

Just the Basics

An Overview of the TPB, the CAC and the 2009 Agenda

February 12, 2009
TPB Citizens Advisory Committee

1

What is the Transportation Planning Board?

- ***Federally Mandated Role:*** The TPB is responsible, under federal mandate, for coordinating planning and funding for the region's transportation system.
- ***Members:*** TPB members include representatives of local governments; state transportation agencies; state and District of Columbia legislatures; and WMATA.
- ***Relationship with COG:*** The TPB is staffed by the Department of Transportation Planning at COG. As a body, the TPB is independent from the board of the Council of Governments.

2

TPB Planning Area



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

3

Key Roles of the TPB

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

4

Federally Required Planning Process

Key Documents

- ***The CLRP*** – Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan
 - Horizon must be at least 25 years
- ***The TIP*** – Transportation Improvement Program—
 - Always a six-year program



5

Federally Required Planning Process

The TPB Process: A Condition for Federal Funding

All regionally significant transportation projects **must be included** in the CLRP and the TIP in order to receive federal funding.

6

Federally Required Planning Process

Federal law requires the CLRP and TIP to be tested for:

Financial constraint — The CLRP & TIP may only include projects that can be “reasonably anticipated” to be funded.



Emissions impacts — The CLRP & TIP must meet the limits established in the region’s air quality improvement plan. This is called a “conformity finding.”

7

Federally Required Planning Process

A Dose of *Reality*

- ***Who develops projects?*** Project development typically occurs at the state and local levels. The TPB usually does not select and fund projects.
- ***Who controls the money?*** D.C., Maryland and Virginia each controls its own funding stream. Each has its own system for moving projects forward.
- ***Influence of the TPB process is often indirect.*** Regional policies and federal transportation planning requirements exert an influence on the types of projects that are developed and submitted by the states and locals to the TPB.

8

Key Roles of the TPB

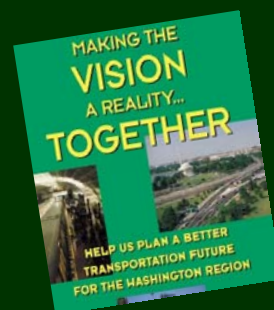
1. Federally required planning process
2. **Forum for regional coordination**
3. Technical resources for decision-making

9

Forum for Regional Coordination

The TPB Vision – *Approved in 1998*

- Lays out **eight broad goals** to guide the region's transportation investments in the 21st century.
- Is the **policy framework** guiding the work of the TPB and its members.
- Is **not** a plan with maps or lists of specific projects.



10

Forum for Regional Coordination

Shining a Spotlight on the Funding Shortfall

- **The CLRP** only identifies what we expect we can pay for, but anticipated funding doesn't meet the region's needs.
- **"System in Crisis"** (2000-01) campaign highlighted the funding shortfall identified during the CLRP update.
- **"Time to Act"** (2003-04) focused on critical 6-year needs.



Forum for Regional Coordination

Improving Transportation/Land Use Coordination

- **Macro Level: Scenario Planning**

Looking at regional transportation and land use scenarios: Regional Mobility and Accessibility Scenario Study, CLRP Aspirations, and "What Would It Take?".



- **Micro Level: Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program**

Assistance to jurisdictions to implement changes at the local level.



Forum for Regional Coordination

Emergency Preparedness and Management & Operations

- Incident coordination
 - MATOC
- Seamless payment systems
- Traveler information



13

Forum for Regional Coordination

Promoting Transportation Alternatives

- **Commuter Connections** – provides services for commuters and employers
- **Bicycle/pedestrian programs** – raises awareness, shares information, coordinates regional programs.
- **Access for All Advisory Committee** – provides a forum for concerns of minority and low-income communities and persons with disabilities.



Key Roles of the TPB

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

15

Technical Resources for Decision-Making

Travel Monitoring

A variety of methods are used to measure system performance:

- Household travel survey
- Aerial freeway survey
- Arterial survey
- Airport passenger survey
- Traffic occupancy counts
- Truck and other special surveys
- Other

RESULTS FROM SURVEY OF HOV 3+ VEHICLES FILE (PA 10/04)

	METRO AREA									
	E	D	D	F	A	B	B	A	F	F
HOV 3+ (Total)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
HOV 3+ (Male)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
HOV 3+ (Female)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
HOV 3+ (Total)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
HOV 3+ (Male)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
HOV 3+ (Female)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1



16

Technical Resources for Decision-Making

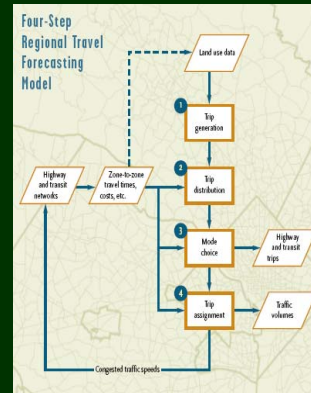
Travel Forecasting

Computer programs—*“models”*—enable planners to forecast how travel behavior might change.



Two basic inputs:

- **Land use** — forecasts of future population, household and job growth.
- **Transportation** — Current transportation network, plus planned or potential changes.



17

The TPB Citizens Advisory Committee

18

TPB Citizens Advisory Committee

What is the CAC ?

Two-part mission:


- 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.


19

TPB Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Membership

5 from DC  2 elected by last year's CAC
3 nominated by TPB officer from DC

+ 5 from Maryland  2 elected by last year's CAC
3 nominated by TPB officer from MD

+ 5 from Virginia  2 elected by last year's CAC
3 nominated by TPB officer from VA

15 total members (plus alternates)

20

TPB Citizens Advisory Committee

The CAC's Schedule

Regular monthly meeting: Every month, Thursday evening, 6-8 pm, six days before the TPB monthly meeting (usually, but not always, the 2nd Thursday of the month). CAC discusses key TPB agenda items and other issues.

TPB meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 12-2 pm. CAC chair presents a report.

21

The TPB's Year Ahead

22

2009: The TPB's Year Ahead

Update to the Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP) & Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Jan- Feb	Public comment period for <i>project submissions</i> for air quality analysis
Feb	TPB scheduled to approve project submissions
May-June	Public comment period for draft CLRP, TIP and air quality analysis
June	TIP <i>Public Forum</i> at the CAC meeting
July	TPB scheduled to approve the plan, TIP and air quality analysis

23

2009: The TPB's Year Ahead

Scenario Study Activities

- Scenario Study Task Force providing policy guidance.
- Two new scenarios:
 - Aspirations Scenario
 - "What Would It Take" Scenario

24

2009: The TPB's Year Ahead

TLC Program

- Eight new projects will begin after TPB approval on February 18.
- 21 have been completed in 15 jurisdictions around the region.
- Continued development of TLC Clearinghouse and other regional resources.



TRANSPORTATION/LAND-USE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

www.mwcog.org/tlc

25

2009: The TPB's Year Ahead

New Federal Landscape?

- Preparing for the authorization of the federal surface transportation programs, due in September 2009:
 - New funding structures?
 - New planning regs?
- Federal Stimulus Package
 - Particularly related to climate change?

26

2000: The TPB's Year Ahead

Some Other Activities

- MATOC and emergency preparedness
- Transportation funding
 - Federal Stimulus Package
 - Authorization of Federal Transportation Funding
- Access for All (AFA) activities
- Bicycle and pedestrian activities
- Regional Bus Planning
- Commuter Connections programs
- Freight planning activities

27

CAC Agenda for 2009?

28