
TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT

February 19, 2020

Nancy Abeles, CAC Chair

The 2020 CAC met for the first time on February 13. The first half of the meeting focused on how the committee can help the board this year. The second half of the meeting turned to three items on the TPB agenda.

DISCUSSION ABOUT THE YEAR AHEAD

Kelly Russell, TPB Chair, shared a little about her background and laid out her vision for the TPB in 2020. She said that safety is going to continue to be a priority. She also said that the TPB will work closely with the Council of Governments to support transit-oriented communities, including balanced growth in jobs and housing, as well as improved access to transit. Her final priority is to better understand the role that transportation plays in the region in a changing climate and how the TPB can have a positive impact. She said that she looks forward to working with the committee in the year ahead.

In discussion with Chair Russell, the committee explored the overlap between safety, climate, and transit-oriented communities. There was a question about fleet management and the impact on greenhouse gases, and another about the role of slugging in the region.

WORKING WITH THE TPB IN 2020

Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director, said that he is excited by the wide diversity of transportation experiences that the CAC represents, and he appreciates the commitment from committee members. He described the federal requirements that guide the TPB's work. He also described some of the ways that staff will work to support Chair Russell's priorities for the TPB. Finally, he described the CAC's role in supporting TPB staff and providing advice to the TPB.

The committee expressed a strong interest in being involved earlier in TPB processes. They offered their perspective as a focus group, and said they were willing to work with staff and consultants to provide input to the TPB.

There was a discussion about the merits of additional studies to help jurisdictions identify local safety challenges, when a large volume of reports and analysis already exist that describe how to make roads safer. The CAC still endorses the TPB regional safety study and encourages the board to fund analysis of additional contributing factors to serious injury and death.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE PROGRAM FOR VIRGINIA TPB JURISDICTIONS

John Swanson, TPB Transportation Planner, provided an overview about the Transportation Alternatives Program and how projects were submitted and described the projects selected for Virginia for FY 2021.

The committee asked for clarification about how jurisdictions in Virginia compete. One member asked about specific details for a project in Prince William County.

PERFORMANCE- BASED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT TARGETS

Matthew Gaskin, TPB Transportation Planner, briefed the committee on the 2020 transit asset management targets as part of the TPB’s performance-based planning and programming work. He provided context about the federal requirements and showed how numbers changed from 2019 to 2020.

The CAC asked for more detail about assets, such as whether bus stops were considered transit assets, and whether escalators and elevators were factored into a transit station’s condition. They argued that if elevators and escalators aren’t working consistently, then the station is not in good condition.

The CAC asked to see the targets for commuter rail in the region. They also asked that the presentation list the tier 2 agencies and provide guidance on how to find more details

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM: FY 2020 DRAFT

Kanti Srikanth provided a short overview of the UPWP and described how it is designed to direct TPB staff work in fiscal year 2021.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Nancy Abeles, CAC Chair, asked members and staff to introduce themselves and briefly describe how members are involved in their community. Staff also introduced themselves.
- Bryan Hayes, TPB staff, informed the committee about the new Remote Participation Guide, which describes the process for participating remotely in a CAC meeting.
- The committee was reminded that the TPB is accepting public comment on the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program. They were also informed that staff will accept public comment on the UPWP.

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS		STAFF AND GUESTS
Nancy Abeles, Chair	Daniel Papiernik	Kelly Russell, TPB Chair
Ronit Dancis	Jeff Parnes	Kanti Srikanth, TPB staff
Tony Giancola	Chris Smariga	Bryan Hayes, TPB staff
Rob Jackson	Lorena Rios	John Swanson, TPB staff
Kalai Kandasamy	Elisa Walton	Abigail Zenner, TPB staff
Katherine Kortum	Theodore Wilhite	Karen Armendariz, TPB staff
Jacqueline Manapsal		Matthew Gaskin, TPB staff
		Andrew Meese, TPB staff
		Bill Orleans, public