

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MOITS Technical Subcommittee

FROM: Andrew J. Meese, AICP
Systems Management Planning Director

DATE: April 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Overview and Instructions for MOITS Review of Task 3 Technical Memorandum for the *Multimodal Coordination for Bus Hot Spots* Study

The *Multimodal Coordination for Bus Hot Spots* study is being undertaken by a consultant team (Parsons Brickerhoff, with Foursquare ITP and Sabra Wang), supported by the WMATA portion of the Technical Assistance Program of the FY2012 TPB Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), with additional funding from the DDOT, MDOT, and VDOT portions of the UPWP Technical Assistance Program. The MOITS Technical Subcommittee last received a major briefing on the study at its November 8, 2011 meeting. The goal for the study as described at the November 8 meeting was to look for opportunities to reduce jurisdictional bus operating subsidies through street and operational improvements. Since November, the consultant team has undertaken a significant data compilation and analysis effort in order to identify a number of potential hot spots (where traffic and operational problems are having delay impacts on buses, with potential opportunities to reduce those problems).

The consultant team has now drafted the Task 3 Technical Memorandum. This memo summarizes the results of the field verification process undertaken for the study. The focus of this effort was to field review the top 30 hot spot sites surfacing from the Task 2 hot spot screening process, and identify the top six sites to take into concept design, cost estimating, and more detailed impact assessment. The field review covered sites in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Northern Virginia. The analysis and six preferred sites for concept design will be reviewed and confirmed with the TPB Regional Bus Subcommittee and MOITS Technical Subcommittee at their March 27 and April 10 meetings respectively. (The current Task 3 memo reflects comments received at the March 27 Regional Bus Subcommittee meeting.)

Given the length of the Task 3 memo and the desire to reach out to stakeholders who may not be able to attend the April 10 meeting, here are some highlights and suggestions for review points in the Task 3 memo, and some questions we are looking for MOITS stakeholders to help answer. The answers to these questions will help guide the team toward two next steps in Task 4:

- Finalizing the list of six sites that will undergo the concept design and benefit-cost analysis in Task 4 narrowed from the current list of 30 sites; and
- Deciding upon what specific operational strategies (e.g. queue jump lanes) should be studied for these sites in Task 4.

Questions that MOITS can help answer include:

- Do you have input on whether the six sites chosen to move forward for Task 4 analysis were the correct ones? Those sites, indicated with green highlights in the tables on Pages 7, 21,

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and 39 of the report (described in detail in the report, along with the other locations considered), are:

- District of Columbia:
 - 14th Street N.W., Corcoran Street to Otis Street
 - North Capitol Street/New York Ave/P Street
 - Maryland:
 - Veirs Mill Road/Reedie Drive/Amherst Avenue
 - Piney Branch Road, MD 193 to Sligo Avenue
 - Annapolis Road, Finns Lane to Riverdale Road
 - Virginia:
 - Van Dorn Street, Eisenhower Avenue to Franconia Road [note that a second highlighted Virginia location (SB Glebe Road @ Arlington Boulevard) is anticipated to be addressed in an upcoming VDOT design for reconstruction, and is therefore proposed not to necessitate further Task 4 action].
- Do you have additional information not currently in the report regarding past or current studies or projects in the highlighted locations, especially information that would impact or change the decision on whether to further study a given location?
 - Do you have input on what strategies should or should not be further studied at the highlighted locations?
 - Any other comments or suggestions?

We would greatly appreciate if stakeholders to be ready to discuss these and related issues at the April 10 meeting. This will be our best chance to impact what happens in the rest of the study. For anyone who is not able to attend or call into the April 10 meeting, we are happy to receive your comments, please email them to me by April 12 at ameese@mwcog.org, with a copy to Brian Laverty of Parsons Brickerhoff at Laverty@pbworld.com.

The Task 3 memo is too big to email. Instead, to download, please follow these steps:

- Visit www.mwcog.org/transportation.
- On the right of the screen, there is a blue bar with selections, click on "Committees" (7th one down the list).
- You should now be on a list of transportation committees. About halfway down the page, click on the "Management, Operations, and Intelligent Transportation Systems Policy Task Force and MOITS Technical Subcommittee".
- You should now be on the MOITS web page. At the top, there are links to "Description", "Events Calendar", "Documents", etc. Click on the word "Documents" in the middle.
- The Task 3 memo is listed under the April 10 2012 documents. Note that the file size is about 9.5 MB and may take some time to download.