
TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

October 16, 2019

Rob Jackson, CAC Chair

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Thursday, October 10. At the meeting, the committee was briefed on the COG regional housing targets, bicycle and pedestrian walksheds near transit stations, and on transportation safety.

COG REGIONAL HOUSING TARGETS

Paul DesJardin, COG Director of Community Planning and Services, briefed the committee on a recent COG board resolution addressing the region's housing needs. He described the process for identifying what it will take for the region to provide additional housing within Activity Centers and near high-capacity transit stations.

The committee was excited to hear that the COG board is taking such an aggressive stance to work towards more affordable housing in the Washington region. The committee asked questions about how COG and the TPB could encourage local jurisdictions to make these targets a reality. They asked about possible impacts on congestion and about how the region is trying to accommodate lower earners. The CAC encouraged COG staff to continue working on and sharing their tool kit for ways that local governments can increase the availability of affordable housing.

SAFETY STUDY UPDATE AND METHODOLOGY FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY TARGETS

Jon Schermann, TPB Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the state DOT presentations to the TPB about their efforts to make it safer to get around the region. He also presented the federally required highway safety targets and walked the committee through the methodology that will be used to update the next round of targets. He also updated them on the progress of the safety study.

The committee was curious to know how these trends compare to similar MPOs and the nation. The committee supported efforts from staff and the board to maintain a focus on improving transportation safety in the region. They encouraged staff to be critical and data driven. They said it is important to keep attention on ways that design, enforcement, and education can help reduce the tragic loss of life.

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO TRANSIT STATIONS WALKSHEDS

Charlene Howard, TPB Transportation Planner, shared her work helping to visualize walksheds, the area around a transit station in which it is safe and easy for pedestrians and bicyclists to access. She demonstrated the interactive map that she developed and walked through some examples of how the built environment can improve or limit walkability.

The committee supports all the TPB's efforts to make transit stations more accessible to people traveling on foot and by bike. They said that visualizing walksheds helps identify areas in which there are deficits. They encouraged staff to continue updating this map with new data and sharing it with jurisdictions and the public.

OTHER ITEMS

- Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner, encouraged members of the committee to submit a statement of interest to participate in the Fall 2019 Community Leadership Institute. He also provided them with a short overview for the approach to update the TPB's Participation plan.
- Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director, reviewed the agenda for the September TPB meeting.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT	ALTERNATES	TPB STAFF AND GUESTS
Rob Jackson, chair	Jacqueline Manapsal	Lyn Erickson, TPB staff
Nancy Abeles, vice-chair	Ronit Dancis	Bryan Hayes, TPB staff
Daniel Papiernik	Tony Giancola	Abigail Zenner, TPB staff
Kalai Kandasamy	Katie Weintraub	John Swanson, TPB staff
Jeff Parnes		Charlene Howard, TPB staff
Lorena Rios		Jon Schermann, TPB staff
Jeremy Martin		Paul DesJardin, COG staff
Emmet Tydings		
Ricky Tejada		Bill Orleans, public
Karthik Balasubramanian		
Katherine Kortum		
Theodore Wilhite		
Jasmine Young		