

ACCESS FOR ALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

November 8, 2018

Kacy Kostiuk, Chair

The Access for All Advisory Committee met on November 8, 2018 and the highlights from the meeting are provided below. A list of participants is on the last page. The Access for All Advisory Committee (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.

WMATA'S REGIONAL BUS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

As part of the public outreach for the WMATA Regional Bus Transformation Project, the AFA was invited to provide feedback in the form of focus groups. Ms. Lori Zeller, Foursquare ITP, gave an overview of the Regional Bus Transformation project and logistics for these focus groups, which were held as part of the AFA meeting. The goal of the project is to develop a new vision and collaborative action plan for the future of bus in the region. Ms. Zeller explained the benefits of the regional bus system and noted that with the recent changes in travel patterns and travel modes, the time has come to evaluate how bus systems throughout the region can be improved. The regional bus transformation project is an effort to rethink the role of bus travel. The project includes all local bus operators in the region, and paratransit. The end goal of the project is to deliver a regionally developed mobility strategy. The project contains five draft goals within the themes of regional connectivity, rider experience, financial stewardship, sustainable economic health and access to opportunity and equity.

Ms. Zeller advised that the public outreach phase of the project will be very inclusive, with the goal of gaining perspectives from the region's wide variety of stakeholders. She then noted that the AFA and TPB are members of the strategy advisory panel and that the AFA focus group activity is a part of the public engagement element of the project and will help shape the draft strategy.

Members were divided into 3 groups and provided 30 minutes for discussion on the following questions, with consideration of the perspective of the individuals they represent on the AFA:

1. How different would the bus system need to be from what it currently is today to meet the needs of the region's residents?
2. What are your highest priority changes to the bus system?
3. What results would you like to achieve by making these changes?

Moderators then reported back to the larger group. The feedback will be included in draft strategies, including recommendation and an implementation plan, that will be available in mid to late 2019. The AFA will be receiving future project updates as the project continues.

COORDINATED HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION PLAN STATUS UPDATE

Ms. Lynn Winchell-Mendy, COG/TPB Staff, noted that the Coordinated Plan was presented to the TPB's Technical Committee on November 2nd and will be released on November 8th for a 30-day public comment period. The draft plan will be presented to the TPB on November 16th. Subsequently, any comments received will be addressed and the plan will be presented in final draft to the TPB on December 19th for approval. Ms. Winchell-Mendy concluded by thanking AFA members for their input into plan development.

CAPITOL HILL VILLAGE – MOBILITY MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Capitol Hill Village was recently awarded an Enhanced Mobility Grant from the TPB. Ms. Molly Singer presented Capitol Hill Village's Enhanced Mobility project which focuses on DC Villages and aims to increase the number of volunteer drivers in DC Villages, increase knowledge about transportation options available to seniors and people with disabilities in DC and the surrounding region, and pilot mobility management projects such as a shared-ride grocery service. Capitol Hill Village will be receiving another round of funding to continue its work and expand into mobility counseling, travel training, and peer mentorship ("Travel Buddies").

OTHER BUSINESS

The schedule for 2019 AFA meetings was discussed:

2019 AFA MEETING DATES (Thursdays, 12 noon to 2pm)

JANUARY 3

MARCH 7

MAY 9

SEPTEMBER 5

NOVEMBER 7

MEETING ATTENDANCE

District of Columbia	Virginia	TPB Staff
Rosa Carrillo, Multicultural Community Service (phone)	Tomi Adeleke, Virginia Department of Transportation	Lyn Erickson
Rebecca Flaherty, S.O.M.E., Inc.	Rikki Epstein, Arc of Northern Virginia (phone)	Brandon Brown
Susie McFadden-Resper, DC Office of Disability Rights	Roger Hoskins, representing older adults	Sergio Ritacco
Angela Miller, Direct Action	Lorena Rios, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Northern Virginia	Kanti Srikanth
Molly Singer, Capitol Hill Village	Jeanna Muhoro, Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services	John Swanson
Gloria Swieringa, Prince George's Commissions for Individuals with Disabilities	Doris Ray, ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia	Lynn Winchell-Mendy
Maryland	Karen Smith, Arc of Greater Prince William	Chair
Harriet Block, JCA Connect-A-Ride	Andy Wexler, Arlington County Transit	Kacy Kostiuk, City of Takoma Park – Ward 3 Councilmember
Shawn Brennan, Montgomery County Aging & Disability Services		
Charlie Crawford, representing individuals with disabilities	Regional	
Thomas Curtis, Maryland Department of Disabilities	Allison Davis, WMATA	
Debbie Fisher, CHI Centers, Inc.	Sandy Klanfer, Foursquare ITF	
Bill Orleans, resident	Alanna McKeeman, Foursquare ITP	
	Glenn Millis, WMATA	
	Jason Mumford, Foursquare ITP	
	Angela White, National MS Society	
	Lori Zeller, Foursquare ITP	