



Access for All Advisory Committee (AFA) Committee Description

ABOUT THE AFA

The AFA was established in 2001 with a focus on bringing transportation concerns from low-income populations, minority populations, and persons with disabilities into the regional transportation planning process. While the TPB has been analyzing its Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) for disproportionate and adverse impacts on traditionally-underserved populations since 2001, the AFA committee has brought short-term critical concerns about transportation issues to the attention of the TPB,

In March 2016 the TPB's Steering Committee concurred with a proposal to combine the Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force with the AFA for greater efficiency, to eliminate redundancies and improve representation and member participation. The enhanced AFA committee would provide feedback to the TPB on issues important to low-income communities, minority communities, limited English speakers, older adults and people with disabilities.

Also in March 2016, the TPB appointed Charles Allen, DC Councilmember and TPB Second vice Chair, to serve as the AFA Chair.

THE NEW AFA MISSION

The AFA mission, articulated below, will remain essentially the same:

The Access for All Advisory Committee (AFA) advises the TPB on transportation issues, programs, policies, and services important to traditionally underserved communities, including low-income communities, minority communities, people with limited English proficiency, people with disabilities, and older adults. The committee identifies issues of concern to traditionally underserved populations in order to determine whether and how these issues might be addressed within the TPB process.

This mission is consistent with the mission statement included in the 2014 Update to the TPB's Participation Plan, although the definition of "traditionally underserved communities" has been expanded to more explicitly include people with limited English proficiency and older adults.

COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

The objectives and activities of committee will include the following:

- Facilitate regional discussion about issues important to traditionally underserved communities, such as public transit, affordability, connecting people to jobs, and improving service delivery
- Provide feedback to the TPB on the Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP), other long-range planning efforts, studies, and transportation issues in general
- Provide guidance on updates to the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan which must be revised every 4 years

- Provide input on the priorities for the TPB's solicitation for Enhanced Mobility grant applications
- Serve as a forum for coordination among community groups and/or human service agencies at the regional level

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

An application process has been established for the new AFA committee. Members should commit to a two-year term. As in the past, the AFA membership will be comprised of leaders representing traditionally underserved communities, including community based organizations and members of relevant advisory bodies. AFA members should serve as "community connectors"; members not only provide essential input on transportation concerns to the TPB planning process, but also bring back information about transportation issues to the communities that they represent or work with. Only one person from an agency or organization can serve as a member, but more than one person from an agency or organization can be on the e-mail distribution list and/or attend meetings.

AFA membership is currently planned to include a maximum of 50 individuals representing community organizations or non-profits, not including ex-officio members.

- **Ex-Officio members** work for state or local agency, transit provider, or are a private provider of transportation services.
- **Members** are individuals, represent a nonprofit group, or serve on an advisory committee.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The committee will generally meet on a bi-monthly basis, with five regular meetings per year. Special meetings or subcommittee meetings may be scheduled as needed.

The first meeting of the enhanced AFA committee is June 23, 2016 from 12 noon to 2pm at COG in the Training Center. The next three meetings are: August 25, 12 noon to 2pm, October 27, 12 noon to 2pm, and December 15, 12 noon to 2pm.

Meetings are held at the COG Building, 777 North Capital Street NE, Washington, DC 20002

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THOSE WITH LIMITED ENGLISH SKILLS

Alternative formats of the survey or this document are available upon request. Please contact Bryan Hayes at bhayes@mwkog.org or (202) 962-3273 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD). Please allow five working days for preparation of the material.