Meeting Highlights TPB Technical Committee – March 1, 2024

The Technical Committee met on Friday, March 1, 2024. Meeting materials can be found here: https://www.mwcog.org/events/2024/3/1/tpb-technical-committee/

The following items were reviewed for inclusion on the TPB's February agenda:

TPB AGENDA ITEM 7 – APPROVAL OF FY 2025 AND FY 2026 TAP FUNDING FOR PROJECTS IN VIRGINIA

The Committee was briefed on a portion of the federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) is sub-allocated to the TPB for project selection in TPB jurisdictions in Virginia. The board will be briefed on projects recommended by a selection panel and asked to approve them at its March 21 meeting.

TPB AGENDA ITEM 8 – AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM, FY 2024 CARRYOVER FUNDING TO FY 2025. AND APPROVAL OF THE FY 2025 UPWP

Staff reminded the Committee at the February meeting that the board was briefed on the draft FY 2025 UPWP and the proposed carry over funding. Certain projects and budgets in the current FY 2024 UPWP had been identified to be removed from the FY 2024 UPWP and carried over to FY 2025. The committee was briefed on the amendment to the FY 2024 UPWP and associated FY 2024 carryover funding to FY 2025. The board will be asked to approve the FY 2025 UPWP at its March 21 meeting.

TPB AGENDA ITEM 9 – APPROVAL OF THE FY 2025 COMMUTER CONNECTIONS WORK PROGRAM (CCWP)

The Committee was briefed on the draft FY 2025 CCWP during both February and March meetings. In February, the board was also briefed. The board will be asked to approve the FY 2025 CCWP at the March 21 meeting.

TPB AGENDA ITEM 10 – VISUALIZE 2050: BRIEFING ON PROJECT INPUTS AND DRAFT SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS FOR THE VISUALIZE 2050 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE FY 2026-2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP), AND WORK SESSION RECAP

The Committee received a briefing summarizing the project inputs submitted by December 29, 2023 for inclusion in the Visualize 2050 Air Quality Conformity (AQC) process. Given the federal status of the TPB's planning area (designated as "non-attainment" of the federal 2015 Ozone Standard), the projects proposed to be included in the Visualize 2050 financial plan and TIP must undergo a regional air quality conformity determination analysis. The TPB's National Capital Region Transportation Plan and FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program must be updated, reviewed, and approved by federal agencies upon TPB approval scheduled for June 2025. The Committee was be briefed on the projects submitted for the update and the draft scope of work for the air quality conformity analysis. The 30-day public comment on the inputs and scope is scheduled from March 1 to March 30, 2024. In addition, a work session will be held immediately prior to the March 21 TPB meeting.

The following items were presented for information and discussion:

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) UPDATE ON CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM

The Committee was briefed by MDOT staff on their plans for the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), which was established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and provides funds for projects designed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from on-road transportation.

2023 CONTINUOUS AIRPORT SYSTEM PLANNING (CASP) GROUND ACCESS TRAVEL TIME STUDYStaff briefed the committee on the latest ground access travel time study, which used vehicle probe data to analyze changes in travel time on principal airport-serving roadways to the region's three large commercial airports before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic. .

HCT LOCAL TRANSIT ACCESS STUDY

Staff briefed the Committee on the completion of a study of local transit and non-motorized access to High-Capacity Transit (HCT) stations, including a toolkit and webmap application.

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS FOR ON-ROAD TRANSPORTATION GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION STRATEGIES

Staff briefed the Committee on a study of implementation considerations for on-road GHG reduction strategies and asked to provide feedback. On June 15, 2022, the TPB adopted on-road transportation sector GHG reduction goals of 50 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050. Part of the approval was adoption of seven GHG reduction strategies as priorities and identification of seven additional greenhouse gas reduction strategies that merit further discussion, which are the subject of this study.

OTHER BUSINESS

- RRSP/TLC Applications due March 8
- Federal Grant Endorsement Letter Reminder
- Community Leadership Institute recruitment
- A People's Guide to Transportation Decision-Making in the National Capital Region
- Staff Update