



NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

Meeting Notes

MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (MOITS) TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, October 14, 2014

TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

PLACE: COG, First Floor, Meeting Room 1

CHAIR: Jean Yves Point-du-Jour, Maryland State Highway Administration

Attendance:

Melissa Chow – WMATA
Elliot Harkavy – COG/Public Safety
Warren Henry – Jacobs Engineering/MDSHA
David Koch - NVTC
Deborah Matherly – Louis Berger Group (by phone)
Curt McCullough – City of Fairfax (by phone)
Amy Tang McElwain – VDOT
Andrew Meese – COG/TPB
Erin Morrow – COG/TPB
Jean Yves Point-du-Jour – MDSHA
Wenjing Pu – COG/TPB
Jon Schermann – COG/TPB
Daivamani Sivasailam – COG/TPB
Kanti Srikanth – COG/TPB
Marco Trigueros – COG/TPB

1. **Welcome and Introductions; Introduction of New COG Transportation Planning Director**

Newly appointed COG Transportation Planning Director Kanti Srikanth introduced himself to the committee. In the future, he would like to bring informational items to the TPB once or twice a year to highlight some of innovative strategies coming out of the subcommittee.

2. **Review of Notes**

Any comments can be submitted to Mr. Meese.

3. **Summary of Regional Climate Change Discussions**

Ms. Morrow briefed the group on ongoing climate change planning discussions – focusing on mitigation. It was recommended that the TPB, CEEPC, and MWAQC work together towards reaching the regional goals by:

- Convening a multi-disciplinary working group
- Identifying actions in each sector
- Quantifying costs, benefits, and timelines
- Developing an action plan for the region
- Taking appropriate steps toward implementation

This recommendation will be presented to the TPB at its next meeting. MOITS will be briefed on updates of the multi-sector working group and what roles the subcommittee may play in the process.

4. **Report on the Kick-off Meeting of the Vehicle Probe Data Users Group**

Mr. Pu briefed the group on the first meeting of the newly established National Capital Region Vehicle Probe Data Users Group took place on October 9, 2014. The Users Group aims to enhance regional coordination, consistency, and capabilities in the use of vehicle probe-based traffic data, toward performance-based planning. The meeting attracted a number of participants from TPB member jurisdictions, and other public and private organizations with differing levels of experience with the VPP Suite. The group discussed the current applications of the data as well as applications that may be forthcoming or desired. The group discussed challenges they have faced including: data quality concerns, merging different probe data, and sharing among agencies. The group expanded the mission of the group to include providing feedback to data vendor and software developers and creating an online group to share experience and knowledge.

5. **Update on 2014 Freeway Congestion Monitoring Using Aerial Surveying**

Mr. Sivasailam briefed the subcommittee on the pilot project one-second time-lapse aerial photography (TLAP) component of this year's aerial survey, currently underway. The photography will take place for fifteen minutes during AM and PM peaks. With input from STWG, nine locations have been identified, and a contract was being finalized with Skycomp, Inc. The locations include:

- Anacostia River crossings
- Potomac River crossings
- Woodrow Wilson Bridge
- I-66 outside the beltway
- 14th/16th Street in DC
- Virginia HOT lanes
- US 15 in Frederick
- I-495 north of the Legion Bridge
- I-495 between New Hampshire Avenue to US 1

The locations were chosen to take advantage of the TLAP feature of possibly being able to identify what is causing congestion in these areas.

6. **Highlights of the 2014 ITS World Congress**

Ms. McElwain briefed the group on the highlights of the 21st Intelligent Transportation Systems World Congress was held in Detroit, Michigan September 7-11, 2014. The presentation included automobile features that companies are implementing and developing for the future. There was also a focus on multimodal transportation, expanded choices, improved user information and more sharing.

7. **Update on Regional Emergency Support Function 1 – Emergency Transportation Committee (RESF-1) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Activities**

Mr. Sivasailam gave an update on the UASI traffic signal power backup grant. A recent meeting with the UASI Project Management Office expressed interest in the development of a regional power backup strategic plan, and RESF-1 will be discussing this topic at its next meeting. The project was split up to allow each agency to proceed with procurement independently.

Mr. Harkavy discussed the tabletop exercise and noted that the after action report will be released at the upcoming RESF-1 meeting on Thursday. RESF-1 held a meeting to discuss the Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) report to work through threat scenarios and the goals, impacts, and requirements of transportation systems under these scenarios. Additionally, Deborah Matherly will be talking about the NCHRP study on transportation planning for emergencies, and there will be updates from the UASI Project Management office and the NCR Transit Security Group.

Ms. McElwain suggested that Mike Wood of VDOT be invited to RESF-1 to discuss recently completed reports on evacuation planning in Tysons Corner including the new Metro stations. Additionally, the City of Alexandria is initiating a flood emergency response plan that will include the Beltway and may have regional impacts.

8. **Update on Traffic Signals-Related Activities**

Mr. Trigueros mentioned recent discussions at the most recent subcommittee meeting. Eric Tombs of WMATA gave an update of the transit signal priority project that is scheduled for a field test in October along VA-7. There is a traffic signal power backup survey currently underway. The group discussed the use of INRIX data to measure improvements to traffic signal systems. Ms. McElwain noted that they have noticed that INRIX data is overly optimistic for arterials because stopped vehicles are sometimes removed from the sample under the assumption that they are stopped or parked vehicles.

9. **Regional ITS Architecture Update**

No updates at this time.

10. **Briefing on the Federal Certification Review of the Regional Transportation Planning Process**

Mr. Meese briefed the group on the Federal Certification Review of the National Capital Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Process, currently underway. This quadrennial review will address the MPO's conduct of the federally-regulated process, including (among dozens of topics covered) activities pertaining to management, operations, technology, the Congestion

Management Process (CMP), and the Regional ITS Architecture. The review team presented the MPO with a list of questions that have been answered and submitted. Staff from FHWA and FTA will review published materials and conduct a site visit to determine that the process is being followed and issue a report with any commendations, recommendations, or corrective actions if deemed necessary.

11. **Highlights from the October 2014 Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Operations Work Group**

AMPO convenes a number of Work Groups to provide peer information exchange among MPOs around the nation on key topics, including an Operations Work Group comprising MPO planners who address management, operations, and technology in their positions. AMPO's Operations Work Group most recently met October 6 and 7, 2014 here in Washington at USDOT.

Mr. Meese briefed the committee on the highlights from this meeting. The main topics discussed include FHWA guidance on RITSMO and performance measure requirements, the use of probe data and how it relates to performance measures, and reports from individual MPOs on what is happening in their areas. FHWA talked about some tools and guidebooks that are available – particularly regarding a benefit-cost analysis tool that is getting a lot of attention lately. Additionally, there was discussion on autonomous and connected vehicles, how they will affect roadway capacity, and they are developing a planner's guide to V2I.

12. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

13. **Adjournment**

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, COG Meeting Room 1
(NOTE: No November Meeting Due to Veterans Day Holiday)