

June 15, 2021

Hon. Charles Allen  
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Re: TPB Draft CLRP and Resolution by TPB Board Member Evan Glass

Chair Allen and members of the TPB:

We hope you all agree that climate change is an existential threat. You also know that transportation is our number one source of emissions and that electrical vehicles will not be enough to get us to the COG and national goals of a 50% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2030. The last CLRP (2018) is only estimated to reduce CO2 by 23% by 2045,

In the COG scientific and statistically significant Voices of the Region Survey, 84% of the region's residents indicated they want elected officials to prioritize climate change in transportation plans. Public comment on Visualize 2045 has overwhelmingly supported a plan that addresses climate change.

Therefore, we urge you to address the issues raised in Councilmember Glass' resolution and by many other members of the TPB seeking a CLRP that more effectively addresses climate change. At a minimum, we urge you in adopting the draft CLRP for air conformity modeling, to concurrently commit to the TPB to adopting a new CLRP by 2024 that meets COG's climate goals. This includes conducting a rigorous initial climate strategy analysis this year (not just an academic exercise) and beginning immediately in 2022, developing the next CLRP by 2024.

We are running out of time. We need your leadership.

Thank you.

Stewart Schwartz  
Executive Director

Bill Pugh  
Senior Policy Fellow