
**TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONTHLY REPORT**

May 17, 2017

Jeremy Martin, Chairman

At its May meeting, the CAC focused on what projects, policies, and programs the committee would like to recommend for future consideration and analysis by the Long-Range Plan Task Force. The committee also received a briefing on proposed public participation activities for the 2018 long-range transportation plan and provided feedback on those activities.

LONG-RANGE PLAN TASK FORCE DISCUSSION

After a brief presentation and update on the Long-Range Plan Task Force, TPB staffer Lori Zeller led the committee in an exercise to identify topics of greatest interest to the CAC members. Prior to the meeting, staff hung posters on the wall that featured a master list of all the various initiatives (projects, policies, and programs) that has been compiled from input provided by the Long-Range Plan Task Force over the past few weeks. At the CAC meeting, committee members were each given four sticky dots, which they applied to initiatives that they thought were most important.

All the top vote-getters related to strengthening the regional mass transit network in a variety of ways. Members emphasized the following types of initiatives: Added capacity on the existing heavy rail system (including an additional tunnel at Rosslyn or elsewhere throughout the region); added circumferential connections by rail, complemented with bus rapid transit; dedicated funding to make sure this all will happen. Many committee members noted that they were interested in ways to connect outlying parts of the region.

In discussing key themes, CAC members emphasized the following overarching points:

- Be practical: The region needs to take care of obvious needs and pursue initiatives that are proven to work.
- But also be imaginative: The region also needs to “think outside the box” by pursuing bold solutions to future challenges.
- Don’t forget funding: Reliable revenue sources need to part of any long-term planning.

After the exercise, the discussion focused on how members made their choices and how the committee can best convey its priorities to the task force. CAC chairman Jeremy Martin synthesized the comments in a statement from the CAC to the Long-Range Plan Task Force, which is attached to this report.

UPDATE ON PLANNED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE 2018 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Ben Hampton provided an update on a staff proposal for public involvement related to the 2018 Long-Range Transportation Plan. He gave an outline of the planned MetroQuest survey including showing how the survey would look to respondents. He also showed some examples of how staff intend to name and brand the long-range plan. Committee members provided feedback on the design, color-scheme, and images for the brand logo. Looking ahead, committee members also agreed to send suggestions of groups that might be helpful for outreach activities.

OTHER DISCUSSION

- Anthony Garland, representing the Amalgamated Transit Union, told the committee that the ATU has developed a proposal for WMATA funding. He distributed copies of the ATU report and asked for CAC support.
- Abigail Zenner of COG/TPB staff reminded the committee about Bike to Work Day and how to share photos and experiences on social media.
- Lyn Erickson, Plan Development and Program Coordination Director, reviewed the agenda for the May TPB meeting.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT	ALTERNATES	TPB STAFF AND GUESTS
Jeremy Martin, Chairman	Anna Ray	Abigail Zenner, staff
Emmet Tydings	Jessica Smith	John Swanson, staff
Jeffery Parnes	Ronit Dancis	Ben Hampton, staff
Katherine Kortum	Veronica Lowe	Lyn Erickson, staff
Nancy Abeles	Daniel Papiernik	Lori Zeller, staff
Lorena Rios		Bill Orleans
		Anthony Garland

MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Long-Range Plan Task Force
FROM: Jeremy Martin, 2017 CAC Chair
SUBJECT: CAC priorities for task force consideration and analysis
DATE: May 17, 2017

On May 11, the CAC reviewed the list of projects, programs and policies compiled by the Long-Range Plan Task Force and voted on top CAC priorities. Each member chose four top priorities, and a high degree of consensus emerged among the votes and subsequent discussion. All 5 of the top vote getters related to strengthening the regional mass transit network in a variety of ways:

- Securing regional dedicated funding for metro
- Continuing the Purple Line in a circumferential rail route
- Adding additional Potomac river crossing for Metro
- Adding new capacity dedicated transit lanes/regional inter-jurisdictional BRT network/priority bus
- Adopting a standardized or fixed fare on all transit

Some of our discussion about the process highlighted the interdependence of potential projects, and the need for capacity improvements to be pursued in conjunction with TOD and improved access to encourage people to take advantage of the transit capacity, and funding sources and fare structures that would facilitate necessary ongoing investment and expanded ridership.

The CAC had many questions, and looks forward to following the next steps of the LRP-TF and possibly weighing in again later in the process.

