April 19, 2022

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
777 North Capitol St NE
Washington, DC 20002

RE: Need for stronger climate provisions and specific numeric targets for electric vehicles and vehicle miles traveled in the Visualize 2045 plan

Dear Members of the Transportation Planning Board,

The Sierra Club Maryland Chapter writes to reinforce the comments of Coalition for Smarter Growth, which provided detailed comments in a separate communication.

The essential message we want to stress is that Visualize 2045 needs to identify not just an overall greenhouse gas reduction target for transportation but also identify specific numeric targets for electric vehicles and vehicle miles traveled.

The TPB’s climate study provides very clear findings on what is needed and achievable. Yet the current draft Visualize 2045 plan’s climate section is vague and sets no specific measures. The current draft of Visualize 2045 also fails to make any progress from the 2018 plan in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and car dependence.

We appreciate the leadership of TPB members who are making this a priority and urge the TPB to adopt strategies that reflect what is necessary to keep our region and world safe from disastrous climate change.

Sincerely,

Josh Tulkin, Director
Sierra Club Maryland Chapter