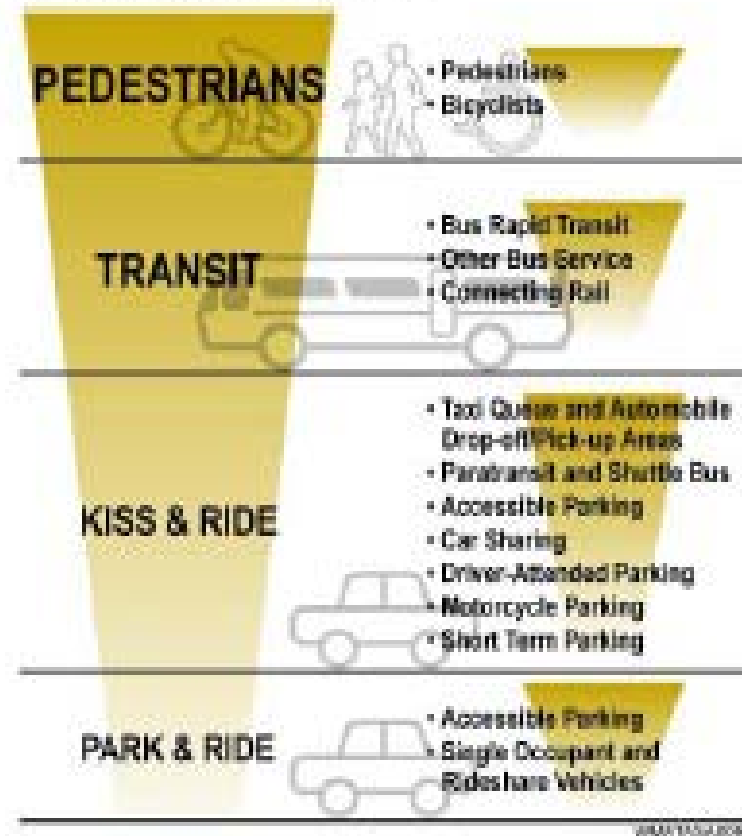
- Federal - “Complete Streets”
  - FHWA Guidance 2010
    - “Go beyond the minimum requirements”
  - ADA, Safe Routes to School
- States – “Complete Streets”
  - VDOT: “Policy for Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation” (2004)
    - Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements 2009
  - DDOT: “Action Agenda” (2010)
    - Create a “walk-centric, bike-centric” city

# WMATA Policies

## (Chapter 1)

- Old policy:
  - First priority to auto access, park & ride
  - Bus access second
  - Pedestrians last
- New policy:
  - pedestrian access first
  - “joint development”
- Bike/Ped Access Study (July 2010)

FIGURE 1-1: ACCESS HIERARCHY

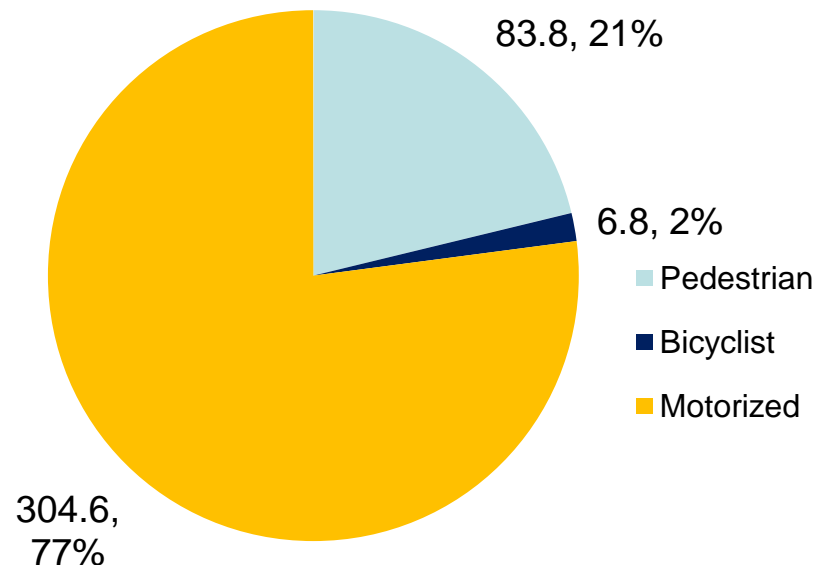


# Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

## (Chapter 3)

- Nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of all traffic deaths
  - Low income, immigrant, inner suburbs especially affected
  - Total traffic deaths are falling, but pedestrian deaths are not
- Street Smart Safety Campaign
- Trail Safety

Chart 3-1: Annual Pedestrian, Bicyclist, and Motorized Fatalities, 2004-2008



# Walking and Bicycling Trends

## (Chapter 2)

- **Growth in Walking and Bicycling 1994 – 2007/8**
  - Walk trips grew from 7.7% to 8.5% of all trips
  - Bicycling stayed at 0.5%.
    - Grew in the urban core
    - Declined in the outer suburbs
    - Walk and bike grew where there was already a lot of walking and bicycling
  - DC bike counts show peak hour volumes doubled between 2004 and 2009
- **Potential for growth in walking and bicycling**
  - 25% of auto trips were 1.5 miles or less
  - 25% of auto passenger trips were 1.2 miles or less
- **Walking is the usual mode of accessing transit**
  - 62% metrorail, 80% bus

# Status – Remaining Items

- Project Listings (Appendix A)
  - Plan projects have been available to agency staff in an on-line, editable database.
  - Projects can be seen at :  
<http://www.mwcog.org/bikepedplan/>
  - Monday, July 12th hard deadline for any further changes or edits
    - Work through your agency's representative on the bicycle and pedestrian subcommittee
- Chapter 7: The 2035 Network
  - Summary of the plan projects
  - Summary of progress since 2006
  - Maps
  - Draft available July 15th

# Schedule

- TPB Tech, July 9<sup>th</sup>
- CAC, July 15<sup>th</sup>
- B/P Subcommittee July 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Approve draft for Public Comment
- TPB Tech, September 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Final draft to be approved by TPB, September 15<sup>th</sup>



# Follow-On Actions

- Annual Database Updates
  - Measure progress
  - Tool for generating lists of “ready to go” projects
- Annual Progress Reports to TPB
  - Projects completed
  - Other indicators as data is available
- Plan Updates
  - Every 4 years
  - General information for bicycle and pedestrian planning in the region
  - Changes in best practices, goals