

ITEM 10 - Action

July 20, 2011

Approval of a Scope and Process to Develop a TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan

Staff Recommendation: Receive briefing on the enclosed revised scope and process to develop a TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan and approve the scope for incorporation into the FY 2012 UPWP.

Issues: None

Background: At the June 15 meeting, the Board provided comments on a draft scope and process to develop a TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan, which was approved by the TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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Memorandum

Date: July 14, 2011

To: Transportation Planning Board

From: Ronald F. Kirby
Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

Re: Approval of a Scope and Process to Develop a TPB
Regional Transportation Priorities Plan

At its May 18, 2011 meeting, the TPB was briefed on a draft scope and process to develop a TPB regional transportation priorities plan dated May 12, 2011. The draft scope and process was based on the TPB's May 26, 2010 Conversation on Setting Regional Transportation Priorities and on four meetings of the TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force held in October and November of 2010 and February and April of 2011. The draft scope and process were released for public comment at the May 12, 2011 TPB Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. At the May 28 TPB meeting, the TPB Citizens Advisory Committee presented a list of questions regarding the draft scope and process, organized under four bullet points.

At its June 15, 2011 meeting, the TPB was briefed on TPB staff responses to the CAC comments, and on a revised scope and process dated June 9, 2011 which included revisions designed to address the CAC comments. At its June 9, 2011 meeting, the CAC unanimously endorsed the June 9 scope and process for approval by the TPB. At the June 15 TPB meeting, following discussion of the proposed schedule of activities, the TPB deferred approval of the June 9 scope and process, and requested that TPB staff bring a revised version back to the July 20 meeting that provided more specificity regarding the work schedule. The attached revised scope and process dated July 7, 2011 provides more detail in the text (new sections shown in bold) and the graphic on the schedule of activities and work products over the two-year time frame. Some editorial refinements have also been made to the June 9, 2011 version, particularly in Appendix B.

Overview of Revisions to the Work Schedule Included in the July 7 version

The revised scope incorporates into the schedule of activities and work products a distinction made in the text under Task 2 between “near-term” challenges and strategies (such as reducing bike and pedestrian fatalities) which can be analyzed and addressed over the next few years, and “longer term” challenges and strategies (such as better coordination of transportation and land use) which need to be analyzed and addressed over a longer time-frame.

The additional specificity on activities and work tasks provided in the July 7 version can be summarized as follows:

Task 1: Regional Goals and Performance Measures

- Interim report completed by December 2011, and released for public outreach and comment
- Interim report revised as needed throughout the remainder of the two-year period, and incorporated into the final report in August 2013.

Task 2: Regional Challenges and Strategies

- Interim report describing near-term challenges and strategies completed by December 2011, and released for public outreach and comment.
- Interim report describing longer-term challenges and strategies completed by June 2012, and released for public outreach and comment.
- Both near-term and longer-term challenges and strategies revised as needed throughout the remainder of the two-year period, and incorporated into the final report in August 2013.

Task 3: Regional Priority Strategies, and Specific Programs and Projects

- Interim report describing near-term priority strategies, programs, and projects completed by June 2012 and released for public outreach and comment.
- Interim report describing longer-term priority strategies, programs, and projects completed by June 2013 and released for public outreach and comment.
- Both near-term and longer-term priority strategies, programs, and projects revised as needed and incorporated into the final report in August 2013.

Letter from TPB Member Harriet Tregoning

TPB member Harriet Tregoning, Director of the District of Columbia Office of Planning, sent the attached letter of July 6 to Councilmember Turner and me recommending that the Priorities Plan Scope be “reframed” in the form of four significantly different work tasks. From a procedural viewpoint, consideration of this recommendation at this stage would require deferring action on the enclosed July 7 scope and process, and referring the July 7 scope and Ms. Tregoning’s recommendations back to the 20-member TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force for further deliberation, a process which might take several months of calendar time. From a substantive viewpoint, at least some of Ms. Tregoning’s “key concerns” seem to be unfounded. She states that the scope is proposed to arrive at regional priorities which are “still one step away from specific programs and projects”, whereas Task 3 states that “the Regional Priorities Plan Work Scope builds upon recent and ongoing planning activities to help identify near-term opportunities for advancing priority strategies, programs, and projects, as well as providing an opportunity to identify additional priorities through further scenario studies and analyses conducted over a two-year period leading up to the next formal update of the CLRP.” Ms. Tregoning also states that “Using the cost/benefit approach early in the process ignores the goals of having an unconstrained list or being visionary”, whereas the current scope does not suggest that cost/benefit analysis would be used early in the process to in any way limit potential strategies.

Summary and Recommendation

The attached July 7, 2011 version of the Scope and Process to Develop a TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan incorporates revisions made to the May 12 version to address comments by the CAC, and revisions to the June 9 version made to address TPB concerns about the schedule of activities. The scope and process should be broad and flexible enough to address the many diverse views that will be expressed as the process moves forward, while providing specific interim and final work products on a schedule that balances the goals of expeditious progress and meaningful public involvement.

It is recommended that the TPB approve the July 7, 2011 version of the scope and process at its July 20, 2011 meeting so that work can get underway immediately, and the first set of interim products can be produced by the end of calendar year 2011.



Office of the Director

July 6, 2011

Todd Turner
District 3 Councilmember
The City of Bowie, Maryland
15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716

Ronald Kirby
Director of Transportation Planning
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4239

RE: Comments on the scope to develop a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan

Dear Mr. Turner and Mr. Kirby:

The scope of work for the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan was not approved at the June 15th TPB meeting primarily due to concerns regarding the schedule. However, in addition to revising the schedule, this gives us an opportunity to make needed improvements to the scope and clarify the purpose of the Priorities Plan. The scope does not currently reflect the original intent of the effort and am afraid that the process will lack momentum and interest, and the end product will not be actionable.

The original concept for a priorities plan was to be strategic, not comprehensive, in developing a tangible list of system wide projects that the region (including individual jurisdictions as well as the public) can get behind, and advance through jurisdictional priorities and funding opportunities. Key concerns with the scope:

1. The scope is too broad
2. There are too many tools (performance measures, challenges, strategies, priorities, cost/benefit) proposed to arrive at "Regional Priorities" which are shown as initiatives, still one step away from specific programs and projects. The tools compare apples to oranges, are repetitive of each other and of previous COG/TPB efforts.
3. It is not clear how individual candidate projects will be weighed against each other to determine which ones are priorities. Using the cost/benefit approach early in the process ignores the goal of having an unconstrained list or being visionary.
4. The scope doesn't address where input from member jurisdictions or the public will fit into the process. Identifying regional priorities should occur through consensus building and cannot happen through quantitative analysis.
5. The vocabulary of the plan is too imprecise. Terms such as 'strategies', 'goals', 'challenges' need to be defined and used consistently throughout the scope and process.



I recommend that the Regional Priorities Plan scope be reframed to take advantage of work already completed by MWCOG and TPB, to focus more on consensus building and less on quantitative measures, to establish a process that can be completed within 1-2 years and updated on an annual basis and to be based on a clear direction for transportation in our region. Below is an outline of recommended tasks.

Task 1: Sketch an aspirational systems plan. Using work completed through the TPB’s scenario planning and Region Forward, outline a system plan that would draw from a ‘preferred’ scenario. This aspirational system plan would serve as the basis and source of priority programs and projects.

- A clear, overarching, unified picture of an effective transportation system is needed for the region that aligns with the TPB vision and objectives. (Essentially this is what the CAC was requesting in their question of May 18: “Will the TPB identify and approve a limited number of key strategies that will be combined into a synergistic and aspirational regional system (essentially a preferred scenario)? And will such a system be the basis for identifying a limited number of priorities?”)
- Through previous efforts, TPB has already developed the foundation of a regional system based on: 1) concentrating growth in mixed-use activity centers and 2) providing a range of transportation options between and within regional activity centers. The CLRP Aspirations Scenario demonstrated a synergistic approach that could be summed up with minor modifications to create a regional systems plan.
- Present aspirational plan to public and TPB members for input.

Task 2: Identify candidate programs and projects that fit within the aspirational systems plan

- The framework and approaches laid out in the system plan will provide the inspiration and support for candidate regional priorities, including near-term grant applications.
- TPB member dialogue to solicit additional candidate programs and projects.

Task 3: Develop qualitative criteria for prioritizing specific projects and programs

- Develop qualitative criteria for top projects such as regional impact, furthering the TPB vision, potential for funding opportunities, greatest buy-in, cost/benefit, low hanging fruit...
- Present and discuss criteria with TPB members, solicit input

Task 4: Develop final priority list of projects, initiatives and programs

- Final product is a list of 10 – 25 priority projects
- Reflect public and TPB member views

Sincerely,



Harriet Tregoning
Director, Office of Planning

HT/cm/cgb

**SCOPE OF WORK AND PROCESS TO DEVELOP
A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES PLAN
FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

July 7, 2011

Introduction

This document establishes the scope of work and process for developing a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan for the National Capital Region. The development of this plan will commence in July 2011 and is expected to last approximately two years. The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) will oversee the development of this regional plan, in collaboration with the TPB's member jurisdictions, other stakeholders and citizens.

Purpose of a Regional Priorities Plan

Under federal law, the TPB is required to develop and adopt a financially constrained long-range transportation plan (CLRP) based on revenues "reasonably expected to be available" for the maintenance, operation, and expansion of the region's transportation system over a planning period of at least 20 years. The CLRP must be updated every four years through a comprehensive assessment of revenue forecasts, land use projections, financially feasible transportation strategies and facilities, and expected system performance relative to regional goals. The most recent four-year CLRP update, adopted by the TPB in November of 2010, reveals a number of continuing challenges in meeting adopted regional goals, due in large part to the constraints placed on transportation system operations, maintenance, and expansion by available revenues.

The purpose of a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan is to identify those transportation strategies that could be recognized throughout the region as offering the greatest potential contributions to addressing continuing regional challenges, and to provide support for efforts to incorporate those strategies into future updates of the CLRP in the form of specific programs and projects. The high priority strategies identified in the Priorities Plan will also provide a source of specific programs and projects that could be advanced in response to particular discretionary funding opportunities, such as the federal TIGER grant program for which the TPB submitted a successful \$59 million regional priority bus project application in September of 2009. As for the successful TIGER application, matching regional priorities to the specific parameters and requirements of particular funding opportunities will require careful

review of these parameters and requirements in order to maximize the likelihood that TPB applications will be successful.

The term “regional” is used throughout this document to refer to the National Capital Region. While many worthwhile transportation strategies are developed in response to state, sub-regional or local challenges, not all of these latter strategies will contribute significantly to addressing regional challenges. Similarly, some strategies for providing facilities and services across regional or jurisdictional boundaries, such as adding “missing links” in the bicycle trail network, for example, may contribute significantly to addressing regional challenges while not being the highest priority for addressing individual state, sub-regional, or local challenges.

The TPB Regional Priorities Plan will articulate regional priorities for enhancing the performance of the adopted CLRP in advancing regional goals for economic opportunity, environmental stewardship and quality of life. Building upon the region’s successes and learning from its shortcomings, the process for developing this new plan will help build consensus around key strategies that people from all corners of the region can get behind. The priorities plan will outline long-range strategies for the region’s transportation system, and will also identify more immediate strategies which the region should aggressively pursue in the near future. Both long-range and more immediate strategies will draw upon ongoing planning activities at the state, regional, sub-regional and local levels, which will be thoroughly documented through the TPB Citizens Guide and links to other related web-sites, as well as on comments and ideas generated through an extensive public involvement process.

The TPB Priorities Plan is expected to focus on identifying a limited number of regional priorities, perhaps ten to fifteen in total at any one time, in order to encourage concentrated regional efforts on addressing the most pressing regional challenges at the time. The Priorities Plan should also provide for prompt regional responses to new policy issues which may arise on relatively short notice, as occurred during the last decade with the need to address greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and the need for improved regional incident management strategies following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Background

The concept of a priorities plan has its roots in more than a decade of TPB planning, including the establishment of regional goals through the *TPB Vision and Region Forward*, analysis of transportation and land-use scenarios using the adopted CLRP as a baseline, and various studies of the region’s transportation funding challenges. In 2010, the TPB extensively discussed how these activities might be better integrated.

On May 26, 2010 the TPB hosted an event called the Conversation on Setting Regional Transportation Priorities, which addressed the possibilities for more explicitly establishing regional priorities. The impetus for that event was a request by the TPB’s

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for the TPB to develop a “Regional Priorities Plan” that would serve as a “financially unconstrained” regional vision for transportation operations and investment.

The Conversation generated broad interest among TPB stakeholders in developing a priorities plan. As a result, on July 21, 2010, the TPB voted to form a task force to determine the scope and process for developing such a plan. The task force included approximately 20 stakeholders in the TPB process – members of the TPB, CAC, Access for All Committee and the Technical Committee. All task force members were participants in the Conversation.

Between October 2010 and April 2011 the TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force met four times and discussed planning processes and activities in the region, reasons for enhancing the current process, and options for change. At its first meeting, the task force also learned about the priorities planning activities of other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) around the country.

The task force reached general consensus that the priorities plan should describe goals and performance measures, assess challenges, and develop priorities for addressing those challenges – both funded and unfunded. The work scope, tasks and schedule presented below follow that general sequence of steps.

Scope of Work

The attached chart illustrates the three major tasks prepared for the work scope, as discussed below.

Task 1: Reaffirm Regional Goals and Agree Upon Performance Measures

This task begins with a careful review and discussion of the *TPB Vision* goals, the goals identified in COG’s *Region Forward* Planning Guide, and the relationship between them.

Appendix A of this document provides a one-page comparison of the *TPB Vision* goals with *Region Forward*. This comparison shows that the goals of the *TPB Vision* and *Region Forward* are consistent. As a broad multi-sectoral planning guide, *Region Forward* provides two transportation goals that essentially consolidate a number of more detailed goals and strategies from the *TPB Vision*, while the *TPB Vision* provides a number of additional, detailed goals and objectives. The *TPB Vision* is identified in *Region Forward* as one of its four major “building blocks.” Specifically, the *TPB Vision* was the source of the regional activity center concept which led to the COG Regional Activity Center maps developed in 2002 and updated in 2007.

Proposed Tasks

Task 1

Regional Goals
(TPB Vision and Region Forward)
(e.g. Improve Safety of All Modes)



Performance Measures quantify progress toward regional goals
(e.g. Traffic Fatalities in the Washington Region; bicycle and pedestrian fatalities are now over 30 percent of the total, a percentage which has been growing)



Task 2

Regional Challenges identify actions the region needs to take in order to meet regional goals
(e.g. Reduce bike and pedestrian fatalities, as well as motorized fatalities)



Regional Strategies are designed to address regional challenges
(e.g. Support the implementation of effective safety measures for bicyclists and pedestrians)



Task 3

Regional Priorities are those strategies offering the greatest potential to address regional challenges as demonstrated through Benefit/Cost Analysis
(e.g. Promote public awareness of pedestrian and bicycle safety at the regional level)



Specific Programs and Projects
implement regional priorities through inclusion in the CLRP
(e.g. Street Smart Campaign)

Region Forward contains a number of performance measures and targets for transportation and other sectors. In combination with other key performance measures which have been developed in the TPB process, they provide a starting point for a baseline analysis of transportation and transportation-related measures. Appendix B of this document provides an initial list of regional performance measures.

An interim report describing the results of Task 1 will be completed by the middle of FY 2012 and released for public outreach and comment. The Task 1 report will be revised as needed throughout the remainder of the two-year period, and then incorporated into the final to be completed report in the first quarter of FY 2014.

Task 2: Determine Regional Challenges and Strategies to Address Them

Once a comprehensive and clearly understandable set of performance measures has been developed, regional challenges are determined by identifying actions the region needs to take in order to meet regional goals.

Appendix B provides an initial list of regional challenges derived from performance measure analysis, including, for example, 1) identifying funding and management strategies to eliminate projected Metrorail capacity constraints; 2) mitigating negative impacts of travel delays and unpredictable travel times on quality of life and the economy by reducing congestion; 3) identifying sufficient revenues to adequately maintain and operate the existing system; 4) dedicating sufficient resources to managing incidents; 5) reducing bike and pedestrian fatalities, as well as motorized fatalities; and 6) improving reliability, coverage and efficiency of transit services for people with disabilities.

As discussed in the introductory text for Appendix B, some of the performance measures presented are based solely on observed data from recent years, while others also forecast expected performance over the thirty-year time frame for the Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP) adopted by the TPB in November 2010. Challenges based on measures of current performance of the transportation system (such as reducing bike and pedestrian fatalities) call for strategies which can be implemented over the near-term, within the next few years. Other challenges based on both current and forecasted performance of the transportation system (such as reducing congestion) call for both near-term strategies (such as incident management and teleworking) and longer-term strategies (such as better coordination of transportation and land use). Consequently, the priorities plan should include strategies that can be implemented as needed throughout the planning period, not solely over the long-term.

The final section of Appendix B notes that many of the regional challenges derived from the performance measure analysis cannot be addressed through transportation strategies alone, but will require supportive strategies from other sectors such as land use, technology, education, and enforcement. Reducing congestion, for example, requires a synergistic combination of transportation, land use, and technology strategies over both the near-term and the longer-term. Meeting air quality and climate change challenges also requires a combination of transportation, land use, and technology strategies, with a heavy emphasis on vehicle and fuel technologies that can reduce emissions and fuel consumption by both passenger and commercial vehicles. The priorities plan should identify where such supportive strategies are required from other sectors and agencies, and recommend coordinated actions across sectors when appropriate.

An interim report describing the results of Task 2 with respect to near-term strategies will be completed by the middle of FY 2012, and released for public outreach and comment, an interim report describing the results of Task 2 with respect to longer-term strategies will be completed by the end of FY 2012, and released for public outreach and comment. Both near-term and longer-term strategies will be revised as needed throughout the remainder of the two-year period, and then incorporated into the final report to be completed in the first quarter of FY 2014.

Task 3: Develop Regional Priorities, Both Funded and Unfunded

Once a set of regional challenges has been clearly articulated, regional priorities can be developed which will address these challenges and which the TPB and the region can “get behind”. Candidate priorities can be obtained from the various planning studies that have been conducted at the state, regional, sub-regional, and local levels throughout the region, such as the WMATA Priority Corridor Network study presented at the January 19, 2011 TPB meeting, and the TPB Transportation /Land-Use Scenario studies (the most recent of which is the CLRP Aspirations Scenario). These activities will be thoroughly documented through the TPB Citizens Guide and links to related web-sites. Several TPB Technical Subcommittees have also developed priorities for their areas of responsibility, including bicycle and pedestrian, regional bus, airport access, freight, and management, operations and intelligent transportation systems (MOITS). Finally, candidate priorities may be suggested from comments and ideas generated through the public involvement activities to be conducted throughout the process.

Candidate priorities can be organized in accordance with the particular regional goals, performance measures, and challenges which they are designed to address, and then evaluated using a comprehensive benefit-cost approach. A good model for the

benefit-cost approach is the process defined by the USDOT in the TIGER project solicitation. This approach provides for a comprehensive assessment of both benefits and costs, recognizing that some strategies may generate multiple benefits: bike-sharing, for example, generates direct benefits to the users as well as indirect benefits in terms of reductions in greenhouse gases. Those strategies that perform best in this analysis would be incorporated into the Regional Priorities Plan and advanced for consideration in future updates of the CLRP in the form of specific programs and projects.

Recognizing that improving regional performance will require combining transportation and land use strategies in a synergistic manner, candidate priorities should be incorporated into comprehensive land use / transportation scenarios which can be compared to the adopted CLRP baseline with respect to individual regional performance measures as well as in terms of a comprehensive assessment of regional benefits and costs. This can be accomplished by developing and evaluating an initial land use / transportation scenario, and then specifying and evaluating variations on the scenario that might improve its performance or increase its feasibility, as has been done, for example, with the TPB Aspirations Scenario...

Beginning in FY 2012, TPB staff will be able to use the new TPB Version 2.3 travel demand model and the latest version of the EPA Motor Vehicle Emissions Model (MOVES) to quantify the performance of alternative land use / transportation scenarios, and analyze changes in their performance relative to regional goals as well as in terms of regional benefits and costs.

A number of regional priority strategies, programs, and projects have already been identified and implemented through prior planning activities conducted by the TPB and other agencies in the National Capital Region. The Street Smart Campaign noted in the chart described earlier is one example of such a regional program; the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination Program (MATOC) is another. The 2009 TIGER grant has given added impetus to a number of inter-related efforts to advance bus priority strategies throughout the region.

The FY2011 TIGER program announcement of July 1, 2011 provides a near-term opportunity for the TPB to pursue priority strategies, programs, and projects addressing important goals, such as promoting accessibility in activity centers through strategic transportation investments (some of which have been identified through the TPB's TLC Program). In this respect, the Regional Priorities Plan Work Scope builds upon recent and ongoing planning activities to help identify near-term opportunities for advancing priority strategies, programs, and projects, as well as providing an opportunity to identify additional priorities through further scenario studies and analyses conducted over a two-year period leading up to the next formal update of the CLRP.

An Interim report describing the results of Task 3 with respect to near-term regional priorities will be completed by the end of FY 2012 and released for public outreach and comments. An interim report describing the results of Task 3 with respect to longer-term regional priorities will be completed by the end of FY 2013, and released for public outreach and comments. Both near-term and longer-term regional priorities will be revised as needed and incorporated into the final report to be completed in the first quarter of FY 2014.

Public Involvement

Public participation will be sought at each and every stage of the two-year process, including in particular the development of performance measures, strategies, and benefit-cost analysis. Through a variety of public outreach activities, citizens will discuss the benefits, desirability and feasibility of potential projects and plan components.

The public involvement process will incorporate the following features:

- Use the best public involvement techniques available, including a variety of tools and media, ranging from social media to public forums, including presentations at regular meetings of citizen organizations. The TPB will consider using innovative visualization techniques to allow the public to better understand the concepts under consideration.
- Reach out to a variety of constituencies, including community leaders and ordinary citizens not normally involved in the TPB process, as well as citizen partners such as members of the Citizen Advisory Committee and Access for All Advisory Committee.
- Ensure public involvement is woven into the entire process for developing the Priorities Plan, including at key milestones identified over the two-year period of plan development.

Schedule and Deliverables

The attached chart provides a schedule for each of the three tasks described above, including preparation of interim reports, formal public outreach and comment opportunities, and a final report. The timing of the final report for the beginning of FY 2014 is designed to ensure that the results of the regional transportation priorities plan are available for consideration in the development of the next four year update of the TPB's Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP), due at the end of the calendar year 2014. As with the CLRP, the priorities plan should be revisited and updated on a periodic basis to reflect changes in the CLRP baseline, new land use developments and forecasts, and new challenges which will occur as new policy issues arise over time.

Deliverables will include interim reports on progress achieved by the **mid-points and end-points** of fiscal years 2012, and 2013, followed by a final report at the beginning of fiscal year 2014 reflecting public comment on previous interim reports. Regular

progress reports will be given to the TPB, the CAC and other regional agencies and groups throughout the two-year period.

Incorporation of Work Scope and Schedule into FY 2012 UPWP

Appendix C of this document provides current text for the Regional Studies work element of the TPB's FY2012 UPWP, as adopted by the TPB at its March 16, 2011 meeting. This text may need to be revised to reflect the work scope and process for the Regional Priorities Plan, once they have been finalized. The work scope and process was to be approved by the TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force at its April 20 meeting presented to the TPB at its May 18 and June 15 meetings. The TPB will be asked to approve the work scope and process at its July 20 meeting, and to approve associated amendments to the FY 2012 UPWP at its September 21 meeting.

Proposed Schedule											
Tasks	FY2011		FY2012				FY2013				FY2014
	Jan-Jun		Jul-Dec		Jan-Jun		Jul-Dec		Jan-Jun		Q1
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Task 1											
Reaffirm Regional Goals and Agree Upon Performance Measures	■		■								
Task 2											
Determine Regional Challenges and Strategies to Address Them											
–Near Term											
–Longer Term		■	■		■						
Task 3											
Develop Regional Priorities, both Funded and Unfunded											
–Near Term			■				■				
–Longer Term			■				■				
Interim Reports					▲		▲		▲		▲
Public Outreach and Comment					●		●		●		●
Final Reports											■

Appendix A

Comparison of the TPB Vision and Region Forward

At the task force's meeting on December 15, Chairman Turner requested a document comparing the *TPB Vision* with *Region Forward*.

Overview and Comparison of the Two Documents

The *TPB Vision* was adopted in 1998 following a three-year process that included public outreach and consensus building. The *Vision* comprises a policy statement, eight overarching policy goals, and objectives and strategies for reaching those goals. In total, it contains 84 goals, objectives and strategies, which touch upon a full spectrum of transportation challenges facing the region. The *Vision* is policy-oriented and in general, it does not provide targets that can be quantitatively measured.

The *Vision* has influenced TPB activities over the past decade on numerous levels. In particular, the *Vision* was the first regional policy statement to call for a focus on activity centers as the primary means to improve transportation and land-use coordination in the region. As followup to the *Vision*, COG developed and approved the regional activity centers maps in 2002 and updated them in 2007. The activity centers have been an essential component of the scenario analysis that the TPB has been conducting over the past decade.

Since the *Vision* was approved in 1998, two international concerns – terrorism and climate change – have been pushed to the top of the global agenda. These challenges have obvious transportation implications, which the TPB has been working to address.

Region Forward was overseen by the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, which included community stakeholders, representatives from COG's member jurisdictions and participation from all of COG's departments. *Region Forward* explicitly builds upon past planning activities. According to the final report, "rather than launch a new visioning process that could take several years, the Coalition's challenge was to tie together earlier work in a comprehensive way." For transportation, the primary building block for *Region Forward* was the *TPB Vision*.

The *Region Forward* document was approved in 2010 following a two-year development process. It includes goals, targets, and a compact agreement to guide future planning and help measure progress in the areas of housing, transportation, the environment, health and the economy. The goals and targets relate to accessibility, sustainability, prosperity and livability. By the end of 2010, all of COG's member jurisdictions had signed the regional compact established in *Region Forward*.

Unlike the *TPB Vision*, *Region Forward* is multi-sectoral, covering a range of issues such as education and public safety. *Region Forward* includes transportation components, largely focused on promoting alternative modes, which are a subset of goals from the *TPB Vision*. Unlike the *Vision*, *Region Forward* includes a range of targets and indicators to evaluate progress toward its goals, including transportation. Regarding transportation specifically, the *Vision* is more comprehensive, including issues such as safety, freight, and the use of technology, which were not addressed in *Region Forward*.

From *Region Forward*:

We seek a broad range of public and private transportation choices for our Region which maximizes accessibility and affordability to everyone and minimizes reliance upon single occupancy use of the automobile.

From the *TPB Vision*:

- A comprehensive range of choices for users of the region's transportation system.
- Reasonable access at reasonable cost to everyone in the region.
- Reduction in reliance on the single-occupant vehicle (SOV) by offering attractive, efficient and affordable alternatives.

From *Region Forward*:

We seek a transportation system that maximizes community connectivity and walkability, and minimizes ecological harm to the Region and world beyond.

From the *TPB Vision*:

- A web of multi-modal transportation connections.
- Dynamic regional activity centers with a mix of jobs, housing and services in a walkable environment.
- A transportation system that enhances and protects the region's natural environmental quality, cultural and historic resources, and communities.

The boxes above compare *Region Forward's* transportation goals with language taken from the *Vision*. This comparison demonstrates the consistency between the two documents.

Appendix B

Initial List of Performance Measures

There are a multitude of different performance measures that can be developed and used to evaluate progress toward meeting regional transportation goals. The following presentation, *Measuring Progress Toward Meeting Regional Goals*, includes a number of examples of transportation performance measures that can be used to assess current and expected performance of the regional transportation system.

Many of the measures presented here have been used by the TPB over the years, while others are new performance measures developed to support the TPB's priorities planning effort. Some measures are based on historical or current data sources, which can be used to identify current system performance and what trends exist, but cannot be readily calculated for the future (e.g. accident data). Expected future performance is assessed through measures derived from the outputs of the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, which allows for some measures to be forecast into the future (e.g. vehicle miles travelled).

In the priority planning process, performance measures will be used for two purposes:

- 1) to identify whether the region is meeting its transportation goals or falling short, and what regional transportation challenges exist and need to be addressed through the priorities planning process, and
- 2) to help assess the value of projects and programs that are recommended for inclusion in the priorities plan.

Below is an initial listing of regional challenges identified based on the performance measures that have been developed thus far, organized under seven regional transportation goals:

- I. Provide a Comprehensive Range of Transportation Options
 - Further reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone to work
 - Continue to reduce the percentage of people driving alone to meet their daily transportation needs
 - Continue to promote transit and other transportation alternatives for residents and workers
 - Further reduce VMT per capita by shifting more short trips to non-auto modes
 - Accelerate the rate of construction for the TPB's Bike and Ped Plan
 - Recognize the importance of time of day and time of year as factors influencing travel and congestion

- Identify funding and management strategies to eliminate projected Metrorail capacity constraints
- II. Promote Transportation Connections, Walkability, and Mixed Use Development in Activity Centers
- Continue to focus employment and housing in Activity Centers to promote an efficient transportation system
 - Improve the jobs and housing balance in Activity Centers
 - Increase bus stop coverage in the Activity Centers
 - Increase walkability in Activity Centers
 - Mitigate negative impacts of travel delays and unpredictable travel times on quality of life and the economy by reducing congestion
- III. Prioritize Maintenance Preservation, and Safety of the Existing System
- Identify sufficient revenues to adequately maintain and operate the existing system
 - Reduce bike and pedestrian fatalities, as well as motorized fatalities
 - Continue to focus on operating a safe transit system
- IV. Maximize System Effectiveness through the use of the best available technology
- Dedicate sufficient resources to managing regional incidents
 - Consider causes of incidents in designing incident response strategies
- V. Enhance Environmental Quality, Protect Human Health, and Improve Energy Efficiency
- Continue to meet federal air quality conformity requirements and address rising levels of some emissions beyond 2030
 - Reduce CO2 emissions, which accumulate in the atmosphere over time
- VI. Achieve Better Coordination of Transportation and Land Use Planning
- Seek opportunities for improving the match of rail transit and Activity Centers
 - Increase accessibility to and from Activity Centers
- VII. Support International and Inter-Regional Travel and Commerce
- Address the significant unmet freight transportation needs identified in the TPB Freight Plan
 - Improve reliability, coverage and efficiency of transit services for people with disabilities

The roster of performance measures included in the following presentation can be revised and expanded in the future in order to identify and utilize the measures that are most appropriate to the priorities planning process.



National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Measuring Progress Toward Meeting Regional Goals

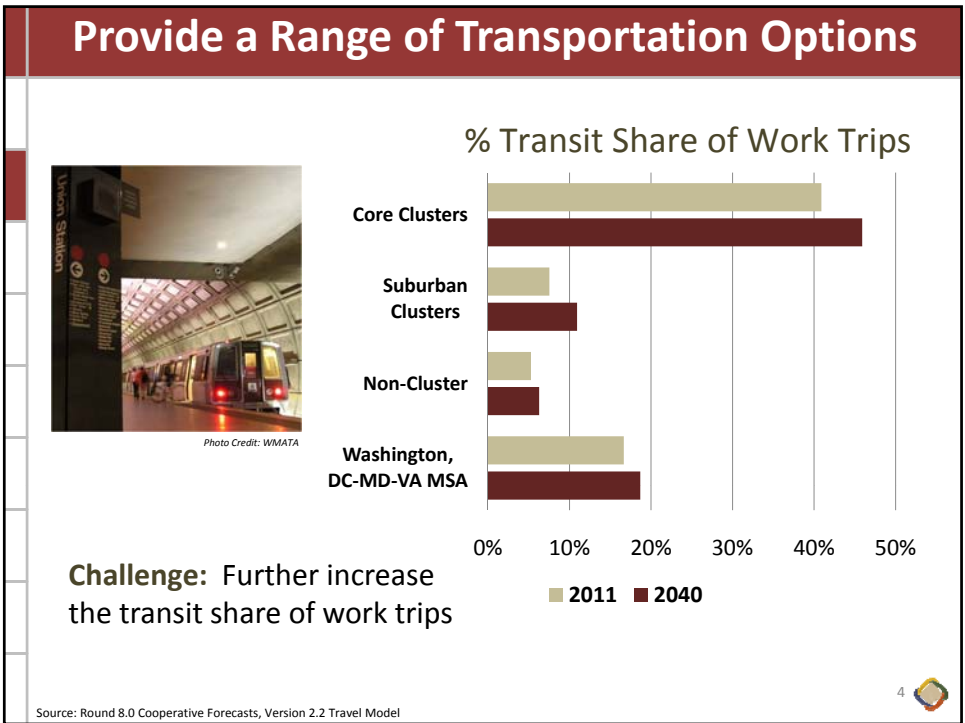
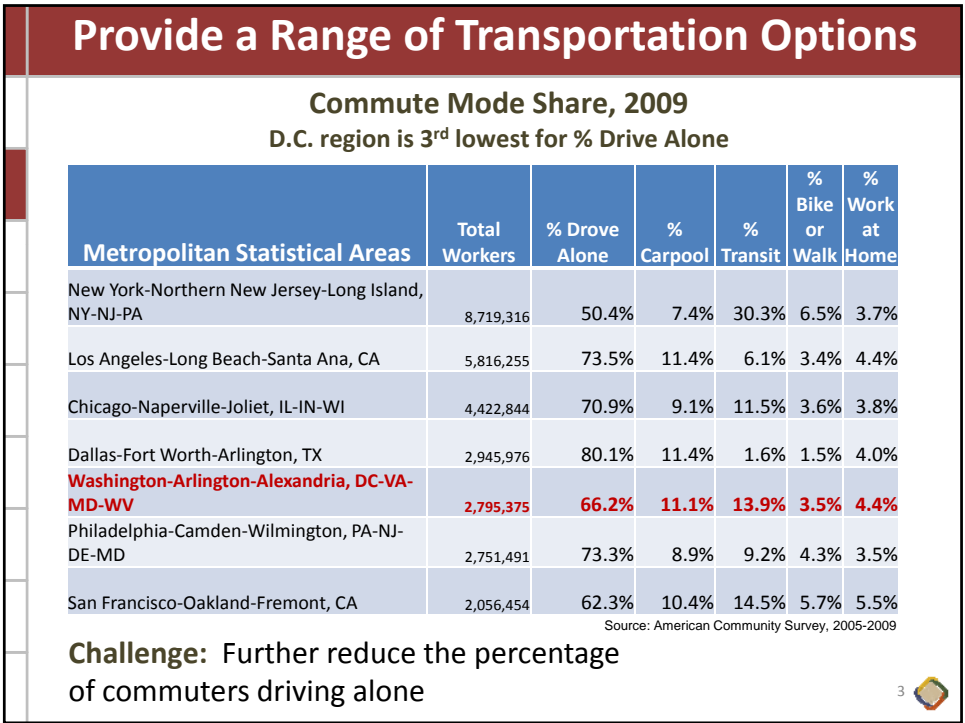
July 7, 2011

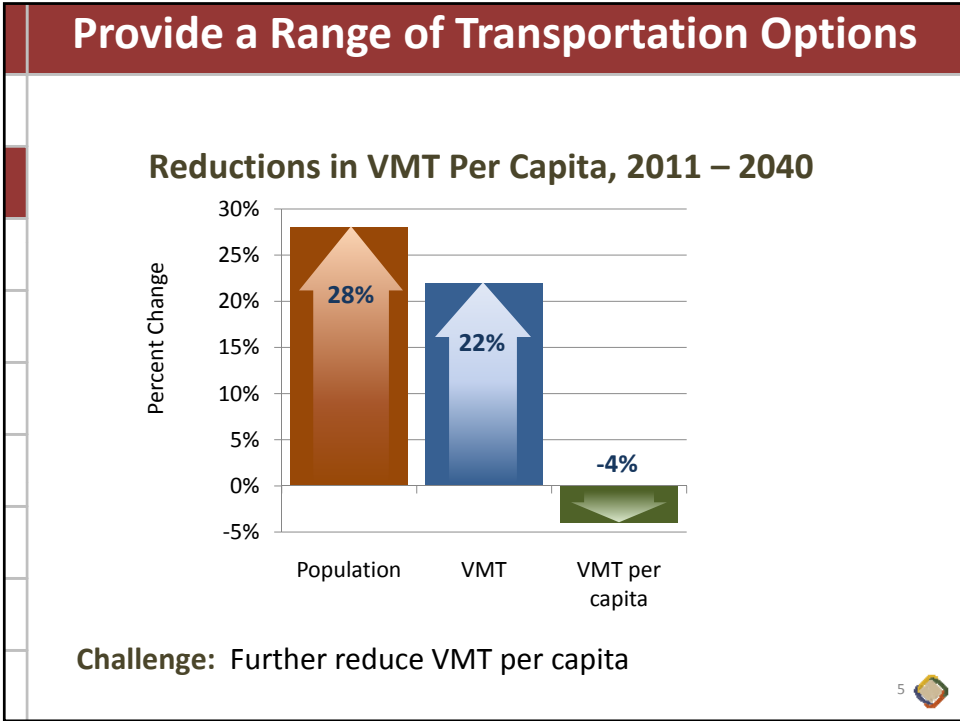
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Overview

- **Examples** of transportation performance measures that can be used to evaluate system performance
- **Performance measures** quantified using recent data and forecasts from the 2010 CLRP
- **Challenges** based on regional goals and performance data
- Many challenges require **supportive strategies** from outside the transportation sector

2 



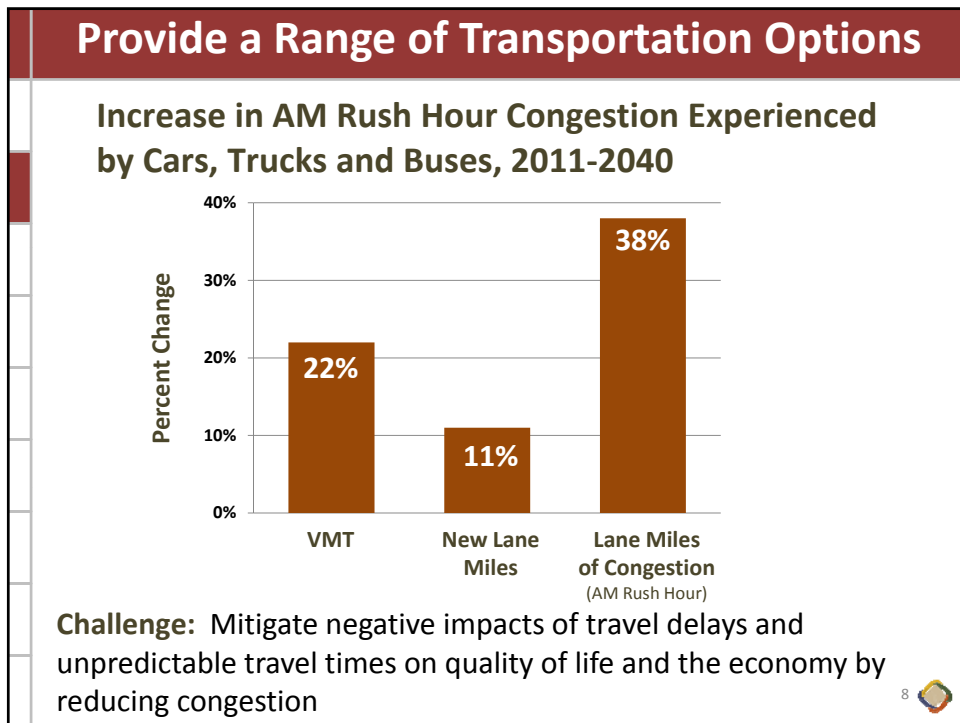
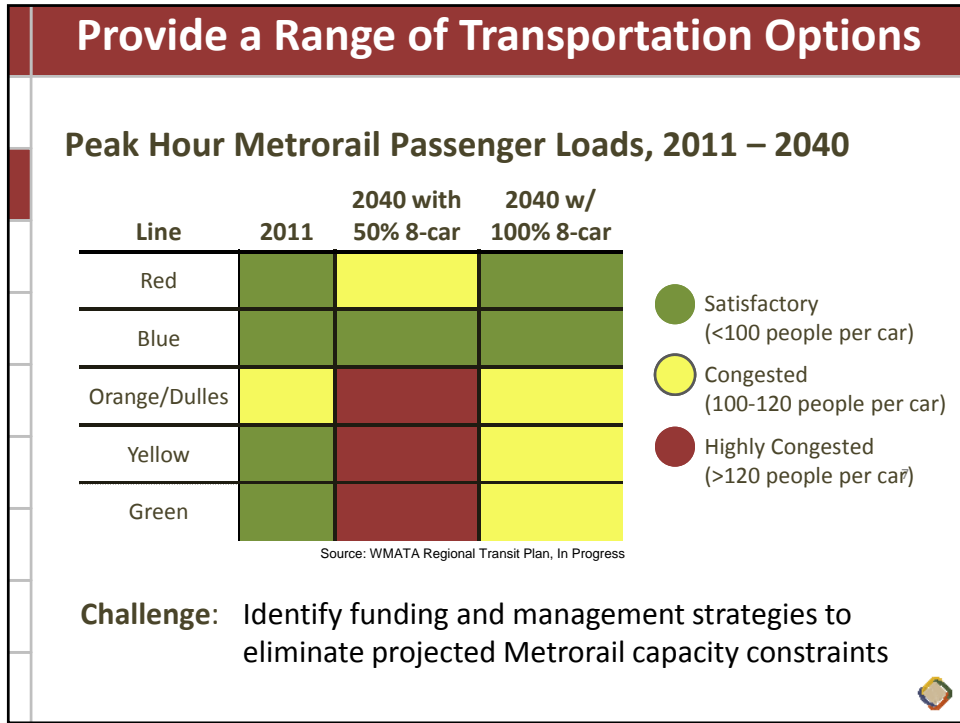


Provide a Range of Transportation Options

Progress in Implementing the TPB’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Facility Type (in miles)	Existing Facilities in 2010	Planned New Facilities & Upgrades in 2010 Bike-Ped Plan	Total Planned Network for 2040
Bicycle Lane	91	450	541
Shared-Use Path	543	630	1173
Total	634	1080	1714

Challenge: Accelerate the rate of construction for TPB’s Bike and Ped Plan, since at the current rate only 60% of the planned facilities will be built by 2040




Provide a Range of Transportation Options


Access for People with Disabilities

Access to bus, rail and taxis has improved but challenges remain:

- Reliability of bus lifts and elevators
- Demand and cost of paratransit
- Many bus stops and sidewalks need improvements
 - About 40 % of the region’s 20,000 bus stops are not fully accessible



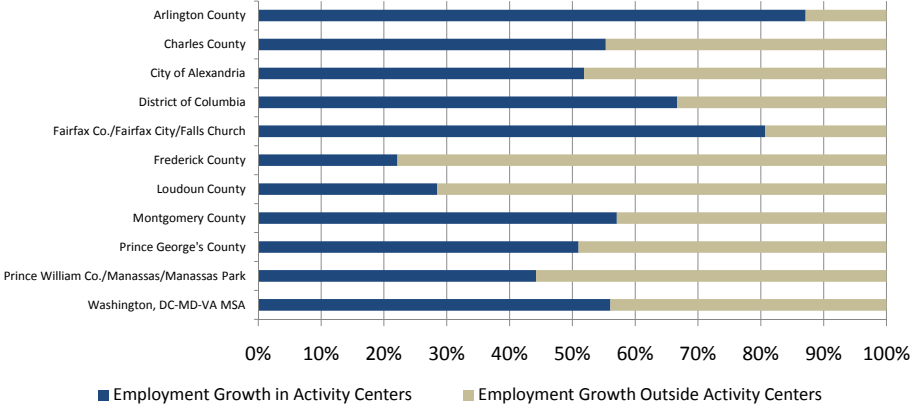
Challenge: Improve reliability, coverage and efficiency of transit services for people with disabilities

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Promote Connections, Activity Centers


Jobs & Housing Balance

Employment Growth & Activity Centers, 2011-2040

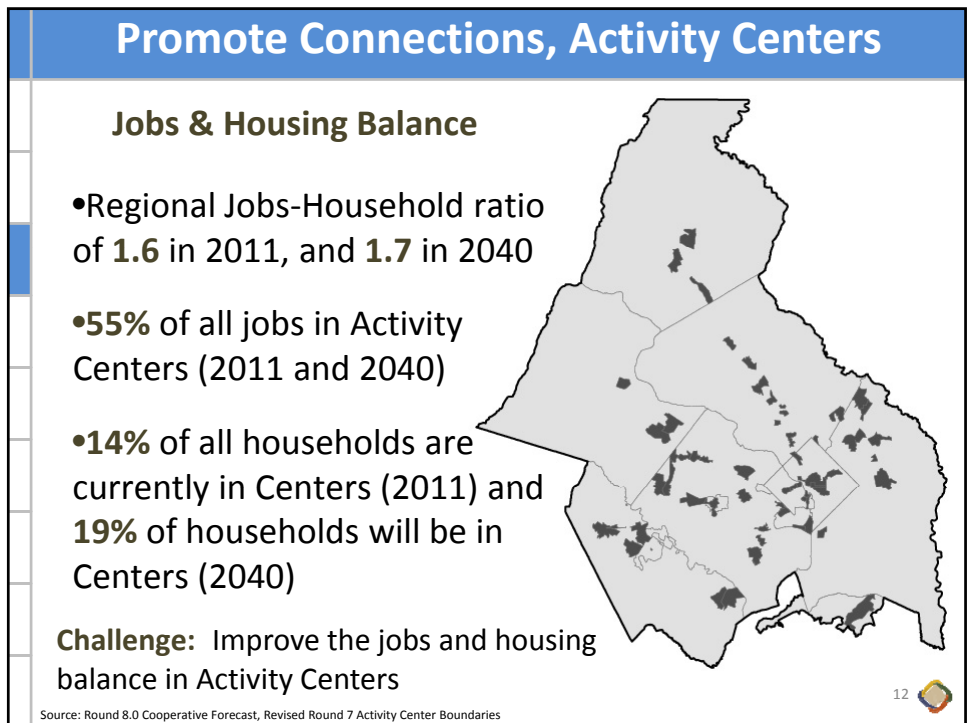
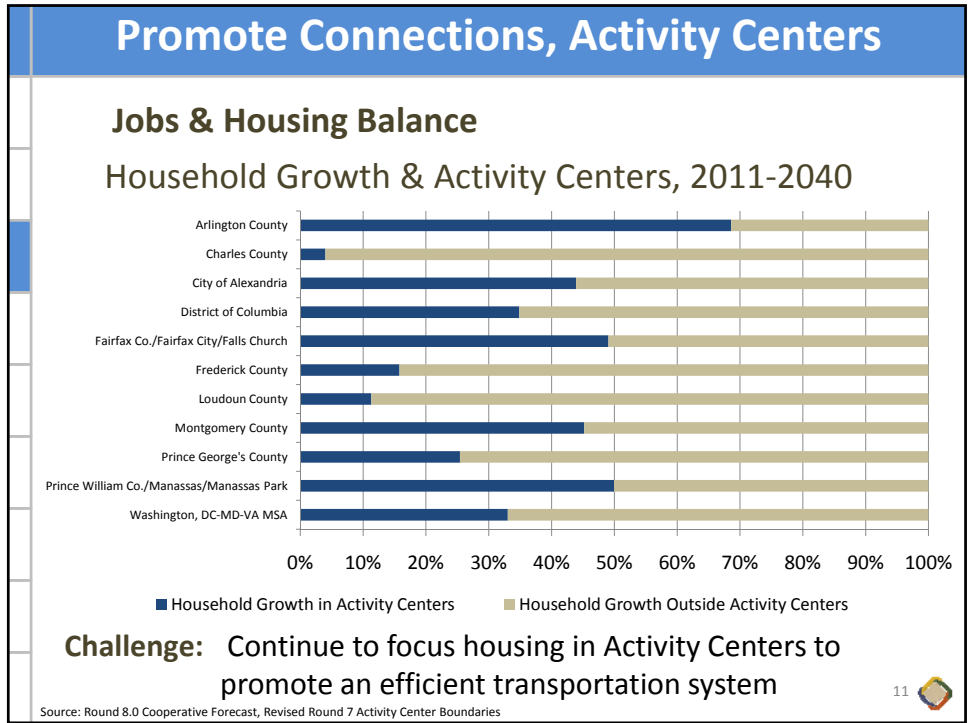


Region	Employment Growth in Activity Centers (%)	Employment Growth Outside Activity Centers (%)
Arlington County	~88	~12
Charles County	~55	~45
City of Alexandria	~52	~48
District of Columbia	~68	~32
Fairfax Co./Fairfax City/Falls Church	~82	~18
Frederick County	~22	~78
Loudoun County	~28	~72
Montgomery County	~58	~42
Prince George's County	~52	~48
Prince William Co./Manassas/Manassas Park	~45	~55
Washington, DC-MD-VA MSA	~55	~45

Challenge: Continue to focus employment in Activity Centers to promote an efficient transportation system

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Source: Round 8.0 Cooperative Forecast, Revised Round 7 Activity Center Boundaries



Promote Connections, Activity Centers

Jobs & Housing Balance

Jobs to Household Ratio in Activity Centers

Activity Center	Jobs 2011	Households 2011	2011 Jobs to HH Ratio	Jobs 2040	Households 2040	2040 Jobs to HH Ratio	2011-2040 Ratio Change
DC Core	596,798	61,284	9.7	718,492	84,990	8.5	(1.3)
Mixed-Use Centers	342,578	85,126	4.0	467,970	134,022	3.5	(0.5)
Employment Centers	295,681	22,400	13.2	401,778	51,520	7.8	(5.4)
Suburban Employment Centers	482,617	86,057	5.6	737,925	154,578	4.8	(0.8)
Emerging Employment Centers	85,337	28,375	3.0	152,610	67,491	2.3	(0.7)
<i>All Activity Centers</i>	1,803,010	283,241	6.4	2,478,775	492,601	5.0	(1.3)

Challenge: Improve the jobs and housing balance in Activity Centers

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Source: Round 8.0 Cooperative Forecast, Revised Round 7 Activity Center Boundaries

Promote Connections, Activity Centers

In 2011, most Activity Centers are served by bus transit, and about 2/3 have a high level of access to bus stops.

	within 1/4 mile of a bus stop
Centers with High Bus Stop Coverage (>75% Area)	38 (65%)
Centers with Medium Bus Stop Coverage (50%-75% Area)	9 (15%)
Centers with Low Bus Stop Coverage (<50% Area)	9 (15%)
Centers with No Bus Stop Coverage	3 (5%)
<i>(59 Activity Centers in Total)</i>	

Challenge: Increase bus stop coverage in the Activity Centers


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Promote Connections, Activity Centers

Higher Street Block Density Means Greater Walkability (# of blocks per sq. mile)


Street Block Density in Activity Centers

Activity Center Type	Street Block Density
DC Core	131
Mixed-Use Centers	104
Employment Centers	41
Suburban Employment Centers	25
Emerging Employment Centers	16




Within the **2.2 sq miles** of Downtown Alexandria there are **303 blocks**, resulting in a street block density of **137.7 blocks per sq mile**.

Challenge: Increase walkability in Activity Centers


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Promote Connections, Activity Centers


How Future Street Block Density Can Be Measured: Tysons Corner

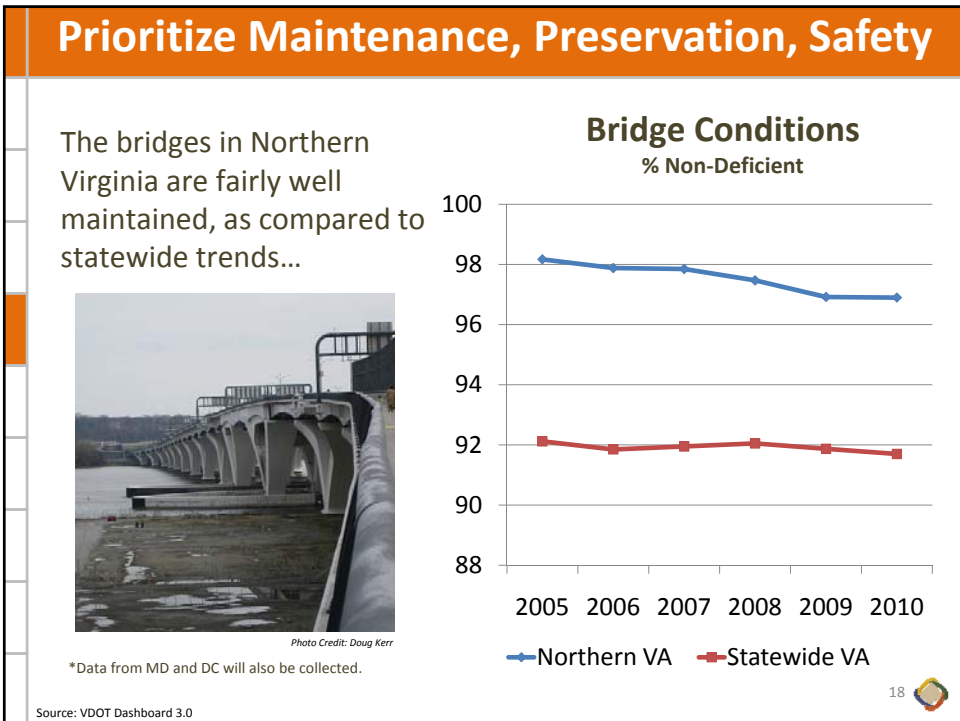
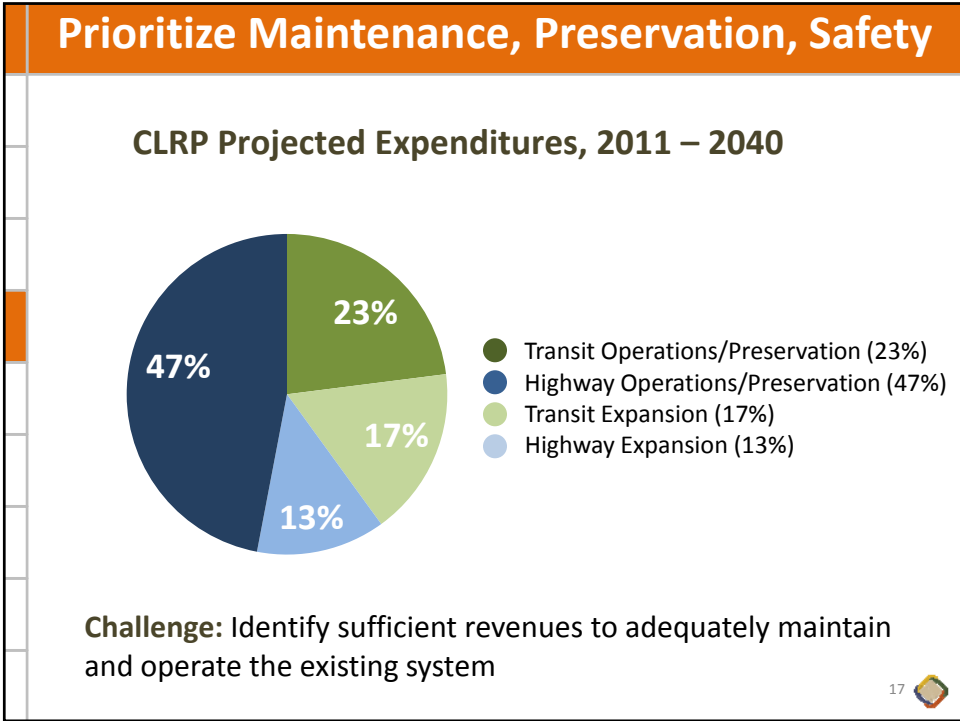


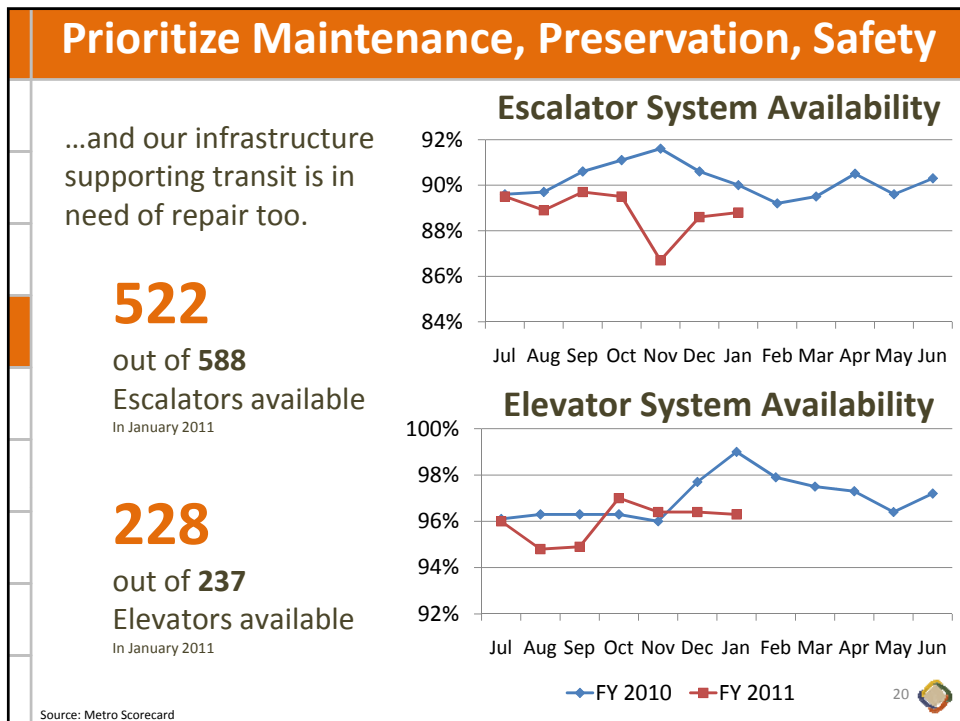
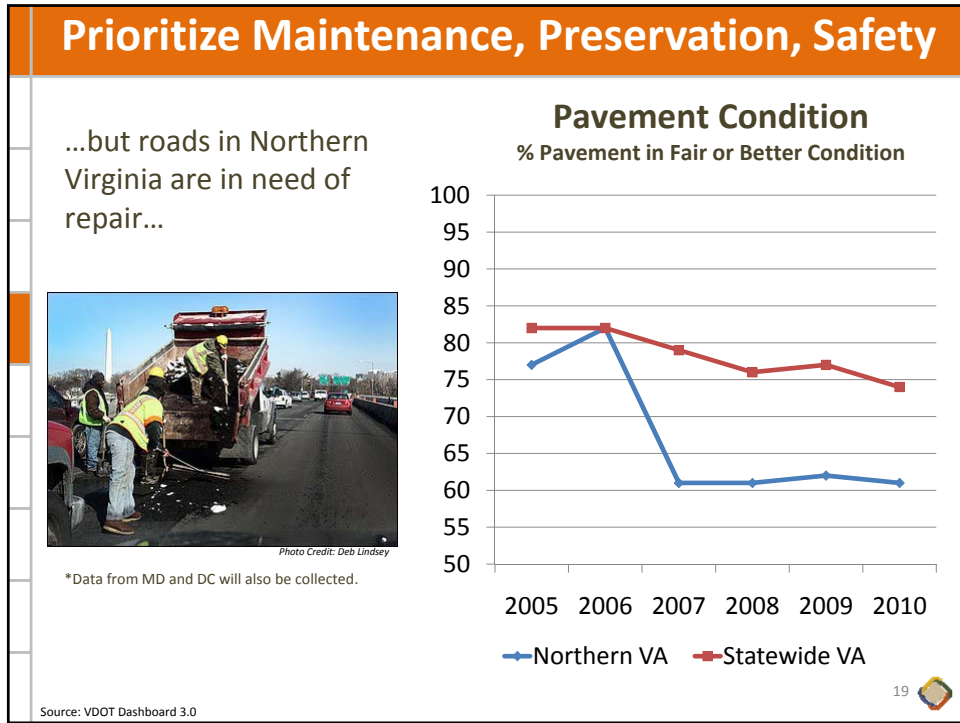
**2011 Street Block
Density: 45.3**

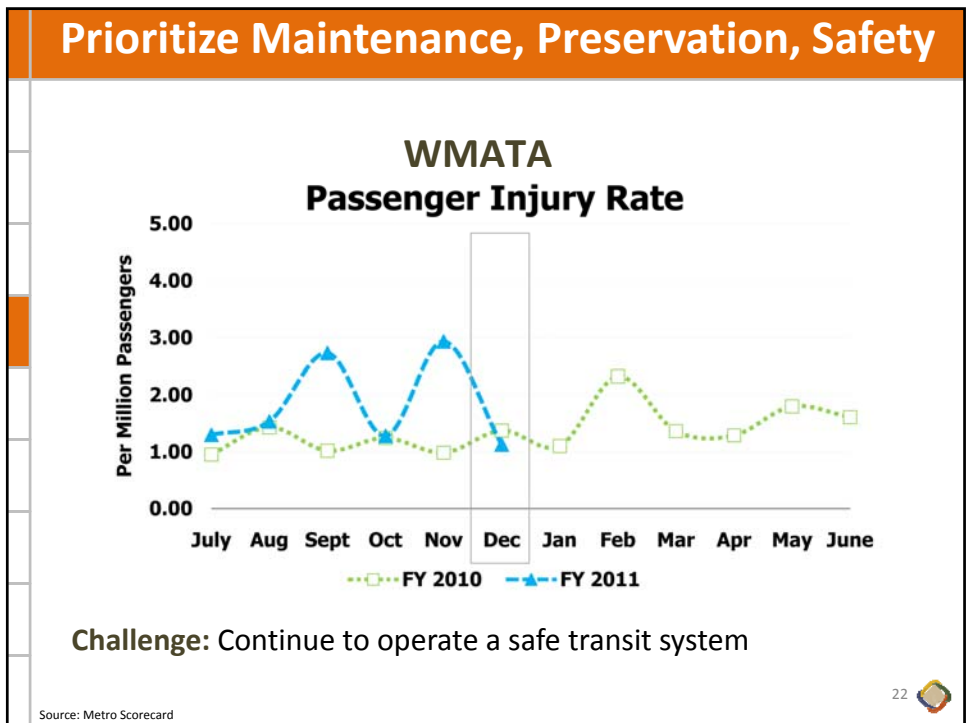
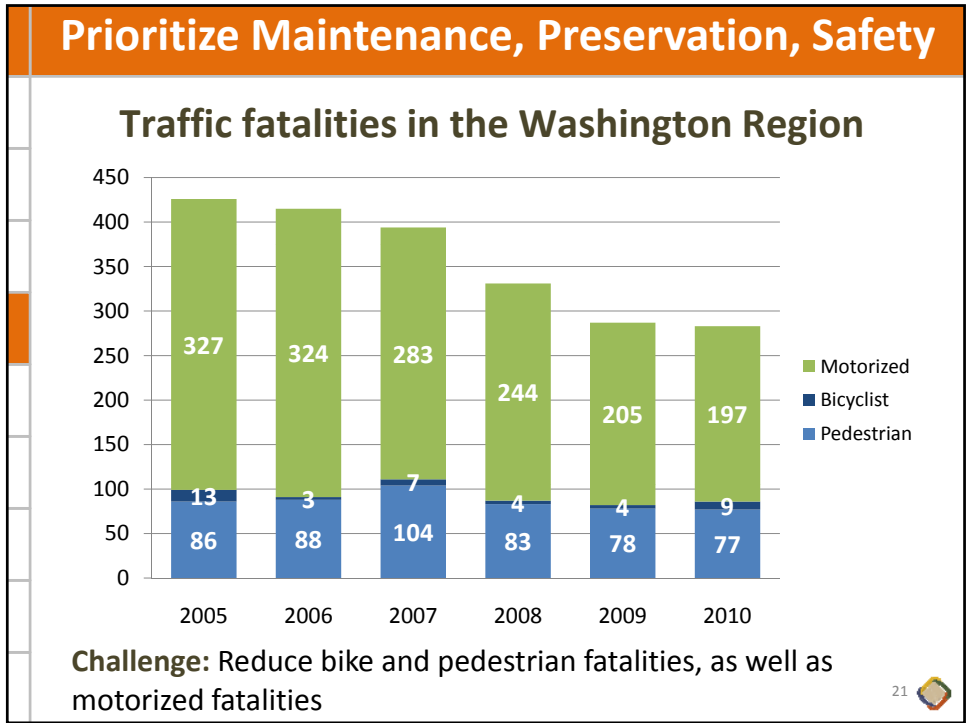


**2030 Street Block
Density: 96.1**

16 








Maximize System Effectiveness

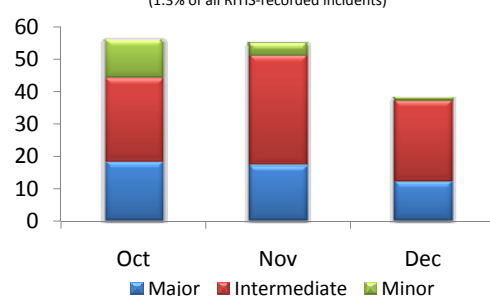
Managing Incidents

- Approximately 4,000 incidents with possible regional implications are reported each month
- MATOC is involved in 50-60 incidents per month
- MATOC benefit-cost ratio = 10:1


Challenge: Dedicate sufficient resources to managing regional incidents



Total Number of MATOC Notifications by Incident Severity from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2010
(1.3% of all RITIS-recorded incidents)



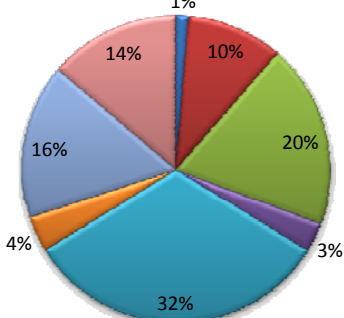
Month	Major	Intermediate	Minor	Total
Oct	18	25	10	53
Nov	18	35	5	58
Dec	12	25	2	39

Source: Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) 23 

Maximize System Effectiveness


Managing Incidents

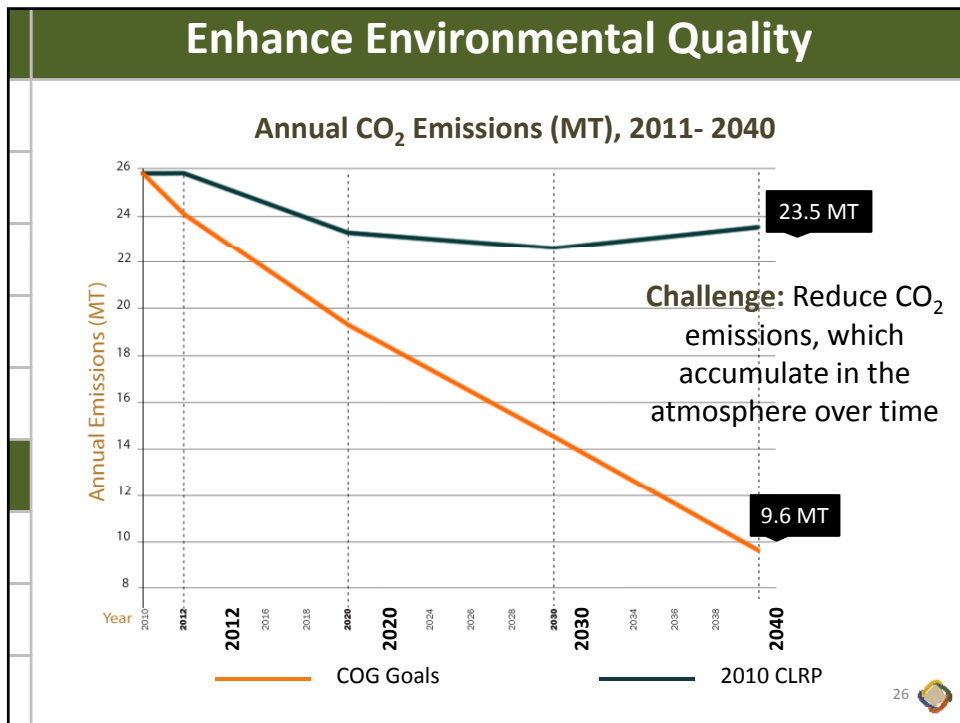
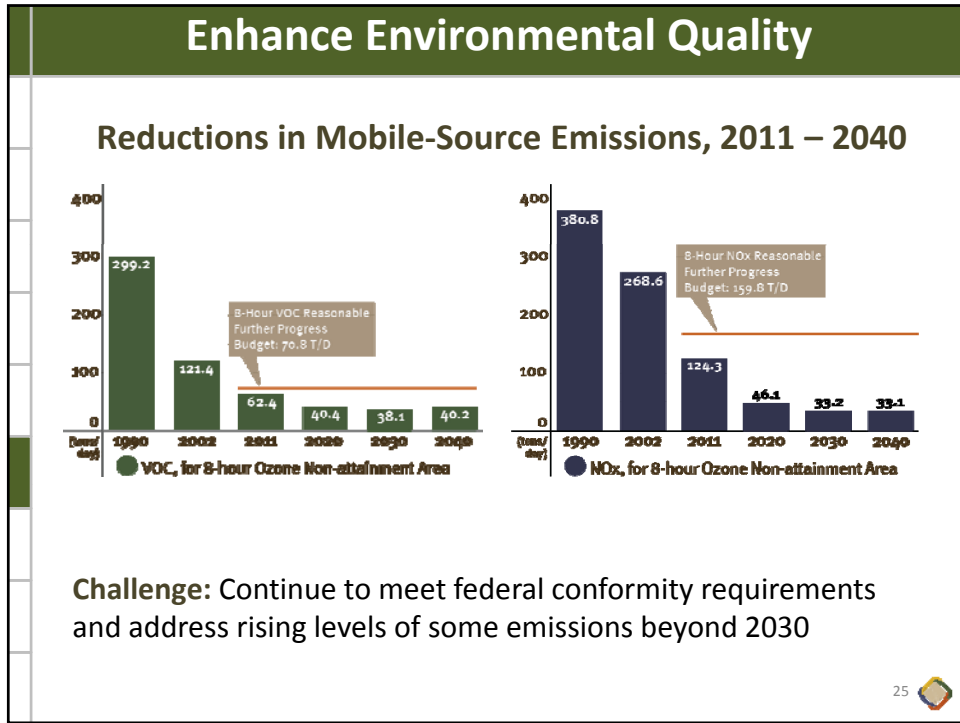
Percentages of Different Types of RITIS-Recorded Incidents in the TPB Planning Area in 2010
(Total 48,613 Incidents)



- Adverse weather (1%)
- Unusually severe congestion (10%)
- Crash (20%)
- Debris on roadway (3%)
- Disabled vehicle (32%)
- Planned roadway closure (4%)
- Work zone (16%)
- Other (e.g. Utility problems, Police activities)(14%)

Challenge: Consider causes of incidents in designing incident response strategies

Source: Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) 24 



Achieve Better Transport/Land Use Coord.

	2011	2040
Regional Activity Centers	59	59
Metrarail Stations	86	98
Commuter Rail Stations	52	53
Regional Activity Centers with Rail Transit	31 with rail 25 Metrorail 15 Commuter Rail	37 with rail 31 Metrorail 15 Commuter Rail
Regional Activity Centers without Rail Transit	28	22
Rail Stations Not Located in Regional Activity Centers	73 37 Metrorail 36 Commuter Rail	76 39 Metrorail 37 Commuter Rail

Challenge: Seek opportunities for improving the match of rail transit and Activity Centers

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Achieve Better Transport/Land Use Coord.

Average number of other Activity Centers accessible within 45 minutes of a given Activity Center by Transit and Highway

	2011		2040		Change	
	HWY	TRN	HWY	TRN	HWY	TRN
DC Core	25	18	21	18	-4	0
Mixed Use	17	14	14	15	-3	1
Employment	14	9	10	9	-4	0
Suburban Emp.	9	4	7	5	-2	1
Emerging Emp.	6	2	4	3	-2	1

Challenge: Increase accessibility to and from Activity Centers

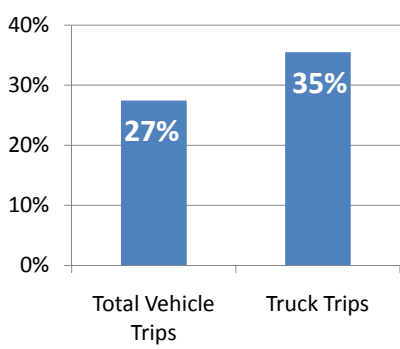
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Source: Round 8.0 Cooperative Forecasts, Version 2.2 Travel Model


Support Inter-Regional Travel

Total Value of Goods Movement by all modes in the Region
forecast to grow 88% by 2040


Growth in Truck Trips 2011 to 2040



Category	Growth Percentage
Total Vehicle Trips	27%
Truck Trips	35%




Challenge: Address the significant unmet freight transportation needs identified in the TPB Freight Plan


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Addressing the Challenges


- Many of the challenges cannot be met through transportation strategies alone but **will require supportive strategies** from other sectors such as:
 - Land Use
 - Technology
 - Education & Enforcement

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	Summary of Challenges	Types of Strategies Needed			
		Transportation	Land Use	Technology	Education & Enforcement
Provide a range of options	Further reduce the percentage of commuters driving alone	●	●		
	Further increase the transit share of work trips	●	●		
	Further reduce VMT per capita	●	●		
	Accelerate the rate of construction for the TPB's Bike and Pedestrian Plan	●	●		
	Identify funding and management strategies to eliminate projected Metrorail capacity constraints	●			
	Mitigate negative impacts of travel delays and unpredictable travel times on quality of life and the economy by reducing congestion	●	●	●	
	Improve reliability, coverage and efficiency of transit services for people with disabilities	●	●	●	

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	Summary of Challenges	Types of Strategies Needed			
		Transportation	Land Use	Technology	Education & Enforcement
Promote Connections, Activity Centers	Continue to focus employment and housing in Activity Centers to promote an efficient transportation system		●		
	Improve the jobs and housing balance in Activity Centers		●		
	Increase bus stop coverage in the Activity Centers	●	●		
	Increase walkability in Activity Centers	●	●		

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	Summary of Challenges	Types of Strategies Needed			
		Transportation	Land Use	Technology	Education & Enforcement
Prioritize Maintenance, Preservation, Safety	Identify sufficient revenues to adequately maintain and operate the existing system	●			
	Reduce bike and pedestrian fatalities, as well as motorized fatalities	●	●	●	●
	Continue to operate a safe transit system	●	●	●	●
Maximize System Effectiveness	Dedicate sufficient resources to managing regional incidents	●		●	●
	Consider causes of incidents in designing incident response strategies	●		●	●

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	Summary of Challenges	Types of Strategies Needed			
		Transportation	Land Use	Technology	Education & Enforcement
Environmental Quality	Continue to meet federal conformity requirements and address rising levels of some emissions beyond 2030	●	●	●	
	Reduce CO2 emissions, which accumulate in the atmosphere over time	●	●	●	
Transport & Land Use	Seek opportunities for improving the match of rail transit and Activity Centers	●	●		
	Increase accessibility to and from Activity Centers	●			
Inter-Regional	Address the significant unmet freight transportation needs identified in the TPB Freight Plan	●			

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Alternative formats of this document and all meeting materials are available upon request. Contact Wendy Klancher at (202) 962-3321, TDD (202) 962-3213 or wklancher@mwkog.org and allow 7 days for preparation of the materials.

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD**

FY 2012

**UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
FOR THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION**

March 16, 2011

The preparation of this program was financially aided through grants from the District of Columbia Department of Transportation; Maryland Department of Transportation; Virginia Department of Transportation; U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, under the Federal Transit Act.

C. REGIONAL STUDIES

Regional Transportation Priorities Plan

In September 2010, the TPB Regional Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force was established to determine a scope and process for developing a regional transportation priorities plan that will enhance the implementation of regional priorities. The task force met in October and December 2010 and in February and April 2011. In May and June 2011, the TPB will review and approve the scope and process for developing the plan, and incorporate the first year work activities into the FY 2012 UPWP. The plan development process is scheduled for a two-year period, beginning in July 1, 2011 with completion by July 1, 2013.

By the end of FY 2011, the 2010 CLRP baseline will be compared to the TPB Vision and Region Forward goals to assess major regional challenges and review current regional priorities identified to date.

The following activities are proposed for FY 2012:

- Specify and evaluate with respect to regional goals an initial land use/transportation scenario that incorporates proposed priorities.
- Using the 2.3 Travel Demand model and the latest version of the EPA Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulation Model (MOVES), analyze the benefits and costs of the scenario relative to the Vision goals.
- Specify and evaluate a variation or variations on this scenario that might improve its performance or increase its feasibility.
- Conduct outreach and public involvement activities to support the development of the new transportation priorities plan.

Support for COG's Region Forward

In 2010, the TPB collaborated with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Department of Community Planning and Services on a competitive grant submission to the HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant program. This grant submission outlined the strategy COG would employ to establish a regional plan for sustainable development. Though the grant was not awarded, COG continued to work on developing a regional plan for sustainable development as an extension of its existing efforts to solve key challenges in the region through its Region Forward program. Region Forward is supported by a voluntary compact signed by all of the COG member jurisdictions, and outlines a series of targets and indicators that measure progress towards creating and attaining a more accessible, sustainable, prosperous, and livable future. In FY 2011, TPB staff provided support for COG's Region Forward regional planning efforts involving transportation. In FY 2012, TPB staff will continue to provide support for these efforts.

Prepare Grant Applications for US DOT Grant Funding Programs

In FY2010 and 2011, the TPB approved the submission of TIGER I and II competitive grant applications in response to US DOT funding program opportunities. In February 2010, the TPB was awarded \$58.8 million for a regional priority bus network under the TIGER I program. In August 2010, the TPB applied for funding towards a regional bike-sharing project under TIGER II. Although this application was not awarded, it was named in the top ten percent of projects that were recommended to be advanced for funding by DOT staff. In FY 2012, TPB staff will respond to promising opportunities for submitting project grant applications for USDOT grant funding programs, as approved by the TPB.

Oversight:	TPB
Cost Estimate:	\$566,300
Products:	Documentation of major regional challenges and proposed regional priorities; comprehensive benefit/cost analysis of initial scenario; project grant applications for USDOT grant funding programs as approved by the TPB
Schedule:	Documentation of challenges - September 2011 Documentation of proposed regional priorities - November 2011 Benefit/cost analysis of initial scenario and variations - June 2012