



May 4, 2011

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Kathi Wiederhold

Subject: Item 5.a: Report from the Citizen Advisory Committee

Action Recommended: None. Information only.

Report

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) held their regular meeting on April 21, 2011, with 12 voting members and the MPC liaison present. The main agenda items were to celebrate the six-year anniversary of the CAC's formation with a getting-to-know-you exercise, receive an update on greenhouse gas planning, and review and comment on the draft public outreach strategy for the Regional Transportation Plan Update. When polled on the question, the committee said they were interested in taking a field trip in June in addition to their regular meeting.

Six-Year Celebration

George Kloeppe, Executive Director, Lane Council of Governments, thanked the CAC for their involvement and reflected on the group's formation, activities, and maturation over the years. Kathi Wiederhold, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, briefly reviewed the history of the CAC. Members enjoyed looking at a wall display of photos of the various CAC field trips, retreats, and other events held over the six years. The group celebrated with cake (chocolate of course) and telling about the first music they ever bought and the first concert they ever went to. There was no consensus on musical favorites. We have members and staff who are fans, perhaps former fans, of the Beatles, Beach Boys, Led Zeppelin, Stevie Wonder, Bob Seeger, Elvis, R.E.M., Devo, Police, Rockin' Sydney (singing "My Toot Toot"), Statler Brothers, and Smothers Brothers. We have a bassoonist and a violist in the group. One member said he was not musically inclined but made up for it by playing loud music in his GTO. A female manager who shall remain nameless admitted to having liked the Monkees. One member has been into two-wheeled vehicles from early on—he had five motorcycles as a teen. We had singing, laughing, and—yes—bonding.

Update on Greenhouse Gas Planning

Andrea Riner, Transportation Program Manager, Lane Council of Governments, presented another in a series of updates to the committee on greenhouse gas planning.

Andrea summarized state legislation regarding greenhouse gas planning and explained their effect on MPOs. A key point was that, although HB 2001 requires the Central Lane MPO to develop two or more land use and transportation scenarios to achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emitted from light vehicles, it does not require that the jurisdictions adopt the scenarios. The committee listened and responded with interest. Here are some of the comments and questions: What is the definition of greenhouse gas? Has the economic impact from changes to reduce greenhouse gas been studied? What are the population assumptions? This legislation gives guidance but no funding. Are the models being developed by Portland Metro about to be used here? Is the large federal grant that Housing and Urban Development awarded to LCOG going to be used for greenhouse gas scenario modeling? Do the assumptions consider SUVs as light trucks or cars?

Public Outreach Strategy for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

Paul Thompson, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, explained the scope, process, and timelines for the RTP Update. Kathi Wiederhold, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, provided background and context: core public outreach requirements in the MPO Public Participation Plan for the RTP Update; outreach that was done for the 2004 and 2007 RTP Updates; and previous guidance from the CAC such as recommendations from annual reviews and the 2009 Community Focus Group. The committee liked the staff proposal to add two outreach tools, one low tech and one high tech, to those used in previous updates to broaden outreach with the general public and key groups. A Speakers Bureau will give presentations at meetings of key community groups and organizations to get the word out early before the final draft is ready—from May until September. Brief clear presentations and materials in plain language will raise awareness about the update, explain what the RTP is and why we are updating it, and tell how to find out more information and how to provide input. In the fall, a questionnaire on the website will provide an additional opportunity to comment on the final draft.

Attachments

1. Minutes for the March 17, 2011, CAC Meeting