
**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE TPB**

March 19, 2025
Daniel Papiernik, CAC Chair

The March meeting of the CAC was held virtually on Thursday, March 13. The meeting featured an orientation on Visualize 2050, a presentation on the TPB Access for All Advisory Committee (AFA) recruitment, and a DMVMoves update. The committee also held their “Act Locally” round-robin.

Visualize 2050 Orientation

Staff provided an overview of the region’s transportation plan requirements and how the plan is conducted at TPB. They updated the CAC on the status of the planning process, including the major decision points and the opportunities for public input. The new website was also demonstrated. Staff articulated the objectives for the transportation plan development, including: documenting the current system, identifying major issues, considering societal impacts, and documenting financial availability. There are four separate documents being developed: the Visualize 2050 plan, the transportation improvement program (TIP) which covers the first four years of the plan, process documentation, and the air quality conformity report. This plan has undergone a zero-based budgeting process to align with TPB goals. The zero-based budgeting process for the update has resulted in a more accurate project database. Staff touched on public engagement, which is a key component of the plan. The website serves as a communication hub and includes interactive maps, flip books, and resources for public involvement. An ambassador toolkit to help spread the word about the plan and the fall 2025 comment period is under development.

Questions and comments included the following:

How are projects that feature a road diet or some other form of limiting auto throughput measured in the air quality conformity analysis?

Lane reduction projects are considered in the analysis, but the conformity analysis looks at the performance of the transportation network in aggregate over the entire region. Several factors, such as fleet mix and congestion, go into the model.

Will there be an Aspirational/Unconstrained chapter in Visualize 2050 as there was in Visualize 2045?

Some of the subject specific plans that make up this plan have an unconstrained element, such as the National Capital Region Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The aspirational goals developed as part of the previous planning effort are carried through to this plan.

Have the emissions standards been updated to improve air quality over the years?

Yes, emissions standards have changed over time. Overall, air quality has been improving for the criteria pollutants that we need to track in our plans.

Comment: Maryland DOT plans (or lack of plans) for their portion of I-495 will continue to create bottlenecks and congestion in the regional system.

ACCESS FOR ALL (AFA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

Laura Bachle provided an overview of the committee, its work to date, and the details of the current recruitment drive. The committee serves as a conduit to share the interests of traditionally underserved communities in the regional transportation planning process. The committee's objectives are to facilitate regional discussion and chiefly to provide feedback on the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. The work plan priorities include refreshing the AFA structure, providing input on grant applications, and participating in regional forums. She asked the CAC members for their help in recruitment.

Questions and comments included the following:

How might the CAC help identify people who may qualify for this committee?

Recruiting organizations that represent underserved communities, not individuals, is the goal. Members suggested reaching out to private paratransit providers and including the neurodivergent community, possibly through parent groups.

DMVMoves UPDATES

Vice-Chair Ra Amin summarized the information provided at the February joint meeting. Highlights included news that WMATA has closed the FY 2025 funding gap and has accomplished some significant service optimization, but there is still a challenge with capital funding. The DMVMoves Task Force is continuing to work on a stable funding stream. He reported on each of the six working groups. They are continuing to make progress on their tasks. Mr. Amin has been working on two of the working groups. He mentioned that there is interest in discussing a bus fare-free regional framework and universal signage for bus stops. The timeline for the specific deliverables has been extended. The Action Plan will go to the Task Force in an interim report in May. Groups are expecting to continue to work until implementation of action steps.

Questions and comments included the following:

What do you think of the progress to date?

Work continues and people are still showing up, so there is progress being made. There is a commitment to see the process through to implementation.

ACT LOCALLY ROUND-ROBIN

Chair Papiernik opened discussion on the activities that members are doing in their local communities. A number of members shared their ongoing work, including work with the Metro Riders Council, spreading the word on Bike to Work Day, getting oriented on the Complete Streets policy and how TPB is supporting those projects, members participating in discussions on regional infrastructure, such as the extension of the express lanes on I-495 in Virginia, and riding public transit more to get a better sense of the experiences people are having.

ATTENDANCE

CAC Members

Daniel Papiernik, Chair
Ra Amin, Vice-Chair
Felicia Brannon
Tim Davis
Martha Fedorowicz
Heather Ganoa
Dan Hardy
Kevin Jiang

Madeline Kaba
Cooper Lohr
Mónica Martínez López
Felipè Millàn
Asa Orrin-Brown
Jeff Parnes
Lorena Rios
Rick Rybeck
Gail Sullivan

Connor Young

Staff

Leonardo Pineda
Rachel Beyerle
Laura Bachle
Amanda Lau
Lyn Erikson
Cristina Finch