

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

of the TPB's Citizens Advisory Committee

John Swanson
CAC Meeting
February 9, 2012

What is the Transportation Planning Board?

- **Federally Mandated Role**
 - Federal designation: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- **Members**
 - Local governments
 - State transportation agencies
 - State and D.C. legislatures
 - WMATA
 - Other
- **Relationship with COG**
 - The TPB is independent from the COG board
 - The TPB is staffed by COG's Department of Transportation Planning.

TPB Planning Area



- Approximately 3,000 square miles
- Includes 5 million people & 3 million jobs

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Key Roles of the TPB

1. Federally required planning process
2. Forum for regional coordination
3. Technical resources for decision-making

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Federally Required Planning Process

Key Documents

- *The CLRP* – Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan
 - 20-30 year horizon
- *The TIP* – Transportation Improvement Program
 - Always a six-year program



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What is the CAC ?

Two-part mission *(from the Participation Plan)* :

- to *promote public involvement* in transportation planning for the National Capital Region; and
- to *provide independent, region-oriented citizen advice* to the TPB on transportation plans, programs and issue in the Region, including responding to requests from the TPB for comments on specific issues or subject matter.

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CAC Membership

5 from DC $\begin{array}{l} \diagup \\ \hline \diagdown \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{l} 2 \text{ elected by last year's CAC} \\ 3 \text{ nominated by TPB officer from DC} \end{array}$

+ 5 from Maryland $\begin{array}{l} \diagup \\ \hline \diagdown \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{l} 2 \text{ elected by last year's CAC} \\ 3 \text{ nominated by TPB officer from MD} \end{array}$

+ 5 from Virginia $\begin{array}{l} \diagup \\ \hline \diagdown \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{l} 2 \text{ elected by last year's CAC} \\ 3 \text{ nominated by TPB officer from VA} \end{array}$

15 total members (plus alternates)

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The CAC's Schedule

Regular monthly meeting:

- When:
 - Monthly, Thursday evenings, 6-8 pm, six days before the TPB's monthly meeting (*usually, but not always the 2nd Thursday of the month*).
- Procedural requirements:
 - CAC receives the TPB mailout materials and discusses key TPB agenda items
 - CAC meetings usually mark the beginning of public comment periods

TPB meeting:

- 3rd Wednesday of the month, 12-2 pm.
- CAC chair presents the CAC's report.

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Some History

- 1993: CAC established
 - Open membership
- 2000: CAC reorganized
 - 15 appointed members (the current structure)
- 2007: Participation Plan
 - Reaffirmed existing structure
 - CAC mission & operation procedures – Appendices B&C

CAC Activities

- Sponsoring public meetings
- Interest in specific issues & programs, e.g.,
 - Complete Streets
 - MATOC
 - TLC
- Public information improvements
- Promoting scenario planning and priorities planning...

**CAC involvement in scenario
planning and priorities
planning**

More than 10 Years Ago:
*The CAC looks at the TPB's long-range plan
through the TPB Vision*

2000:

A CAC Subcommittee on the CLRP:

- Conducted a review of CLRP projects based on the TPB Vision.
- Recognized the need for scenario analysis.
- **So...**

CAC asks TPB to look at scenarios

2000:

...the CAC Subcommittee made this recommendation to the TPB:

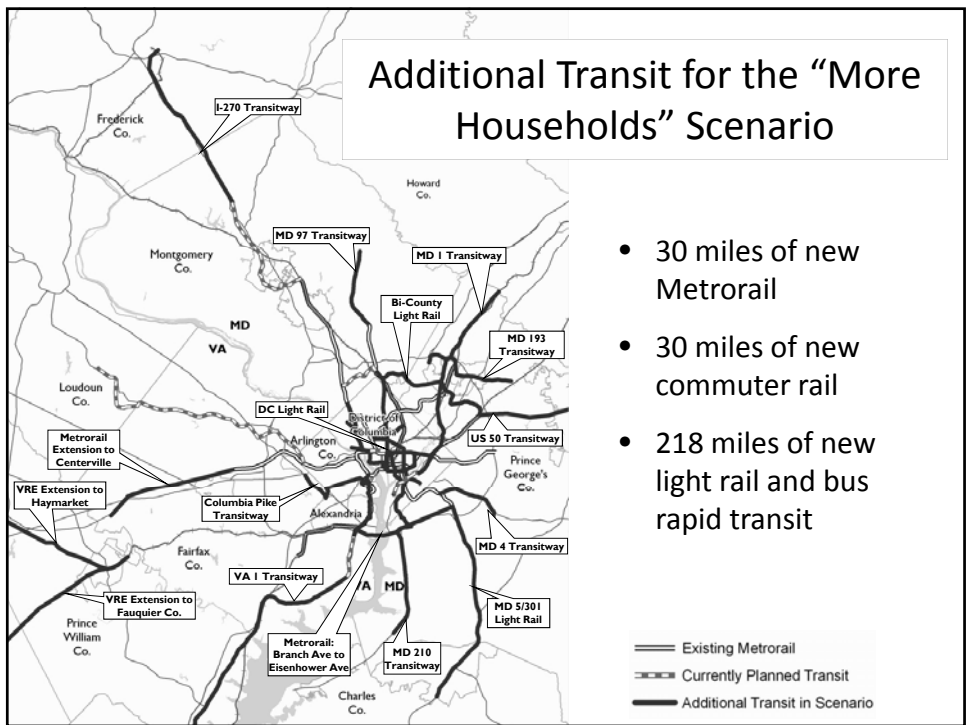
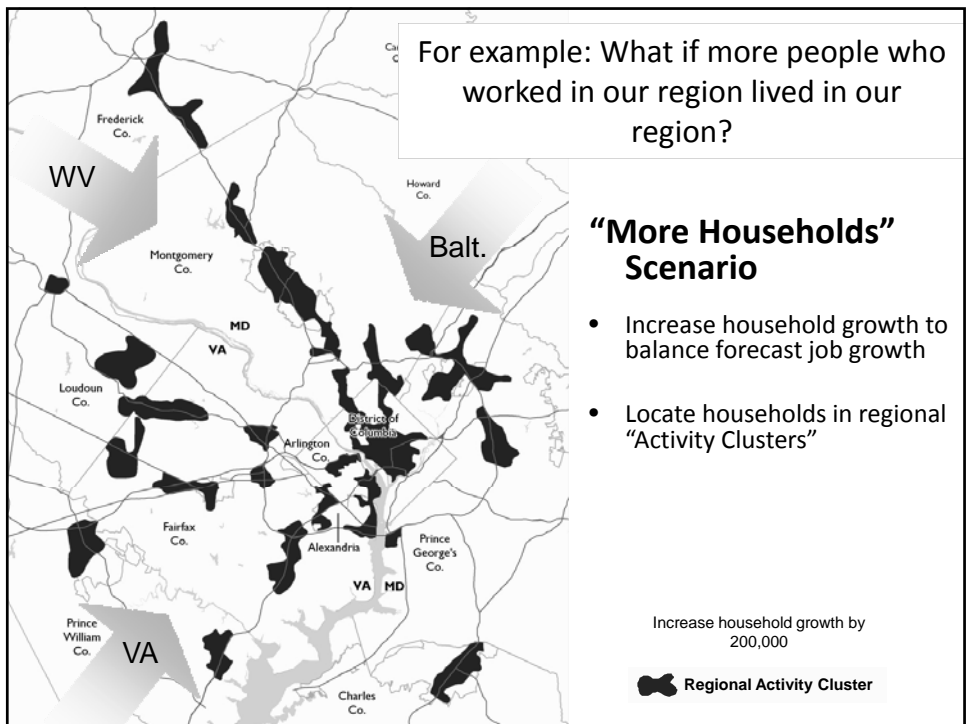
“Prepare a proposed work plan to evaluate alternative transportation, land use and pricing scenarios.” (CAC 2000 End-of-Year Report)

The RMAS Years: 2001-2006

The Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study (RMAS)

- Analyzed 5 “What If” scenarios combining land-use shifts with increased public transit.
- Overseen by the Joint Technical Working Group in which CAC members actively participated.





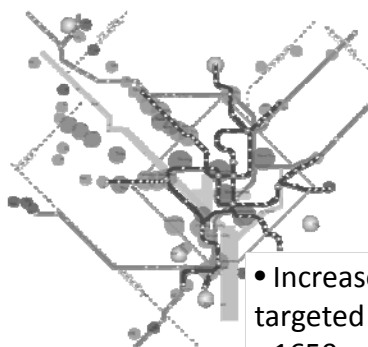
2008: Variably Priced Lanes Scenario

3 Scenarios looked at:

- All Freeways
- Arterials outside Beltway
- Convert existing HOV lanes
- Direct access ramps at key interchanges
- Incorporate existing transit service



2009: CLRP Aspirations Scenario



- Increased densities in targeted growth areas
- 1650-mile priced lane network
- 500 miles of BRT, plus light rail and circulators

2004: CAC calls for outreach on the scenarios

- 2004-2007: TPB staff conducted more than 40 outreach forums in which participants were asked to build their own scenarios



- 2007: TPB staff report on outreach



A new working group for scenario planning

- CAC Recommendation in 2007: “Establish a working group to look at future phases of and steps to implement the study.”
- ***In response***, the Scenario Study Task Force was formed in 2007.

**CAC calls for the next step:
*Use the scenarios to develop a regional
transportation priorities plan***

- 2006 CAC recommendation: *“Develop a list or plan of unfunded regional priorities... start with the projects identified for study in the TPB’s Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study.”*
- 2007 & 2008: CAC reaffirmed its recommendation for a priorities plan

**Calling the Question:
The CAC asks for a Regional Forum
on Priority-Setting**

- 2009: The CAC called for the TPB to convene a “high-level forum of decision-makers and citizens” to discuss development of a priorities plan.
- 2010: The TPB hosts the “Conversation on Setting Regional Transportation Priorities”



***The
Conversation,
May 27, 2010***

“What would a regional transportation priorities plan mean?”

Follow-up to the Conversation

- *Fall-Spring 2010-2011:* TPB sets up a task force to determine the scope and process for a regional transportation priorities plan.
- *July 2010:* TPB approved the scope for developing the priorities plan.
- *Fall 2011:* Priorities Plan development begins with identification of performance measures.

QUESTIONS

- How should the CAC contribute in 2012 to the development of the Priorities Plan?
- What other activities should the CAC pursue in 2010?