

Public Participation Plan for Transportation Planning and Programming

TAC Planning Committee
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Federal Requirement

- As the MPO, the Council is required to develop a public participation plan under 23 §CFR450.316.
- Serves as a framework for:
 - Public involvement
 - Outreach and engagement
 - Also outlines how we do this work and what the goals are for participation

Background – Council Policies that Guide Participation

- Thrive MSP 2040
- Public Engagement Plan
- Transportation Policy Plan

Guiding Principles

- Transportation is about people
- Participation should:
 - Be meaningful
 - Facilitate discussion
 - Be inclusive, specifically to underrepresented communities
- Multiple methods should be used to capture public comments (email, online forums, etc.)
- Public meetings will be scheduled at times and locations that are accessible by transit riders, people with disabilities and can accommodate people with a variety of work schedules
- Opportunities will be promoted widely regarding various planning and outreach efforts

Goals and Desired Outcomes of Participation

- Provide a range of opportunities/venues for public participation
- Identify and engage key audiences
- Connect with a broad range of residents reflective of demographics and geography throughout region
- Gather input from audiences/constituencies regarding regional transportation policies and planning
- Educating stakeholders and general public about the Council's role in transportation policies and planning

Applying to Transportation Plans and Programs

- Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD)

Strategies for Public Participation

- Creating information on web sites, and for use fact sheets, handouts and other materials
- Convening stakeholders around topics of regional scale
- Sponsoring listening sessions, workshops or conferences to promote policy discussions
- Organize and host social media events
- Design and disseminate informal surveys
- Offer forum, including online forums, to get ideas on regional issues
- Develop special events to announce – kick offs, project initiatives, news event, etc.
- Offer learning opportunities through open houses, meetings/tours/receptions
- Host focus groups or small group discussions

Effort Specific Strategies and Tactics

- Main strategies:
 - Implement public participation strategies from an early stage of transportation planning and at all levels (not just public comment period)
 - Involve other decision-making agencies and entities when engaging public
 - Use online tools and techniques to enhance or encourage participation
 - Use and empower Metropolitan Council advisory committees to be involved in public participation within their communities

Measuring Success

- Goals for public participation in transportation planning:
- Be consistent in policy and practices with Thrive MSP 2040 and the Transportation Policy Plan
- Build upon partnerships identified in Thrive MSP 2040 Outreach and Engagement efforts
- Support key goals in Thrive MSP 2040 and the Engagement Plan
- Engage transportation stakeholders as identified in the Transportation Policy

Input from your committee

What are other ideas to get participation?

Thank You!

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