

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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MEMORANDUM

**Technical Committee
Item #9**

TO: Technical Committee

FROM: Huijing Qiang,
Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Transportation Safety Planning

DATE: June 29, 2012

Background

The Transportation Safety Subcommittee of the TPB Technical Committee coordinates with the three State Strategic Highway Safety Plans, advises the maintenance of the Safety Element of the Constrained Long-Range Plan, and serves as a forum to exchange information on best practices in transportation safety planning. Meetings are scheduled as needed, approximately four per year. The most recent meeting took place on June 27th, 2012. Tim Davis of the City of Frederick chairs the Subcommittee.

The State Strategic Highway Safety Plans and the CLRP

At the most recent meeting representatives of the Maryland and Virginia discussed their new Strategic Highway Safety Plans. Maryland has finished its 2011-2015 Plan, Virginia expects to finish within a month, and the District of Columbia in a little more than a year. The changes include a reduction in the number of Traffic Safety Emphasis areas.

To ensure consistency with the State plans, the Safety Element of the CLRP will be revised to “incorporate and summarize” the priorities in the State plans, while taking the particular safety challenges of the Washington region into account. A full revision, including changes to the Safety Emphasis Areas, will take place after the DC plan is finished. However, the latest transportation safety data will be incorporated into the current Safety Element, and the changes are to be approved by the Safety Subcommittee at its next meeting.

The Regional Safety Picture

The Technical Committee will be briefed on the latest available regional transportation safety information, including fatality numbers and trends for each Safety Emphasis Area (crash type) for which regional data is available. This information was discussed by the Transportation Safety Subcommittee at its June 27th meeting.

Next Steps

TPB staff will continue to gather and analyze regional traffic safety data to inform the Safety Element of the Constrained Long Range Plan, the Regional Priorities Plan, the ongoing Street Smart Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program, and other TPB program areas.