



October 12, 2005

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Kathi Wiederhold

Subject: Item 4.g.1.i – Report from Citizen Advisory Committee

Action Recommended: None, information only.

Report

The committee held their regular meeting on October 5, 2005, with nine of the ten members in attendance. The key agenda items focused on amendments to the bylaws and public involvement, and featured 3 guest speakers.

Amendments to the Bylaws

The CAC operates under a set of bylaws adopted by MPC on September 9, 2004, and amended on June 9, 2005 to add the category of “employees/workers/organized labor” to broaden the representation of various interest groups on the CAC. The CAC approved draft amendments to the bylaws after reviewing them in legislative format. Because the bylaws require that the text of amendments be sent to committee members not less than thirty calendar days in advance, the CAC will take action at their November meeting to recommend the amendments to MPC. The amendments would become effective upon approval by MPC.

The substantive changes approved by the committee are:

- Add language to allow MPC to appoint an at-large position filled by a member who resides outside the MPO boundary
- Change the quorum requirement from two-thirds to a simple majority of appointed members
- Change the requirement for sending the text for the proposed amendments to committee members from 30 days to 14 days in advance

Public Involvement

The committee received with enthusiasm the three guest speakers, Kathy Wiltz with the marketing firm of Cappelli Miles [Spring], Petra Schuetz from LCOG, and Christian Watchie with the transportation planning firm Trans-Watch. Kathy spoke from a more general perspective about designing a public outreach program and dealing with the challenges such as scope and how to generate interest. Petra and Christian focused on the public outreach for the I-105 Improvement Project. Their presentation provided a case study for the committee to draw on in designing a public involvement strategy for a specific product, such as the Regional Transportation Plan Update. All three are experts who brought considerable knowledge and experience to their presentations.