

# **Developing the TPB's Participation Plan**

TPB Technical Committee  
May 4, 2007

## **Some Context**

- **Federal requirements**
  - ISTEA (1991)
  - TEA-21 (1998)
  - SAFETEA-LU (2005)
- **TPB Public Involvement Process**
  - Established in 1993
  - Revised in 1999
  - Will be replaced by a Participation Plan in 2007
- **Evaluation of TPB Public Involvement Activities**
  - Last done in 1998.
  - New evaluation currently underway.

## What are we currently doing?

- Structures
  - Citizens Advisory Committee (established 1993; reconstituted 2000)
  - Access for All Advisory Committee (established 2001)
- Procedures
  - Established in the Public Involvement Process
  - Include public comment, public notice.
- Website
- Documents
  - *TPB News, The Region, Citizens Guide*, special publications
- Public Meetings
  - Forums on the TPB's Scenario Study
- Community Leadership Institute

## New Participation Plan: Tying it all together

- Required under SAFETEA-LU
- Inputs:
  - Current TPB Public Involvement Process, as amended in 1999
  - Lessons-learned since 1999
  - Federal Metropolitan Planning Regulations of February 14, 2007
  - Final report of the Evaluation of the TPB's Public Involvement Activities

## Evaluation of Public Involvement Activities

### Why?

- Need for an objective assessment of current activities
- Provide input for the new Participation Plan
- Recommended in Federal Certification Review of 2005

## Evaluation of Public Involvement Activities

### Status:

- Circle Point selected as contractor in October 2006
- Final report expected in June 2007

## Evaluation: Preliminary Observations

- The TPB has made a number of positive enhancements in public involvement.
  - *But we need to comprehensively examine how it all fits together and to identify gaps.*
- Outreach activities need to be more strategic.
  - *Be more explicit about goals and about the choices we make in the activities we pursue and the tools we use.*
- Move beyond “one size fits all.”
  - *Different types of constituencies need different types of participation tools.*
- Work toward developing a “regional story” that is clear and compelling.
  - *Publications and website are mostly geared toward insiders.*

## Participation Plan Draft Outline

- Background
- Participation Policy
  - Policy Statement
  - Goals
- Participation Strategy
  - Constituencies
  - Challenges
  - Tools
- Participation Program
  - Plan Update Cycle
  - Annual Participation Program
- Appendices
  - Federal Regulations
  - CAC Mission and Operating Procedures

## Plan Development Schedule

- **May/June 2007**
  - Meet with interested parties during the development of the Participation Plan
    - AFA Committee
    - Technical Committee
    - CAC Committee
    - Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee
    - WMATA Rider's Advisory Committee
    - Ad Hoc Freight Committee
- **July 2007**
  - Release the Draft Plan for public comment
- **September 2007**
  - Receive feedback from TPB Committees on Draft Plan
  - Submit Final Participation Plan for adoption