



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner

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December 22, 2020

Mr. Kanti Srikanth, Transportation Planning Director
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
777 North Capitol Street NE
Washington, DC 20002

Mr. Srikanth:

At the December 16th meeting of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), there was discussion and a recommendation for approval of the Technical Inputs Solicitation Submission Guide (Guide) for projects proposed for the 2022 update of TPB's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The updated Technical Inputs Solicitation included, among other things, a requirement that member agencies prioritize investments on projects, programs, and policies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, prioritize the aspirational strategies, and achieve the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's land use and equity goals.

It has come to my attention that our VDOT representative voted against approval of the Technical Inputs Solicitation due, in part, to confusion over wording changes proposed at the meeting. Regardless of the reason, I am writing to assure you that the vote as recorded does not reflect the position of the agency nor the Northam Administration. VDOT is fully supportive of the goals and aspirations included within the Guide, including those pertaining to reductions in GHG emissions. Our agency recognizes that the transportation sector is among the largest contributors to the region's overall carbon emissions, and VDOT and the Administration remain committed to advancing projects that aim to reduce GHG emissions and improve the region's carbon footprint. In addition to clarifying VDOT's position I am hopeful there is provision in TPB's bylaws that would allow VDOT to change its vote on this matter for the record.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen C. Brich".

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner