
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
March 16, 2016

Douglas Stewart, Chairman

On Thursday, March 10 the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) held its first meeting of the 2016 session. TPB Chairman Timothy Lovain met with the committee. The CAC was also briefed on current travel trends and discussed draft committee priorities for 2016.

DISCUSSION WITH THE TPB CHAIRMAN

TPB Chairman Timothy Lovain met with the CAC and shared his thoughts on three topics that he would like the TPB to focus on this year. He identified the TPB's ongoing effort to update the long-range planning process to include the development of a list of prioritized unfunded projects. His other priorities include finding additional funding for WMATA and improving incident response in the region. He also encouraged the CAC in their efforts to set priorities for the 2016 session.

The CAC asked about how other MPOs manage incident response. Members of the committee generally supported research and analysis efforts that would support WMATA. They urged the chairman to consider how the Priorities Plan could be better integrated into TPB work activities. The committee also discussed the value of activity centers and the importance of collaboration between land use and transportation planners.

BRIEFING ON CURRENT REGIONAL TRAVEL TRENDS

Bob Griffiths briefed the CAC on current regional travel trends. He said that as the number of people living and working in the region have increased, the vehicle miles traveled per person has decreased by one percent. He said that Metrorail ridership has also decreased, but that bus and commuter rail ridership have increased. He said that the share of people in the region who telework has also increased since 2001.

The CAC expressed an interest in learning about whether new transit service is having an impact on congestion and accessibility. They also expressed a concern about whether the region is willing to add transit service to match anticipated growth.

DISCUSSION ABOUT THE 2016 CAC WORK PLAN

Bryan Hayes presented an update on the CAC's efforts to develop a work plan for the 2016 session. He shared a summary of priorities identified by the CAC during the February meeting, and proposed focusing CAC efforts on topics that overlap with ongoing TPB work. Those topics include: unfunded projects, public involvement, transportation safety, bicycle planning, and WMATA.

Douglas Stewart led the CAC in a discussion about their response to the proposed topics. The CAC responded favorably. Members urged the staff to raise awareness about the TPB and regional priorities through involvement in local planning efforts. They also encouraged staff to think creatively about engagement. The CAC offered to assist with outreach and to interface with elected officials. One member wanted more emphasis put on transportation technology, and another stated that advocating for change at WMATA should be a top priority.

OTHER DISCUSSION

- Kanti Srikanth reviewed the agenda for the March TPB meeting.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Stewart, Chairman
Jeremy Martin, Vice-Chairman
Keith Benjamin, Vice-Chairman
Robyn Jackson
Jeanose Lexima
Nancy Abeles
Tina Slater
Rob Jackson
Jeff Parnes
Lorena Rios

ALTERNATES

Jette Findsen
Colin Leach
Molly O'Connell
Gary Hodge
Bob Lawrence
Kenneth Batey
Michael Rodriguez

TPB STAFF AND GUESTS

Timothy Lovain, TPB Chairman
Kanti Srikanth, staff
Bob Griffiths, staff
John Swanson, staff
Bryan Hayes, staff
Lamont Cobb, staff
Bill Orleans