

REPORT

TPB Citizens Advisory Committee January 18, 2006 Dennis Jaffe, 2005 CAC Chair

Because the 2006 Citizens Advisory Committee has not yet been appointed, last year's committee convened on January 12. In addition to discussing pedestrian/bicycle coordination issues at WMATA, the meeting focused on end-of-year business.

Discussion on the Need for Better Pedestrian/Bicycle Coordination at WMATA

Last month the committee discussed proposals to create a pedestrian and bicycle access coordinator position at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). CAC members agreed that this issue should be brought to the attention of TPB members. They noted that creating a ped/bike coordinator would make good business sense for WMATA because it could result in increased ridership. It would also make sense for the region's jurisdictions that need support in their efforts to improve pedestrian and bicycle access at transit stations.

At the TPB meeting on December 21, several TPB members, including Virginia State Senator Patsy Ticer and Chairman Mendelson, picked up the CAC's concerns. After a discussion, the TPB directed TPB staff to develop a recommendation, which would be sent to the WMATA board, requesting the transit agency to designate a "point person" to perform pedestrian and bicycle coordination work. At the TPB meeting on January 18, the board is scheduled to discuss a draft letter with this recommendation that would be sent to the WMATA board.

At the CAC meeting on January 12, Nat Bottigheimer of the WMATA staff gave the CAC a presentation on the agency's Station Access Planning Program, which includes a number of efforts to improve pedestrian and bicycle access. Mr. Bottigheimer said that increasing station access would increase ridership; increase system efficiency and service quality; promote safety and security; generate additional revenue; support transit-oriented development; and support planning for 30-year regional plans.

CAC Chair Dennis Jaffe called attention to the concerns that the CAC raised last month regarding the lack of a dedicated ped/bike coordinator at WMATA. He asked Mr. Bottigheimer how he answers the concern that local jurisdiction staff, advocates and citizens do not have a single point person to contact regarding pedestrian and bicycle concerns.

Mr. Bottigheimer answered that as long as this issue continues to be a CAC priority, the committee should continue to advocate for it.

Recommendations of the CAC Working Group on CLRP/TIP Information and Analysis and the 2005 CAC End-of-the-Year Report

The committee finalized the recommendations of the working group and the 2005 CAC End-of-the-Year Report, which will be handed out separately.

Presentation on Planned Improvements in Public Involvement and Public Information

John Swanson of the COG/TPB staff briefed the committee on planned efforts for 2006 to improve public information and public involvement. This presentation will be given to the TPB at its meeting on January 18.

CAC Vice Chair Emmet Tydings asked that staff consider new ways to present information on the TPB's scenario study using the presentation from the CAC's public forums last year.

This being his last meeting as chair, Mr. Jaffe reflected on the past two year's accomplishments. Vice Chairman Tydings thanked Mr. Jaffe for his service and said this was a high-water mark year for the CAC in having impact on the TPB with respect to our issues.

ATTENDANCE
CAC Meeting, January 12, 2006

2005 Members in Attendance

1. Dennis Jaffe, Chair, DC
2. Ephrem Asebe, MD
3. Nathaniel Bryant, MD
4. Stephen Cerny, Vice Chair, VA
5. Elvin Crespo, MD
6. Don Edwards, DC
7. Harold Foster, DC
8. Jim Larsen, VA
9. Grace Malakoff, DC
10. Allen Muchnick, VA
11. Lee Schoenecker, DC
12. Emmet Tydings, Vice Chair, MD

2005 Members Not in Attendance

1. Stephen Caflisch, MD
2. Stewart Schwartz, VA

Staff/Others

Nat Bottigheimer, WMATA
Ron Kirby, COG/TPB
Mike Farrell, COG/TPB
John Swanson, COG/TPB
Jill Locantore, COG/TPB
Wendy Klancher, COG/TPB
Dan Malouff, 2006 CAC member-elect
Harry Sanders
Glen Harvie