

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Andrew J. Meese, AICP
Principal Transportation Planner

DATE: April 17, 2007

SUBJECT: Update on the Washington Region Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program

Background: This memorandum provides an update on the status of the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Program, following the last update to the TPB on March 21, 2007. As previously discussed, MATOC is a regional program to enhance the availability of real-time transportation information and strengthening coordination among transportation agencies, including:

- Improving technological systems for sharing transportation information among agencies involved in managing regional incidents
- Enhancing the transportation sector's standard operating procedures and notification practices for incidents
- Providing more timely and accurate transportation information to the public during incidents.

(The name MATOC has replaced the former name "CapCom" which was withdrawn due to potential trademark conflicts.) MATOC participants are DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, WMATA, and TPB. Initial funding for the program has been designated from a SAFETEA-LU grant supported by Congressman James Moran.

As reported on March 21: A package of agreement documents to fund and guide the program was circulated for official signatures from MATOC member agencies. The agreement formalizes the MATOC Steering Committee and enables COG/TPB to engage a MATOC support contractor. As of March 21, the agreement package had been signed by DDOT, WMATA, VDOT, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation of Virginia, and COG/TPB.

New since March 21: Maryland Department of Transportation officials have now signed the agreement package, completing necessary signatures from all member agencies. Following up on a request from MDOT Secretary Porcari, in addition to formalizing the MATOC Steering Committee, the formation of a top-level MATOC Executive Committee is being explored. In the near term, the MATOC Ad Hoc Steering Committee is meeting with key operations personnel in an April 19 work session on enhancing coordination and notification procedures. The session will also focus on the Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) under development.

Upcoming activities: It is anticipated that COG will re-advertise for MATOC contractor support in April or May, last year's original procurement process having been withdrawn due to administrative issues. A first official meeting of the MATOC Steering Committee is anticipated in the May or June time frame, following completion of the appointments of member representatives (in the meantime, the Ad Hoc Steering Committee continues to meet regularly). Actions required by the agreement at the first meeting include election of a chairperson and official adoption of the committee charter and bylaws.