



UPCOMING MEETINGS  
AND ITEMS OF  
INTEREST:

- **Public Comment period for the 2007 CLRP and FY 2008-2013 TIP closes on January 12**
- **Applications for the Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program due January 15**
- **TPB Meeting, January 16: Approval of the 2007 CLRP and FY 2008-2013 TIP**

More information may be found at:  
[www.mwco.org/transportation](http://www.mwco.org/transportation)

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# TPB news

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Board

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JANUARY 2008

## TPB ELECTS 2008 CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIRS

On December 19 the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) elected District of Columbia Councilmember Phil Mendelson as chair for the 2008 calendar year. Councilmember Mendelson served as TPB chair in 2002 and 2005 and has championed a number of regional planning issues over the years, including emergency preparedness and air quality.

The TPB also elected Frederick County Commissioner Charles A. Jenkins as first vice-chair representing Maryland and City

*(Continued on page 2)*



DC Councilmember and 2008 TPB Chair Phil Mendelson presented 2007 TPB Chair Cathy Hudgins with a token of appreciation for her leadership on the TPB at the December meeting.

## TPB ADOPTS PARTICIPATION PLAN

The TPB has adopted a new Participation Plan that outlines public involvement activities for constituencies with different levels of understanding and interest in the TPB process.

“In our public outreach, we need to identify different kinds of constituencies, and tailor our activities and tools to these different groups,” said John Swanson of the TPB staff prior to adoption of the Plan at the December 19 TPB meeting.

“On the one hand we have people who have been very involved in our process—people like the Citizens Advisory Committee—and we need to continue to support their involvement. But, on the other hand, we have community leaders and the general public—folks who may

actually never need to really get involved in the TPB, but still could benefit from some outreach from us. And we could benefit by getting some sense of what they're thinking and feeling about regional transportation and land use issues.”

Swanson explained that the new Participation Plan, which was required by the 2005 federal transportation reauthorization legislation (SAFETEA-LU), gave the TPB the opportunity to integrate recent enhancements in the TPB's outreach efforts including a new website, leadership training activities and interactive forums on land-use and transportation scenarios.

The new plan calls for the TPB to be more

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# 2008 TPB OFFICERS

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of Falls Church Council Member David F. Snyder as second vice-chair representing Virginia.

Chair Mendelson was first elected to the District of Columbia Council in November 1998. He is the Chairman of the Committee on Public Safety and the Judiciary and is a member of four additional committees: Health; Housing and Urban Affairs; Human Services; and Libraries, Parks, and Recreation. He also represents the District of Columbia on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee.

Active with District issues since 1975, Chair Mendelson joined the McLean Gardens Residents Association to save that 43-acre housing complex from destruction. He ran for a seat on the Advisory Neighborhood Commission in 1979 and continued to serve as an ANC Commissioner until he took office as an at-large member of the Council. He came to Washington from Cleveland, Ohio in 1970 to obtain a Bachelors degree in political science from The

American University.

Chair Mendelson is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), a national organization representing the interests of transportation planning agencies like the TPB. From his years of service on the TPB and AMPO, he has developed an unusually high level of expertise in regional planning issues, such as air quality conformity, and has been a strong advocate within the District of Columbia for regional cooperation.

First Vice-Chair Jenkins is a veteran of the United State Navy, having served four years as a Navy Cryptologist. During his tenure, he earned the Navy Achievement Medal and the Joint Services Achievement Medal. A 1990 graduate of James Madison University, he holds a Bachelor's degree in the Russian language with minors in history and Russian studies. He is a private pilot and member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. He currently serves as a Realtor for Re/Max 100.

Second Vice-Chair Snyder was first sworn in as a member of the Falls Church City Council in 1994. He has served as Mayor and Vice Mayor of the City of Falls Church, having been elected to four terms on the City Council, most recently in May 2006. From 2004 to 2006, he chaired the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority and continues to serve as a member of the Authority. He currently chairs the TPB's Management, Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems Policy Task Force and will chair the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee in 2008. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Dickinson College and graduated from the George Washington University Law School. He is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. ▲

To meet all of the members of the Transportation Planning Board, please visit the TPB's website at [www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb)

## 2008 TPB OFFICERS



**Phil Mendelson**  
TPB Chair  
Councilmember,  
District of Columbia



**Charles A. Jenkins**  
TPB First Vice-Chair  
County Commissioner,  
Frederick County, MD



**David Snyder**  
TPB Second Vice-Chair  
Council Member,  
Falls Church, VA



## TPB SCHEDULED TO APPROVE 2007 CLR

In preparation for the scheduled approval of the long-range plan on January 16, the TPB on December 19 received an update on the contents of the plan and on the air quality analysis that TPB staff has conducted to ensure the plan is in conformity with regional air quality goals.

Four major new projects are scheduled to be included in the TPB's 2007 long-range plan, known as the Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLR), and the FY 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Among these projects is a major new HOT lanes (high occupancy/toll lanes) project on 36 miles of I-395/I-95 in Northern Virginia. The project will be the second HOT lanes facility approved for the region. In 2005, the CLR was amended to include HOT lanes on 15 miles of the Capital Beltway in Virginia.

The HOT lanes project is not the only major Virginia project getting attention in this plan update. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is also proposing to build "spot improvements" on I-66 inside the Beltway, which generated lively discussion at previous TPB meetings.

The TPB approves a new CLR and TIP every year.

The CLR includes all the major transportation projects that the region anticipates can be funded and built between now and 2030. The TIP is a six-year, more detailed subset of the CLR. All regionally significant projects must be included in the CLR and TIP in order to receive federal funding.

### *Call for Projects for 2008 CLR*

The TPB has issued a call for projects for the 2008 CLR and FY 2009-2014 TIP. The deadline for project submissions is January 11, 2008. Projects are submitted by the region's local governments and transportation implementing agencies, including the state departments of transportation and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

The TPB is expected to review a significantly increased slate of projects this year because new funding is available to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA). NVTA was created by the Virginia General Assembly in 2002 and is responsible for long range transportation planning in Northern Virginia. In April 2007 the Virginia General Assembly granted NVTA the authority to collect funding through taxes and fees. This is the first year NVTA will be submitting projects for inclusion in the CLR and TIP. ▲

## OTHER DECEMBER AGENDA ITEMS

The TPB's December 19 agenda included the following items in addition to the topics covered elsewhere in this newsletter:

- Approval of funding and transmittal letter for *TPB's 2008 Membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations*.
- Approval of the *TPB response to the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (FAMPO) Policies on Allocating and Sharing of Regional Transit Funds*. For information on this item, go to [www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb) and see Item 14 for the December 19 meeting.
- Approval for execution of an *Agreement Between the TPB, the State DOTs, and the Public Transportation Operators* on planning responsibilities. For more information, go to [www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb) and see Item 10 for the December 19 meeting.
- Briefing on the *Draft Air Quality Conformity Assessment* for the 2007 CLR and FY 2008-2013 TIP. To read briefing materials, go to [www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb) and see Item 12 for the December 19 meeting.
- Briefing on the *Draft 2007 CLR and FY 2008-2013 TIP*. For more information about the CLR and TIP, visit the CLR website at [www.mwcog.org/clrp](http://www.mwcog.org/clrp).
- Briefing on the *Draft TPB Procedures for Processing Revisions to the CLR and TIP*. ▲

# TPB PARTICIPATION PLAN

**“The TPB believes that public input into its process is valuable and makes its products better.”**  
 – The TPB  
 Participation Plan

*(Continued from page 1)*

strategic in targeting its activities to serve the needs of three different levels of constituencies. The Participation Plan focuses on tailoring outreach and involvement activities to the “involved” public, the “informed” public and the “interested” public. These three categories represent a continuum in typical levels of interest and expertise, ranging from extremely active individuals like members of the Citizens Advisory Committee to members of the general public. This distinction addresses the realization that not all members of the public may know about the TPB, and that requirements for information about regional transportation planning may be different for each constituency.

The Participation Plan also articulates the overarching importance of public involvement in the decision-making process. “The TPB believes that public input into its

process is valuable and makes its products better,” the document states. “Regional transportation planning cannot and should not be based simply upon technical analysis. The qualitative information derived from citizen involvement is essential to good decision-making.”

The TPB worked on the Participation Plan throughout 2007, receiving input from numerous stakeholder groups. Before the development of the Plan began, the TPB contracted the firm Circle Point to conduct an evaluation of its outreach activities. That consultant evaluation encouraged the TPB to be more strategic in devising its annual outreach program.

Now that the Participation Plan has been adopted, TPB staff will work with the TPB to develop an Annual Participation Program. This program will identify the participation activities to be conducted over the course of each fiscal year and define how the activities will enhance the ability for each constituency to participate in the TPB process.

The TPB will continue to provide comprehensive information to the “involved public,” those who already know about and participate in the TPB process. The TPB can improve efforts to educate and empower the “informed public,” those who may follow local and regional transportation planning issues. For the “interested public” who have limited knowledge about transportation planning, the TPB can simplify the regional transportation planning issues and provide those citizens with materials that are easy to access and understand.

To see a copy of the Participation Plan go to [www.mwcog.org/transportation](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation). ▲

## TPB Alphabet Soup

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>AFA</b>   | Access for All Committee                           |
| <b>CAC</b>   | Citizen’s Advisory Committee                       |
| <b>CLRP</b>  | Constrained Long-Range Plan                        |
| <b>COG</b>   | Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments     |
| <b>DDOT</b>  | District Department of Transportation              |
| <b>FHWA</b>  | Federal Highway Administration                     |
| <b>FTA</b>   | Federal Transit Administration                     |
| <b>MDOT</b>  | Maryland Department of Transportation              |
| <b>MPO</b>   | Metropolitan Planning Organization                 |
| <b>RMAS</b>  | Regional Mobility and Accessibility Scenario Study |
| <b>TIP</b>   | Transportation Improvement Program                 |
| <b>TLC</b>   | Transportation/Land-Use Connections Program        |
| <b>TPB</b>   | Transportation Planning Board                      |
| <b>VDOT</b>  | Virginia Department of Transportation              |
| <b>WMATA</b> | Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority     |

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# FUNDING FOR VIRGINIA PROJECTS INCREASED

At its December 19 meeting, the TPB approved an amendment to the FY 2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that increased funding to three components of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Capital Beltway HOV/HOT Lanes project.

The TIP amendment increases funding for three components of the I-495 Capital Beltway High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lanes Project: the Springfield Interchange (Phase VIII); the I-66 Access Improvements and Flyover Ramp; and the I-495 Capital Beltway widening to 12 lanes.

New funds were added to these components of the I-495 Capital Beltway HOV/HOT Lanes project to reflect new project costs resulting from financing and increased design-build costs. The I-495 Capital Beltway HOV/HOT Lanes project is now estimated to cost \$1.603 billion: \$157 million from the Virginia General Fund, \$1.1 billion in TIFIA private activity bond funds, and \$346 million from the private entity that will build and operate the HOT lanes. \$33.59 million in new funds were added to the I-66/I-495 interchange project. A new project listing was created for the non-HOT lanes portion of the Beltway HOV/HOT lanes project, to which \$55.15 million was added.

These changes in funding were necessary due to increased costs of construction materials, converting

funding to year-of-expenditure dollars, and finalized financing arrangements between VDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and private partners. ▲

***“That amount of money is breathtaking, but this is an innovative project and it is the first change to the Beltway in terms of HOV or multi-use lanes that we've ever had.”***

***- Patricia Ticer, TPB Member, Virginia Senate***



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In addition to the newsletter, readers can subscribe to other publications and TPB meeting materials. ▲

## UPCOMING JANUARY AGENDA ITEMS

The TPB's January 16 agenda is expected to include:

- Approval of the Draft Air Quality Conformity Assessment for the 2007 CLRP and FY 2008-2013 TIP.
- Approval of the Draft 2007 CLRP and FY 2008-2013 TIP. For more information about the 2007 CLRP and the FY 2008-2013 TIP, visit the CLRP website at [www.mwcog.org/clrp](http://www.mwcog.org/clrp).
- Release for public comment of Project Submissions

and the Draft Scope of Work for the Air Quality Conformity Assessment for the 2008 CLRP and FY 2009-2014 TIP.

- Review of Priority Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects.
- Review of the Outline and Preliminary Budget for the FY 2009 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Information and materials for the January 16 TPB meeting will be posted on the TPB website one week prior to the meeting: [www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb). ▲



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are at COG unless otherwise indicated. If you are in need of special assistance to participate in meetings, please call (202) 962-3315 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Bicycle racks are located in the parking garage at 777 N. Capitol St., N.E. (Enter from 1st St., N.E.).

## January 2008

- 4 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 4 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 8 Street Smart Advisory Group Meeting (10: am)
- 8 Management, Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Policy Task Force and Technical Subcommittee Joint Meeting (12:30 pm)
- 9 Bike to Work Day Steering Committee (10 am)
- 10 Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force (noon)
- 10 TPB Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 15 Employer Outreach Committee (10 am)
- 15 Commuter Connections Subcommittee (noon)
- 15 Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 15 TDM Evaluation Group (2 pm)
- 16 TPB Scenario Study Task Force (10 am)
- 16 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 18 Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 22 Regional Bus Subcommittee (noon)
- 24 Access for All Advisory Committee (2 pm)
- 30 Trails Seminar (9 am)
- 30 Task Force on Value Pricing for Transportation (10 am)
- 31 Travel Management Subcommittee (9:30 am) *tentative*
- 31 Aviation Technical Subcommittee (10:30 am)
- 31 Regional Taxicab Regulators Task Force (noon)

## February 2008

- 1 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 1 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 12 Management, Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Policy Task Force and Technical Subcommittee Joint Meeting (12:30 pm)
- 14 Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force (noon)
- 14 TPB Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 19 Commuter Connections Subcommittee (noon)
- 20 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 26 Travel Management Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 26 Regional Bus Subcommittee (noon)

## March 2008

- 7 TPB Technical Committee (9 am)
- 7 TPB Steering Committee (noon)
- 11 Management, Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems (MOITS) Policy Task Force and Technical Subcommittee Joint Meeting (12:30 pm)
- 12 Bike to Work Day Steering Committee (10 am)
- 13 Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force (noon)
- 13 TPB Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 18 Commuter Connections Ridematching Committee (10 am)
- 18 TDM Evaluation Group (noon)
- 18 Regional TDM Marketing Group (2 pm)
- 18 Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee (1 pm)
- 19 TPB Scenario Study Task Force (10 am)
- 19 Transportation Planning Board (noon)**
- 21 Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 25 Travel Management Subcommittee (9:30 am)
- 25 Regional Bus Subcommittee (noon)
- 27 Aviation Technical Subcommittee (10:30 am)
- 27 Regional Taxicab Regulators Task Force (noon)



Dates and times subject to change. Please visit our website at [www.mwcog.org](http://www.mwcog.org) for up-to-date information.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Sarah Crawford at [scrawford@mwkog.org](mailto:scrawford@mwkog.org), (202) 962-3237 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Allow seven working days for preparation of material.

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