



Aviation Technical Subcommittee Highlights of the November 19, 2020 meeting

Meeting Participants:

- Mike Hewitt (MWA)
- Shawn Ames (MAA)
- Kevin Clarke (MAA)
- Keith Meurlin (WATF)

TPB Staff:

- Tim Canan
- Arianna Koudounas

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND APPROVAL OF HIGHLIGHTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (SEPTEMBER 24, 2020)

The meeting – which was held by Microsoft Teams teleconference – was called to order by Mr. Hewitt at 10:30 A.M. The highlights of the previous meeting were approved.

2. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Canan updated the subcommittee with general announcements related to the TPB's Air Systems Planning Program, including that staff are continuing to process the 2019 Geographic Findings Report and that COG just kicked-off the Air Passenger Survey Response Rate Study.

3. 2020 AVIATION TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR DISCUSSION

Ms. Koudounas confirmed that Mr. Rawlings, who was unable to attend the November subcommittee meeting, will be serving as the 2021 Aviation Technical Subcommittee Chair.

4. PROPOSED 2021 AVIATION TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Ms. Koudounas led the subcommittee in finalizing the 2021 Aviation Technical Subcommittee meeting schedule: January 28, March 25, May 27, July 22, September 23, November 18.

5. AIR PASSENGER SURVEY RESPONSE RATE & QUALITY STUDY UPDATE

Ms. Koudounas and Mr. Canan led the subcommittee in a discussion on next steps for the Air Passenger Survey Response Rate Study, including the timeline, the scope of work, the consultant selection process, and anticipated applications of the study's findings. Mr. Canan shared that the study has officially kicked off with ICF serving as the project consultant. Ms. Koudounas began with a recap of the scope of work, including the following tasks:

1. Establish Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) responsibilities and meeting schedule; develop study work plan.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the current APS program.
3. Conduct site visits to improve survey distribution methodology and response results.

4. Complete the draft report.
5. Complete the final report.

Mr. Hewitt asked if COG staff was aware of other MPOs that do similar ground access surveys. Ms. Koudounas indicated that COG is quite unique in its efforts by conducting a ground access survey concurrently with three airports, as was confirmed by her findings from the stakeholder interviews she conducted with several MPOs during development of the Regional Air System Plan (RASP). She added that Massport's ground access survey with Logan Airport is very similar to the Washington-Baltimore Regional Air Passenger Survey, but noted that Massport is not an MPO, and they only survey one airport, not three.

6. 2019 WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE REGIONAL AIR PASSENGER SURVEY GEOGRAPHIC FINDINGS REPORT UPDATE

Ms. Koudounas reported that Mr. Mohammed is still completing the geocoding element of the Geographic Findings element of the 2021 Washington-Baltimore Regional Air Passenger Survey, and that there should be a Draft Geographic Findings Report ready for the subcommittee's review by the January 28, 2021 subcommittee meeting. Mr. Canan added that COG staff got a late start on the Geographic Findings element of the study due to the delayed arrival of the AIP funds for the study.

7. 2021 WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE REGIONAL AIR PASSENGER SURVEY DISCUSSION

Mr. Canan and Ms. Koudounas continued an ongoing discussion with the subcommittee on whether the planned 2021 Washington-Baltimore Regional Air Passenger Survey should be conducted in the fall of 2021, given the shifts in the market due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Canan began by posing: "Does conducting the 2021 survey as scheduled make sense? Should we be planning to conduct the survey at all?" Mr. Hewitt suggested that perhaps there could be a lower-cost alternative, indicating that he anticipated some pushback on funding. He concluded by making clear that he is interested in having some data. Mr. Meurlin shared that he did not think that any of the airports would have funding to support it, but if there was some low-cost way to collect key information, he would be supportive of it. Mr. Ames added that it would be helpful to have a handful on the travel trends of different types of passengers.

Mr. Canan concluded by indicating that COG staff would develop some possible 2021 survey scenarios and share them with the subcommittee during the January 28, 2021 meeting, and also emphasized that subcommittee members were encouraged to share their input in the meantime. Ms. Koudounas asked the subcommittee if there were other key pieces of information that they would want from a simplified survey. Mr. Ames indicated that it would be helpful to know more about transportation network company (TNC) use behavior. Mr. Clarke asked what key information would be most helpful for COG. Mr. Canan shared that the COG Regional Travel Demand Model relies heavily on trip purpose, travel mode, and trip origin. Ms. Koudounas also asked if lounges or TSA checkpoints might serve as spaces for collecting key information.

8. FUTURE CASP PROGRAM WORK

Mr. Canan and Ms. Koudounas continued an ongoing discussion with the subcommittee on topics and research methodologies that the CASP program may explore in future FAA-funded CASP grant applications. Ms. Koudounas prompted the subcommittee to consider what work might need to be completed in 2022, depending on whether – and to what extent, if at all – the air passenger survey is conducted in 2021.

9. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Mr. Clarke shared that BWI has received approval for the environmental assessment for the next five years of improvements at BWI. Mr. Ames asked, with respect to invoicing, if there is the opportunity to phase payments moving forward so they are consistent with available funds at the airports. Mr. Canan indicated that COG would be amenable to doing so, and that it will be an ongoing conversation as conditions evolve.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 A.M. The next subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 28, 2021 from 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. via Microsoft Teams.