

ACCESS FOR ALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

May 15, 2019

Kacy Kostiuk, Chair

The Access for All Advisory Committee (AFA) met on May 9, 2019 and the highlights from the meeting are provided below. A list of participants is on the last page. The AFA advises the TPB on transportation issues and services important to low-income communities, minority communities, people with limited English proficiency, people with disabilities, and older adults.

STUDY ON HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON REGION

Dr. Stephen Woolf of Virginia Commonwealth University briefed the committee on Uneven Opportunities: How Conditions for Wellness Vary Across the Metropolitan Washington Region, a study addressing social determinants of health and strategies to reduce disparities in health and opportunity.

Main points included:

- Health is shaped not just by health care, but also education, social environment, transportation, housing, etc.;
- Changes to a single factor can also have impacts on other health-related outcomes (i.e. improved access to transportation could result in better access to education, etc.);
- Life expectancy varies by 27 years across the region;
- Though our region is one of the most affluent and healthiest in the nation, there are large pockets of disadvantage and access to opportunity is uneven; and
- Historically inequitable policy got us here today, but equitable policy choices now can bring improvements.

TPB's 2019 ENHANCED MOBILITY SOLICITATION

Mr. Sergio Ritacco, TPB staff, provided an overview of the 2019 Enhanced Mobility Solicitation, anticipated to launch September 1 – November 2, 2019. The 2019 program will provide approximately \$5.6 million in Federal matching grants for projects that improve access to transportation services and expand available options. Preapplication conferences will be held in August and early September. More information can be found at mwcog.org/enhanced-mobility.

AFA members were asked to spread the word and will be a party to future announcements.

RECOMMENDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS UNDER THE FY 2020 TRANSPORTATION LAND-USE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

Ms. Sarah Bond, TPB staff, shared projects proposed for selection for funding in TPB's FY 2020 Transportation Land Use Connections (TLC) Program. There is \$680,000 in available funding and thirteen projects, supportive of TPB regional priorities, were recommended. Twelve of them are in Activity Centers, 13 are in proximity to high-capacity transit, and nine are in Equity Emphasis Areas.

DOCKLESS BIKE AND SCOOTER SHARE WORKSHOP

Mr. Michael Farrell, TPB staff, provided information about COG's upcoming Dockless Vehicle Workshop and invited AFA members to attend. Chair Kacy Kostiuk has been allotted time on the agenda to share AFA concerns with workshop participants. The Workshop will be held on Thursday, May 30, 2019 from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

AFA CONCERNS RELATED TO DOCKLESS VEHICLES

Chair Kacy Kostiuk led a discussion with the committee to elicit concerns related to dockless bikes and scooters that will be presented at the Dockless Vehicle Workshop. The discussion centered around pathways, safety, and regulation. Some concerns included:

- Bikes/scooters parked on the sidewalk and blocking pathways present a fall hazard for people who are blind or have visual impairments and a mobility barrier for people using mobility devices;
- Bike/scooter use on the sidewalk presents a safety issue;
- Lack of adaptive bicycles and tricycles for people with disabilities; and
- Need for involvement of the disability community from the planning stage of new transportation technologies.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Participants were reminded to share topics of interest for future AFA meetings.
- Bike to Work Day is May 17.
- The Federal Transit Administration has announced a funding opportunity under the Integrated Mobility Innovation (IMI) Demonstration Program. \$15 million is available for demonstration projects under the Integrated Mobility Innovation (IMI) Demonstration Program. Focus areas are Mobility on Demand, Strategic Transit Automation Research and Mobility Payment Integration.
- Applications are being accepted for the COG Climate & Energy Leadership Awards, which recognize climate stewardship projects and programs that engage and serve the region's underserved communities, through June 28.
- Public open houses are being held in May for the Washington Area Bus Transformation Project – May 20 at George Mason University, May 21 at Kennedy Recreation Center, and May 23 at Silver Spring Civic Center.

AFA will not meet while staff prepares for the 2019 Enhanced Mobility Solicitation, which will occur this summer. Remaining meetings for 2019 will be held on September 5 and November 7.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

District of Columbia	Virginia	TPB Staff
Christopher Grayton, Yellow Cab of DC, Inc.	Tomi Adeleke, VDOT	Brandon Brown
Nechama Masliansky, S.O.M.E, Inc.	Cynthia Alarico, Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services	Sarah Bond
Abidemi Olafusi, Department of Fore-Hire Vehicles	Roger Hoskins, representing older adults	Timothy Canan
Jeffrey Schaeffer, Transco (Liberty Transportation) (phone)	MaryJo Hensler, Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services	Debbie Etheridge
Gloria Swieringa, Prince George's Commissions for Individuals with Disabilities	Jennifer Kanareck, NV Rides (phone)	Michael Farrell
	Doris Ray, ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia	Nicole McCall
Maryland	Karen Smith, Arc of Greater Prince William (phone)	Andrew Meese
Shawn Brennan, Montgomery County Aging & Disability Services	Andrew Wexler, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services	Sergio Ritacco
Charlie Crawford, representing individuals with disabilities	Dr. Stephen Woolf, Virginia Commonwealth University	Lynn Winchell-Mendy
Thomas Curtis, Maryland Department of Disabilities		
Debbie Fisher, CHI Centers, Inc.	Regional	
Sara Fought, JCA Connect-A-Ride	Janine Ashe, FHWA	Chair
Yolanda Hipski, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland	Cecilia Castillo-Ayometzi, WMATA	Kacy Kostiuk, City of Takoma Park - Ward 3 Councilmember
Robert Malone, Arc of Prince George's County	Glenn Millis, WMATA	
Bill Orleans, resident	Angela White, National MS Society	