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**TPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

May 15, 2019

*Rob Jackson, CAC Chair*

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Thursday, May 9. At the meeting staff briefed the committee on the Transportation Land-Use Connections program technical assistance grants and the Community Leadership Institute. The committee also provided advice on TPB communications efforts and discussed topics the committee would like to focus on in the year ahead.

**TPB COMMUNICATIONS**

Abigail Zenner, TPB Communications Specialist, briefed the committee about ongoing TPB communications activities and led a discussion with the committee to collect feedback to be used to improve those activities.

*The committee said that communications are strong.* They cited the readability of the Visualize 2045 as being an accomplishment. They also cited TPB News as being an important and accessible tool for understanding what is going on at the TPB.

*The committee made some suggestions for helping share TPB work with the public.* There were several recommendations that staff write articles or produce videos that unpack complex regional transportation planning issues in an accessible way. They also encouraged staff to share articles written by TPB staff with regional news and transportation focused media outlets.

*The committee also made some suggestions for improving communications at CAC meetings.* They agreed that it would be useful to have maps of the region posted in the room for reference. One member suggested that attending TPB meetings helps make sense of committee work. Another encouraged staff to utilize resources produced by other boards at COG.

Finally, the committee suggested alphabetizing the attendance on the minutes of the TPB meeting and simplifying the cover sheet for board meeting items.

**COMMITTEE INTERESTS FOR 2019**

Bryan Hayes, TPB Transportation Planner, reported back on a survey the CAC completed in which members ranked transportation interests. He provided some context around past CAC accomplishments and reminded the committee of some things that TPB staff are working on and will share with the board throughout the year. Each member shared their top interests for the year.

Many members of the committee said that safety was a top issue. Some were interested in transportation safety in general, others were interested in focusing more explicitly on bicycle and pedestrian safety. Another member said they wanted to think about how to make vision zero and towards zero deaths policies work together more seamlessly.

The committee also expressed interest in topics that drive people to use mass transit. Some suggested reviewing congestion pricing, making busses more effective, and influencing the location of affordable housing as different approaches.

Promoting better connections between the inner and outer parts of the region was another common topic of interest. Some mentioned improving and expanding MARC and VRE service, including pass through service. Others mentioned providing more options and providing easier transfers from modes like bus and light-rail could make it easier for people to get to high-capacity corridors. One person mentioned the importance of an outer bridge crossing on the Potomac River.

Other areas of interest mentioned include electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, and the impacts of ride-sharing services. One member was interested in better understanding the TPB's modeling process. Several members expressed interest in working with staff to develop materials to make it easier to share TPB products with their communities.

Over the next month committee leadership will work with staff to use these areas of interest to inform the development of a committee work plan for the remainder of the year.

### **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

Several members of the CAC participated in the recent Community Leadership Institute. They were given an opportunity to share some reflections.

The participants agreed that the CLI provides a great opportunity to hear different viewpoints from across the region. They felt that hearing about the different ways that their classmates use and are impacted by the region's transportation system enriched their learning. They appreciated the interactive elements. One talked about how negotiating in the role-play activity helped them to really understand how complex transportation decision-making can be. They said this was a great way to learn about trade-offs and political realities. Another said they enjoyed the mapping activity. They said that it was exciting to build their dream transportation system, only to have those dreams tempered by having to figure out how to finance and build that network.

### **THE COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED**

- Nicole McCall, TPB Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the TLC program and recommended applications for FY 2020.
- Lyn Erickson, TPB Plan Development & Program Coordination Director, reviewed the May TPB meeting agenda.

### **ATTENDEES**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>ALTERNATES</b>	<b>TPB STAFF AND GUESTS</b>
Rob Jackson, chair	Tahari Johnson	Lyn Erickson, TPB staff
Daniel Papiernik	Jacqueline Manapsal	Nicole McCall, TPB staff
Jeffrey Parnes	Tony Giancola	Bryan Hayes, TPB staff
Nancy Abeles	Elisa Walton	Abigail Zenner, TPB staff
Jeremy Martin		
Ricky Tejada		Bill Orleans, public
Emmet Tydings		
Jonathan Warner		
Karthik Balasubramanian		
Katherine Kortum		
Theodore Wilhite		
Jasmine Young		