
TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONTHLY REPORT
December 13, 2018

Katherine Kortum, CAC Chair

The CAC met on Thursday, December 13 for briefings on the Environmental Justice Analysis of Visualize 2045 and highway safety targets. There was also a discussion about autonomous vehicles and transportation technology.

VISUALIZE 2045: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS

Sergio Ritacco, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee on the environmental justice analysis of the TPB's recently passed long-range transportation plan, Visualize 2045. He covered the methodology and explained how the TPB's Equity Emphasis Areas were used to determine that the plan does not have a disproportionately high or significantly adverse impact on those population groups.

The committee asked a series of clarifying questions to get a better understanding of the analysis. They asked about whether historic data was used, how specific modes were analyzed and commute sheds defined, and about how the determination was made. Some members of the committee recognized that not all questions could be answered by this study. Particularly, people were curious about the type of jobs that were accessible, the level of service for different areas, and how ride-hailing companies might impact the data.

PERFORMANCE BASED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING: HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS

Jon Schermann, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee about federal requirements to set highway safety targets as part of the performance-based planning and programming rule. He described how the District, Maryland, and Virginia set their safety targets and how the TPB incorporates those targets into its own targets for the planning area. He provided some background to contextualize trends and provide some expectations as to how the targets may be used in the future.

The committee was curious to know how fatalities and serious injuries for motorized scooters and bicycles might be counted in the future, and asked about how infrastructure design might be informed by the safety data. They were curious to know if COG would use the data to identify safer road elements for the region. The committee looks forward to the opportunity for the TPB to compare its data from other similar MPOs across the country.

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES/TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE TPB

Andrew Meese, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee on current trends related to autonomous vehicles and other emerging technology issues. He also described how some other MPOs are planning to work with these new technologies.

The committee discussed the data infrastructure that is required to support more computer-based travel. They also wondered about data privacy and making sure that users are aware of what data is being collected and how it might be used. The committee is frustrated by the mis-match in current policy and legislation for dealing with existing technology. They hope that the federal government can lead with legislation. The committee expressed some concerns about the possible impacts that

autonomous vehicles may have on the labor force. One member of the committee advocated that the transportation technologies be required to be accessible to the disabled, including people who use wheel chairs and are blind.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED

- Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner, reminded committee members to re-apply before the deadline if they'd like to serve on the 2019 CAC.
- Abigail Zenner, TPB Communications Specialist, reviewed the agenda for the December TPB meeting.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Katherine Kortum, chair
 Carol Tyson
 Emmet Tydings
 Jeff Parnes
 Josh Linden
 Lorena Rios
 Meredith Howell
 Ricky Tejada
 Veronica Lowe

ALTERNATES

Daniel Papiernik
 Monika Shepard
 Theodore Wilhite

TPB STAFF AND GUESTS

Abigail Zenner, TPB staff
 Andrew Meese, TPB staff
 Bryan Hayes, TPB staff
 Jon Schermann, TPB staff
 Sergio Ritacco, TPB staff
 Bill Orleans, resident
 Stewart Schwartz, Coalition for Smarter Growth