



**Commuter Connections Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Chairperson: Sandra Brecher, Montgomery County

Vice Chairperson: Holly Morello, PRTC

Staff Contact: Nicholas Ramfos (202) 962-3313

Item #1 Introductions

The Subcommittee members were asked to introduce themselves and to sign the attendance sheet

Sandra Brecher called the meeting to order by introducing herself and asking the rest of the attendees to do so.

Item #2 May 21, 2013

Approval was sought for the May 21, 2013 Commuter Connections Meeting Minutes.

There was a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the meeting as written.

Item #3 Vice Chair Nominating Committee

Sandra Brecher, Montgomery County appointed the nominating committee.

Ms. Brecher reviewed the Vice Chair Nominating Committee appointment procedures and stated that Holly Morello will be moving up as Chair and a new Subcommittee Vice Chair would be selected.

Ms. Brecher stated that the current Chair, Vice Chair and the previous Chair Person will be on the Vice Chair nominating committee. This committee will have a conference call in August to select the next Vice Chair. There is a rotating schedule for DC, MD & VA in terms of who will be the upcoming Vice Chair. Once that person is selected, they will be approached and informed that they have been nominated. One of the responsibilities of the Vice Chair is to represent Commuter Connections on the Clean Air Partners on the board. When the individual accepts, they will be informed of their responsibilities.

Ms. Brecher proceeded to appoint Lorraine Taylor, Holly Morello and herself as the nominating committee and the Subcommittee approved the committee appointments. The new Vice Chair will be announced at the September 17th meeting.

Item #4 Update on an Analysis of Transportation Emissions Reduction Measures (TERMs) for possible use in Air Quality Conformity Assessments

Elena Constantine, COG/TPB staff, briefed the committee on TERMS.

Ms. Constantine provided an overview of the Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs), which were completely restructured and reformatted for the 2013 CLRP and FY2013-18 TIP Air Quality Conformity Determination. The use of a new regional travel demand forecasting model (T.2.3.52) and a new emissions estimating model (MOVES), necessitated a complete overhaul of how TERMS are tracked, are accounted for, and their emissions reductions are calculated. The 2013 CLRP and FY2013-18 TIP Air Quality Conformity Determination included four broad categories of TERMS, whose emissions reductions were calculated separately and they were subsequently combined for a grand total of emissions reductions due to TERMS in the National Capital region. The Commuter Connections Program was one of the four broad TERMS categories analyzed. The presentation also included future emissions reductions from federal programs – such as CAFÉ and TIER3 – derived by EPA. The inclusion of the future emissions reductions estimates from federal programs was intended to provide an “order-of-magnitude” comparison between the potential of regional TERMS programs versus federal programs in reducing mobile emissions in the National Capital Region.

Mr. Clark of Tri County stated that the Calvert County carpool lot information was incorrect and that there were 4 carpool lots not listed. He stated that the (Calvert County Fairgrounds) listed as 480 was a MTA commuter bus lot.

Ms. Constantine explained that this is not a detailed report for this cycle and that for next years' inventory will have more accurate information.

Item #5 Clean Air Partners

Holly Morello, PRTC, briefed the Subcommittee on the upcoming Clean Air Partners Activities.

Ms. Morello briefed the committee on the upcoming Clean Air Partners activities. Ms. Morello explained that the last Clean Air Partners Board meeting was in April. Ms. Morello reviewed the Community Outreach Local Activities which included; Bike to Work Day, Celebrate Fairfax Festival, Arlington Green Living Expo, Loudon County Earth Day Festival, Walter Reed Commuter Fair, National Sustainability Fair, Aerospace Employee Fair. The curriculum and outreach has Summer Education/Outreach team activities presenting Clean Air Partners “On the Air” Curriculum at summer camps through-out the region.

The Board has approved the following members for officer positions; Chair, Lon Anderson of AAA Mid-Atlantic, Vice Chair, Brian O'Malley of Central Maryland Transportation Alliance. The new board members are; Hon. Eileen Filer Corn of Virginia House of Delegates, William Ellis of PEPCO, Dr. Ravindra Gupta of INOVA Health, and Glenna Tinney of Alexandria Citizen & a member of the Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee.

Item #6 2013 Employer Recognition Awards Event

Douglas Franklin, COG/TPB staff, briefed the Subcommittee on the Employer Recognition Awards.

Mr. Franklin briefed the CC Subcommittee on the sixteenth annual Commuter Connections Employer Recognition Awards were held on June 25, 2013 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. The event's emcee was DC Councilmember, Tommy Wells, who also serves as First Vice Chair of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB). The Incentives award was presented by Brodi Fontenot, Assistant Secretary for Administration, United States Department of Transportation, and was given out to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda. The Marketing award was presented by Sam Zimbabwe, Associate Director for Policy, Planning and Sustainability, District Department of Transportation, which went to the United Nations Foundation in Washington, DC. The Telework award was presented by Jeff Pon, Chief Human Resource and Strategy Officer, Society for Human Resource Management, and was presented to the Council of Better Business Bureaus located in Arlington. The Employer Services Achievement Awards were presented by Scott K. York, Chairman Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, and TPB Chair. The Sales Team award went to the Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation, and the Organization Achievement award was given to the City of Alexandria for their Commuter Challenge.

A short video compilation produced for the awards ceremony highlighting various aspects of each organization's winning program was shown at the meeting. Award booklets were also made available. A press release was sent out immediately following the ceremony, and to further recognize the employer recipients, a print ad appeared in the DC/Baltimore edition of the Wall Street Journal, the day after the ceremony. Award winner seals were sent to each employer winner for publicity purposes.

Item #7 2013 State of the Commute Survey

Lori Diggins, LDA Consulting, briefed the Subcommittee on the 2013 SOC Survey.

Ms. Diggins briefed the Subcommittee on the preliminary results from the 2013 State of the Commute Survey. Results from the survey will be used in the Commuter Connections TERM Analysis. This is the fifth triennial survey, and 6,600 surveys were completed via landline and cell phones. There were a few new questions which asked respondents about "Roads used along commuting route, work activities performed during commute, and interest in dynamic rideshare services." Ms. Diggins then reviewed mode share statistics from the survey and stated that the drive alone percentage dropped from 2001 to 2010, and then there was a slight increase in 2013 from 64% to 66%. Fewer than half of "Inner Core" area commuters drive alone, compared with 70% of Commuters in the "Middle Ring" and 74% of commuters in the "Outer Ring" Area. Commuters who Work in the Core area use transit at a much higher rate than do commuters who work in the middle-ring or outer ring.

Ms. Diggins stated that Telework growth continued Between 2010 and 2013. In The region added 75,000 new teleworkers for a total of 675,000 teleworkers for 2013. Most of the telework growth has been generated by government agencies. One in ten teleworkers received telework information from COG/Commuter Connections.

Ms. Diggins then explained that the average commute distance has fallen since 2010, from 16.3 miles to 16.0 miles one way, but the average commute time remained steady at 36 minutes. Commute satisfaction finds that 64% of commuters are satisfied with their commute; but only

44% are satisfied with transportation in the metro region. A comment period was established for the draft Technical Report by COB on August 23rd.

Item #8 2013 Guaranteed Ride Home Applicant Surveys

Lori Diggins, LDA Consulting, briefed the Subcommittee on the

Ms. Diggins gave a description of GRH Home Applicant Survey. Due to time constraints, key findings from the survey will be presented during the September Subcommittee meeting. A follow up message was sent out to the Commuter Connections Subcommittee to review the draft survey report. A comment period was established for the draft Technical Report by COB on August 23rd.

Item #9 Car Free Days Event Update

Douglas Franklin COG/TPB staff, briefed the Subcommittee on the upcoming Car Free Day Event.

Mr. Franklin briefed the Subcommittee on the upcoming Car Free Day Event. Car Free Day has been changed to Car Free Days in the plural form as will be celebrated from Friday, Sept 20th through Sunday, Sept 22nd. The logo was adjusted to reflect the three day celebration. The pledge form on the web site has been augmented to include check boxes for all three days and participants can check all dates that apply. An enlarged poster-sized version of the Car Free Days proclamation will be presented at the TPB meeting, and ceremonially signed by the Board Chair. TPB members will be encouraged to have their local boards to do the same.

The Car Free Day Steering Committee met on July 10th and made updates to the poster as well as selected a draft radio script. The theme is "Park it for a whole day or more, September 20-22."

The web site will be launched on August 1st, and a press release will be distributed the week of August 5th. The poster will be distributed by mid-August. COG/TPB staff is also reaching out to the sustainability coordinators at the major universities, to help promote Car Free Day. Prize donations are being accepted for the 2013 event. In return, sponsors will receive logo placement on the Car Free Days web site, and a mention within a press release and on social media. So far, a few commitments have been received including Capital Bikeshare, Sport & Health, Flippin' Pizza, car2go and ZipCar.

Item #10 4th Quarter Budget Report

Barbara Brennan, COG/DTP staff, briefed the Subcommittee on the Budget Report.

Ms. Brennan discussed the FY 2013, 4th Quarter budget report and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Item #11 Other Business/Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Subcommittee members are encouraged to contact Nicholas Ramfos with any particular agenda items they may be interested in seeing on the next agenda.

The next meeting of the Commuter Connections Subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 12 noon.