



July 6, 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 June 16, 2011, with 11 voting members and the MPC liaison present. The main agenda items concerned the Annual Review of the Title VI Plan, the supplemental Surface Transportation Program (STP-U) Funding Request, and the public outreach strategy for the Regional Transportation Plan update.

Annual Review of the Title VI Plan

Stacy Clauson, Assistant Planner, Lane Council of Governments, provided an overview of the annual report and the main areas of work with respect to implementing the Title VI Plan over the coming year. The committee had several questions and comments: What groups does the Title VI plan look to protect from discrimination? When can we update our information with 2010 Census data? What geography is used to collect and report Census data? Is there a work plan in place to address the recommendations from ODOT's review? What is LTD's role in this and do they have their own plan? Does the MPO also report to federal agencies?

Questions and comments also were directed at the outreach activities to the Latino community that are planned under the HUD Sustainable Communities Grant: Who will be involved and what does the work entail? When will the work be completed? Will the University be reimbursed for this work or is this part of research activities? In particular, one member cautioned that the Latino community can be skeptical about this type of program and recommended a number of groups to work with in further scoping the project, including communities of faith, Human Rights Commissions, Eugene Chamber Latino Business Network, and others. Several members recommended that the University of Oregon staff leading the project come to the committee to discuss the project.

Supplemental Surface Transportation Program Funding Request

Paul Thompson, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, provided an overview of the agenda item, indicating that this was another round of funding to distribute discretionary funds. The MPO had received eight applications totaling \$3.5 million, but only had about \$1.5 million available for funding. Paul noted that staff was asking for feedback on the funding recommendations to the MPC, which is scheduled to take action on the requests in July. Paul provided an overview of the staff recommendations on the different funding requests. The committee had several questions and comments, organized by project, as follows:

General comments: Did Springfield have another project? Good to see so many bicycle/pedestrian projects.

Eugene—North Bank: The committee had significant discussion about concerns that had been raised about the protection of Whilamut natural area near the pathway. Committee members and staff discussed the concerns they had heard about protection of the natural area. The City reviewed the responses they had taken to address these concerns, including scaling the project back from the original plan. It was noted that many in the bicycle community had felt that significant compromises already had been made by the City. It also was noted that this project is particularly critical as tax money cannot be used for bike paths.

Lane—30th Avenue: If Lane County does not get additional funding, they will not be able to do preservation work on the ramps and shoulders of 30th Avenue. It was noted that the MPO had funded the full need for the project, as scoped at the time, in last year's allocation.

Eugene—Hilyard: A committee member remarked that it may be best to defer this project until next year.

Coburg—Loop: Why these two segments? There was general discussion about how this project fits into plans within Coburg and the regional bikeway plans.

The committee voted unanimously to support the recommendation of the projects presented for STP-U funding.

RTP Update: Calendar and Schedule Review

Kathi Wiederhold, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, provided an overview of the agenda item. The Draft Regional Transportation Plan is scheduled to be released for review on September 2nd. To spread the word throughout the community, staff is working on a Speakers Bureau. The plan is to schedule 5 to 10 minute slots with a diverse set of different groups in the community, with presentations scheduled to occur from July through the end of September. The objective is to provide a heads up about the update process and the different timelines and opportunities for public input. The Speakers Bureau also would provide an opportunity to raise awareness about regional transportation planning. The committee brainstormed different groups representing

different interest areas that it felt were key to include in this process. Members of the committee volunteered to attend meetings and present the information.

Reports from CAC Representatives on Outside Committees

Committee member and LTD Board Member Gary Gillespie provided an overview of a discussion by the LTD Board to establish a citizen advisory group to review project proposals and the Transit Long Range Plan.

Attachments

1. Minutes for the May 19, 2011, CAC Meeting
2. Minutes for the June 16, 2011, CAC Meeting