



National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council

Bi-Monthly Administrative Update

November 3, 2005

Proposed Schedule for 2006

The EPC's meeting schedule has entailed meeting bi-monthly on the first Thursday of the month. For 2006, staff is recommending that this schedule be changed to the third Thursday of the month, but maintaining the bi-monthly meeting schedule, in order to allow time for COG and member jurisdiction staff to fully capture and respond to takeaways from the COG Board and CAO Committee meetings that will occur in the two weeks prior to the proposed new meeting dates.

Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2006:

January 26	} 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the COG Board Room
March 16	
May 18	
July 20	
September 21	
November 16	

Update on Regional Transportation Coordination Activities ("CapCom")

In January 2005, the TPB declared the creation of a regional transportation coordination program, provisionally known as "CapCom", as a top priority. Toward this effort, a \$1 million UASI subgrant was awarded to the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Transportation Technology to begin development of "CapCom" components, in conjunction with DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, and WMATA. The University was already developing the related transportation-funded Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) database. The University most recently has been working with the D.C. State Administrative Agent for UASI to finalize agreement on a work scope and begin the project. In parallel, DDOT, in coordination with MDOT, VDOT, and WMATA, has engaged the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (the U.S. Department of Transportation's research and innovative technology arm) to study how best to implement a regional coordination program. The study began in September 2005, and results expected late in the year will advise subsequent activities.

Recent action by the TPB was on October 19, to add "CapCom" to the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) at \$400,000 per year for 5 years. This is

under a \$1.6 million federal grant secured by Representative Jim Moran in the recently enacted Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) legislation. DDOT, MDOT and VDOT are providing required matching funds in equal shares, with WMATA participating in technical work. The region is to be briefed regularly on progress in implementing “CapCom” functionality.

Transportation of Hazardous Materials

The Montgomery County Council's Committee on Homeland Security, chaired by Councilmember Michael Knapp recently met to discuss potential action related to transportation of hazardous materials through the County, resulting in the determination to await the outcome of pending court cases between the District of Columbia and CSX. In the meantime, transportation officials in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia are working in conjunction with the National Capital Planning Commission to identify potential alternate routes for both rail and truck transport of hazardous materials through the region. COG staff will continue to monitor movement of court cases, legislation, and collaborative actions on this issue.

Outdoor Warning System Pilot Program Update

A consultant has been secured to develop a scope of work to analyze of the feasibility of installing and operating outdoor warning systems – or sirens - as part of the region's emergency alerting system for the public. Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, and the District of Columbia have been recommended as the pilot areas for this project. A draft proposal/work scope will be presented to the Emergency Managers Committee and the EPC in January for review and comment, and subsequently forwarded to the Chief Administrative Officers Committee and the Senior Policy Group for funding consideration.