



April 6, 2006

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Kathi Wiederhold

Subject: Item 4.a – Report from Citizen Advisory Committee

Action Recommended: None, information only.

Report

The committee held their regular meeting on April 5, 2006, with six of the nine voting members and the one non-voting member in attendance. The key agenda items dealt with electing officers, completing review of the Draft Public Involvement Plan, and brainstorming ideas for the Citizen's Guide. Although the committee deferred the evaluation of their first year to the May meeting, they extended the April meeting to allow time to discuss a concern they would like Commissioner Green to carry to MPC. There was a short item on the Unified Planning Work Program. This report also includes an update on the recruitment for the CAC.

Election of Officers

The committee elected Dan Egan and Sylvia Shaw as co-Chairs to serve a term that expires at the last meeting of the calendar year. Dan and Sylvia have been serving as co-Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, since being elected in June 2005. The committee deferred election of a Vice-Chair to the May meeting.

Draft Public Involvement Plan

The committee took pen in hand to complete its review of the draft Public Involvement Plan—they marked up a display size table from the evaluation chapter that lists the public involvement tool, evaluation measurement, performance objective, and methods to meet the objective. Staff will revise the draft document per suggestions from the committee, with the goal of completing CAC review of the revised draft at the May meeting and presenting the draft Public Involvement Plan to MPC in June.

Citizen's Guide

The committee launched their work on the Citizen's Guide with a brief but very productive activity that involved gathering around a table full of example documents—Citizen's Guides from MPOs around the country, public outreach materials from the federal government, and even a septic system maintenance and operation manual. Members called out and used post-its to mark features they liked about the display materials, such as format, graphics, tone, size, length, etc. The committee previously had agreed the Citizen's Guide would function as a public outreach tool to provide the

community with information on the MPO process and how to get involved, to be designed as a primer using lots of graphics, color, and plain English, which would be basic, easy to read, short, and use humor. Next month, the committee will continue their work on the Citizen's Guide by discussing how to modify the things they liked in the example documents for use in their document.

Unified Planning Work Program

Staff checked with the committee to see if they had any questions or comments on the draft introduced and summarized at the March meeting. There were no questions or comments.

Request to MPC

The committee requested Commissioner Green, as liaison to MPC, to carry a message to MPC that they are concerned about how effective they have been in their role of providing recommendations to MPC. The committee would like to know what impact recommendations from the CAC have had on MPC decision making—how has MPC used input from the CAC when making decisions?

CAC Recruitment

The Recruitment Subcommittee consists of MPC members Anne Ballew, Bobby Green, and David Kelly, and CAC officers Dan Egan, Rex Redmon, and Sylvia Shaw. The recruitment closes on April 7, 2006. Seven applications have been received to date. The Recruitment Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on April 17, 2006, to review the applications and select a slate of candidates to recommend to MPC at the May 11, 2006 meeting. The public outreach for the recruitment included display ads in the Register Guard, Springfield News, and the Eugene Weekly; two email announcements to an estimated 400-500 people (names that occur on more than one list preclude an exact count); an email announcement in Spanish to 12 organizations; posting in English and Spanish on the www.TheMPO.org website; press release to local media; and posting hard copies of the advertisement in English and Spanish at Chambers of Commerce, local government offices, libraries, and other community gathering places. The recruitment materials encourage all residents to apply regardless of their expertise or transportation interest and list the targeted interest areas in the bylaws.