

July 8, 2010

To: Citizen Advisory Committee

From: Kathi Wiederhold

Subject: Item 5: Annual Review of Public Participation Plan

Action Recommended: Approve subcommittee recommendation regarding the Annual Review of the MPO public involvement program. Forward the recommendation to the Metropolitan Policy Committee.

Issue Statement

The purpose of this agenda item is to complete the 2010 annual review of the MPO public involvement program, including proposed amendments to the *Public Participation Plan*, hereafter called the Plan. Policy 3.2 on page 10 of the Plan directs that the Plan shall be reviewed annually.

Background

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) began its evaluation of the Plan at the April 15, 2010, meeting and continued it at the May 20, 2010, meeting. A PPP/Title VI Annual Review Subcommittee was also convened, chaired by Sarah Strand, with members Diana Alldredge, Bill Morganti, and Edward Winter. The subcommittee met April 6, April 22, and June 18, 2010. In their work of developing the draft recommendations, the subcommittee reviewed:

- CAC discussions held at the April and May meetings.
- The public outreach conducted for the CAC Recruitment in fall 2009.
- A summary of public outreach conducted for MPO planning activities during the past year, including data from the website indicating how many people viewed that information, the number of testifiers at the public hearing, and the number of written comments received the public comment period.
- CAC recommendations from the 2008 and 2009 Annual Review.

Conclusions

The subcommittee suggests that the following points summarize the conclusions reached by the CAC during the annual review:

- The MPO is headed in the right direction with its public involvement program.
- Many of the outreach tools and strategies used by the MPO work well, but the MPO should use some additional new methods to reach a broader group.
- The CAC recruitment outreach and process worked well but the MPO should actively look for ways to broaden its outreach.
- The MPO Public Participation Plan was followed when conducting public outreach for the Regional Transportation Plan.

2010 Recommended Changes to the PPP

The subcommittee requests that the CAC approve the draft recommendations listed in Attachment 1 to MPC as a result of the 2010 evaluation of the MPO public involvement program. The recommendations include four amendments to the Summary Table (Table 1, page 13, in the Public Participation Plan, as shown in Attachment 2), three general recommendations, and four continuing recommendations.

Recommendations

The action requested is to approve the draft recommendations from the subcommittee. Sonny Chickering, MPC liaison, and Chair Dave Jacobson jointly will present the recommendations to the Metropolitan Policy Committee at the September 9, 2010 MPC meeting for discussion and to open the public comment period. The Plan requires a minimum 45-day public comment period before changes are made to the PPP. A notice to interested parties about the proposed changes to the Plan will be sent to the MPO email distribution list and posted on the MPO website on September 2, 2010, with close of public comment on October 22, 2010. MPC will review comments and take action on the proposed amendments at their November meeting.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Draft CAC Recommendations

Attachment 2: Draft Revised PPP Table 1. Summary Table