



Attachment 1

Citizen Advisory Committee Recommendations Regarding Public Involvement

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) forwards the following recommendations on public involvement to the Metropolitan Policy Committee for information and discussion. The Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) reviewed these recommendations at their regular meeting on April 24, 2008, and while concurring that the CAC had developed a strong set of recommendations, TPC did not take formal action on them at this time.

1. Establish a central clearinghouse for information on all public involvement opportunities for transportation related activities, plans, projects, and programs in this area being conducted by local, state, federal, and MPO entities.
2. Designate a first point of contact or referral for members of the public trying to find out about transportation activities, plans, projects, or programs in the area. This does not have to be new position.
3. Communicate clear, consistent, easily understood steps for public involvement in the planning, design, and implementation processes. Let people know about the opportunities there are to weigh in.
4. Encourage jurisdictions to enhance their existing efforts to reach out in a transparent and accessible way at the earliest stages, inform the community about those opportunities, and help the public determine the impact that the decisions are likely to have.
5. Develop a multi-year calendar/timeline that identifies milestones in planning processes, decision-making points, and public involvement opportunities that are most relevant to regional transportation planning.
6. Include policy review in the next update of the Regional Transportation Plan. Use the process as an opportunity for a broad outreach to the public.
7. Encourage and assist staff of MPO and MPO partners to use language that is common across jurisdictional boundaries and reflects a regional perspective.
8. Whenever the MPO or an MPO member jurisdiction is planning a transportation-related open house or other event, encourage inclusion of the other jurisdictions as an opportunity to provide regional transportation information to supplement the specific focus of the event.
9. Encourage the MPO and MPO member jurisdictions to collaborate on a regional transportation event ("open house" or other format) periodically. This event would not necessarily need to have a project or other specific focus, but would provide a one stop shopping opportunity for the public to learn about what is currently transpiring in the world of transportation.