
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

February 9, 2023
Richard Wallace, CAC Chair

The first meeting of the 2023 - 2024 TPB Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was held on Thursday, February 9. The committee was provided an overview of the TPB and CAC's structure, history, and role from TPB staff and the TPB Chair, Reuben Collins. The meeting was held virtually and in-person at the MWCOG office.

DISCUSSION ABOUT THE CAC ORIENTATION

The CAC was presented with a panel of remarks from TPB Staff and the TPB Chair. Marcela Moreno opened the orientation session with an introduction about the TPB, its relationship to the MWCOG, and the CAC.

Then, Kanti Srikanth provided remarks about the TPB and its planned activities for 2023. He highlighted that the TPB process was a critical step in transportation projects receiving federal funding.

Reuben Collins, TPB Chair and President Commissioner from Charles County also shared his vision for the year ahead, the importance of a regional perspective, and how the CAC can engage with the TPB. He shared his vision of taking a 'cacophony' across the region and making it harmonious. He added that one priority included Southern Maryland Rapid Transit, a joint project with Prince George's County – and how transit-oriented communities affect job creation. He expressed appreciation for hearing the introductions and experiences of the CAC members, and said the CAC was an opportunity to blend those voices together.

Member comments and questions included the following:

Infrastructure project timelines and 'red tape'. One member asked the panel about the pitfalls that extend the timeline of infrastructure projects. Kanti Srikanth added that because regional projects involve multiple stakeholders and communities, additional time is needed to hear their perspectives. He shared several examples of long-term projects like the Silver Line and the Inter-County Connector and Purple Line in Maryland. He outlined some of the factors that impact timeline like funding, multi-jurisdictional coordination, and legal recourse. He added that it is worth exploring ways the process can become more efficient.

Priorities of the TPB Chair in 2023. One member asked Chair Collins to expand on some of his priorities for 2023. Chair Collins shared that expanding upon the climate change work that TPB has done is important, in addition to continuing to pursue TPB's policy priorities. He added that he would like to ensure that the voices of smaller jurisdictions are heard and balance their needs with those of the larger jurisdictions.

Highlighting the Value of TPB's Data. One member commented on the importance of TPB's data, and how that data is used in transportation projects across the region. He added that TPB's data and resources are valuable not only to transportation agencies, but to community members interested in understanding projects in the National Capital Region.

TPB's Role in Transportation for Older Adults. One member expressed interest in the work that TPB is doing to address the needs of older adults in the region. Kanti Srikanth said that many projects in the LRTP are smaller, and more community focused and happen faster than projects like the Silver Line or ICC. In addition, the TPB distributes funding to the region through technical assistance programs like the Transportation Land Use Connections or Regional Roadway Safety Program or Enhanced Mobility (Section 5310) funding. He highlighted that TPB distributed \$5.5 million in Section 5310 funding last year and will be distributing \$11 million in funding this year.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure in Outer Jurisdictions. Another member noted their appreciation for cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in the District of Columbia, and that they hope for similar projects in outer jurisdictions like Charles County. They noted that building sidewalks and bicycle lanes can encourage people to use active transportation modes, especially when they can feel safe. They added that this also contributes to better health outcomes. Kanti Srikanth shared that TPB adopted the National Capital Trail Network which includes approximately 1,400 miles of trails for recreation and transportation.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Lyn Erickson of the TPB staff provided an overview of the upcoming TPB agenda.
 - Two CAC members had some questions about the Visualize 2045 project lists, which will be presented at the upcoming TPB meeting. The CAC will be briefed on the Visualize 2050 plan kick-off at the March 2023 CAC meeting.
- Marcela Moreno announced that the CAC will hold quarterly hybrid meetings, with the next in-person meeting being held in May 2023.

ATTENDEES

Members

Richard Wallace, *Chair*
Allison Horn
Ashley Hutson
Christina Farver
Daniel Papiernik
Felipe Millían
Gail Sullivan
Heather Goana
Jacqueline Overton Allen
Jason Stanford
Jeffery Parnes
Kalli Krumpas
Larkin Turman
Lorena Rios
Maribel Wong
Mark Scheufler
Noell Evans

Ra Amin
Rick Rybeck
Tafadzwa Gwitira
Timothy Davis
Vanessa Hercules

Staff

John Swanson
Justine Velez
Kanti Srikanth
Lyn Erickson
Marcela Moreno
Rachel Beyerle

Guests

TPB Chair Reuben Collins
Bill Orleans