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**TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MONTHLY REPORT**

April 15, 2020

*Nancy Abeles, CAC Chair*

The 2020 CAC met for an online-only meeting on April 7. At the meeting the committee learned about the Transportation Climate Initiative, the Transportation Land-Use Connections program, and the 2020 update to the TPB's Participation Plan.

**TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE INITIATIVE**

Erin Morrow, TPB Transportation Engineer, briefed the committee on the work of the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), a group of 12 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia. TCI is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. She also provided some local context by describing past TPB reports and studies that explore different ways to reduce transportation impacts on air-quality.

The committee shared articles that demonstrate the impacts of decreased travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The committee was curious whether all 12 states that have worked on TCI would commit to new policy. The committee was told that New Hampshire's participation is doubtful, and that there is general uncertainty because the policy needs to go through state legislatures. There were also questions about funding for the TCI cap-and-trade program and how the process would impact end-user prices.

This brief provided context for future committee discussion about transportation and climate change at the May meeting.

**TRANSPORTATION LAND-USE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM**

John Swanson, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee on the Transportation Land-Use Connections (TLC) program. He talked about the program's history and described how selection criteria are used to select projects that further regional TPB priorities. He listed projects that were selected for technical assistance in FY 2021 and said that the board is expected to approve selections at the April meeting. The committee was impressed by the variety and scope of proposed projects.

There was a question about a study selected in Montgomery County to help the visually impaired get around Silver Spring. They asked if people with visual impairments would be consulted as part of the study. They were told that visually impaired community would be involved in the process. He said that staff received letters from the community endorsing the project.

**PARTICIPATION PLAN UPDATE**

Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee on work to update the TPB's Participation Plan. He provided a brief history of the plan and described the process for updating the plan. He also described the changes proposed by staff for this 2020 update and explained the reason for those changes. At the May CAC meeting the committee will discuss the chapter describing how the public can get involved at the TPB.

The committee said that they would like more detail about the Participation Plan update next time it is presented. In order to provide the most meaningful input, they said they hope that the plan update makes it clear how the TPB collects, uses, and documents public comment.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director, walked the committee through the April TPB agenda. She also shared a memo describing how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting TPB work demonstrating that staff have responded with resilience to fulfill the work program.

The committee discussed the benefits and shortcomings of online meetings. They also asked for clarification about the TPB and CAC remote participation guides.

**ATTENDEES**

<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>STAFF AND GUESTS</b>
Nancy Abeles, chair	Theodore Wilhite	Lyn Erickson, TPB staff
Audrey Derissaint-Nwaze	Rob Jackson	Bryan Hayes, TPB staff
Jeremy Martin	Kalai Kandasamy	John Swanson, TPB staff
Chris Smariga	Jacqueline Manapsal	Erin Morrow, TPB staff
Emmet Tydings	Daniel Papiernik	Abigail Zenner, TPB staff
Veronica Lowe	Jeff Parnes	Karen Armendariz, TPB staff
Tony Giancola	Lorena Rios	Andrew Meese, TPB staff
Katherine Kortum		Bill Orleans, public