

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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Meeting Summary

FREIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: June 13, 2013
TIME: 7:00 A.M. to Noon
PLACE: UPS TOUR/TPB Freight Subcommittee Meeting
CHAIR: Eulois Cleckley, Manager of Statewide and Regional Planning/Freight Planning, District Department of Transportation

ATTENDANCE:

Mark Alagna, UPS Government Relations
Chris Breslin, UPS Training Facility
John Pinnock, UPS Sort Facility Manger
Pat Thomas, UPS Sort Facility
Eulois Cleckley, District of Columbia Department of Transportation
Stephen Craig, Envista Corp.
Teresa Edelen, DC Truckers Association
Will Gayle, Maryland Department of Transportation
Dial Keju, Frederick County Department of Planning
Keith Kucharik, Maryland State Highway Administration
Renee Morrison, E-Square Engineering
Mike Onder, CDM Smith
Laura Richards, District of Columbia Department of Transportation

MWCOG STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Karin Foster, MWCOG-DTP
Andrew Meese, MWCOG-DTP

UPS TOUR SPECIAL INVITE:

7:00 am-Briefing
7:20 am-Tour of Complex A-Sort Facility
8:45 am-Briefing on Integrated Training Facility
9:00 am-Tour of Integrated Training Facility
10:30 am-TPB Freight Subcommittee Meeting/Top 10 Freight Project List
11:30 am-Lunch

UPS TOUR SUMMARY:

The tour began in Complex A-UPS' major sort facility for the National Capital Region. Containers of packages arrive to the facility by air and truck to be sorted, labeled/tracked,

and loaded onto UPS delivery trucks. The United States Postal Service and Amazon are some of UPS' largest customers. Between 9:00am and 9:30am, the full-time drivers dressed in UPS brown arrive to pick up their truck and begin the day's deliveries. UPS trucks are meticulously loaded to maximize delivery efficiency. The facility sorters are part-time jobs, four-hour shifts. The number of part-time employees can double seasonally, particularly around Christmas and Easter.

The Integrated Training Facility is one of a few across the country. Potential drivers undergo one-week of intense hands-on training and must pass a final test at 85 percent or better. During this training, a handful of people drop out as they realize the job is not the right fit. The student pool is drawn largely from the part-time worker pool as well as from those inexperienced with UPS. Safety is a critical element to the training, to ensure the drivers remain healthy and on-the-job. Customer-service is also a key focus. Drivers earn a good salary and over-time but it takes a special person who is comfortable driving a truck, being on their feet much of the day, and interacting with customers.



Eulois Cleckley, TPB Freight Subcommittee Chairman

After the UPS tour, Mr. Cleckley, presided over a brief TPB Freight Subcommittee meeting focused on the Top 10 Freight Project List. Mr. Cleckley asked Karin Foster to brief the Subcommittee on the Top 10 Freight Project List update.

Karin Foster, TPB Freight Program

Ms. Foster distributed a copy of the 2011 Memo to the TPB Board on the 2011 List of Freight Transportation Highlight Projects. She discussed how this list identifies regional priorities and brings public attention to freight transportation concerns in the region. Ms. Foster distributed a draft of the 2013 Memo to the TPB. She reviewed the projects on the list and noted further updates will be made as more information is compiled from the state Departments of Transportation and the two class 1 railroads.