

ITEM 8 – Action
December 18, 2019

Performance Based Planning and Programming:
Highway Safety Targets

Action: Adopt Resolution R6-2020 to approve regional highway safety targets.

Background: The board will be asked to approve regional highway safety targets for 2020 for the National Capital Region. A draft set of highway safety targets for the region was distributed to the board in November.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT ANNUAL HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS
FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the FAST Act continued the implementation of performance based planning and programming to achieve desired performance outcomes for the multimodal transportation system, including the setting of targets for future performance by States and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs); and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a rulemaking for State departments of transportation (State DOT) and MPOs to annually establish data-driven highway safety targets and report progress on achieving the targets for the following performance measures: number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per hundred million vehicle miles traveled (VMT), number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per VMT, and number of combined non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries (based on five-year rolling averages); and

WHEREAS, the DOTs of the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia set their respective highway safety targets for the five-year period 2016 through 2020 by August 31, 2019 and that MPOs are required to set highway safety targets for their metropolitan planning areas for the same period by February 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, TPB staff have coordinated with officials at the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to develop regional highway safety targets that are evidence based, consistent with the targets submitted by each member state DOT, and reflective of the outcomes expected through the implementation of funded safety projects and policies; and

WHEREAS, safety of all modes of travel is an important element of TPB's Vision, and a regional priority, with many of its member jurisdictions having adopted aspirational safety goals associated with Vision Zero and Towards Zero Deaths; and

WHEREAS, the TPB encourages every member jurisdiction in the region to adopt similar aspirational highway safety goals and calls on the transportation agencies of the region to redouble their efforts to develop projects, programs, and policies to achieve dramatic reductions in fatalities and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, the TPB acknowledges that the number of fatalities, the number of nonmotorist fatalities and serious injuries, and the rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles travelled remain unacceptably high, which is contrary to regional aspirations; and

WHEREAS, the TPB remains focused on developing and achieving its aspirational goals and will use the federally-required annual regional highway safety targets and the target setting process to evaluate the region's progress toward its aspirational goals; and

WHEREAS, the TPB has commissioned a study to determine the factors contributing to fatal and serious injury crashes in the region and recommend countermeasures; and

WHEREAS, the TPB will take appropriate actions based on the recommendations of the regional safety study when they are available as well as other relevant safety improvement ideas developed through ongoing Transportation Safety Subcommittee activities and continuing collaboration with state DOTs and member jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the TPB continues to support local, regional and state level efforts to reduce fatalities and serious injuries concurrent with the development of increasingly aggressive highway safety targets in the future; and

WHEREAS, these highway safety targets have been reviewed and recommended for TPB approval by the Transportation Safety Subcommittee and the TPB Technical Committee; and

WHEREAS, the TPB requests that its members continue to coordinate and share information on projects, programs, policies, and initiatives to improve safety; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board adopts the following set of highway safety targets for the National Capital Region, as described below.

Table 1: Regional Highway Safety Targets – 2016-2020 Average

Performance Measure	2016-2020 Target
# of Fatalities (5 year rolling average)	253.0
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT) (5 year rolling average)	0.588
# of Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	2,692.1
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT) (5 year rolling average)	6.157
# Nonmotorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	508.6

RECOMMENDED 2016-2020 HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS

Jon Schermann
TPB Transportation Planner

Transportation Planning Board
December 18, 2019

Agenda Item 8



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Presentation Items

- Quick Review of Federal Requirements and Target Setting Methodology
- Overview of Recommended Regional Highway Safety Targets
- Review of Resolution Language
- Request to Pass Resolution R6-2020



Federal Requirements

- The TPB set regional safety targets in both January 2018 and January 2019
 - Federal regulations require State DOTs and MPOs to set highway safety targets on an annual basis
 - State DOTs approved their first set of targets in August 2017, their second set of targets in August 2018, and their third set of targets in August 2019
- Data-driven and realistic highway safety targets are to be set for 5 performance measures
- Targets are averages for a given 5-year period (ex., 2015-2019, 2016-2020, etc.)

2016-2020 Target Setting Methodology

- Apply Maryland’s approach to identify a “sub-target” for the Maryland portion of the NCR
- Apply Virginia’s suggested approach for its MPOs to identify a sub-target for the Virginia portion of the NCR
- Incorporate the District of Columbia’s target as a sub-target for the DC portion of the NCR
- Combine the three sub-targets into a regional target for the NCR
- *If a calculated target is higher than the previous target, set the target equal to the previous target*
- *Note that this is the same methodology as was used for last year’s (2015-2019) targets*

2016-2020 Highway Safety Targets for the NCR

Performance Measure	Proposed 2016-2020 Target	Adopted 2015-2019 Target	Compared to Previously Adopted Target
# of Fatalities	253.0	253.0	no change*
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT)	0.588	0.588	no change*
# of Serious Injuries	2,692.1	2,919.6	227 fewer serious injuries
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT)	6.157	6.564	6% lower
# Nonmotorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries	508.6	508.6	no change*

* Capped to equal previously set target

Review of Resolution Language

- TPB Resolution R6-2020 establishes the regional highway safety targets for the 2016-2020 period
- Includes “WHEREAS” clauses based on staff’s understanding of the many issues and concerns expressed by this board, including:
 - The targets are *data-driven* in accordance with federal regulations and do not reflect the *aspirations* of the TPB
 - The numbers of fatalities and serious injuries are unacceptably high
 - The TPB has commissioned a safety study to determine the factors contributing to fatal and serious injury crashes in the region and recommend countermeasures
 - The TPB will take appropriate actions based on the study findings as well as other relevant safety improvement ideas that are presented
 - The TPB requests that its members continue to coordinate and share information on projects, programs, policies, and initiatives to improve safety

Recommended Highway Safety Targets

Performance Measure	2016-2020 Target
Number of Fatalities (5 year rolling average)	253.0
Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT (5 year rolling average)	0.588
Number of Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	2,692.1
Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT (5 year rolling average)	6.157
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	508.6

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DRAFT REGIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS

Performance-Based Planning and Programming

November 2019

DRAFT

DRAFT 2016-2020 REGIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS, DECEMBER 2018

November 8, 2019

ABOUT THE TPB

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for metropolitan Washington. It is responsible for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in the metropolitan area. Members of the TPB include representatives of the transportation agencies of the states of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia, 24 local governments, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies, and nonvoting members from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and federal agencies. The TPB is staffed by the Department of Transportation Planning at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

REGIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS	4
Overview of Performance-Based Planning and Programming Requirements	4
Highway Safety Targets: Setting, Coordinating, and Reporting	4
Target Setting	5
Recent Trends in Safety Data.....	7
Progress Towards the 2014-2018 Safety Targets.....	7
NCR Regional Safety Target Setting Approach.....	8
Regional Safety Targets	11
Duration	11

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FIGURES AND TABLES

Table 1: Highway Safety Performance Measures Summary	5
Table 2: NCR Safety Trends – with Final 2018 Annual Data	7
Table 3: 2014-2018 Actual vs. Targets	8
Table 4: Summary of Highway Safety Targets	11

DRAFT

REGIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS

This report proposes a set of draft regional highway safety performance targets for the 2016-2020 time period that meet the MAP-21/FAST performance-based planning and programming (PBPP) requirements and are consistent with the target setting approaches of Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Overview of Performance-Based Planning and Programming Requirements

Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and reinforced in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, federal surface transportation regulations require the implementation of performance management requirements through which states and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) will “transition to a performance-driven, outcome-based program that provides for a greater level of transparency and accountability, improved project decision-making, and more efficient investment of federal transportation funds.”

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have been gradually issuing a set of rulemakings, initially proposed and subsequently final, for the implementation of this performance-based planning and programming (PBPP) process. Each rulemaking lays out the goals of performance for a particular area of transportation, establishes the measures for evaluating performance, specifies the data to be used to calculate the measures, and then sets requirements for the setting of targets.

Under the PBPP process, states, MPOs, and providers of public transportation must link investment priorities to the achievement of performance targets in the following areas:

- Highway Safety;
- Highway Assets: Pavement and Bridge Condition;
- System Performance (Interstate and National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program); and
- Transit Safety and Transit Asset Management.

The final Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Rule, published May 27, 2016, provides direction and guidance on requirements for implementation of PBPP, including specified measures and data sources, forecasting performance, target-setting, documentation in the statewide and metropolitan long-range transportation plans and Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs), and reporting requirements. The initial part of the PBPP process will require coordination and agreement on specific responsibilities for each agency in accordance with the planning rule.

Highway Safety Targets: Setting, Coordinating, and Reporting

The expectation of the implementation of the Safety Performance Measure rule is to improve both the quantity and quality of safety data, with respect to data pertaining to serious injuries and fatalities. This implementation will also allow greater transparency by disseminating the data publicly. In addition, aggregation of targets and progress at the national level will become possible through improved data consistency among the states and MPOs.

State DOTs and MPOs are expected to use the information generated by these regulations to make investment decisions that result in the greatest possible reductions in fatalities and serious injuries. The five required safety performance measures, along with proscribed data sources, are outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Highway Safety Performance Measures Summary

Performance Measure	Description	Data Source
Number of Fatalities (5 year rolling average)	Total number of fatalities during a calendar year	FARS ¹
Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT (5 year rolling average)	Ratio of total fatalities to VMT	FARS and HPMS ² (or MPO estimate)
Number of Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	Total number of serious injuries during a calendar year	State reported serious injury data ³
Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT (5 year rolling average)	Ratio of total serious injuries to VMT	State reported serious injury data ³ and HPMS
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries (5 year rolling average)	Total number of fatalities and serious injuries during a calendar year	FARS and State serious injury data ³

¹ FARS: Fatality Analysis Reporting System

² HPMS: Highway Performance Monitoring System

³ for the first 36 months – after that States must adopt the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) definition of serious injury

TARGET SETTING

States and MPOs must fulfill the target setting requirements of the final rule. State DOTs are required to set statewide targets for each of the five performance measures. Targets for the first three performance measures (number of fatalities, rate of fatalities, and number of serious injuries) must be identical to the targets set by the State Highway Safety Office (SHSO). Each target must also represent the anticipated performance outcome for all public roadways in the state, regardless of ownership. A breakdown of responsibilities for target setting are listed below.

State DOTs:

- Required to set statewide targets for each of the five performance measures:
 - Each of these targets must be identical to those set by the State Highway Safety Office (SHSO).
 - Each target shall represent anticipated performance outcome for all public roadways in the State, regardless of ownership.
 - Targets cannot be changed after they are reported.

MPOs:

- For each performance measure, the MPO will either:
 - Agree to plan and program projects so they contribute toward accomplishing the state DOT safety target for that PM, or
 - Commit to a quantifiable target for that PM for the MPO planning area:
 - Each target shall represent anticipated performance outcome for all public roadways in the MPO planning area, regardless of ownership.
 - MPOs shall coordinate with the state DOT(s) to ensure consistency.

MPO Coordination with State DOTs

MPOs are required to establish their performance targets in coordination with their state partners and these targets should be data-driven and realistic. Coordination is essential between these two entities in setting HSIP targets. Both should work together to share data, review strategies and understand outcomes.

Target Reporting

State DOTs must report their targets to the FHWA within the state's HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program) annual report due each year on August 31.

MPOs do not report their targets to the FHWA, but rather to their respective state DOTs in a manner that is documented and mutually agreed upon. MPOs also report progress toward achieving their targets within the "System Performance Report" portion of their long-range transportation plan (Visualize 2045). In addition, MPO TIPs must include a discussion of how the implementation of the TIP will further the achievement of the targets.

FHWA Determination of Significant Progress

States do not have to meet each of their safety targets to avoid the consequences outlined in the rule, but must either meet the target or make significant progress toward meeting the target for four of the five performance measures. The FHWA determines that the significant progress threshold is met if the performance measure outcome is better than the "baseline" – which is defined as the 5-year rolling average for that performance measure for the year prior to the establishment of the target. MPO targets are not evaluated by the FHWA.

Consequences for Failing to Meet Targets of Making Significant Progress

State DOTs that have not met or made significant progress toward meeting their safety performance targets lose some flexibility in how they spend their HSIP funds and are required to submit an annual implementation plan that describes actions the DOT will take to meet their targets.

There are no consequences outlined in the rule for MPOs not meeting their targets. However, the FHWA will review how MPOs are incorporating and discussing safety performance measures and targets in their long-range transportation plans and TIPs during MPO certification reviews.

RECENT TRENDS IN SAFETY DATA

Last year's TPB-adopted targets for the 2014-2018 period were set before calendar year 2017 safety data were available. This data has now been released and it is possible to review it in relation to the 2018 targets as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: NCR Safety Trends – with Final 2018 Annual Data

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change from 2017 to 2018
# of Fatalities	263	263	275	313	292	↓ 6.7%
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT)	0.619	0.610	0.633	0.695	0.649	↓ 6.6%
# of Serious Injuries	2,858	2,643	2,946	2,595	2,461	↓ 5.2%
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT)	6.718	6.134	6.680	5.764	5.472	↓ 5.1%
# Nonmotorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries	548	526	555	595	551	↓ 7.4%

Fatalities decreased nearly 7 percent between 2017 and 2018 which drove the fatality rate (per VMT) lower by more than 6 percent over the same period. Both the number and rate of serious injuries fell and the number of nonmotorist fatalities plus serious injuries also dropped significantly between 2017 and 2018.

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2014-2018 SAFETY TARGETS

Table 3 (next page) shows the region's performance on the five safety performance measures with respect to the 2014-2018 targets set in January of 2018.

Table 3: 2014-2018 Actual vs. Targets

Performance Measure (5-year rolling average)	2014-2018 Actual	2014-2018 Target	Status
# of Fatalities	282.0	253.0	Not met
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT)	0.642	0.588	Not met
# of Serious Injuries	2,700.8	3,007.3	Met
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT)	6.154	6.791	Met
# Nonmotorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries	554.8	528.8	Not met

As shown above, the region has met the 2014-2018 targets for the number of serious injuries and the serious injury rate performance measures. However, the region did not meet the targets set for the number of fatalities, the number of nonmotorist fatalities and serious injuries, and the fatality rate targets.

NCR REGIONAL SAFETY TARGET SETTING APPROACH

This year, a new set of targets for the five safety performance measures will be adopted. These targets will be for the 2016-2020 period. The methodology used to develop these targets is the same as the process used last year and leverages the approaches used by our state DOT partners. To account for and incorporate the different target setting approaches used by Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia to develop targets for the entire National Capital Region (NCR), staff applied the following methodology to develop the proposed draft targets:

- identify a “sub-target” for the Maryland portion of the NCR by applying MDOT’s target setting approach to the safety data for the Maryland portion of the NCR;
- identify a “sub-target” for the Virginia portion of the NCR by applying VDOT’s suggested MPO target setting methodology to the safety data for the Virginia portion of the NCR;
- identify a “sub-target” for the District of Columbia portion of the NCR by directly incorporating DDOT’s targets;
- combine the three sub-targets mathematically into a set of initial regional targets;
- compare each performance measure’s sub target with the corresponding target set last year; and
- select the lower (more aggressive) of the two targets as this year’s target.¹

¹ This ensures that none of this year’s safety targets will be higher than the targets that were adopted by the TPB last year.

Overview of Member States' Target Setting Methodologies

Maryland: Maryland applied their existing Toward Zero Deaths approach to develop interim targets to reduce fatalities by at least 50 percent from the 2008 base year to the 2030 target year. This same approach was used to set targets for each of the five performance measures. For each performance measure an exponential trend line connecting the historical (2008) data to the long-term (2030) goal which was set to 50 percent of the 2008 value. Five-year averages were used to calculate projections, and targets for each interim year were taken from the midpoint of the five-year average. Maryland officials provided TPB staff with the exponential trend lines and interim targets for each of the five performance measures based on the safety data for the Suburban Maryland portion of the NCR.

Virginia: For this year's targets Virginia used a different methodology than they used previously. The method is based on large part on a model that forecasts future fatalities and serious injuries based on a broad range of factors. VDOT then estimates the collective impact of their planned and programmed countermeasures and reduces the model forecast by the projected impacts of their engineering and behavioral efforts. This process is only viable at a statewide level and cannot be used effectively to determine targets for smaller regions within the state. To assist their MPOs, VDOT advises MPOs to apply linear regression techniques to make projections for each of the numeric performance measures² to calculate the 2016-2020 regional targets. For the rate performance measures³, VDOT advises MPOs to divide the annual forecasts for fatalities and serious injuries by projected VMT (vehicle miles traveled) to make 2019 and 2020 projections which were then used to calculate the 2016-2020 regional targets. TPB staff applied this process to the data for the Northern Virginia portion of the NCR.

District of Columbia: The District of Columbia analyzed their safety data using a combination of annual and 5-year average data and polynomial trend lines to determine their targets. TPB staff directly incorporated the District of Columbia targets, as published in their HSIP Annual Report, into the NCR target setting methodology.

Calculation of the National Capital Region Highway Safety Targets

Numerical Targets

The NCR targets for the number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, and number of nonmotorist fatalities and serious injuries were calculated by summing the sub-targets for the Suburban Maryland, Northern Virginia, and District of Columbia portions of the region. This is straightforward mathematical addition.

As a final step, the calculated numerical targets were compared to the corresponding targets adopted by the TPB last year and the lower (more aggressive) target for each performance measure was selected.

Rate Targets

Determination of rate targets (fatality rate and serious injury rate) are somewhat more complicated and involve mathematically combining the effects of the Suburban Maryland, Northern Virginia and

² Number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, and number of nonmotorist fatalities plus serious injuries

³ Fatality rate per 100 million VMT and serious injury rate per 100 million VMT

District of Columbia targets according to their respective proportions of total regional VMT. The following steps illustrate the process for the fatality rate (a similar process was used for the serious injury rate):

- 1) Determine the percent fatality rate reduction represented by each sub target.

Fatalities per 100 MVMT	2014-2018 Average	2016-2020 Average (sub target)	Percent change
Suburban MD	0.814	0.734	-9.78%
NOVA	0.431	0.445	6.60%
DC	0.745	1.070	43.54%

- 2) Determine the proportion of total regional VMT attributable to Suburban Maryland, Northern Virginia, and DC.

Sub region	100 MVMT (2018)	Proportion
Suburban MD	217.62	48.33%
NOVA	195.67	43.46%
DC	36.98	8.21%
Sum	450.27	100.00%

- 3) Determine the percent change for the regional rate by multiplying the percent change (from step 1) by the VMT proportion (from step 2).

Sub region	A: Percent change in fatality rate (from step 1)	B: Proportion (from step 2)	A x B
Suburban MD	-9.78%	48.33%	-4.726%
NOVA	6.60%	43.46%	2.866%
DC	43.54%	8.21%	3.576%
Sum			1.717%

- 4) Apply the percent change for the regional rate calculate in step 3 to the 2013-2017 average fatality rate. This is the regional fatality rate target for 2015-2019.

Fatalities per 100 MVMT	2014-2018 Average	Regional percent change (from step 3)	2014-2018 Average (regional target)
NCR	0.642	1.717%	0.653

As a final step, the calculated rate targets were compared to the corresponding targets adopted by the TPB last year and the lower (more aggressive) target for each performance measure was selected. **Since the fatality rate target of 0.588 set last year is lower than the 0.653 figure calculated by mathematically combining the three sub-regional targets, the staff-recommended target is 0,588 (and not 0.653).**

REGIONAL SAFETY TARGETS

Table 4 displays the proposed 2016-2020 NCR Highway Safety Targets.

Table 4: Summary of Highway Safety Targets

Performance Measure (5-year rolling average)	2014- 2018 Target	2015- 2019 Target	2016- 2020 Target	Difference	Percent Difference
# of Fatalities	253.0	253.0	<u>253.0</u>	0.0	0.0%
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT)	0.588	0.588	<u>0.588</u>	0.0	0.0%
# of Serious Injuries	3,007.3	2,919.6	<u>2,692.1</u>	-227.5	-7.8%
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT)	6.791	6.564	<u>6.157</u>	-0.407	-6.2%
# Nonmotorist Fatalities & Serious Injuries	528.8	508.6	<u>508.6</u>	0.0	0.0%

DURATION

Upon adoption by the Transportation Planning Board, the targets described in this report become the official National Capital Region highway safety targets for calendar year 2020 (as represented by the average of the 5 years of data from CY 2016 through CY 2020).

As per federal regulations, the National Capital Region highway safety targets will be updated on an annual basis by no later than February 27 of each calendar year.