
**TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONTHLY REPORT**

March 15, 2017

Jeremy Martin, Chairman

At its meeting on March 8, the CAC hosted Chairman Bridget Newton to discuss the year ahead and the Long-Range Plan Task Force. The committee also received an update on the planned public involvement related to the 2018 Long Range Transportation Plan and a briefing on the Title VI/Environmental Justice analysis of the TPB's Constrained Long-Range Plan.

VISIT FROM THE TPB CHAIRMAN

TPB Chairman Bridget Newton spoke with the committee about the coming year and specifically about the Long-Range Plan Task Force. She thanked the CAC members for their service and noted how important public involvement is.

Most of the committee's conversation with Chairman Newton focused on the Long-Range Plan Task Force. She said she wanted this group to engage in true regional thinking and by the end of the year, identify a list of 6-10 priority projects, program, or policies that could make a major difference in our collective future. Mayor Newton explained that the board is interested in hearing from the CAC -- whether they participate in the task force itself, or send letters or emails or communicate in some other way.

Focusing on the Long-Range Plan Task Force, committee comments and questions included the following:

- ***What about funding?*** Committee members asked if the task force would consider the likely availability of funding in selecting unfunded priorities. Mayor Newton said that staff would conduct research on possible funding sources, but she emphasized that she did not want funding constraints to limit the task force's ability to think creatively about bold solutions.
- ***How will land use considerations be included?*** Mayor Newton noted the important role that COG's Activity Centers play in the TPB's previous planning activities and policies. She said that the task force may well look at potential land-use changes as a "policy" option in its analysis, but she cautioned that the final product of the task force's work will not "dictate" land-use policies to local governments.
- ***What will be the role of performance measurement in selecting priorities?*** Members spoke in favor of showing how changes in the long-range plan could make real differences in people's lives. They also discussed the fact that the establishment of different measures could impact the types of projects that get highlighted or chosen. One member suggested that moving people, rather than moving cars, needs to be measured. Another emphasized that data must be used to identify which projects to pursue. Mayor Newton agreed that it will be important for the task force to consider how we measure success. For example, she noted that reducing congestion is clearly a major challenge, but she cautioned that would not want performance metrics to be established that would be biased toward additional road capacity as the answer to that challenge.

- **What will be the source of projects for consideration by the task force?** In particular, a CAC member asked if the inventory of projects used for the TPB's recent All-Build Scenario analysis would be used to identify candidate projects. Mayor Newton said the All-Build inventory is an important resource, but she hoped that participants in the process would not be limited to that list. She emphasized she was interested in bold, new ideas.
- **Will the task force's work be used to identify projects for future federal infrastructure funding?** Mayor Newton said that this was one potential purpose for these activities.
- **Who is on the task force and how will it function?** Mayor Newton said that all TPB members were invited to be on the task force. She said that the draft resolution regarding the task force indicated that the group would include CAC representation. However, participants at the meeting noted that the resolution did not specify how many CAC members would be on task force. The committee asked for clarification on this point.

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

John Swanson provided an update on a staff proposal for public involvement related to the 2018 Long-Range Transportation Plan. He said this work would be designed to inform residents about regional policies, trends (including growth and funding), and transportation projects that are currently planned to address our challenges. He said the outreach would receive input from the public about their preferences regarding transportation policies and strategies. He explained that these outreach activities would be happening in parallel to the work of the Long-Range Plan Task Force, and therefore, the outreach activities would not be specifically designed to get public input on unfunded projects, programs, and policies.

Discussion focused on the following topics:

- **Why will the TPB conduct public outreach for its long-range plan that is not tied to the work of the Long-Range Plan Task Force?** Committee members said that the public would be most interested in the work the task force will be doing and that public involvement would be most meaningful if it informed the process of identifying unfunded projects, programs, and policies. Members emphasized that the public would be most interested and engaged in a process to shape the TPB's vision of the future. They noted that in past years, the committee pushed the TPB to focus on unfunded projects precisely because they wanted the public to have a chance to weigh in on decisions that have yet to be made. Mr. Srikanth explained that the proposed outreach was part of a federally required update to the Long-Range Plan that is due in 2018, and staff wanted to conduct outreach in the immediate future before the Call for Projects is issued in the fall.
- **Whom will the outreach target?** Members noted that much of the outreach for the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan was essentially public opinion research using surveys and focus groups in which paid participants were selected to provide a representative sample of the region. Members said they hoped this round of public outreach would include more "democratic" activities, allowing for open and voluntary participation. Mr. Swanson said that staff is considering and would like to conduct both types of outreach – representative opinion research as well as more open forms of involvement.

UPDATE ON THE TITLE VI/ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS OF THE TPB'S CONSTRAINED LONG-RANGE PLAN

Wendy Klancher provided an update on Phase 1 of the proposed enhancements to the Title VI/Environmental Justice analysis of the Constrained Long-Range Plan. Committee members were most interested in what kinds of analysis will be done using the Equity Emphasis Areas.

Committee members have also expressed interest in equity issues. They said they are interested in exploring more ways to get involved by working with the Access For All Committee. One suggestion was to plan a joint meeting of the CAC and AFA in the future.

OTHER DISCUSSION

- Lyn Erickson reviewed the agenda for the June TPB meeting.
- Jeremy Martin announced the 2017 Vice Chairmen: Robyn Jackson from the District of Columbia and Robert Jackson from Virginia

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT	ALTERNATES	TPB STAFF AND GUESTS
Jeremy Martin, Chairman	Paul Angelone	Abigail Zenner, staff
Robyn Jackson, Vice-Chairman	Anna Ray	John Swanson, staff
Robert Jackson, Vice-Chairman	Jessica Smith	Kanti Srikanth, staff
Katherine Kortum	Ronit Dancis	Lyn Erickson, staff
Nancy Abeles	Veronica Lowe	Lamont Cobb, staff
Emmet Tydings	Daniel Papiernik	Bill Orleans
Era Pandya		
Lorena Rios		
Stephen Still		