

## **Recommendations from TPB CAC Transportation Priorities Plan Sub-committee September 30, 2010**

The CAC should focus its discussion in preparation for the inauguration of the TPB Regional Priorities Plan Scoping Task Force (RPPSTF) by identifying a handful of key questions that it wants the Task Force to address, and suggest possible options for how the Task Force should answer those questions. For purposes of organizing this exercise roughly parallel to the task force charge, these questions are organized into two categories: Process and Scope.

The questions are based on the CAC discussions at the September CAC monthly meeting, during a scheduled call to discuss this topic on Sept. 24, and the "Conversation on Setting Regional Transportation Priorities" report. The questions are proposed to help develop a consensus on the big issues facing the Task Force. After each question possible answers or options are identified. The CAC need not answer these questions, but rather use these questions to help focus our conversation so that the CAC representatives on the Task Force have the benefit of CAC input in advance of meeting with the Task Force.

The Task Force is charged with recommending a process for the TBP to follow in setting a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan. Identifying the Scope of the Plan is considered here to be an important part of the Process.

### **SCOPE**

1. For what should the Regional Priorities Plan be used?
  - A first step to the CLRP development process – a universe of projects that is then filtered through regional considerations/criteria to arrive at a constrained plan? An advocacy tool to demonstrate the need for more funding? A way to keep track of project ideas and spur discussion of long-range priorities? A public education tool to clarify a regional transportation vision and its potential benefits? As an alternative scenario to be modeled and compared to the 2040 baseline?
2. For what should the Regional Priorities Plan not be used?
  - As a complete substitute for the bottom-up project development process? As a way of strictly preventing any projects not in the RPP from getting into the CLRP/TIP? As a wish list or inventory that is just a compilation of every project idea from every agency? As an alternative scenario to be modeled and compared to the 2040 baseline?
3. On what should the Regional Priorities Plan be grounded?
  - A set of goals and/or performance measures derived from Region Forward/TPB Vision/Aspirations Scenario/Other?
4. What should the Regional Priorities Plan include?
  - Just "regionally significant" projects? Anything within the TPB sphere of influence broadly defined (including land-use policy advocacy)? Anything pertaining to Activity Centers, including small-scale projects that wouldn't be in the CLRP/TIP? A benefit-cost analysis for each project?

## **PROCESS**

1. What is the goal of the process?
  - “To establish a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan to what end?” and establish a charge to the TPB.
  
2. Who should have responsibility for preparing the plan?
  - A standing committee arising out of TPB members familiar with the scenario planning process.
  
3. What is the scope of the process? (this might be combined in Process step #1.)
  - Reiterate recommendations from scoping questions.
  
4. How should the development of the Regional Priorities Plan be inclusive and facilitate public involvement in transportation planning?
  - By partnering with other organizations? By facilitating an extensive public conversation about regional priorities? By widespread circulation of a draft RPP for input?
  
5. When should the Regional Priorities Plan be updated?
  - Every four years as part of major CLRP updates? Every year before the CLRP call for projects? Every year following approval of the CLRP?