TPB REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Virtual Meeting Summary: September 28, 2021

ATTENDEES - *Total: 18*

Deanna Archey, MCDOT (Chair)
Tanya Nichols, MCDOT
Jen Slesinger, Alexandria
Mark Rawlings, DDOT
Derrick Snowden, DDOT
Michael Winger, MDOT MTA
Naomi Smith

John Hillegass, MetroNow
Lara Hegler, MetroNow
Nick Ruiz, VRE
Bryen Lloyd, WMATA
Don Varley, WMATA
Xavier Harmony, WMATA

Andy Meese, TPB
Antonio Castañeda, TPB
Charlene Howard, TPB
Eric Randall, TPB
James Li, TPB
Lyn Erickson, TPB

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**, *Deanna Archey, RPTS Chair*
   - The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM along with a roll call of online attendees.

2. **PBPP TRANSIT SAFETY TARGETS ROUNDTABLE**, *Eric Randall, TPB | Don Varley, WMATA | Bryen Lloyd, PRTC | Tanya M. Nichols, Ride On | Michael Winger, MDOT MTA*
   - Eric updated the subcommittee on the recent trends between 2020 and 2021 safety performance targets and outcomes for the NCR. He informed the members on the TPBs responsibility for setting regional goals and plans to share these metrics to the TPB Technical Committee and Board in October.
   - Don updated the subcommittee on WMATA's target setting process, highlighting the impact COVID-19 has had on setting consistent targets (e.g. reduced ridership affecting incidence rates).
   - Bryen updated the subcommittee on PRTCs target setting process, highlighting the environmental changes in the region (demographic changes, new land use or developments) and establishing measurable targets as key components.
   - Tanya updated the subcommittee on Ride On's target setting process for FY21. Ride On establishes bus targets via a 3 year rolling average, using FY18-20 and omitting FY21 data due to abnormal data from reduced / suspended service which affected revenue miles, safety injuries / events and major mechanical failures .
   - Michael updated the subcommittee on MDOT MTA's safety performance targets for Commuter Bus and their methodology. Targets are created as a baseline using the previous 3-5 years NTD reported data. Modal leaders comment on the baseline targets before they are finalized. Due to covid, it was difficult to predict accurate service levels for the upcoming year. MDOT MTA strives to use similar data tracking process across modes.
   - Discussion: Eric Randall commented on the different methodologies and the difficulty of procuring accurate transit data (instead TPB staff collects monthly data as reported to the NTD). He discussed TPBs interest in further details from specific agencies, and/or reflections on target performance and how service providers plan to respond to safety metrics.

- Don responded that WMATA plans to incorporate agency targets during quarterly reports, and currently reviews them annually. PRTC shared that they also share an annual review of their safety targets/metrics

3. **BUS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT**, *John Hillegass, MetroNow Coalition*
- John provided an overview to RPTS about the MetroNow Coalition, their blueprint solutions, actions and recommendations for the NCR. MetroNow is a group of regional agencies, boards, businesses, and non-profits focused on improving transit in the region. John provided highlights of the Washington Area Bus Transformation Project including the annual progress report which MetroNow champions. The report has 4 primary goals: reinvigorating bus transformation, using the report as an advocacy tool, a regional call to action (to prioritize bus) and to celebrate progress. John discussed the progress report strategy and primary sections including What & Why, Action Steps Tracker, Key Progress, Data Visualization / Images, and Recommended Next Steps.

4. **Visualize 2045 Transit Section Update**, *Stacy Cook, TPB*
- Stacy briefed the subcommittee on the transit section component of the Visualize 2045 long-range plan, including new sub-sections like equity considerations, key survey results from the Voices of the Region Survey. The transit section like other sections include a policy context box to provide key takeaways for regional stakeholders as well as key takeaways via callout boxes.

5. **2020 STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT (SOPTR) UPDATE**, *Antonio Castañeda TPB*
- Tony updated the subcommittee on the 2020 SOPTR, which is being finalized in the next week barring any further comments or edits and noted that the report draft has been shared at TPBs Technical and Community Advisory Committees (TPB Tech & CAC).

6. **TRANSIT EQUITY WHITE PAPER / FARE RELIEF MEMO UPDATE**, *Eric Randall, Antonio Castañeda, TPB*
- Eric informed the subcommittee on the completed transit equity white paper and web map. He provided an overview of the findings and conducted a walkthrough of the web map.
- Tony updated the subcommittee regarding the draft memo titled: Overview of Regional Bus Fare Collection and Fare Relief Pilots. He highlighted key sections of the report as well as lessons learned from the analysis and shared that the memo along with the transit equity white paper would be shared with TPB's Technical committee in a few days.
- Discussion: Deanna shared that Montgomery County is finalizing their fare relief analysis looking at four scenarios for the Ride On service (fare free; means-tested; weekend or off-peak subsidy).

7. **HIGH-CAPACITY TRANSIT (HCT) MAP UPDATE**, *Charlene Howard, TPB*
- Charlene briefed the subcommittee on the HCT map update, which will create an aesthetically-pleasing high capacity transit corridors map. The project comes out of the regional public transportation technical assistance program (UPWP) and is intended to serve both TPB stakeholders as well as the general public.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS / ADJOURN**, *Deanna Archey, Chair*
- The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.
- The next meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2021
- All meeting materials are available for download from the subcommittee's website:
https://www.mwcog.org/events/2021/9/1/tpb-regional-public-transportation-subcommittee/