Meeting Highlights
TPB Technical Committee – July 9, 2021

The Technical Committee met on Friday, July 9, 2021 in an online-only session. Meeting materials can be found here: https://www.mwcog.org/events/2021/6/4/tpb-technical-committee/

RECAP OF TPB MEETING

The TPB took action to remove the MDOT I-495/I-270 TRP project from the conformity inputs list. Consequences of this action were explained.

The following items were reviewed for inclusion on the TPB's July agenda.

ARPA APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND TIMELINE FOR SELECTION AND TPB APPROVAL

The committee was briefed on applications received from current and past FTA Section 5310 grant recipients for The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding appropriated to the Washington region. The timeline and process for selection and approval of projects for funding and inclusion in the TIP was provided.

FY 2021 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET ASIDE PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND MARYLAND TPB JURISDICTIONS

A portion of the federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) is sub-allocated to the TPB for project selection in the District of Columbia and suburban Maryland. The committee was briefed on the recommended projects and the Steering Committee was asked to approve them.

The following items were presented for information and discussion:

VOR FOCUS GROUPS

As part of the public opinion research conducted for the update to Visualize 2045, TPB staff conducted 11 focus groups to understand more about transportation equity, safety, and climate change. Ms. Armendariz gave a summary of the findings from the focus groups.

ASPIRATION TO IMPLEMENTATION: PUBLIC OUTREACH ON EXISTING PROJECTS THAT ALIGN WITH THE ASPIRATIONAL INITIATIVES

Ms. Armendariz provided an update on the Aspiration to Implementation outreach activity that will begin at the end of June 2021.

LOCAL AND REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLANNING

The committee was briefed on activities and opportunities related to electric vehicle (EV) planning in the region at the local and regional level. Staff discussed recent and proposed local EV plans, proposed regional support activities, and provided links to resources to assist with vehicle and infrastructure deployment.

TRAVEL TRENDS DASHBOARD DEMONSTRATION

Staff demonstrated an early beta version of an interactive web-based transportation data dashboard. This early version features visualizations of travel count data and the dashboard is being developed to include additional travel data visualizations in the future. Committee members were asked for input and ideas as staff continues to develop and enhance this information resource.

UPDATE ON CONNECTED AND AUTOMATED VEHICLES

On May 25, 2021, staff hosted the fourth regional Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAVs) webinar, focusing on a consultant-developed CAV "planning considerations" white paper findings and recommendations. Staff briefly reviewed the white paper and webinar for the committee, then turned to the current effort to draft regional CAV principles, for TPB review and approval this fall. Draft principles were discussed at a July 8 meeting of the Systems Performance, Operations, and Technology Subcommittee (SPOTS), and outcomes of SPOTS discussions were shared with the Technical Committee on July 9.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 2017/2018 Regional Travel Survey In-Depth Analysis
- Car Free Day
- Resiliency Study Update
- HCT Map project
- Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) update
- TPB Climate Change Mitigation Study (CCMS): Release of Full Literature Review with Executive Summary
- Return to Office