

GEORGE WASHINGTON REGION TRANSIT POLICY PLAN

Study Overview/Work to Date



Prepared by  **JACOBS**
Edwards and Kelcey

July 10, 2007

Topics

1. Project Overview
2. Work to Date
3. Governance Options

Project Goals

1. Determine how to best improve transit service.
2. Identify funding.
3. Determine the most appropriate transit governing/operating entity.

Transit Service Goals

- Make transit a more integral component of the George Washington Region's overall transportation system.
- Improve service to existing riders
- Attract "choice" riders
- Serve a wide variety of trip types (work, shopping, medical, social, tourism, etc.)
- Provide both local and regional services.
- Provide seamless connections within the region, to and from other regions, and between modes.
- Provide Comprehensive Transportation Demand Programs
- Provide Comprehensive/Coordinated and Economic Services for Human Services Agency Clients
- Work with Human Services Agency and DRPT to assure completion of a Plan for Coordinated Human Services Transportation

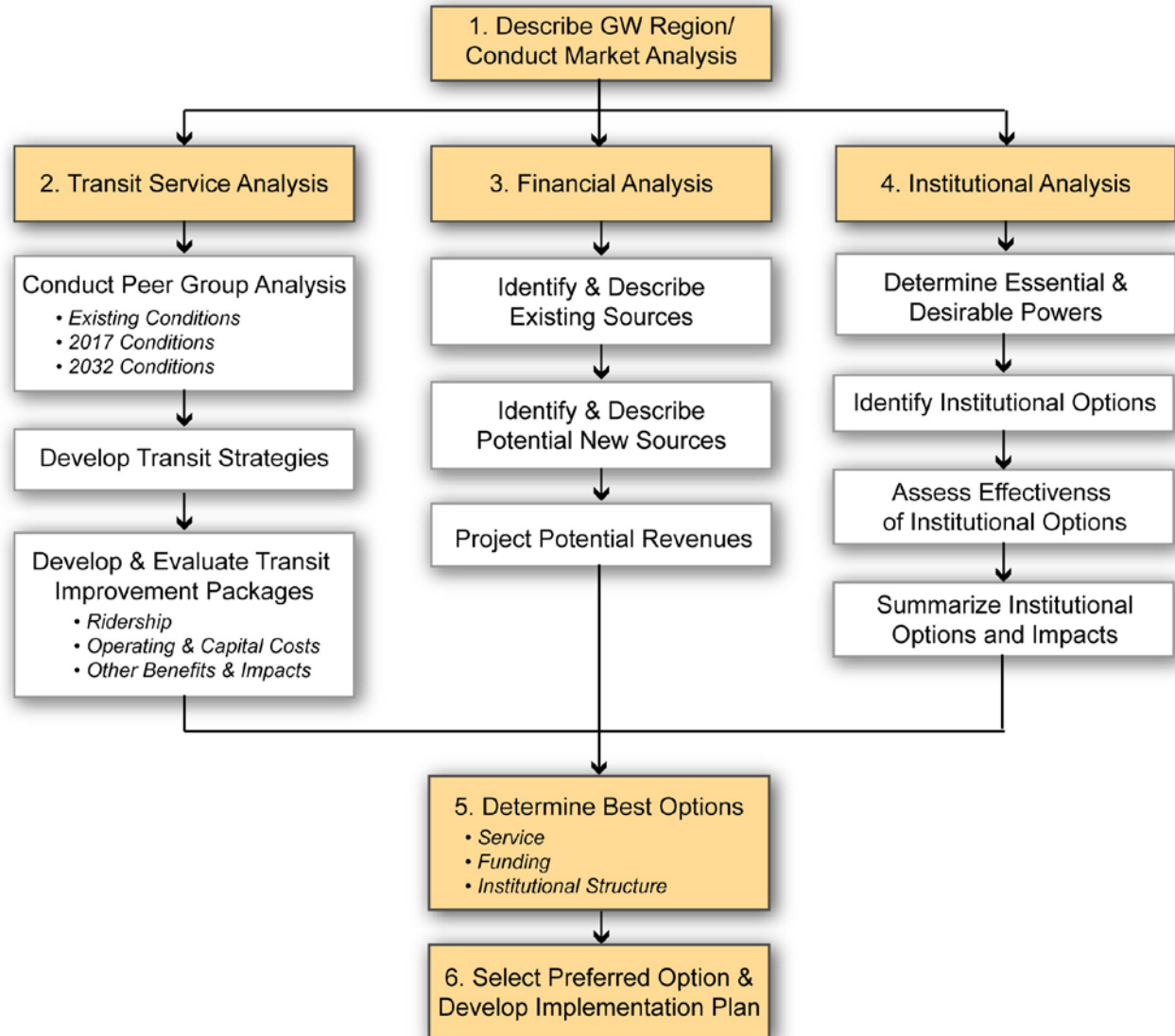
Governance Goals

- Provide effective management and service delivery.
- Provide a “platform” for regional transit issues and services.
- Provide equitable representation for all jurisdictions.
- Ensure effective control for all participating jurisdictions:
 - For regional services
 - For services within individual jurisdictions
 - At VRE level.
- Provide a regional perspective.

Financial Goals

- Ensure that transit service costs are reasonable and cost-effective.
- Ensure that proposed services are affordable.
- Ensure equitable cost sharing.
- Ensure ability to leverage/access all available funding.
- Provide for local funding flexibility.
- Expand private sector involvement.

Work Program




1. Conduct Market Analysis

- Identify local interests.
- Conduct interviews with major stakeholders.
- Document existing conditions.
- Determine projected future conditions.
 - 2017
 - 2035

2. Determine Transit Improvements

- Conduct peer review.
- Develop potential transit strategies:
 - Mid-Term (2015)
 - Long-Term (2035)
- Evaluate transit strategies.
- Develop service plans.
- Develop consensus.

 *Make transit a much for integral component of the region's transportation system.*

- *Provide attractive service for “choice” riders.*
- *Continue to service the region's neediest residents.*

3. Identify Funding Sources

- Identify and describe existing funding sources.
- Identify and describe potential new funding sources.
 - 2% gasoline sales tax
 - Local option taxes authorized for NOVA and Hampton Roads in HB 3202
 - Proffers
 - Impact fees
 - Toll revenues
 - Joint development
 - Other
- Project future revenues.
- Develop consensus.

4. Determine Most Appropriate Governing Entity

- Determine desirable characteristics of responsible entity.
- Identify options:
 - Status Quo
 - Individual transit systems
 - Expansion of PRTC
 - Transportation District
 - Service District
 - Transportation Authority
- Assess effectiveness.
- Determine impacts on other agencies.
- Develop consensus.

5. Implementation Plan

- Develop consensus:
 - Proposed services.
 - Financing.
 - Transportation entity.
- Develop implementation plan:
 - Actions required to create new transportation entity.
 - Actions required to transfer assets.
 - Actions required to implement new financing.
 - Schedule of key dates
 - Responsibilities of key parties.

Topics

1. Study Overview
2. **Work to Date**
3. Governance Options

Work to Date

1. Market Analysis

- Conducted first series of stakeholder interviews.
- Nearly completed documentation of existing conditions.

2. Determine Transit Improvements

- Work now beginning.

3. Identify Funding Sources

- Documented existing funding sources.
- Projected potential revenues from local option sources granted to Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads in HB 3202.

4. Determine Most Appropriate Governing Entity

- Identified and presented potential options.

Schedule

1. Market Analysis
 - Fall 2007
2. Determine Transit Improvements
 - Late 2007/Early 2008
3. Identify Funding Sources
 - Summer/Fall 2007
4. Determine Most Appropriate Governing Entity
 - *FAMPO Board has directed that further work focus on the investigation of, and consensus building for, a regional transportation authority.*
5. Develop Implementation Plan
 1. Winter/Spring 2008

Topics

1. Study Overview
2. Work to Date
3. Governance Options

Governance Options

1. Status Quo (continued operation by the City of Fredericksburg)
2. Separate Transit Systems for Each Jurisdiction
3. Expansion of PRTC
4. Creation of a Transportation District
5. Creation of a Service District
6. Creation of a Transportation Authority

Topics Addressed

1. How the institution would be governed
2. The steps that would be needed to create the new institution.
3. Its powers and functions.
4. Potential taxing and funding opportunities.
5. Funding and expenditure obligations.
6. The ability of implementing jurisdictions to subsequently withdraw.

TRANSIT POLICY PLAN

Governance Options	Status Quo	Individual Transit Systems	Expansion of PRTC	Transportation District	Service District	Transportation Authority
Governance						
Policy level representation for all localities	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Regional Perspective	No	No	Improved	Yes	Yes	Yes
Permits withdrawal from transit entity	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Difficult
Could join VRE	Yes	Possibly	Yes	Possibly	Possibly	Probably
Permits withdrawal from VRE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Powers and Functions						
Construct, operate, and maintain transit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Construct, operate, and maintain other regional transportation modes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Construct & operate toll roads	No	No	???	Possibly	Possibly	Yes
Condemn property & Issue Bonds	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Possibly
Revenue Generation						
Levy 2% gas tax	If desired via PRTC	If desired via PRTC	Req'd	via PRTC or Legisl	If desired via PRTC	Probably
Levy dedicated taxes	Limited	Limited	No	No	Property taxes	Wide variety

Summary

- Study is addressing future transportation service, funding, and governance for the entire George Washington Region.
- Study being conducted to determine most appropriate regional solution.
- Current policy direction is toward investigation of, and consensus building for, a Regional Transportation Authority responsible for transit and regional roadways.