
**TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONTHLY REPORT**

October 20, 2016

Douglas Stewart, CAC Chairman

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Thursday, October 13. The committee was briefed on the StreetSmart safety campaign, and the 2016 CLRP amendment and FY2017-22 TIP. The committee also reviewed a draft recommendation asking the TPB to commit to a plan for engaging the public as part of the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update.

DISCUSSION ABOUT CAC RECOMMENDATION ON PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE 2018 LONG-RANGE PLAN UPDATE

Douglas Stewart summarized CAC discussion from the past few committee meetings and presented a draft recommendation to the TPB that builds on that talk. The committee unanimously approved the attached *“Recommendation that the TPB commits to developing a plan to seek public input as part of the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update.”*

The recommendation describes the history of CAC advocacy for public involvement in the process to prioritize regionally significant unfunded transportation projects and makes the case that now is the time for the board to commit to a plan that utilizes public input as part of that prioritization process.

The committee discussed at length their willingness to volunteer additional time to support TPB staff in an effort to engage the public around the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update.

The following excerpt from the recommendation details the CAC’s request.

The CAC believes that:

- Effective public engagement must focus on specific questions and provide clarity about how public input will be collected and used to inform policy decisions.
- TPB staff should develop a plan for approval by the TPB that sets forth the means by which public input will be sought and how it will be used in prioritizing and selecting unfunded projects for regional consideration.
- In addition, TPB members have critical roles to play in informing their constituents about the Long-Range Plan and how it will affect their communities.
- As the Long-Range Plan Task Force moves onto Phase 2 of its work in which decisions will be made about how to prioritize unfunded projects, now is the time for action.

Therefore, the CAC recommends that the TPB commit to developing a plan for engaging and incorporating public input into the selection of a limited set of regional unfunded priority transportation projects as part of the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update.

The full recommendation is attached.

BRIEFING ON THE 2016 FINANCIALLY CONSTRAINED LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CLRP) AMENDMENT AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

John Swanson provided an overview presentation on the 2016 CLRP Amendment that included information about new projects and changes to the plan. He explained the purpose of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and walked the committee through analysis that shows how the plan will perform in 2040.

The committee asked about how Activity Centers were chosen, and discussed why some do not have access to transit. The committee also encouraged staff to explore metrics that show delay for non-SOV commuters, and think about how new technologies in transportation might impact future analysis. The CAC also expressed frustration that there was not more funding for WMATA in the plan and pointed out how station closures adversely impact some areas of the region more than others, including stations east of the river.

UPDATE ON THE STREETSMART BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Michael Farrell presented on COG's Street Smart campaign, which uses regional strategies in advertising and public events to spread safety awareness to all road users across different modes. He also presented ad awareness analysis of last year's Street Smart efforts.

CAC members suggested that by combing data about citations and crashes, transportation planners could identify areas in which pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure could be improved. The committee also asked about the impacts that weather, especially winter weather, can have on safety for people who walk and bike. There was also a discussion about pedestrian right-of-way.

OTHER DISCUSSION

- Lyn Erickson reviewed the agenda for the June TPB meeting
- Bryan Hayes shared information about how to comment on WMATA's proposed service reductions for Metrorail

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT	ALTERNATES	TPB STAFF AND GUESTS
Douglas Stewart, Chairman	Bob Lawrence	Bryan Hayes, staff
Jeremy Martin, Vice-Chairman	Adeyinka Ogunlegan	John Swanson, staff
Keith Benjamin, Vice-Chairman	Gary Hodge	Lyn Erickson, staff
Nancy Abeles		Abigail Zenner, staff
Robert Jackson		Michael Farrell, staff
Emmet Tydings		Andy Meese, staff
Jeanose Lexima		Bill Orleans
Tina Slater		
Jeff Parnes		
Robyn Jackson		
Lorena Rios		



Citizens Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

that the TPB commit to developing a plan to seek public input as part of the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update

October 13, 2016

The CAC has been actively engaged in and supportive of TPB discussions about incorporating unfunded projects into a Long-Range Plan Update since the genesis of these discussions in 2014. In November 2014, the CAC endorsed the request of TPB member Jonathan Way that the TPB staff compile a comprehensive inventory of unfunded transportation projects throughout the National Capital Region. Since then, the CAC has monitored the progress of the unfunded capital needs inventory of transportation projects and participated as a member of the Long-Range Plan Task Force.

The CAC has long promoted robust public involvement at the TPB, as directed by their mission to *promote public involvement in transportation planning for the region, and to provide an independent, region-wide perspective and citizen advice to the TPB on transportation plans and issues*. For example, in 2006 the CAC provided recommendations to the TPB for improving the information and analysis of the CLRP and the TIP, including holding public forums to allow citizens to learn from implementing agencies how projects are chosen, and identify unfunded regional priorities.

In monitoring and participating in the development of the unfunded projects list, the CAC has been particularly interested in public participation and has consistently encouraged the TPB to solicit public input in suggesting, prioritizing, and selecting unfunded projects for regional consideration. The TPB's approved Unified Planning Work Program for 2017 includes public outreach activities to inform the development of criteria and selection of unfunded regional projects. The UPWP calls for "develop[ing] and conduct[ing] workshops or events, as needed, to engage the public and community leaders on key regional transportation issues, including challenges reflected in the development of the CLRP, the TIP, and the forthcoming Plan of Unfunded Regional Priority Projects" (53).

Members of the CAC have committed to volunteering their time to support staff efforts to engage residents of the Washington region in the 2018 Long-Range Plan Update.

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