

**ITEM 9 - Action**  
September 16, 2009

Approval of Maryland Technical Assistance Projects Under the FY  
2010 Transportation/Land Use Connections (TLC) Program

**Staff**

**Recommendation:**

- Receive briefing on the Maryland TLC applications received by the due date of July 10 utilizing additional funding under the Maryland Technical Assistance Program in the FY 2010 UPWP, and on the Maryland TLC technical assistance projects that have been recommended for funding by a technical review committee.
- Approve the recommended Maryland TLC technical assistance projects funded under the Maryland Technical Assistance Program in the 2010 UPWP.

**Issues:** None

**Background:** At the July 15 meeting, the Board approved seven technical assistance projects for TPB member jurisdictions to advance their transportation and land use coordination activities under the FY 2010 TLC program. The technical review committee is chaired by Ms. Koster, TPB member representing the National Capital Planning Commission.

# **National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board**

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board

**FROM:** John Swanson, Senior Transportation Planner  
Department of Transportation Planning

**SUBJECT:** Projects recommendation for technical assistance using MDOT technical assistance funds under the FY2010 Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program

**DATE:** September 10, 2009

The Transportation Planning Board will be asked at its September 16 meeting to approve the slate of three projects listed below as part of the Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program's FY2010 round of technical assistance.

The TPB on July 15 already approved seven projects for the FY2010 round of TLC technical assistance. Unlike that previous slate of projects, however, the projects that are the subject of this memorandum will use funding made available through the MDOT technical assistance account in the TPB's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

## **PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The TLC selection panel recommends that the TPB approve the following list of projects on September 10.

- **Prince George's County (MNCPPC), Developing a Package of Interim Pedestrian Safety Measures for the New Carrollton Metro Station (\$30,000)**  
The high cost of retrofitting roads for pedestrian safety means that local jurisdictions must increasingly find appropriate short-term measures for making communities walkable and transit-oriented. This project will use New Carrollton as a case study to show how a package of interim measures can be identified in a thoughtful and cohesive manner. The consultant will identify a set of treatments and other approaches that can deliver quick safety improvements at minimal cost.
- **Prince George's County (DPWT), Pedestrian-to-Transit Accessibility Prioritization Project (\$30,000)**  
Drawing upon a wealth of existing data, this project will identify priorities for pedestrian access improvements at Prince George's 15 Metrorail stations and at the future Langley Park Transit Center. The project will develop a methodology

with criteria for prioritization and will create an accessibility matrix that will identify and prioritize the locations of highest need.

- **Montgomery County (MNCPPC), Trip-Generation Data for Basic Services in Smart Growth Development (\$40,000)**

This project will examine the accuracy of trip generation rates, currently used by the county, in urbanizing areas where vehicle trips for neighborhood-serving retail services may be overestimated. This project will collect data at three locations and develop a report that may recommend changes to trip generation rates used by the county for retail/basic services. The recommendations may be considered for incorporation into the county's development review process.

## **TLC BACKGROUND**

The TPB initiated the TLC Program in 2007 to provide support to local jurisdictions as they deal with the challenges of integrating land-use and transportation planning at the community level. There are two major components to the TLC Program: The Regional Clearinghouse, which promotes region-wide information-sharing, and the Technical Assistance Program, which provides targeted, short-term planning assistance to the TPB's member jurisdictions.

At the close of the FY 2009 round of the TLC technical assistance program, the TPB will have largely completed 29 technical assistance projects in 16 jurisdictions: four projects in the District of Columbia, 14 projects in Maryland, and 11 in Virginia. For more information, please visit the TLC website at [www.mwcog.org/tlc](http://www.mwcog.org/tlc) and click on "Completed Projects" under Technical Assistance Program.

## **SELECTION PROCESS FOR FY 2010 PROJECTS**

On March 16, 2009, the TPB issued a call for projects for the FY 2010 round of TLC technical assistance. At the request of the TPB Technical Committee, TPB staff conducted a pre-application workshop on March 16 to provide potential applicants with useful information about the program.

For FY2010, \$220,000 from the TPB's FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was made available for technical assistance projects. In addition, MDOT committed \$100,000 from their technical assistance account for projects in Maryland, with special emphasis on projects that would enhance or encourage transit-oriented development (TOD) activities.

The deadline for projects funded with UPWP funds was May 18, 2009. The TLC selection panel met on June 19 to make recommendations for those projects. Those recommendations, listed in Attachment B, were approved by the TPB on July 15.

The deadline for additional projects funded with MDOT technical assistance funding was July 10, 2009. The selection panel was convened on September 2 to develop recommendations for projects using those MDOT funds. Those recommendations are the subject of this memorandum.

The following experts participated on the selection panel:

- **Julia Koster**, Chair of selection panel; TPB Member; Director, Planning, Research, and Policy Division, National Capital Planning Commission
- **Kim Fisher**, Associate Director, Technical Activities Division, Transportation Research Board
- **Rob Mandle**, Operations Director, Crystal City Business Improvement District; Board Member, National Capital Area Chapter of the American Planning Association
- **Joel Mills**, Director, Communities by Design, The American Institute of Architects

The selection panel considered six applications as part of this current round. A list of those applications is provided in Attachment A. The panel used evaluation criteria and their own extensive industry knowledge to provide insight on the projects. TPB staff members provided background information on the program and were available to answer questions. The selection panel reviewed each application and divided the projects into low-, medium-, and high-priorities for the TLC Program.

Based upon its deliberations, the TLC selection panel has recommended the three projects, which are listed above, for TPB approval on September 16.

## **PROPOSED TIMELINE**

With the approval of the three projects described above, a total of 10 technical assistance projects will be funded in FY2010. Upon TPB approval of the new projects, TPB staff will begin coordination with the recipients to select consultants for the projects from the pre-qualified list of TLC consultants. The target date for completion of all the FY2010 TLC projects is April 30, 2010.

Later in the fiscal year, staff will conduct a thorough review of the TLC program. This evaluation will comprehensively examine all the projects funded through the program to date, identifying common themes and lessons that might be further developed and shared on a regional basis. This review will also examine recent changes in the structure and administration of the technical assistance program. Suggestions and proposed enhancements will be considered for future rounds of technical assistance.

**Transportation / Land-Use Connections Technical Assistance Program**  
**Applications for Assistance (MDOT Funding) FY 2010 - July 20, 2009**

	<b>Applicant Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Contact Agency</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Budget Request</b>
<b>Maryland</b>					
1	Prince George's County	Planning Department	Interim Pedestrian Safety Toolbox	Develop a toolbox of low-cost and easily-implemented solutions for increasing pedestrian safety and comfort on existing roadways.	\$30,000.00
2	Prince George's County*	Department of Public Works and Transportation	Pedestrian to Transit Accessibility Prioritization Project	Provide maximum safety impacts for pedestrians and transit users through location prioritization.	\$30,000.00
3	Prince George's County**	Villages of Camp Springs Civic Association	Auth Road Safety and Accessibility Improvements	Improve bicycle and pedestrian accessibility and safety on Auth Road on an interim basis by developing a set of treatments and other approaches the deliver quick safety improvements at minimal cost.	\$30,000.00
4	Prince George's County	M-NCPPC	Marlboro Pike Walkable and Transit Friendly Corridor	Build on an existing sector plan for Marlboro Pike by: preparing preliminary engineering drawings that incorporate an enhanced streetscape and pedestrian features, preparing recommendations to improve bus circulation and accessibility, and preparing a feasibility study and preliminary engineering drawings for a traffic circle at Benning Road.	\$60,000.00 *
5	Montgomery County	Planning Department	Trip-Generation Data for Basic Services in Smart Growth Development	Develop a set of trip generation rates for basic services in three different urban environments. Trip generation characteristics will be incorporated into the development review process.	\$30,000.00
6	City of Rockville	Public Works Department	Comprehensive Transportation Review Update	Update the City's Comprehensive Transportation Review	\$30,000.00 **

\$210,000.00

\* Each component of the project is estimated at \$20,000 so the project can be scaled to \$20,000 or \$40,000

\*\* This project was submitted as part of the first round of applications for FY2010.

**FY2010 TLC Projects Approved by the TPB on July 16, 2009**

*(First round, which excluded MDOT technical assistance projects)*

**1. District of Columbia, Independent Shuttle Bus Consolidation Strategy (ISBC) for the Greater Brookland Community (\$25,000)**

This project will develop a consolidation strategy that will both address the operational issues posed by the current arrangement and improve mobility and access to Metro. Streamlining various existing shuttle services will reduce operations costs, decrease vehicular traffic, and encourage Metro transit use by improving shuttle service. This project is supported by the District of Columbia Office of Planning.

**2. District of Columbia, Golden Triangle Business Improvement District Design Standards (\$30,000)**

This project will evaluate and refine previously-developed draft streetscape guidelines developed by the BID. Implementation strategies will also be recommended. Enhanced design standards will serve to create a cohesive feel for the neighborhood. Low Impact Development (LID) techniques will be an integral part of this project. The project is supported by the District Department of Transportation.

**3. Charles County, Waldorf Urban Transportation Improvement Plan (\$30,000)**

This project involves assessing a proposed conceptual transportation network and determining an implementation plan for public and private investment for construction. By reviewing the layout, functionality, and interconnectivity of all transportation modes, the County hopes to create a completely integrated transportation network capable of sustaining a walkable community.

**4. Prince George's County, Purple Line Bicycle Access and Bicycle Hub Location Study (\$30,000)**

This study will identify locations for bikeway and sidewalk locations along the entire segment of the Purple Line in Prince George's County. The project seeks to identify complete streets components for the areas surrounding future transit stations. The study will result in better and safer bicycle and pedestrian access to future transit-oriented development locations adjacent to the Purple Line.

**5. Arlington County, Multi-Use Trail Traffic Control Study (\$30,000)**

This project will analyze traffic control signage, markings and signals on two of Arlington's busiest shared-use trails and propose modifications to create a more consistent, rational, predictable and ultimately safer traffic control environment for all trail users and those crossing the trails. Rationalizing how cyclists and pedestrians are supposed to behave at multi-use trail intersections will improve these locations' safety and will reinforce positive bicycle and pedestrian behavior on and off the trails. This project will be utilized by transportation engineers to better design Arlington's non-motorized facilities. The project involves close coordination between Arlington's BIKEArlington and WALKArlington programs.

**6. Fairfax County (\$45,000)**

This TLC project will use a multi-modal evaluation tool, previously developed for a TLC project for the Takoma neighborhood of Washington DC, to evaluate an array of potential projects to accommodate the mobility the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, local bus, and auto users at the new Metrorail Station at Wiehle Avenue in Reston.

**7. Prince William County, Harbor Station Multimodal Commuter Station (\$30,000)**

This study will serve as a follow up to the Commuter Ferry Feasibility Study, currently being conducted by Prince William County, through a Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Multimodal Grant. The study will examine the possibilities of creating a multimodal commuter center served by commuter rail, bus and ferry services around a planned mixed-use development. This project will involve close coordination with PRTC, VDOT and VRE.