



December 8, 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 December 6, 2006, with nine of the thirteen voting members and the one non-voting member in attendance. The committee adjusted the agenda to discuss two items brought up by members via e-mail. One request was from Jan Spencer and the other was from Jeanne-Marie Moore. The committee spent most of the meeting time discussing these two added agenda items.

Initially, there were two main items on the agenda. The first was to finish the review of proposed changes to the Revised Draft Public Participation Plan and recommend the revised draft to MPC for adoption. The second was to design a public outreach strategy for the Update of the Regional Transportation Plan to recommend to MPC for adoption.

Three initial members of the committee will end their terms on December 31, 2006. Thus their last meeting was December 6, 2006. The Chair presented Certificates of Appreciation to Kristin Anderson, Rex Redmon, and Jan Spencer and thanked them for their service. Also resigning with this meeting was Bobby Green, who had served as the MPC liaison to the Citizen Advisory Committee since its inception. Commissioner Green indicated that he had advised MPC of his stepping down from the liaison position and requested that they appoint another MPC member to serve as liaison.

Item from Jan Spencer

Jan Spencer requested that the committee “sign on” to a letter to MPC asking them to: instruct LCOG to model the consequences of Peak Oil on local transportation; and mandate and fund a study of the effects of the high price of gasoline on local and regional economics and transportation, including consideration of preparedness strategies. The committee had a lot of discussion on this item. At the end of the discussion, the prevailing sentiment was that this is a complex item that would best be dealt with when the committee had adequate time to discuss and agree on the wording of a request to MPC. The committee requested that the item be scheduled for January and asked Jan Spencer if he would come to inform the discussion as an expert on the topic, even though he would no longer be a member of the committee.

### Item from Jeanne-Marie Moore

Jeanne-Marie Moore asked other committee members about whether they have had trouble comprehending the volumes of technical material presented to the committee. She said that she has been unable to understand the material, given the large volumes of printed material, the difficult-to-follow staff presentations of the material, and the extra time that she as a person who is blind needs to “read” the material using her special computer software. The committee was supportive and sympathetic to her issue and acknowledged that the material is very technical and complex. Staff offered Jeanne-Marie individual briefing sessions on an as-needed basis, as they had done when the committee began their discussions of the Update of the Regional Transportation Plan. Staff also offered to pursue translating materials into Braille in a way that would be more helpful than the previously used methods to prepare materials for Jeanne-Marie. The committee agreed that they should structure their agenda to schedule only two meaty items per meeting and focus on doing a thorough job with them, rather than spread themselves too thin.

### Revised Draft Public Participation Plan

The committee discussed this item very briefly and voted unanimously to recommend the Revised Draft Plan to MPC for adoption. They agreed that the Comments and Response Summary satisfies their request to respond to public comment with a document that “closes the loop”—a way to let commenters know that their comment was considered and whether it resulted in a change in the Revised Draft Plan. They also agreed with the content of the proposed responses to public comment and other changes in the Revised Draft Plan. The schedule calls for the MPC to review the Revised Draft Plan at their December 14, 2006, meeting and act upon it at their January 11, 2007, meeting.

### Regional Transportation Plan Update

Staff reported on the status of the Update, reviewed the limited nature of the Update, and briefly touched on some of the work with MPO partners to agree on the technical underpinnings such as the scenario which the MPO must model to meet federal requirements. The staff report drew a lot of discussion and interest from the committee. The committee ran out of time without talking about the public outreach strategy other than to comment that the limited nature of the update did not seem to warrant extensive public outreach.