
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

March 17, 2021

Elisa Walton, CAC Chair

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Thursday, March 11 for an online-only meeting. At the meeting the committee was briefed on the “Voices of the Region” survey results and learned about the history of the CAC and its role at the TPB. The committee also broke into small groups to get to know each other and discuss the year ahead.

VISUALIZE 2045 – “VOICES OF THE REGION” SURVEY RESULTS

John Swanson, TPB Transportation Planner, shared the results of the region-wide public opinion survey conducted in the fall of 2020. The survey provides input into a range of TPB planning activities, including the 2022 update to Visualize 2045.

Karen Armendariz, TPB Public Engagement Specialist, described how survey participants responded to three future factors: climate change, autonomous vehicles, and equity. She also described response to an open-ended question about the transportation investments that could be made today that future generations will be thankful for.

This presentation is similar to the one the board received at the February 2021 meeting.

The committee was curious to know how the results of this public opinion survey will inform the creation of Visualize 2045. The committee also asked about survey specifics, including what parts of the region and which demographics received survey responses. The committee wanted assurances that older adults and people with disabilities participated in the study. The committee is hopeful that results from “Voices of the Region” and other public engagement activities can inform future long-range plans and policy priorities at the TPB.

CAC ORIENTATION – ABOUT THE CAC

Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner, shared a brief history of the CAC. He talked about how the committee began in 1992 when the region was discussing the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and how it changed over the years. He described committee accomplishments from over the years and talked about changes to the committee approved by the TPB in 2020. He explained how the three parts of the committee’s mission describe the CAC’s role at the TPB.

Committee members divided into three small groups. Each group identified two things that they would like to learn about during their two-year term, expectations that committee members have for each other, and finally expectations for staff.

One group highlighted the high cost of housing near transit and wants to learn about how creating more affordable housing in the region may impact transportation. They also want to discuss ways that transportation in the region can decrease its impact on air-quality. Another group wants to encourage the TPB to continue increasing effort and attention put into making the region’s transportation safer, regardless of mode. Given the uncertainty around emerging transportation technologies, this group also wanted to encourage the region to be more flexible when planning infrastructure. The final group was interested in promoting a transportation system in which the

movement of people and services is more balanced in all directions. They also wanted to see more focus on connecting activities with transportation options that don't require a visit to the core.

The groups talked about how to respect the voice of all 24 members by being mindful and making sure there is time for all member who want to weigh in on a topic. There was also agreement that breaking into small groups is a good way to keep people engaged when meeting online. They also talked about the importance of members learning about the demographics and aspects of transportation that are unique to the different parts of the region.

The committee expressed a desire for staff to help balance between depth and breadth when bringing information to the committee. They also enjoyed meeting the TPB chair and requested more opportunities to meet with and learn from members of the board and other TPB committees. Finally, the committee urged staff to be very clear when documenting how public input is incorporated into final products.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development and Coordination Program Director, walked the committee through the February TPB agenda.

ATTENDEES

Members	
Elisa Walton, CAC chair	Lorena Rios
Ashley Hutson	Michael Artson
Dan Papiernik	Nancy Abeles
Delia Houseal	Ra Amin
Eyal Li	Robert Jackson
Jeff Jamawat	Solomon Haile
Judd Isbell	Tracy Duval
Katherine Kortum	
Guests	
Bill Orleans	Malcom Mossman
Jack Koczela	
Staff	
Bryan Hayes	Karen Armendariz
John Swanson	Lyn Erickson