
**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REPORT**

May 18, 2016

Douglas Stewart, Chairman

On Thursday, May 12, the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) held a meeting. At the meeting the CAC was briefed on the Transportation/Land-Use Coordination program and the proposed approach for evaluating TPB participation activities. The committee was also briefed on the Long-Range Plan Task Force meetings and discussed the role that the CAC could play in organizing public outreach for that planning process.

LONG-RANGE PLAN TASK FORCE MEETING & DISCUSSION

The CAC spent the majority of the meeting discussing two of the committee's main priorities for the year: 1) understanding the work of the Long-Range Plan Task Force, and 2) advocating that the TPB engage in more direct public engagement.

The discussion began with Nancy Abeles, a CAC member who attended the April meeting of the Long-Range Plan Task Force and briefed the committee on her observations. She summarized discussion and said that the proposed long-range planning framework has the potential to promote better regional functionality and economic benefits. However, there was no discussion about the role that public engagement would play in this new framework.

The committee discussed this report and strongly voiced two complementary views:

- The CAC pressed staff to develop a plan for engaging the public around the prioritization of unfunded projects. They emphasized that this plan should be compatible with the new long-range planning framework.
- The CAC agreed that the focus of the task force should remain on projects and not policy. They said that projects have the ability to excite the public in a way that abstract discussions about policy cannot. They also suggested that projects should include a wide range of efforts that could have significant and catalyze change. These projects do not have to be mega-projects

The committee also discussed the importance of building support for projects from the ground up. One member expressed frustration that transportation planning puts too much emphasis on commuting and not enough on making it easier for people to connect to extra-work activities.

UPDATE ON THE TLC PROGRAM

Lamont Cobb briefed the committee on the history and accomplishments of the TPB's Transportation/Land-Use Coordination Program (TLC). He described an evaluation of the TLC program that was conducted in 2015 and explained how the recommendations from that evaluation are being used to improve the program. The biggest change is putting more emphasis in solicitation materials and selection criteria for projects that are located in Activity Centers, provide access to transit, or related to regional transportation priorities.

The committee was curious to know where they could learn more about the TLC program and about how many of the past projects have been implemented. The committee commended staff on efforts to combine transportation and land-use planning with a regional program.

BRIEFING ON PLANS TO EVALUATE THE TPB’S 2015 PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

Bryan Hayes described the proposed approach for evaluating the TPB’s participation activities from 2015. The evaluation will be completed in five steps, that connect participation activities completed in 2015 to policy goals and use qualitative and quantitative data to inform a staff self-assessment of participation activities. There will also be stakeholder outreach to groups like the CAC to create an external-assessment. Both of these assessments will be used to set recommendations or goals for future participation activities.

The committee encouraged staff to develop measurable indicators to show progress towards achieving the policy goals. The group suggested that the TPB should hold itself to high-standards and not cover up any critical findings from the evaluation. One member hoped that the evaluation would result in a creative approach to identifying future activities.

The committee is considering creating a subcommittee to support TPB staff on this work. Several members of the CAC will consult with staff on this topic before the June CAC meeting.

OTHER DISCUSSION

- The committee was briefed on the upcoming TPB and Long-Range Task Force agendas
- The committee was informed on the call for applications for membership in the TPB Access for All Advisory Committee (AFA)

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT	ALTERNATES	TPB STAFF AND GUESTS
Douglas Stewart, Chairman	Gary Hodge	John Swanson, staff
Jeremy Martin, Vice-Chairman	Adeyinka Ogunlegan	Bryan Hayes, staff
Bob Summersgill	Molly O’Connell	Lamont Cobb, staff
Robyn Jackson	Colin Leach	Abigail Zenner, staff
Nancy Abeles	Bob Lawrence	Ben Hampton, staff
Tom Sanchez		Bill Orleans
Tina Slater		
Emmet Tydings		
Rob Jackson		
Lorena Rios		