

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The FHWA and FTA review found that the metropolitan transportation planning process conducted in the Washington, DC-VA-MD urbanized area meets Federal planning requirements as follows.

5.1 Commendations

The following are noteworthy practices that the TPB/FAMPO MPO is doing well in the transportation planning process:

- 1) The Federal Team commends TPB efforts for enhanced and extensive coordination with agencies' partners.
- 2) TPB is commended for implementing a public input survey as an early tool in gathering general attitudes and opinions about transportation in the region.
- 3) The Federal Team commends TPB efforts in identifying and sharing opportunities to enhance the planning process.
- 4) The Federal Team commends the proactive involvement of TPB in updating the obligation listings for all three States into a consistent format.
- 5) The Federal Team commends the TPB for its well documented CMP.
- 6) TPB is commended for the data clearing house and data delivery efforts that provide the TPB partners the ability to track and evaluate congestion methods that management strategies that support mobility needs consideration.
- 7) The Federal Team commends TPB, DDOT, VDOT and MDOT for its specific written procedures for all available performance measures and targets well before the May 20, 2019 implementation date for PM2 and PM3.

5.2 Corrective Actions

There are no corrective actions that the TPB/FAMPO MPO must take to comply with Federal Regulations.

5.3.1 Recommendations

The following are recommendations that would improve the transportation planning process:

- 1) The Federal Team requests that within one-year, the TPB, FAMPO, State, and providers of public transportation, develop agreed upon specific written provisions for cooperatively developing and sharing information related to transportation performance data, the selection of performance targets, the reporting of performance targets, the reporting of performance to be used in tracking progress toward attainment of critical outcomes for the region of the MPO, and the collection of data for the State asset management plan for the

NHS.

- 2) The Federal Team strongly recommends that, within a year, the 2004 TPB/FAMPO MOU be updated to reaffirm and validate the mutually agreed upon roles of each MPO and in consideration of the passage of multi-year Federal surface transportation legislation to ensure that ongoing roles and responsibilities are consistent with regional, State and Federal expectations.
- 3) The Federal Team recommend TPB include the previous year's accomplishments report in each current year UPWP.
- 4) The Federal Team recommends TPB continue or enhance its current level of Metropolitan Transportation Plan documentation of commitment to maintenance, operations and state of good repair.
- 5) The Federal Team recommend TPB continue expeditiously with the efforts to implement the new e-TIP and progress in alignment of projects with each State STIPs
- 6) The Federal Team recommends that TPB update its PPP (currently dated 2014) in consideration of the results from the recent consultant review of their public outreach activities and PPP and to reference the current legislation and planning regulations.
- 7) The Federal Team recommends TPB meet with the FHWA Civil Rights Specialist to discuss technical assistance and/or training to improve specific Title VI Plan and program areas.
- 8) The Federal Team recommend TPB update Title VI Program Plan to include the most recent assurance - US DOT Order 1050.2A. The language of the assurance should not be altered and should be signed annually and included in contractual agreements.
- 9) The Federal Team recommends TPB continue to provide increased stewardship and oversight to ensure that the financial assumptions for projects are reasonable. Along these lines, TPB should reconsider inclusion of some or all of the suburban Maryland BRT projects in its Financially Constrained element in the next Plan update, to better reflect realities associated with receiving Capital Investment Grant (CIG) funds.
- 10) The Federal Team recommends clarification on how projected revenues and expenditures from the Visualize 2045 financial plan contribute to and are consistent with the TIP development efforts.

5.3 Training/Technical Assistance

The following training and technical assistance is recommended to assist the MPO with improvements to the transportation planning process:

- 1) FHWA Grouped Project Guidance. <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/projlist.cfm>.
- 2) Office of Civil Rights for FHWA and FTA provide TPB with policies and training.