

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



February 21, 2024

The Honorable Christina Henderson, Chair
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4290

Dear Chair Henderson,

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) welcomes the public comments transmitted as a part of the update for the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) Visualize 2050 Plan. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is committed to ensuring accessible and inclusive public involvement in all agency projects and the public comment opportunity for projects included in the National Capital Region's Transportation Plan update is an important step in this process.

DDOT's project-related decisions are guided by the Department's strategic plan, moveDC. moveDC's [seven goals](#) are: safety, equity, mobility, project delivery, management and operations, sustainability, and enjoyable spaces. DDOT's project selection process assesses each project with the established goals of moveDC to ensure projects selected to receive funding are in alignment with the stated goals of the future of the District's transportation system. This prioritization process includes each project listed in the Visualize 2045 plan.

Several of DDOT's projects received public input during the Transportation Planning Board's comment period. Of these, the District-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Management Program received the most. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Management Program serves a key goal for DDOT, which is to ensure that 75% of District residents commute using a mode other than single-occupancy vehicle. Additionally, bicycle lane additions to roadways can help to reduce crashes between 30 and 49%, depending on the roadway classification, making the District's network of bicycle lanes a crucial component of our roadway safety toolkit.

DDOT also received comments regarding our bus priority projects, including the Pennsylvania Ave SE Bus Priority Project. We are pleased to report that Phase I of this project, from 2nd St SE to 13th St SE, is complete and operational. This project preserves Pennsylvania Ave SE as a scenic boulevard offering views of the Capitol building, while also providing safer crossings for pedestrians, protected bicycle facilities for cyclists, and dedicated transit lanes during the morning and evening rush hours for Metro bus routes along this roadway. As progress on Phase II, from 13th St SE to Barney Circle is completed, this project will increase service reliability for over 11,000 riders each day who utilize corresponding Metrobus routes.

DDOT's mission is to ensure that all current and future District residents and visitors are able to move through the District safely, utilizing our multimodal network. Strengthening this network is a key strategy to better serve current and future roadway users, including updating and maintaining the District's network of bikeways and transit priority corridors.

Sincerely,

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