

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

TPB Technical Committee September 4, 2020 Item 3

MEMORANDUM

TO:	TPB Technical Committee
FROM:	Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner
SUBJECT:	Participation Plan update – Public Comment
DATE:	August 28, 2020

The TPB's Participation Plan update is currently out for <u>public comment</u>. Following the comment period, the plan will be updated and shared for board approval in October.

BACKGROUND

Staff began updating the TPB's Participation Plan in fall 2019. The team working on the update reviewed the existing Participation Plan, relevant federal regulations, the COG Title VI Plan and Program, and a selection of peer MPO participation plans. The also team discussed findings from the 2019 federal certification review and the consultant evaluation of the TPB's participation activities from 2017 and 2018.

Based on this internal review, staff drafted a plan update that provides more guidance to staff about when and how to involve the public in their work. The updated draft also includes more focus on equity. Staff shared the changes with the Technical Committee, Access for All Advisory Committee, and Citizens Advisory Committee multiple times.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The 2020 TPB Participation Plan update started its federally required 45-public comment period on Tuesday, August 25. The comment period ends on Friday, October 9.

To promote the public comment period, staff sent an email announcement to the TPB public comment email list, the Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Access for All Advisory Committee. A TPB News blogpost about the public comment period is scheduled for September 8. TPB social media posts during the comment period will ask the public to review the draft Participation Plan and submit comments.

During the public comment period, TPB staff will track incoming comments. A memo summarizing comments received and documenting changes to the plan will be available with TPB meetings on October 15.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

NEXT STEPS

Following the public comment period, the Participation Plan will be finalized and will go to the TPB for approval at the October meeting.

- Public comment period: August 25 to October 9
- Brief the TPB on Participation Plan update: September 16
- Comment summary changes to Participation Plan finalized: October 15
- Board approval: October 21