

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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Item #5

MEMORANDUM

January 14, 2009

To: Transportation Planning Board

From: Ronald F. Kirby
Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

RE: Steering Committee Actions

At its meeting of January 9, 2009, the TPB Steering Committee approved the following resolution:

- TPB SR7-2009 an amendment to the FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include an evaluation of the Metrobus priority corridor network task in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Technical Assistance program.

The TPB Bylaws provide that the Steering Committee “shall have the full authority to approve non-regionally significant items, and in such cases it shall advise the TPB of its action.”

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

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND
THE FY 2009 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) TO INCLUDE
AN EVALUATION OF THE METROBUS PRIORITY CORRIDOR NETWORK TASK IN
THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA)
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the metropolitan planning organization for the Washington Metropolitan area, has the responsibility under the provisions of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Planning Regulations issued by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) require a Unified Planning Work Program for Transportation Planning (UPWP); and

WHEREAS, the UPWP is required as a basis and condition for all funding assistance for transportation planning to state, local, and regional agencies by the FHWA and FTA; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2009 UPWP for the Washington Metropolitan Region was adopted by the TPB on March 19, 2008; and

WHEREAS, in the attached letter of January 9, 2009, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has requested that the work activity: Impact of Highway Congestion on WMATA Bus Operations with a budget of \$103,900 in its Technical Assistance Program be amended to fund the first phase of a new work activity entitled: Evaluation of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Networks with the scope of work as described in the attached materials; and

WHEREAS, the total budget for this project is estimated to be \$300,000, and the second phase of the project will be funded with FY 2010 WMATA Technical Assistance funds which could potentially be augmented with 2010 Technical Assistance funds from DDOT, MDOT and VDOT; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Steering Committee of the

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2009 WMATA work activity: Impact of Highway Congestion on WMATA Bus Operations with a budget of \$103,900 in its Technical Assistance Program to fund the first phase of a new work activity entitled: Evaluation of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Networks with the scope of work , as described in the attached materials.

Adopted by the Steering Committee of the Transportation Planning Board at its regular meeting on January 9, 2009.



January 9, 2009

The Honorable Charles Jenkins
Chairman, National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.; Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: FY2009 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment

Dear Chairman Jenkins:

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) requests an amendment to the FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include changes to Section 6.D. WMATA Technical Assistance. At the October 15, 2008 TPB meeting, WMATA presented a concept plan for a Metrobus Priority Corridor Network (PCN) that includes integrated bus service and capital improvements in 24 corridors across the region. WMATA would like to initiate a consultant study to quantify regional benefits and impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed Metrobus Priority Corridor Network (PCN).

The project will be funded in two phases, with a total project budget estimated to be \$300,000. Phase I will be funded under this FY 2009 work activity using \$103,900 in WMATA Technical Assistance funds. It is anticipated to begin in March and a technical memorandum on Phase I is due June 30, 2009. Phase II will begin July 1 and be funded with WMATA 2010 technical assistance funds which could potentially be augmented with 2010 technical assistance funds from VDOT, MDOT and DDOT.

WMATA requests that the TPB Steering Committee approve this amendment at its January 9, 2009 meeting. A copy of the project listing proposed to be added to the FY 2009 UPWP is attached.

Thank you for your consideration of, and action on, this request.

Sincerely,

Nat Bottigheimer
Assistant General Manager
Department of Planning and Joint Development

**Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202/962-1234

By Metrorail:
Judiciary Square—Red Line
Gallery Place-Chinatown—
Red, Green and
Yellow Lines
By Metrobus:
Routes D1, D3, D6, P6,
70, 71, 80, X2

D. WMATA

Impact of Highway Congestion on WMATA Bus Operations

~~This project will study the impact of highway congestion on WMATA bus operations & fleet needs. This project will also identify potential improvements that could mitigate the adverse effects of this congestion on bus operations and reduce WMATA overall bus fleet needs and operating costs.~~

~~Cost Estimate: \$53,900
\$50,000 carryover from FY 2008
\$103,900 total~~

~~Schedule: January 2009~~

Evaluation of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network

WMATA has introduced a concept plan for a Metrobus Priority Corridor Network (PCN) that includes integrated service and capital improvements in 24 corridors across the region, impacting routes that serve half of all bus riders in the current Metrobus system. Corridor plans will be developed to provide for new MetroExtra limited-stop bus routes and to improve the performance of all routes in the corridors with running-way improvements such as dedicated bus lanes, queue jumps, and transit signal priority to reduce transit travel time and provide more reliable and safe bus service.

The purpose of this project is to obtain consultant assistance to 1) Quantify regional benefits and impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed WMATA Priority Corridor Network (PCN), and 2) Identify and prioritize the most effective running-way improvement strategies for implementation along specific segments. The analysis will apply the TPB regional travel demand model to forecast network-level travel impacts of the PCN and an evaluation of the recommended strategies and expected benefits will be documented in a technical report.

The total project budget is \$300,000. The project will be funded in two phases. Phase I will be funded under this FY 2009 work activity. It is anticipated to begin in March and a technical memorandum on Phase I is due June 30, 2009. Phase II will begin July 1 and be funded with WMATA 2010 technical assistance funds which could potentially be augmented with 2010 technical assistance funds from DDOT, MDOT and VDOT. (The FY 2010 UPWP project budget is scheduled to be approved by the TPB on March 18, 2009.) The final project report will be due on November 30, 2009.

Cost Estimate: \$53,900
\$50,000 carryover from FY 2008
\$103,900 total for Phase I

Schedule: Technical memorandum on Phase I
June 30, 2009