

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Bus Subcommittee

FROM: Robert L. Snead,
Principal Transportation Engineer

SUBJECT: Transfer of Bus Transit Data between Transit Providers and TPB Staff

Date: January 22, 2008

At our last meeting, I discussed the development of bus and rail inputs for CLRP networks and our need for transit schedule data, and if available, spatial data. I also expressed our desire to obtain schedules as computer-readable files from all transit providers.

Since that meeting, we have received transit schedules from Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun Counties, the City of Alexandria, PRTC, and WMATA. We also have a commitment from Prince George's County. A file of spatial data (GIS shape files) has been received from Arlington County, and Fairfax County is constructing shape files for our use. The following transit providers will be contacted as to the availability of computer-readable transit data: Frederick County, Howard County, City of Laurel, Anne Arundel County, Calvert County, St. Mary's County, and Charles County. Commuter Bus service providers: MTA, Lee Coaches, Quick's, National Coach, and Washington Flyer will be contacted also.

Staff has completed the collection of regional transit data representing fall and winter transit service for 2007, and is manually and computer processing the information that sequentially will inform the 2008 CLRP and FY2009-2014 TIP. In parallel, the transit schedule and spatial data that you have provided will be employed in the development of new computer programs to process them, and reviewed by a consultant who is assisting TPB staff in identifying and prioritizing needs and requirements of an improved GIS-based application to enable the management of both highway and transit network data.

We would like to thank the following subcommittee members and their staffs: James Hamre, WMATA; Steve Yaffe, Transit Services Manager, Arlington Transportation Division; Scott Gross, Transit Operations Manager, Loudoun County Office of Transportation Services; Al Himes, Director of Planning and Development, Alexandria Transit Company (DASH); Joseph Swartz, Senior Transit Planner, PRTC; Randall White, Countywide Transit Services Coordinator, Fairfax County Department of Transportation, and Kevin Thornton, Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation.