



August 3, 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 10 voting members and the MPC liaison present. The main agenda items concerned the draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, MPO coordination with the LaneACT, and a status report and speakers bureau training for the Regional Transportation Plan update.

Member Phillip Carroll resigned from the committee prior to the July meeting. He had been on the CAC since January, 2010. There currently 14 voting members on the CAC, plus the MPC liaison, which is nonvoting. The bylaws specify that the CAC shall consist of ten to 15 members.

Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Savannah Crawford, Senior Regional Planner, Oregon Department of Transportation, provided an overview of the draft STIP. She explained that the STIP organizes projects into four funding pots as well as grant programs. There is a continual cycle of working on the STIP since the document is produced annually. The CAC had several questions and comments, including: How are projects selected to receive funding? How is the restoration work on the Heceta Head Lighthouse funded? Which projects came close to being funded, but did not get funded? (Savannah will provide a list of projects in the queue to the CAC.) Is there a synopsis of funding by type, e.g., for transit, etc.? How does greenhouse gas reduction or alternative transportation fit into the STIP? Is ODOT conducting research on carbon sequestration in pavement? It was noted that there recently have been three good articles on transportation in the Register Guard, including one about the Salt Creek tunnel, which is one of the projects in the STIP.

Status Report on the Regional Transportation Plan Update

Paul Thompson, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments, provided the committee with information presented at the July meeting of the Metropolitan Policy Committee

about the RTP Update. The majority of the draft RTP is close to being done. The goals and objectives are being revised to reflect changes requested by the Metropolitan Policy Committee. There still is a lot of work being done on the Environmental Coordination. In response to questions, Paul clarified that committee members would have opportunities to review and discuss the draft document at both the September and October meetings. And there are two open houses scheduled for October, which committee members are welcome to attend for more opportunity to review and comment.

Training Session for the RTP Update Speakers Bureau

Kathi Wiederhold, Senior Planner, Lane Council of Governments talked with the committee about the RTP Update speakers bureau scheduled for August and September, which the CAC included in the public outreach strategy for the RTP update as an early outreach tool. The concept is to schedule 5 to 10 minute slots with a diverse set of groups in the community, with presentations scheduled to occur in August and 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. CAC members and staff are making the announcements or presentations. CAC members had brainstormed a big list of community groups to reach through the speakers bureau at previous meetings.

The CAC discussed prioritizing groups to reach and worked on CAC members learning more about how the speakers bureau will work. The CAC prioritized the following groups as those most important to reach through the speakers bureau. Staff either has scheduled or is working to schedule appearances:

- Coburg Chamber of Commerce
- Coburg City Council
- Coburg Planning Commission
- Eugene Celebration
- Eugene Chamber of Commerce Local Government Affairs Council
- Eugene Neighborhood Leaders Council
- Human Services Network
- LaneACT
- Lane County Roads Advisory Committee
- Lane Economic Development Committee
- Latino Business Network
- LTD Accessible Transportation Committee
- Springfield Board of Realtors
- Springfield Chamber of Commerce—appropriate committee
- Springfield Neighborhood Watch

The committee received materials related to the speakers bureau: details about how the speakers bureau would work; speaking points members could use when talking with groups; and a draft postcard telling about the update and public comment opportunities.

The postcard and a fact sheet, both in English and Spanish, will be materials to hand out when telling a group about the update.

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. 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.

Attachments

1. Minutes for the July 21, 2011, CAC Meeting