



Workshop Report

2026 FIFA World Cup Planning

Workshop Overview

This workshop was organized to prepare for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, focusing on transportation systems management and operations (TSMO) strategies to ensure safe and efficient mobility. The event featured presentations, roundtable discussions, and networking opportunities, with speakers from various transportation and security agencies sharing their expertise and insights.

Segment 1: Secure the Goal: Security Measures and Event Preparedness

Speaker:

- Jim Austrich, FHWA

Key Points:

- Emphasized the importance of robust security measures and preparedness for large-scale events.
- Discussed vehicle and people screening zones outside stadiums.
- Highlighted the need for efficient communication strategies and collaboration with government entities.

EXPERIENCE SHARING:

- Jim Austrich shared insights from his extensive experience with DDOT and the law enforcement in managing special events, including protests and sporting events in the broader DC area.
- **Multiagency Coordination:** The significance of coordination among various agencies, such as city, county, MPOs, AAA TMC, MACCs (Mass Attack Coordination Centers), and ITS technologies.
- **Jurisdictional Issues:** Addressed the complexities of jurisdiction and the necessity for inter-agency collaboration.
- **Security Measures:** Detailed the implementation of road closures, inner/outer cordons for special security events, and the impact of threat levels on transportation.
- **Emergency Services Coordination:** The role of EMS, public works, law enforcement, and relationships with the FBI and National Guard.
- **Technology Integration:** The use of CDVS (riot crowd disturbance units), checkpoints, signal timing plans, evacuation plans, and unmanned drones for enhanced security and management.
- **Traffic Incident Management:** The importance of TSMO strategies in managing traffic incidents during large-scale events.

Segment 2: Parking the Bus: Safe Mobility and Operations

Speaker:

- David Adams, Penn DOT

Key Points:

- Addressed the challenges of safe mobility and parking operations during the event.
- Mentioned the expected 30-40% reduction in stadium parking due to security measures.
- Discussed the logistics of mass transit handling surges after matches.
- Coordination with neighboring states is key.
- A very robust information campaign for mobility options is also important, particularly if security needs will drive road closures for venue access.

Segment 3: Rapid Roundtable: “Strategic Playbook: TSMO Tactics for FIFA World Cup Success” (60 minutes)

Speaker:

- Sal Cowan (NJDOT)
- Chris Engelbrecht (MoDOT)
- John Hibbard (GDOT)

Key Points:

- Discussed strategic TSMO tactics to ensure smooth operations during the World Cup.
- Highlighted the importance of route tracking, probe data analytics, and roadway management.
- Considered the need for efficient team movements from airports to hotels and other logistics.
- Individuals with disabilities also need to be accommodated with transport options.
- Other events such as “Fan fests” which may not be held at the venues need to be considered.
- Inter-agency coordination is key.
- A very robust information campaign for mobility options is also important, particularly if security needs will drive road closures for venue access.

Segment 4: Conversation Circle: Resilience Goals to Tackle Emergency

Panel Discussion:

- Focused on ensuring resiliency goals and addressing challenges during special events.
- Reviewed lessons from the KC Parade Shooting Incident.
- Emphasized maintenance efforts, redundancy, and detailed planning.

Poll Results



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Poll Results



What words or phrases come to mind when you think about how resilience and emergency planning can play a role in planning for the FIFA World Cup 2026?

Wordcloud Poll 30 responses 17 participants

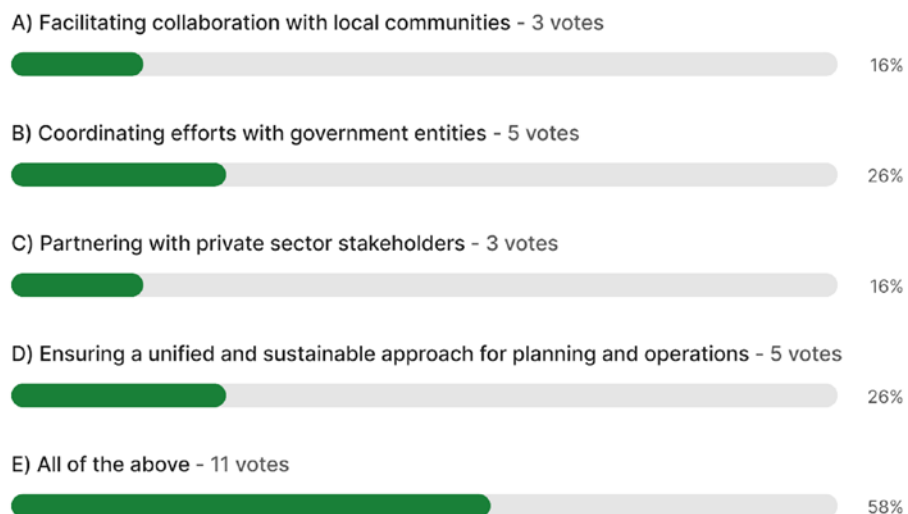


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What role does stakeholder engagement play in achieving resiliency goals for major events like the FIFA World Cup?

Multiple Choice Poll 19 votes 19 participants



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Meeting Notes Highlights

- **Match Schedule:** Philadelphia and New Jersey to host matches on Monday 6/22, Thursday 6/25, and Saturday 6/27.
- **Security Zones:** Establishment of vehicle and people screening zones near stadiums.
- **Parking Reductions:** New Jersey expects a 30-40% reduction in stadium parking due to security measures.
- **Mass Transit Logistics:** Evaluation of mass transit's ability to handle surges post-matches.
- **Communication Strategies:** Importance of getting information out via 511 and cell networks.
- **National Special Security Event:** Potential designation with Secret Service involvement.
- **Airport Coordination:** Importance of airports due to geographic spread of the event.
- **Ethnic Presence:** Consideration of local celebrations for specific teams.
- **Fan Fest Locations:** Designated areas for fans to gather during matches.
- **Bilingual Messaging:** Consideration for bilingual messaging on CMS.
- **Cellular Network Support:** Verizon to provide Cellular on Wheels (COWs) to enhance network capacity.
- **Traffic Management:** Need for upgraded probe data analytics and efficient traffic management post-matches.
- **Team Logistics:** Planning for team movements from airports to hotels, including road closures and escorts.
- **Maintenance Efforts:** Preparations in advance, such as mowing, sweeping, and graffiti removal.
- **Key Words:** Redundancy, Coordination, Collaboration, Detailed, Security.

Conclusion

The workshop successfully brought together experts from various fields to discuss and plan for the transportation and security challenges of the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Key themes included security preparedness, efficient mobility operations, strategic planning, and the importance of coordination and collaboration among stakeholders. The insights and strategies shared during the workshop will be instrumental in ensuring a successful and safe event.

2026 FIFA World Cup Planning Resource Hub

INTRODUCTION

This toolkit provides a concise set of strategies and considerations to ensure safe and efficient transportation management for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

KEY COMPONENTS

1. **Multiagency Coordination**
2. **Federal Support**
3. **Security Measures**
4. **Emergency Services Coordination**
5. **Technology Integration**
6. **Traffic Incident Management**
7. **Mass Transit Logistics and Ride Share Facilities**
8. **Airport Coordination**
9. **Ethnic Presence and Bilingual Messaging**
10. **Fan Fest Locations and Logistics**
11. **Cellular Network Support**
12. **Traffic Management**
13. **Maintenance Efforts**
14. **Leadership**

The 2026 FIFA World Cup TSMO toolkit focuses on key strategies for effective transportation management, including multiagency coordination with joint operations centers and interagency agreements, addressing jurisdictional issues through mapping and task forces, and ensuring security with checkpoints and surveillance systems. Emergency services will be coordinated with developed response plans and interoperable communication systems. Technology integration involves ITS and mobile apps for real-time updates, while traffic incident management will use response teams and information sharing. Enhanced mass transit logistics, dedicated shuttles, and airport operations centers will manage visitor influx, supported by customs and immigration streamlining. Cultural sensitivity and bilingual messaging will be provided, and fan fest locations will be strategically placed with traffic flow management. Cellular network support, dynamic traffic control, and planned road closures will aid traffic management. Team logistics include secure transportation and logistical centers, with proactive maintenance ensuring infrastructure reliability. Additional considerations include funding from various sources, federal support, effective leadership, transit needs estimation, and management of shared ride services. These strategies aim to ensure safe, efficient, and enjoyable mobility, fostering collaboration and security throughout the event.