

# VISUALIZE 2045 ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS: -INTERCITY BUSES -TRAVEL & TOURISM

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## Update

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TPB Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee  
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# Visualize 2045 Elements: Intercity Buses, Travel & Tourism

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- Overview of Visualize 2045
- Federal / Regulatory Considerations
- Aspirational & Non-Motorized Initiatives
- Intercity Buses
- Travel & Tourism
- Next Steps



# Overview

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- Visualize 2045 is the federally required long-range transportation plan for the National Capital Region
- Document TPB's vision, priorities, aspirations for the transportation future of the region
- Include planned investments to maintain and expand the region's multi-modal transportation system
- Addition of a financially unconstrained chapter
- Printed plan = full documentation of the plan

# Outline

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I. Introduction

II. Regional Context

III. Regional Policy

IV. Seven Endorsed Initiatives

V. Financially Constrained Element

VI. Performance Planning

VII. Additional Elements

VIII. Plan Development and Public Participation

XI. Conclusion



# Schedule

<b>Winter/Spring 2018</b>	<b>Preparing Content for Visualize 2045 Plan Document</b>
<b>Spring 2018</b>	<b>Public Forums</b>
<b>Summer 2018</b>	<b>Technical Analysis</b>
<b>September 2018</b>	<b>Draft Plan Released for Public Comment and Public Open Houses</b>
<b>October 2018</b>	<b>Final TPB Approval</b>



# Federal Planning Factors

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- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, - enabling global competitiveness, productivity, efficiency
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for all motorized and non-motorized users
- Increase the ability of the transportation system to support homeland security and to safeguard the personal security of all motorized and non-motorized users
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people
- Increase accessibility and mobility of freight
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns



# Federal Planning Factors continued

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- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight
- Promote efficient system management and operation
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation
- Enhance travel and tourism



# RTPP Goals

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- Provide a comprehensive range of transportation options
- Promote a strong regional economy, including a healthy regional core and dynamic Activity Centers
- Ensure adequate system maintenance, preservation, and safety
- Maximize operational effectiveness and safety of the transportation system
- Enhance environmental quality, and protect natural and cultural resources
- Support inter-regional and international travel and commerce





# RTPP Strategies

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- Ensure maintenance of the transit system
- Ensure maintenance of roads and bridges
- Ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities, low incomes, and limited English proficiency
- Engage and communicate with the public
- Promote system efficiency through management and operations, and the appropriate use of technology
- Improve access to transit stops and stations
- Alleviate roadway bottlenecks
- Support and promote electric vehicles



# RTPP Strategies continued

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- Promote commute alternatives
- Expand pedestrian infrastructure
- Expand bicycle infrastructure
- Apply bus priority treatments
- Increase roadway efficiency
- Update and enforce traffic laws
- Additional capacity on the existing transit system
- Concentrated growth in Activity Centers
- Enhanced circulation with Activity Centers
- Bus rapid transit & other cost-effective transit alternatives



# Five Endorsed Aspirational Initiatives

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- Regional express toll lanes network with express bus service connecting activity centers
- Bus rapid transit and transitways throughout the region with improved bicycle and pedestrian connections
- Metrorail core capacity improvements - eight-car trains and a new line between Virginia and D.C. through Georgetown
- Optimized regional land-use: build more housing, increase jobs and housing near rail stations and activity centers
- Employer travel demand management policies: teleworking /flexible schedules, transit benefit programs to reduce one-person vehicle trips



# Two Non-Motorized Initiatives

## Completion of the National Capital Trail

- Connects to 36 activity centers and 26 Metrorail Stations

## High-Capacity Transit Station Access Improvements



WMATA

# Intercity Buses: Considerations

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- What are the regional needs and trends/directions moving forward?
  - Capacity of existing stations
  - Addition of new stations
  - Multimodal connectivity to stations
  - Cross-jurisdictional coordination
- How does the region stand to benefit?
- What challenges does the region face?



# Intercity Buses: Literature Review

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- Intercity Bus Traffic and Patronage in the Metropolitan Washington Region (COG-TPB, 2016)
- TRB Committees / studies...
- Forthcoming Intercity Bus Atlas...
- ...what are we missing?
- Do Buses Help Meet Tourism Objectives? The Contribution and Potential of Scheduled Buses in Rural Destination Areas (Transport Policy, 2007)



# Travel & Tourism: Considerations

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- What are the regional needs and trends/directions moving forward?
  - Multimodal connectivity
  - Marketing & communications
  - Cross-jurisdictional coordination
  - Fully utilizing our regional assets
- How does the region stand to benefit?
- What challenges does the region face?



# Travel & Tourism: Literature Review

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- Region Forward Vision (MWCOCG, 2010)
- State of the Region: Economic Competitiveness Report (MWCOCG, 2016)
- Benchmarking Greater Washington's Global Reach: The National Capital Region in the World Economy (Global Cities Initiative, 2015)
- NCHRP Report 419: Tourism Travel and Transportation System Development (TRB, 1998)
- Recreational Travel and Tourism Data Needs, Resources, and Issues (TRB, 1990)





# Next Steps

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- March 29: Comments to Arianna Koudounas  
[akoudounas@mwkog.org](mailto:akoudounas@mwkog.org)
- Ongoing conversation to explore, develop, and integrate Intercity Bus and Travel & Tourism regional strategies



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