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## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

December 21, 2022  
Ashley Hutson, CAC Chair

The TPB Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Thursday, December 15. The committee discussed the 2020 update on regional climate goals and emission trends, and the final recommendations from the 2022 TPB Public Participation Evaluation. The meeting was online-only.

### UPDATE ON REGIONAL CLIMATE GOALS

Robert Christopher of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's (MWCOC) Department of Environmental Programs provided a briefing on the MWCOC's Regional Climate Goals. He said the region's established goal was to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20 percent between 2005 and 2020. Christopher said that goal was surpassed. He said emissions decreased at least 24 percent in that 15-year period.

The presentation included information on regional emissions trends and key transportation performance indicators from 2005 until 2020.

Member comments and questions included the following:

- ***2020 emissions reduction data are not indicative of permanent change.*** Some CAC members expressed concern about the emphasis on progress from 2020 emissions reduction data. One member said that 2020–2021 data should be considered an outlier considering the changes associated with the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Another CAC member asked about rates of teleworking for 2021–2022 because of recent research indicating that people who telework may increase their driving. Both members expressed concern about the usefulness of the 2020 data because of the unique circumstances of the pandemic. Erin Morrow, of TPB staff said that as part of the COG's environmental programs, 2020 is considered a measurable milestone. She added that 2020 data could be useful to understand how abnormal 2020 data is compared to other post-pandemic years.

### DISCUSSION ABOUT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION EVALUATION

Rachel Beyerle, TPB Communications Manager, introduced Charlie Echard and Lori Zeller of Foursquare ITP who presented the final recommendations of the 2022 TPB Public Participation Evaluation report. The presentation included an overview of observations and recommendations based on a review of TPB's public participation program between January 2019 and September 2022. The Foursquare ITP team then led an open discussion on thoughts from CAC on how the evaluation recommendations could be implemented into existing processes.

Members comments and suggestions included the following:

- ***Working with the TPB Chair and CAC members to identify useful changes from the evaluation.*** One CAC member suggested that the new CAC Chair, along with TPB staff, should seek guidance from the TPB Chair to identify those issues on which CAC input would be particularly beneficial. These recommendations, as well as other ideas from CAC members could be discussed at a meeting early in the new year.

- ***Improving the dialogue between CAC and TPB.*** John Swanson asked TPB members to discuss ways that communication between the TPB and CAC could be improved. Suggestions included the following:
  - It would be useful for CAC members to understand which agenda items are actionable versus informational. Members said that this would allow the chair's report to be more helpful on agenda items that are more likely to be impacted by CAC feedback.
  - It is useful for the CAC members, at least occasionally, to watch the TPB meetings to understand how the TPB works and the CAC's role or potential role in the TPB process.
  - The CAC agenda could include an item in which the CAC chair would report on the latest TPB meeting.
  - It is helpful for CAC members to personally get to know their TPB representative(s) to build a better relationship that allows for dialogue and feeling heard.
  - If it is deemed appropriate, the CAC chair could issue public statements on social or in print media.
  - In addition to CAC member feedback, Lori Zeller of Foursquare ITP referenced that one of the evaluation's recommendations included "revis[ing] the CAC reporting mechanism at TPB meetings to enable more interactivity." They suggested that instead of a simple verbal report at the TPB meeting, the CAC chair might use a Powerpoint presentation to spark conversation.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- John Swanson said that nearly 80 applications had been received for the 2023-2024 CAC. He said the 2023 TPB officers would make their nominations to CAC in January and the board would vote on the new members at the January TPB meeting. The first meeting of the new CAC will be on February 9.
- Swanson announced that the last meeting of the current CAC would be on January 12. He said he would poll the committee to determine whether the meeting will be online-only or hybrid (in-person and virtual).

## ATTENDEES

### Members

Elisa Walton, *Acting Chair*  
 Nancy Abeles  
 Ra Amin  
 Michael Artson  
 Jeff Jamawat  
 Katherine Kortum  
 Eyal Li  
 Daniel Papiernik  
 Jeff Parnes  
 Lorena Rios

### Staff

John Swanson  
 Robert Christopher  
 Jeff King  
 Rachel Beyerle  
 Marcela Moreno  
 Erin Morrow  
 Mark Moran  
 Katherine Rainone

### Others

Matt Joseph