

Baltimore  
TMA Federal Certification Process

"Public Input Meeting"

June 24, 2008

Federal Highway Administration  
Federal Transit Administration

# Federal Review Team

- Kwame Arhin, FHWA Delmar
- Tashia Clemons, FHWA Delmar
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- Spencer Stevens, FHWA HQ
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# Why Are We Here Today?

- FHWA and FTA jointly review the metropolitan transportation planning process for those areas over 200,000 population at least every four years.
- Part of this review is seeking the public's input



# Overview of the Certification Process

- The review consists of 3 primary activities:
  1. A site visit including discussions with: MPO, MDOT, SHA, transit operators; and the general public.
  2. A report prepared by FHWA/FTA summarizing review findings and certification action.
  3. A closeout presentation of the review at a future MPO Policy Board Meeting.

# Why Are You Here Today?

- To give your opinion of the metropolitan area's transportation planning process and ask questions

# What Will Happen to Your Comments?

- The comments received today and by mail (through July 9) will be summarized in a written report
- Comments are taken into consideration while evaluating the transportation planning process for the area

# What Is The Outcome of This Review?

- Report issued within 60 days summarizing the discussions during the review
- Process is certified; certified subject to certain corrective actions; certified for use of only certain construction funding categories
- Process is not certified; Withhold Funds; or Withhold approval of all or certain categories of projects.

# Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

- *What is the planning process?*
  - A process by which transportation planning decisions are made and projects are selected, and prioritized for implementation with the metropolitan area.

# Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

- *Why is the planning process important?*
  - Establishes a mechanism for collaboration
  - Provides the framework for the future transportation system
  - Due to limited funding, the MPO must prioritize the regional needs and determine the best and most economical solution

# Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

## ■ *Who is involved?*

### - MPO \*

- Policy Board
- Technical Committee
- Citizen Committee
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
- Local Coordinating Board

### - MDOT

### - SHA

### - MTA

- Local governments
  - (cities and counties)
- School Boards
- Local Citizens
- Interest Groups
- FTA & FHWA

# Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

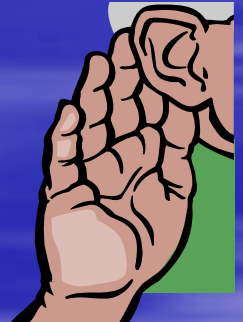
- *How?*
  - Through a "3-C" approach
    - Continuing
    - Cooperative
    - Comprehensive
  - Multimodal and interconnected
  - Public Input

# Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

- *Products of the Process*
  - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
  - Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
  - Congestion Management System (CMS)
  - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
  - Public Involvement Plan (PIP)

# Opportunity for Public Comment

- Are you provided with the opportunity to participate in the transportation planning and programming process?
- Do you receive information about transportation issues early enough in the process so staff and the MPO can utilize your suggestions or recommendations?



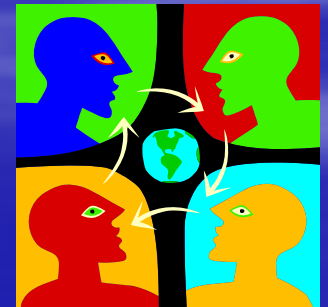
# Opportunity for Public Comment (continued)

- Do you have reasonable access to the technical and policy information that is used to develop the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Plan?
- Do you receive adequate notice of transportation planning and programming activities?
- Do you have adequate time to comment on key decision points in the process?



# Opportunity for Public Comment (continued)

- Do you feel your comments are taken into consideration by staff and the MPO?
- What are the positive aspects of the transportation planning process?
- What suggestions do you have for improving the process?



# Additional opportunity for Comments

- If you would like to send written comments -  
Please send them no later than July 9, 2008 to:

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- Via Fax: 410.732.8248
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Thank you for your comments

