



February 20, 2018

AGENDA ITEM 3B

Final CRTPA Public Involvement Process Plan

TYPE OF ITEM: Consent

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

CRTPA staff has revised the Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP) for the CRTPA to satisfy requirements by the Federal Highway Administration pursuant to the 2017 TMA Certification Review. The revisions are predominantly formatting in nature, with other revisions involving the addition of a CRTPA Organizational Chart for CRTPA staff, reflecting the existing committee and CRTPA Board structures, and specifying 21 days as a public review period for the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and 14 days for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) before adoption. At this time, final adoption of the 2018 PIPP is requested.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY CRTPA COMMITTEES

The CRTPA's two (2) committees (Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee – CMAC and TAC) held meetings on February 6, 2018 and took formal action to recommend approval of the Final PIPP for adoption.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Option 1: Adopt the 2018 CRTPA Final Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP)

HISTORY AND ANALYSIS

In June of 2014, the current CRTPA PIPP was adopted by the CRTPA Board. Since that time, many changes have occurred in the CRTPA planning environment, including the physical relocation of the CRTPA offices, personnel changes in CRTPA staff, restructuring of the CRTPA committees, meeting date change of the CRTPA Board, and the signing into law of the FAST ACT. Additionally, the CRTPA recently completed its Certification Review in which amendments to the adopted PIPP were required. The PIPP was amended to be brought up to date with the current structure of the CRTPA staff and advisory committees and the current planning legislation in effect.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 5 pm – 7 pm in Tallahassee’s City Hall, Tallahassee Room (2nd floor) to receive comments on the Draft PIPP. One person attended the meeting, although no formal written or verbal comments on the PIPP were provided. Following the public meeting, CRTPA staff met with the CRTPA advisory committees (CMAC and TAC) to discuss the proposed FINAL PIPP. Both committees recommended approval of the FINAL PIPP, with the CMAC recommending additional language pertaining to the FAST-ACT (Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act) to be added within the document.

RECENT ACTION

Following the release of the Draft PIPP for public review on January 3, 2018, and meetings with the CRTPA advisory committees and FDOT staff, CRTPA staff initiated minor revisions from the DRAFT PIPP to the proposed Final PIPP. These changes include the following:

- Changing the phone number of the CRTPA offices from 891-8600 to 891-8630 throughout;
- Adding a reference to the FAST-Act on Page 9, under Guiding Legislation (last sentence);
- Changing the public comment period and newspaper noticing for DRAFT TIP and TIP Amendments (page 26) from 21 days to 14 days;
- Changing the public comment period for UPWP adoption (page 35) from 21 days to 14 days, (including amendment notification on webpage from 21 days to 14 days as well); and
- Changing the UPWP modification noticing period (page 35) on CRTPA webpage from 14 days prior to submittal to FDOT to 7 days prior to submittal to FDOT.

The changes in noticing and comment periods for the DRAFT TIP, TIP Amendments, and UPWP adoptions/amendments/modifications were made to reflect a more responsive and efficient process for the CRTPA.

NEXT STEPS

The PIPP is scheduled for final adoption at the February 20, 2018 CRTPA Meeting. Upon adoption, the PIPP will become effective and will be forwarded to FHWA and FDOT for their files following the February 20, CRTPA Board Meeting.

OPTIONS

Option 1: Adopt the 2018 CRTPA Final Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP). (Recommended)

Option 2: CRTPA Board Discretion.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: CRTPA Final 2018 Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP)



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2018

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
PROCESS PLAN**

CRTPA

Tel 850.891.8630

300 South Adams Street, Box A-19
Tallahassee, FL 32301

www.crtpa.org

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CRTPA Public Involvement Overview

The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) seeks and values public involvement in the development of its work products from EVERYONE in the CRTPA region. In keeping with this, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Additionally, the CRTPA embraces the principles of Environmental Justice in its planning processes and in doing so identifies and addresses the effects of its policies, programs, and potential projects on, “low-income and minority populations.”

To facilitate the ability for all to have an equal opportunity to participate in the CRTPA’s decision-making process, the CRTPA holds its meetings in facilities that are compliant with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), and provides, upon request, appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in CRTPA programs, services, and activities. This includes qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments. Persons who require special accommodations under ADA or persons who require translation services (free of charge) are asked to please contact the CRTPA at least seven days before a meeting with your request by calling 850.891.8630 or by visiting our webpage at www.crtpa.org

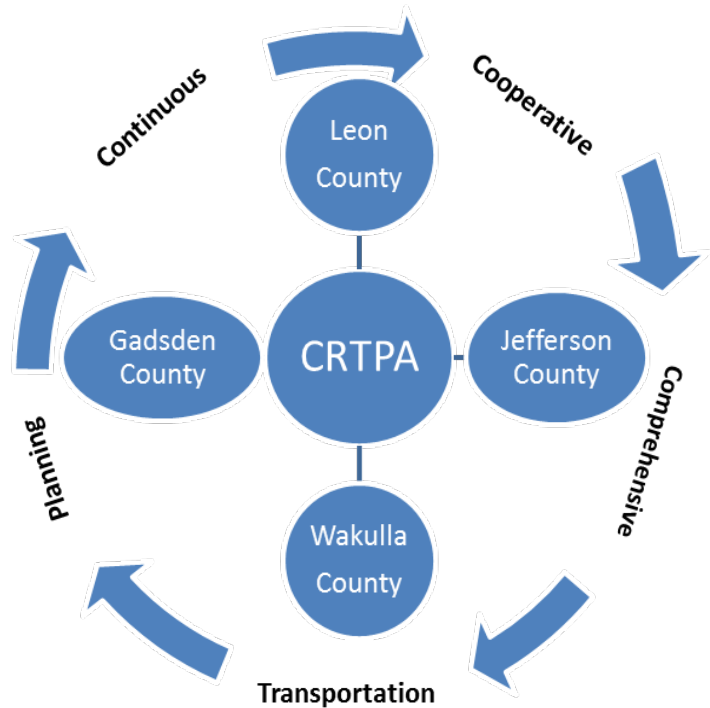
Additionally, CRTPA staff provides the translation of documents into other languages, upon request, for persons with limited English proficiency. To request any special accommodations such as those listed above, interested persons can contact the CRTPA at (850) 891-8630, or visit the CRTPA web page at www.crtpa.org to request such accommodations.

CRTPA Overview

What is the CRTPA?

The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) is a multi-jurisdictional metropolitan planning organization (MPO) mandated by federal and state law to provide continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning for the Capital Region.

As such, the CRTPA is responsible for the regional transportation planning that guides the future growth and development of Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, and Wakulla Counties.



What is a Metropolitan Planning Agency?

A Metropolitan Planning Agency (MPO) is an area-wide, multi-jurisdictional agency mandated by federal and state law for urbanized areas of more than 50,000 people to provide a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive regional transportation planning process. An MPO is responsible for planning and programming in cooperation with local transportation agencies and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), as well as for the expenditure of federal and state transportation funds in an effort to enhance the statewide and regional multimodal transportation system. To achieve this objective, MPOs develop a 20-year Long-Range Transportation Plan to guide future transportation decision-making and a 5-year Transportation Improvement Program to prioritize transportation projects for federal, state, and local funding within their regions.

History of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency

Initially, the Tallahassee-Leon County Transportation Study, using input from government officials, technical experts, and private citizens, guided transportation planning in the Tallahassee-Leon County area. The Tallahassee Urban Area Transportation Study (TALUATS) was organized in 1965 as a joint undertaking between the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, and the State of Florida. The federal government participated through the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Consistent with guidelines developed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, the Tallahassee Urban Area Transportation Study Policy Committee was reorganized into the Tallahassee-Leon County Metropolitan Planning Organization in early 1977, and was reconstituted on December 10, 1979, in conformance with Florida Statute 334.215. The Metropolitan Planning Organization was composed of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, the Tallahassee City Commissioners, and a representative from the Leon County School Board.

In 2004, based on data from the 2000 Census, the Tallahassee-Leon County MPO was expanded to include the urbanized portions of Gadsden and Wakulla Counties and was renamed the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) to more accurately reflect its new regional focus. In 2008, the MPO planning boundaries were again expanded, and now the CRTPA planning boundary includes all of Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, and Wakulla Counties.

CRTPA Board Members & Voting Structure

The CRTPA Board is comprised of elected representatives from Gadsden County, Jefferson County, Leon County, Wakulla County, the City of Tallahassee, the Leon County School Board, and Gadsden County Municipalities. Combined, the Board has a total of 100 points, which are shared among the voting members according to the number of points allocated to each voting location. Increasing members for a particular location does not increase the number of points a jurisdiction receives, it merely reduces the weight of each individual vote for that particular location. The City of Tallahassee and Leon County are permitted to change the number of designated voting members they have once per year.

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency Board

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Meet on a regular basis (3rd Tuesday of the month from 1:30 pm-3:30 pm) to establish transportation policies and evaluate transportation needs in the 4-county area.</p> | <p>Voting Members are all elected officials.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(Number of voting members varies, but points per jurisdiction remains constant)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gadsden County (9 <i>points</i>) Gadsden County Municipalities (5 <i>points</i>) Jefferson County (4 <i>points</i>) Leon County (37 <i>points</i>) Leon County School Board (1 <i>point</i>) City of Tallahassee (37 <i>points</i>) Wakulla County (7 <i>points</i>)</p> |
|---|--|--|

CRTPA Duties

The CRTPA Board works with its planning and transportation agency partners within the region, as well as the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), various citizen and technical committees, organizational staff, and the public to:

- Identify and evaluate transportation needs in the region;
- Determine the types of studies, strategies, and improvements needed; and to
- Develop short- and long-term programs and plans that include schedules, improvement needs, and funding sources.

CRTPA Regular Meetings

The CRTPA Board meets on a regular basis to provide direction and make decisions needed to implement transportation projects and strategies. The CRTPA typically meets on the **third Tuesday** of the month, six times a year. Meetings are scheduled to begin at **1:30 p.m.** in the City of Tallahassee or Leon County Commission Chambers, and typically last between one and two hours. The schedule and agendas for the CRTPA Board meetings are posted on the CRTPA website located at www.crtpa.org. Additionally, the meetings are televised live on WCOT. Past recordings of the meetings can be viewed on the CRTPA website as well.

CRTPA Special Meetings

The CRTPA can elect to call special meetings at any time deemed necessary to discuss specific issues of interest and importance to the region. These meetings are typically decided on with enough advance forethought that they can and will be advertised in the local newspapers with at least one-week advanced notification when possible. These meetings will also be noticed on the CRTPA webpage at www.crtpa.org and sent out in mass e-mail notifications to the contacts listed in the regional contact database maintained by the CRTPA for general and specific public involvement notifications.

Emergency Meetings

Infrequently, the CRTPA may need to call an emergency meeting to address issues that require immediate action, and which must take place so quickly that they cannot be noticed in the newspaper in advance of the meeting. In instances where notification in the media is not possible due to an emergency meeting being called too late to meet media deadlines, notification will be placed on the CRTPA webpage at www.crtpa.org and also sent out in mass e-mail notifications to the contacts listed in the regional database maintained by the CRTPA for general and specific public involvement notifications. Whenever possible, emergency meetings will be advertised in the local media with at least 24-hour notification of the meeting.

C RTPA COMMITTEES



In addition to citizen input, the CRTPA Board receives input from three standing committees. These committees are mandated and created by state law. The CRTPA Advisory Committees are as follows:

- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC);**
- **Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC); and the**
- **Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB).**

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** provides technical advice to the CRTPA Board with regard to plans and programs they are considering. Pursuant to section 339.175(6)(d), Florida Statutes, the membership of the TAC must include, whenever possible, planners; engineers; representatives of local aviation authorities, port authorities, and public transit authorities or representatives of aviation departments, seaport departments, and public transportation departments of municipal or county governments, as applicable; the school superintendent of each county within the jurisdiction of the CRTPA or the superintendent's designee; and other appropriate representatives of affected local governments. The TAC membership is appointed by the local agencies providing their expertise.

TAC Meetings

The TAC typically meets six (6) times a year, and typically on the first Tuesday of the month, from 9 am – 11am. The most up to date meeting location and times are posted on the webpage at www.crtpa.org under committees, and can also be verified by calling the CRTPA offices at 850-891-8630.

CITIZEN'S MULTIMODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The **Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC)** is comprised of a cross-section of appointed citizens and governmental representatives from the four-county region. Pursuant to Section 339.175(e), Florida Statutes, the membership on this committee must reflect a broad cross-section of local residents with an interest in the development of an efficient, safe, and cost-effective transportation system. Minorities, the elderly, and the handicapped must be adequately represented. The CMAC has a maximum of 15 voting members, all of which are appointed by the CRTPA Board as a whole. Members elect their own Chair and Vice-Chairpersons from the current membership at the last meeting of each year, which is typically held in November or December.

The CMAC is tasked with providing input to proposed transportation plans from a citizen's perspective to the CRTPA Board. Through an integration of land use and transportation issues, the committee provides a meaningful discussion of the transportation planning process and provides much needed guidance on important projects such as the Regional Mobility Plan (RMP), which is the long range transportation plan for the region.

CMAC Meetings

The CMAC typically meets six (6) times a year, and typically on the first Tuesday of the month, from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. The most up to date meeting location and times are posted on the webpage at www.crtpa.org under committees, and can also be verified by calling the CRTPA offices at 850-891-8630.

If this committee sounds interesting to you and you reside in Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, or Wakulla County, the CRTPA invites you to serve on the committee! An application may be down loaded from the CRTPA website at www.crtpa.org. The application can also be found in **Appendix B** of this document. Questions about the CMAC can be referred to the CRTPA's Public Involvement Coordinator /Title VI Officer / Mobility Coordinator, Lynn Barr, at lynn.barr@talgov.com or by calling 850.891.8630.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD

The **Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB)** is the only CRTPA committee that does not act in an advisory capacity to the CRTPA. The TDCB acts as advisors to the State of Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, a commission appointed by and under the auspices of the Executive Office of the Governor.

A CRTPA board member serves as the chairman for the TDCB and approves its citizen members. The role of the TDCB in addition to advising the state, is to discuss coordination issues among the agencies providing transportation for those who cannot secure their own means of transportation. It also serves to resolve grievances between riders, carriers, and the Community Transportation Coordinator. Reports from the TDCB are provided to the full CRTPA at each CRTPA meeting.

TDCB members representing agencies are appointed by the agencies they represent. This comprises most of the membership. There are two citizen openings, one for a visually handicapped user of the system and one for an elderly user of the system. When one of these vacancies is open, the position is advertised in the local newspapers of the CRTPA region. Regardless of their membership in the CRTPA, each County, by Florida Statute, must maintain its own Coordinating Board.

TDCB Meetings

All meetings adhere to Florida Sunshine Laws and are duly advertised. The meeting schedule for the TDCB is located on the CRTPA website which is www.crtpa.org and it can also be verified by calling a staff member at the CRTPA offices at 850-891-8630.

GUIDING LEGISLATION

Public Involvement is so important to transportation planning efforts that it is specifically addressed in federal law. For example, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (**ISTEA**), the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (**TEA-21**), the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (**SAFETEA-LU**), and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (**MAP-21**) require a proactive public involvement processes as integral parts of the transportation planning and project development processes used by Metropolitan Planning Organizations. To this end, the public involvement processes used by the CRTPA must provide complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and opportunities for early and continuing involvement. The federal legislation is outlined below [including the current legislation Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (**FAST Act**)].

ISTEA / TEA-21 / SAFETEA-LU / MAP-21

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) include the following requirements for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) regarding public involvement:

- Provide timely information about transportation issues and procedures to citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, private providers of transportation, other interested parties and segments of the community affected by transportation plans, programs, and projects
- Provide reasonable public access to technical and policy information used in the development of plans and Transportation Improvement Programs and open public meetings where matters related to the federal-aid highway and transit programs are being considered; and
- Seek out and consider the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, including, but not limited to, low-income, and minority households.

On July 6, 2012, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was signed into law. MAP-21 creates a streamlined, multi-modal program that is performance-based to address the many facets of the transportation system such as improving safety, maintaining infrastructure condition, reducing traffic congestion, improving efficiency of the system and of freight movement. MAP-21 is a continuation of the existing metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes previously in place but also enhances the program through the requirement to incorporate performance goals, measures, and targets into the process of identifying transportation improvement needs and programmed projects for funding. Public involvement remains important in the planning process in MAP-21 (as it is in all MPO planning processes) as well and will also be measured throughout the process of identifying transportation improvement needs, projects, and expenditures.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act became law in December of 2015 and furthers the initiatives under MAP-21 focusing on performance based planning with an emphasis on safety, security, and increasing mobility for people and for freight. Enhancing the integration and connectivity of the transportation system between modes for people and freight is a key aspect of the FAST ACT.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations provides that "each federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority and low-income populations." ***Executive Order 12898: includes the following two fundamental principles of environmental justice:***

1. To ensure that public involvement includes low-income and minority groups in decision-making; and
2. To prevent disproportionately high and adverse impacts of decisions on low income and minority groups.

This means that for any program / activity for which any federal funds will be used, the agency receiving the federal funds (including states, cities and MPOs) must:

- Make a meaningful effort to involve low-income and minority populations in the decision-making process about the use of federal funds; and
- Evaluate the nature, extent, and incidence of adverse human health or environmental impacts of the program or activity upon minority or the underserved population areas in the County.

The CRTPA is committed to the development of equitable policies that avoid disproportionately negative effects on minority and/or low-income populations. The CRTPA works continuously to ensure the full participation of all affected communities in the transportation planning process. This plan identifies goals and objectives for engaging those traditionally underserved by the transportation planning process. These goals and objectives can be found in **Appendix C** of this document.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

What is Limited English Proficiency?

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is a term used to describe individuals who are not proficient in the English language. Within the CRTPA region, there are small pockets of individuals who, according to Census data, are identifiable as being LEP, largely within Gadsden County. It is important that CRTPA staff closely monitor the presence of LEP individuals and be innovative and proactive in engaging them in the planning process.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related federal and state laws and regulations prohibit the recipients of Federal financial assistance from discriminating against persons based on national origin. Moreover, Executive Order 13166 -*Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency*, as well as US Department of Transportation directives require recipients to take affirmative steps to plan for and provide meaningful access to

recipient programs, services, and activities for those who do not speak English proficiently.

CRTPA believes that the best transportation decisions are inclusive and address the needs of the entire community. CRTPA also finds that a diversity of cultures and backgrounds make for unique community that is reflected in its transportation systems. However, CRTPA recognizes that the inability to speak English proficiently may create a barrier to participation in or access to the organization's programs, services and activities. CRTPA is committed to providing meaningful access to everyone. As such, it will follow the following action plan for providing oral and written translation to LEP citizens:

Oral Interpretation

CRTPA will utilize bilingual staff to provide LEP services in Spanish, the second most prevalent language in the community. Currently, Greg Burke, of CRTPA staff, is the first point of contact for LEP citizens, as he is the CRTPA 's bi-lingual staff member. Although not as fluent as a professional translator, he serves as the CRTPA first point of contact person.

The CRTPA will reach out to its faith-based, community, and government partners to ensure proficient interpretation is always available. The organization maintains a list of its LEP service partners and regularly updates the list to add new resources and languages. If CRTPA is unable to provide meaningful access using these sources, it will utilize professional translation services.

The CRTPA is constantly looking for new opportunities and ways of reaching LEP populations, including using foreign language publications in the area, and foreign language ads in English speaking or print media. The organization requests assistance in enhancing and expanding its LEP services. Anyone wishing to volunteer language services or suggest methods of LEP outreach should contact Lynn Barr, of the CRTPA at 850-891-8630.

Written Translation

The CRTPA follows US Department of Justice and US Department of Transportation guidelines in providing translation of its documents into languages other than English. Using data collected from the Census, environmental screening tools, its advisory committees and the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, the CRTPA will assess each of its documents in light of:

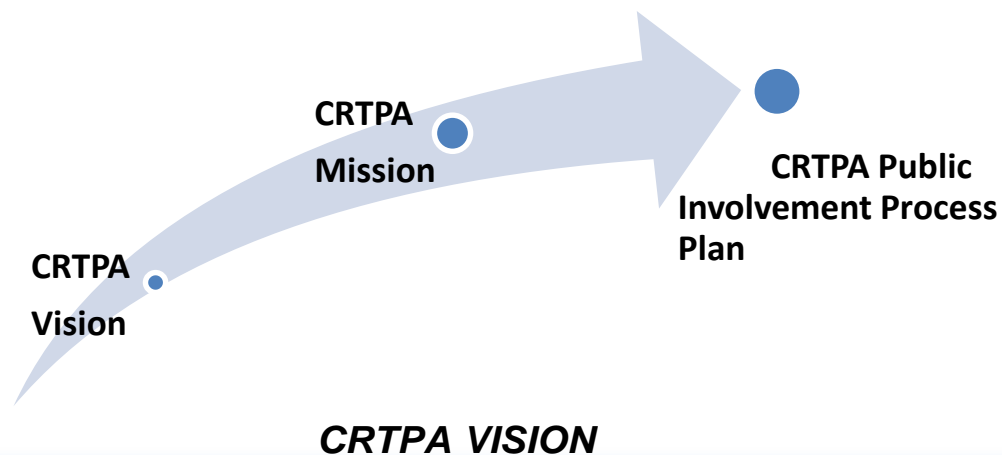
1. The number or proportion of LEP persons in the organization's service area;
2. The frequency with which the organization encounters LEP individuals;
3. The nature and importance of the program, service or activity in question; and
4. The resources available to the organization.

To ensure appropriate and competent translation, CRTPA will utilize professional translation services or the language departments of its university partners.

The CRTPA recognizes that the community's current demographics may not require extensive translation of its written documents. However, because the community is always changing, the organization is committed to constantly reassessing LEP needs. Furthermore, CRTPA does not intend that the four factor analysis should prevent meaningful access to its documents. Anyone in need of assistance or accommodation in reviewing organization documents may contact Lynn Barr, the CRTPA's LEP Coordinator, at 850-891-8630.

CRTPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS PLAN

The development of a Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP) is one of the main responsibilities of the CRTPA. The PIPP guides the overall development of the CRTPA's work tasks ranging from the Long Range Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, Unified Planning Work Program, and other projects the CRTPA undertakes (such a safety studies, corridor studies, etc.). The PIPP is one of the mechanisms used to carry out the vision and mission of the CRTPA Board.



Create an integrated regional multimodal transportation network that provides the most options for moving people and goods economically, effectively, and safely while protecting the environment, promoting economic development and maintaining a high quality of life with sustainable development patterns.

CRTPA MISSION

Act as the principal forum for collective transportation policy discussions that result in the development of a long range transportation plan, which creates an integrated regional multimodal transportation network that supports sustainable development patterns and promotes economic growth.

The PIPP is developed through public participation and provides the framework for advancing the CRTPA's vision and mission by:

- **Educating and informing the public** about the urban transportation planning process, and the major work tasks of the CRTPA that guide the shape of the region's transportation network;
- Outlining an open and responsive public involvement process to carefully **collect and consider public input** in the transportation decision-making process;
- **Outlining various methods** the CRTPA will use **to increase public awareness** of how transportation systems are planned and constructed, **and to increase public input, interest and participation in transportation planning projects**; and by
- **Outlining methods to promote, measure, and evaluate the equity in the accessibility of public involvement opportunities** throughout the CRTPA planning boundary, **and measuring the responsiveness of efforts to capture and engage the involvement of citizens from the underserved and minority populations of the region.**

Appendix C provides a complete Public Involvement Guide identifying the Goals, Objectives, and Performance Indicators for the PIPP. The Goals are shown below.

| | |
|---|---|
| GOAL 1: EQUITY | Provide an equitable opportunity for participation in transportation decision-making. |
| GOAL 2: INFORMATION & EDUCATION | Inform and educate the public early, clearly, and continuously throughout the transportation decision-making process. |
| GOAL 3: METHODS OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ARE EFFECTIVE | Identify and utilize a variety of methods to most effectively inform and engage the public. |
| GOAL 4: RESPONSIVENESS | Carefully consider public input in transportation decision-making. |

CRTPA WORK PRODUCTS

The CRTPA is required by federal law to produce certain planning documents on an annual basis. These planning documents include the ***Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)*** and the ***Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)***. In addition to these two documents, the CRTPA is required to develop a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) every five years. The LRTP for the CRTPA is known as the, "***Regional Mobility Plan***" -- or ***RMP*** for short. These three work products guide the expenditure of state and federal funds in a collaborative way, and are thereby important for citizens to fully understand so that they can engage themselves in the creation, adoption, and implementation of transportation planning in the region.

Each of the federally mandated work tasks is outlined on the following pages to provide basic information on the purpose, development, and extent to which the public can expect to be involved in the creation/adoption of each. Additionally, the ***Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP)*** has been added to the list because it too is a document that must be created through public participation, and which is important for the public to fully understand.

All of the CRTPA planning documents are available in alternative formats (i.e., Braille, compact disk, audio tape or other applicable sources for those people with limited English proficiency or physical abilities) upon request. Refer to Appendix A for information on how to contact CRTPA staff should you seek one of these formats. Each of the documents is also available on the CRTPA web page located at www.crtpa.org or you may contact the CRTPA staff to obtain copies by phone, e-mail, mail, or by visiting the CRTPA located at 300 South Adams Street in Tallahassee.

An organizational chart for CRTPA Staff, along with information on how to contact them is provided on the following page.

CONTACT THE CRTPA STAFF

The CRTPA's Public Involvement Coordinator and Title VI Officer is Lynn Barr.

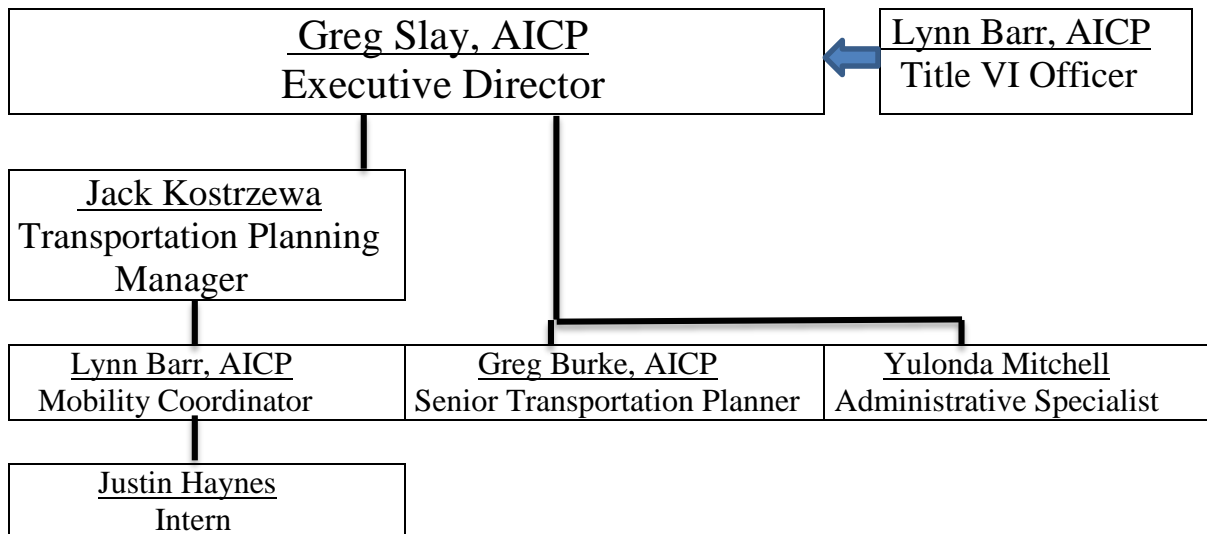
To learn more on how you can become involved in the CRTPA planning process, or to request assistance with any of the CRTPA documents or public involvement processes, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Barr or any other CRTPA staff member via any method outlined below:

Physical Address: Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency
300 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Mailing Address: Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency
300 South Adams Street , Box A-19
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Telephone: 850.891.8630 **webpage:** www.crtpa.org

CRTPA Staff Organizational Chart



Public Involvement Process Plan (PIPP)

Purpose:

The PIPP is a guidebook for the CRTPA and public to quickly identify how the CRTPA plans and programs will be developed. The PIPP identifies CRTPA legal requirements, goals and objectives, the CRTPA planning processes and documents, CRTPA staff and how to contact them, and a general overview of the types of projects, programs, and outreach the public can anticipate in the coming years.

Requirements:

23 CFR 450.316 requires that the CRTPA provide early and easy access to the PIPP and the documents/plans it governs. Prior to final adoption of the PIPP or any amendments thereto, a 45-day review period shall be provided.

Review:

The PIPP and its amendments are placed on the CRTPA webpage at least 45 days prior to adoption by the CRTPA Board. In addition, the CRTPA committees provide a review and comments/recommendations to the CRTPA Board prior to adoption. The CRTPA also holds a public meeting on the proposed PIPP prior to final adoption and within the 45-day review period. Comments received from the public are provided to the CRTPA advisory committees and CRTPA Board for consideration prior to final adoption.

Amendments:

The PIPP may be amended as needed, and is typically updated no less than every five (5) years in conjunction with the updates to the Long Range Transportation Plan development. A public meeting on the Draft PIPP will be advertised on the CRTPA webpage and via e-mail blast prior to final adoption. A 45 day review period is provided.

PIPP Public Involvement Process

Update

- Updates are conducted as needed according to demographic changes bylaw revisions, structural changes to the CRTPA, or in conjunction with the development of a LRTP Update.

DRAFT PIPP

- Draft PIPP & comment forms posted on CRTPA webpage at least 45 days in advance of the CRTPA adoption.
- One Public Meeting Held prior to formal adoption.

Comments & Responses

- MPO staff responds to comments received and combines correspondence for the review and consideration by CRTPA committees and Board.

Adoption

- Comments received are considered by the CRTPA Board (at the end of the comment period) at a CRTPA Meeting prior to final adoption.

Amendments

- Amendments to the PIPP require following the public involvement process as described including public notice, comment period, and final adoption by the CRTPA Board.
- a 45-day review period is required prior to final adoption.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Purpose

The TIP provides a list of locally funded projects for informational purposes. Projects within the TIP include aviation, bicycle/pedestrian, bridge, major roadway, public transportation, resurfacing and transportation systems management projects. The TIP provides a staged, five-year listing of regionally significant transportation improvements within the CRTPA region that are funded by state and federal funds. All projects included within the TIP are consistent with the CRTPA's Regional Mobility Plan.

Arrangement

Projects in the TIP are grouped by type and jurisdictional responsibility and can include both long-range projects (constructing a new bridge or road) and short-term improvements (intersection improvements, etc.). Each listed project, for all modes of transportation, will include a project delineation/location, and will have the funding for the project identified by **type, year, and project phase**.

Funding

The TIP is developed each year by updating existing information within the previous year's document and adding a new year of funding consistent with project information contained within the State Work Program. The TIP also includes locally funded projects contained within its member governments adopted capital budgets (for information purposes). The various sources of funding within the TIP require the CRTPA to work closely with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

TIP Continued

Prioritization:

Projects that receive state and federal funding are prioritized and adopted by the CRTPA before inclusion in the TIP each year.

The proposed priority project lists are reviewed by the CRTPA 's advisory committees, [Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Citizen' s Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC)] prior to CRTPA adoption in September of each year.

Importance:

The adoption of a project into the TIP is essentially the mechanism that changes a projects status from "being identified for needing funding" to "having reserved funding." Reviewing the TIP allows the local public to have an idea of the transportation changes that will be taking place in their community in the next five years.

Regional Significance

The TIP is important because it conveys the transportation priorities of the region from a funding perspective. Through annual adoption of priority project lists (PPL's), the CRTPA conveys to the FDOT its priorities for their consideration in scheduling improvements on the State Highway System. The TIP, in essence, sets in motion the funding of projects in the community's long- range transportation plans and other capital improvement plans.

TIP Continued

Requirements:

*Public Involvement
& LRTP
consistency*

Florida Statutes 339.175. provides that MPO's are required to develop a TIP with prioritized projects, complete with a financial plan, and consistent with the locally adopted long range transportation plan. The public must be provided with an opportunity to comment on the document before adoption by the MPO

*Public
Involvement*

23 CFR 450.316(a) provides that all interested persons shall be provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the TIP.

*Public
Involvement*

23 CFR 450.324 (b) provides that the MPO will provide no less than one (1) public meeting during the development of the TIP.

*Public
Involvement &
LRTP
consistency*

MAP-21 Section 1201(j) provides that the MPO will provide an opportunity for public comment during the development of the TIP and that projects included in the TIP shall be consistent with the LRTP and which reflect investment priorities.

*Public
Involvement*

23 CFR 450.104 provides the difference between an Amendment and an Administrative Modification. The two actions require different treatments in public involvement.

TIP Continued

Administrative Modification

An Administrative Modification does not require public review & comment. These modifications include minor project cost changes by entirety or phase, minor changes in funding source, or minor changes in project/project phase initiation dates.

Amendment:

An Amendment to the TIP is reserved for major changes, including adding or deleting a project, a major change in design concept (changing project limits, etc.), a major change in project / project phase costs, or a major change in project / project phase initiation dates. **An amendment requires public review and comment.** *The FDOT MPO Program Management Handbook (Chapter 5) provides more details.*

WAYS FOR THE PUBLIC TO GET INVOLVED IN TIP DEVELOPMENT



The TIP frequently changes and evolves. As a result, opportunities for public involvement are continuous. This includes not just public involvement associated with the document's annual development, but also public involvement opportunities associated with the document's amendment. The following page outlines entry points into TIP Development Public Involvement.

TIP Development Public Involvement

Early Development:

TIP development originates in the development of other plans and documents, such as the Regional Mobility Plan (long range transportation plan), transit development plans, sector plans, local government planning and transportation studies and initiatives, etc. Getting involved in the local government planning process is the first step toward being involved in the development of the TIP.

Mid- Development:

Between the months of March to June, the CRTPA's annual Priority Project Lists (PPL's) are developed. This process occurs at the CRTPA committee and board meetings, which are open to the public and advertised on the CRTPA webpage at www.crtpa.org. The PPL process allows members of the public the opportunity to provide input into what projects they believe should receive funding priority, and PPL Meetings are held throughout the CRTPA region (typically in May).

Subsequent to adoption of the CRTPA's PPLs, the FDOT matches available state and federal funding with the CRTPA's project priorities as it proceeds with development of the State Work Program. CRTPA projects included within the State Work Program are then added to the TIP.

TIP Development

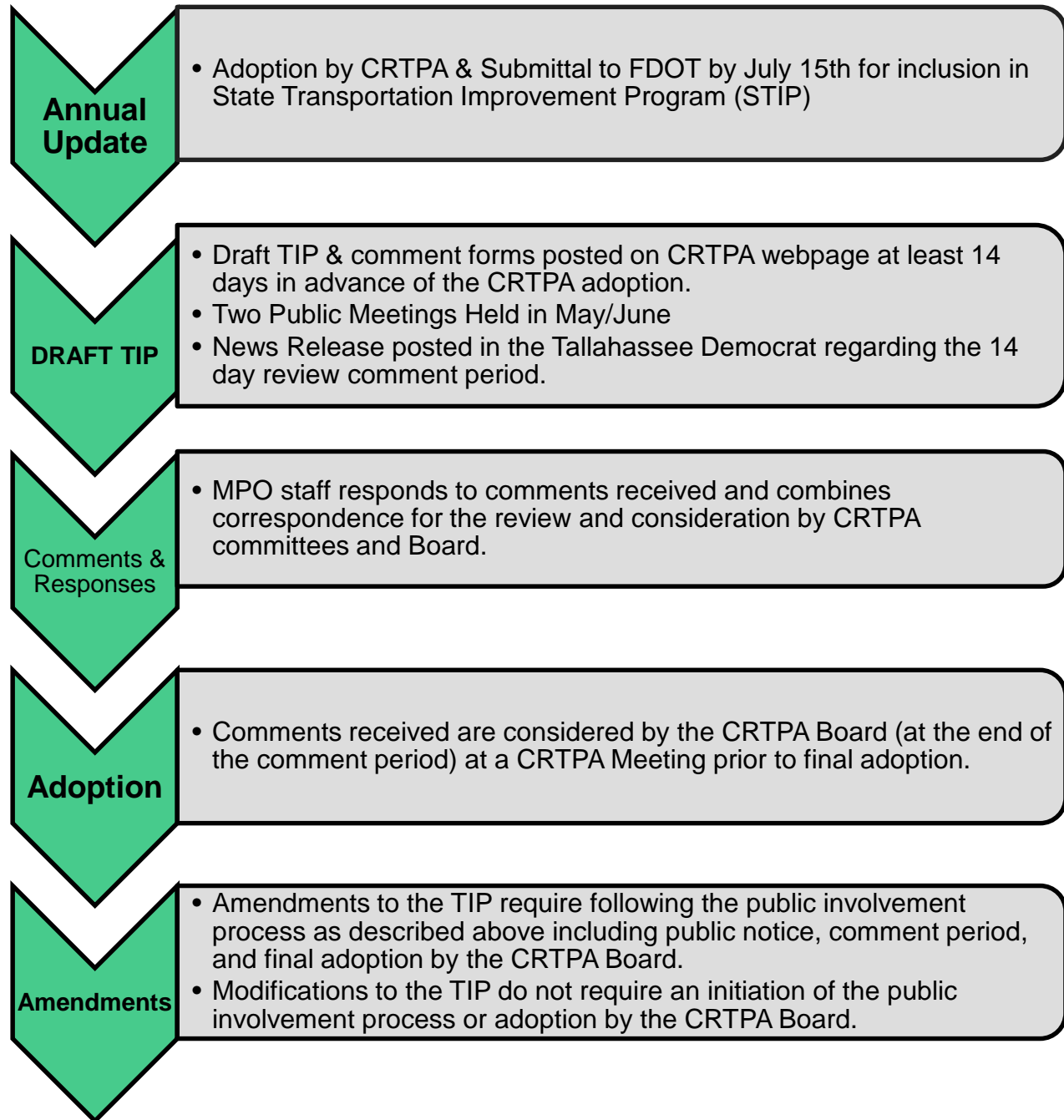
Public Involvement continued

Late Development

The TIP is adopted in June of each year with public meetings typically held in May prior to adoption. These meetings are frequently held in concert with the adoption of the agency's priority project lists (which will be used in development of the next year's TIP). Jointly holding the TIP and PPL meetings provides an opportunity to discuss with the public the interrelatedness of both work projects in the regional transportation planning process. Frequently, the public meetings are held in each of the four (4) CRTPA counties. However, at a minimum, two (2) public meetings will be held with one meeting occurring in Tallahassee given its central location to the region as well as access to transit. Location of the other meeting is rotated amongst the other counties of the region.

The public meetings are advertised in the major newspapers of the CRTPA as well as through an email blast and fliers distributed throughout the region in areas known to be frequented by targeted populations which are traditionally under-represented in the planning process. Furthermore, information regarding the meetings is placed and highlighted on the agency's website (www.crtpa.org).

TIP Public Involvement Process



Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Purpose

The Regional Mobility Plan (RMP) is the CRTPA's long range transportation plan (LRTP) and capital improvement program developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in multi-modal transportation facilities over a twenty-year horizon. The intent and purpose of the RMP is to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of a cost feasible intermodal transportation system that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight within and through urbanized areas of this state, while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption and air pollution. The LRTP planning process includes consideration of all modes of transportation, preserving existing infrastructure, connecting people and places across various modes of transportation, increasing mobility options, enhancing safety and security, and prioritizing needs to program funding for suitable projects.

Development

When and how is it developed?

The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) reviews and updates the RMP every five (5) years and completed the most recent update in November of 2015. The adopted RMP is referred to as the *Connections 2040 Regional Mobility Plan*. The schedule for the five-year update of the RMP is determined cooperatively by the MPO, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). During these updates, the CRTPA confirms the plan's validity and its consistency with current and forecasted transportation and land use conditions and trends and extends the planning horizon to at least 20 years.

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Regional Significance:

The RMP is the most important document the CRTPA produces for improving the transportation system in the region. All transportation projects that the CRTPA pursues for funding through the state and federal governments must be included in the RMP. It is this document that lays out the plan for the future transportation infrastructure of the region. The Plan provides the community with a blueprint and plan for where and what type of transportation expenditures need to be made so that land use decisions can responsibly follow and produce the desired community of tomorrow.

Requirements:

Horizon and Public Involvement

Florida Statutes 339.175. provides that the CRTPA will develop a LRTP based on a twenty-year horizon, and with an incorporated public involvement plan specific for the LRTP.

Requires the CRTPA to provide interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the development of the LRTP (includes the public, public agencies, transportation agencies, private transportation providers, public transit representatives, and representatives of freight and shipping).

Public Involvement

23 CFR 450.332 provides that all interested persons shall be provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the LRTP.

Public Involvement & Update Frequency

MAP-21 Section 1201(i) provides that the MPO will hold meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times, and that the data will be relayed in easily accessible formats in clear, easy to understand ways. Visualization techniques and electronic formats must be used.

Requires the CRTPA to update the LRTP every five (5) years.

L RTP Continued

Administrative Modification

An Administrative Modification does not require public review & comment. [23 CFR 450.104] These modifications include minor cost changes by entirety or phase, minor changes in funding source, or minor changes in project/project phase initiation dates.

Amendment:

An Amendment to the LRTP is reserved for major changes, including adding or deleting a project, a major change in design concept (changing project limits, etc.), a major change in project / project phase costs, or a major change in project / project phase initiation dates. ***An amendment requires public review and comment and compliance with the adopted LRTP Public Involvement Plan and overall PIPP as well as demonstrating fiscal constraint. [23 CFR 450.104]***

NOTE: The FDOT MPO Program Management Handbook (Chapter 4) provides more details as to what constitutes an Amendment vs a Modification.

WAYS FOR THE PUBLIC TO GET INVOLVED IN LRTP (RMP) DEVELOPMENT



The CRTPA seeks to maximize public communication and participation during the development and adoption process of the RMP. In keeping with this desire, the CRTPA ensures that there are a number of different ways all throughout the development process of the RMP in which the public can become engaged in the project development.

L RTP Development

Public Involvement

Early Development:

In the early development of the RMP, the CRTPA calls for the development of a separate Public Participation Plan (PIP) that specifically addresses how the consultant will interact with the public as well as outlining, in general, the meetings and events that will be held to both educate and solicit ideas from the public during the development of the RMP. Citizen participation is available during the development of the RMP PIP through the review by the CRTPA committees [Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC)]. Citizens are encouraged to attend these committee meetings and are afforded an opportunity to provide formal public comment there if they wish. The committee meeting dates and agendas are posted on the CRTPA website www.crtpa.org. (Additionally, if you wish to become a member of the CMAC, an application is provided in **Appendix B** of this document, as well as being available on-line at the CRTPA website.)

All of the RMP meetings and workshops are held with advance public notification via various methods (examples include any combination that could include newspaper ads, flyers, brochures at civic events, webpage advertising, e-mail blasts, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and are posted prominently on the CRTPA 's website www.crtpa.org. Public meetings are advertised at least 10 days prior to the meeting date and at least half of these meetings and presentations are held in minority communities or near traditionally underserved populations to ensure that there is an inclusive public involvement process.

L RTP Development

Public Involvement

Mid-Development:

Mid-way through the development of the RMP, public meetings are held to gather public opinion on the state of the existing system and the potential alternatives or opportunities that could be used to improve the transportation system. A "Needs Plan", or "Opportunities Plan" is typically developed during this stage of project development to identify a suggested collection of regional transportation projects that could provide for the anticipated transportation demand of the region in the future. The "Needs Plan" or "Opportunities Plan" is followed by the development of a Financial Document and a proposed "Cost Feasible Plan" which together outline funding sources that could be available to fund the needs of the region, as well as the proposed projects that the region would like to see funded with the money.

Members of the public are given an opportunity at key stages of plan development to directly indicate where they would like the government to spend the limited transportation funding in their region. A method that has been used in the past has involved handing out "play money" to citizens, and have them place the money on different projects or scenarios in the region to identify their priorities and also to teach the public the true cost of the projects and forms of transportation.

Workshops and public meetings are typically held at this stage of the plan development to gather input on the DRAFT "Needs Plan" or "Opportunities Plan" and "Cost Feasible Plan" development before the CRTPA Board takes formal action. Public meetings will be advertised at least 10 days prior to the meeting date on the CRTPA webpage at www.crtpa.org

L RTP Development

Public Involvement continued

Late Development

A public hearing is held after the Cost Feasible portion of the RMP has been developed, but before it has been adopted by the CRTPA, in which feasible long-term, transportation improvements are identified. Draft copies are made available prior to the meetings and are available for public inspection throughout the entire plan development process.

The public hearing is advertised in the major newspapers of the CRTPA as well as through an email blast and fliers distributed throughout the region in areas known to be frequented by targeted populations which are traditionally under-represented in the planning process. Furthermore, information regarding the meetings is placed and highlighted on the agency's website (www.crtpa.org).

The adoption and amendment process for the RMP calls for a **public comment period of 30** days for citizen review and input prior to final adoption. Towards the end of the comment period, the CRTPA will hold advertised public meetings and hearings to review and obtain final comments from the public. Additionally, comments can be made on the CRTPA's website at www.crtpa.org. The RMP is then reviewed by the CRTPA committees for their final comments and then their recommendations are forwarded to the CRTPA for consideration before adoption at the next scheduled meeting.

Following the adoption of the RMP, the public can still comment on the document at the CRTPA Board meetings and as necessary during the development of the TIP. The RMP is a dynamic document that can be addressed at any meeting. The meeting schedule for the CRTPA and its committees can be found on the CRTPA website at www.crtpa.org. You may also contact CRTPA staff directly at 850-891-8600 to gather this information.

L RTP Public Involvement Process

Update

- Major update initiated every 5 years for 20-year planning horizon

Meetings Workshops

- Held for the public at key points during development of LRTP
- Notices for public meetings provided at least 10 days in advance of the meetings by webpage and e-mail blast.
- Public comment taken at all workshops and meetings.

Comments & Responses

- Public comment period of 30 days prior to adoption of the final cost feasible plan.
- Comment forms available on CRTPA webpage and through QR code on informational flyers.
- MPO staff responds to comments received and combines correspondence for the review and consideration by CRTPA committees and Board.

Adoption

- Comments received are considered by the CRTPA Board (at the end of the comment period) at a CRTPA Meeting prior to final adoption.

Amendments

- Amendments to the LRTP require following the public involvement process as described above including public notice, comment period, and final adoption by the CRTPA Board.
- Modifications to the LRTP do not require an initiation of the public involvement process or adoption by the CRTPA Board. They will be provided as informational items to the CRTPA Board and advisory committees.

The FDOT MPO Program Management Handbook (Chapter 4) provides more details regarding thresholds for Amendments vs. Modifications.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Purpose:

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) defines the tasks and anticipated funding requirements for the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) during the fiscal period beginning July 1, of any given year, and ending June 30, two year later. The UPWP essentially outlines the operating budget of the CRTPA staff for routine and special transportation projects.

Requirements:

Work tasks and budgeting

Florida Statutes 339.175 provides that the CRTPA will work in conjunction with FDOT and the local partnering transit agency to develop the UPWP – detailing the planning tasks to be undertaken with an estimated dollar amount for each in compliance with state and federal law.

Work tasks

23 CFR 450.308 requires that the UPWP include descriptions of the anticipated work that will be done, when, and by whom for the next two years.

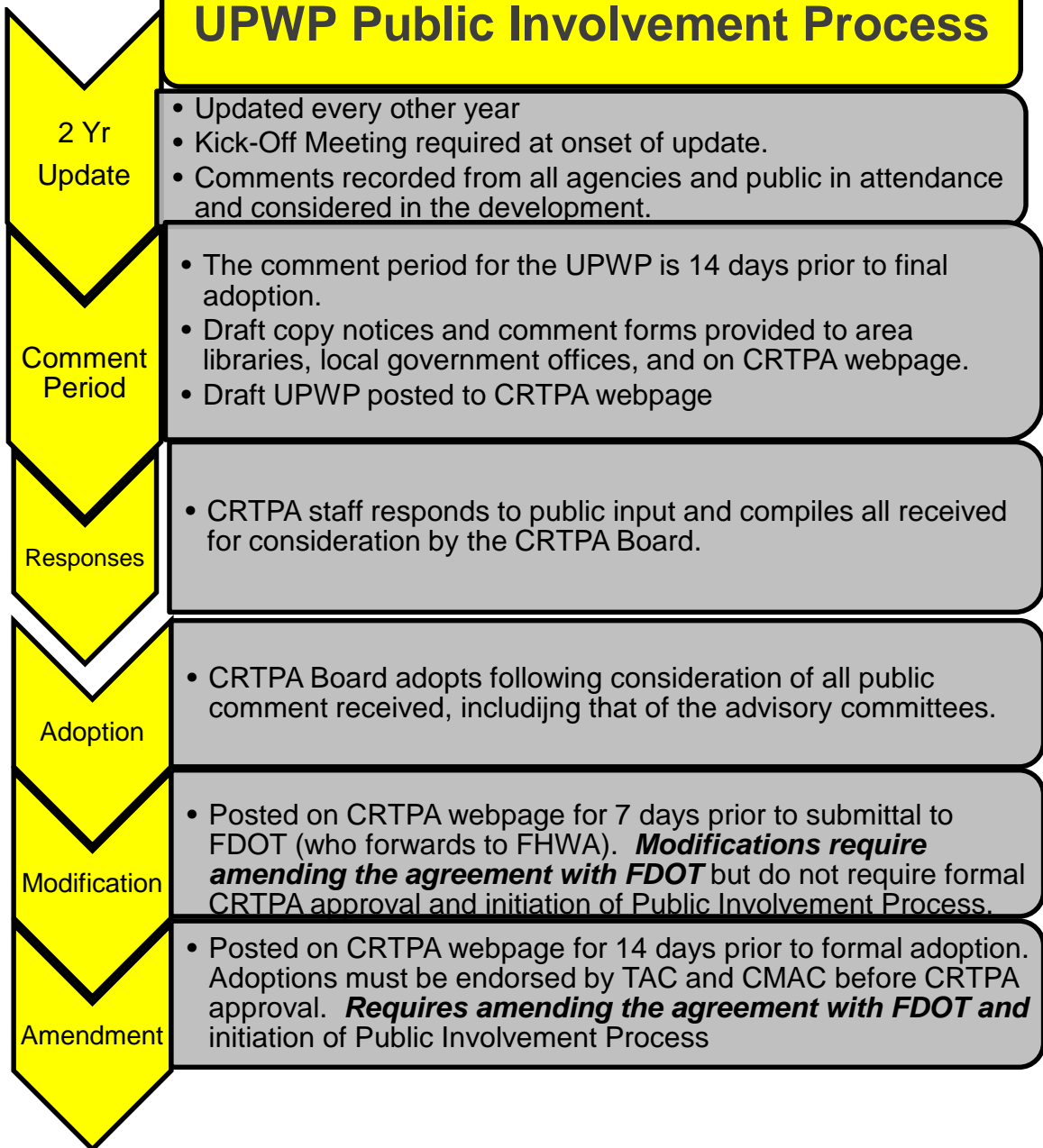
Modifications:

These revisions do not change the approved FHWA budget, or do not delete a work task, or do not change the scope of an approved task. Formal approval is not required for a modification, however, notification to FHWA and FDOT should be done.

Amendments:

Amendments to the UPWP must be approved by FHWA. Amendments include those actions that either delete a work task, change the scope of a task, or change the approved budget within the UPWP.

UPWP Public Involvement Process





Where in the world
will CRTPA Public
Involvement take
you?

Anywhere you want
to go.

Public Involvement Techniques Used By The CRTPA

It is the intention of this document to stimulate an even greater level of citizen participation. This can be accomplished by examining some of the more difficult areas in the transportation planning process. One such area is the channel of communication between elected officials, technical personnel, and the general public within the CRTPA area. The ability of the public to have access to, and to understand the written material is an important aspect of the public involvement process. The CRTPA will continue to implement an ongoing program that provides adequate information for the public to make informed decisions on transportation issues through various channels. Public comments and suggestions for improving this process are welcomed, and will be evaluated and incorporated as appropriate into this section in future updates of this document.

Determining Methods of Involvement

The CRTPA has identified many different ways on the following pages to share information, provide education and outreach, and to meet with the public to promote public involvement in the transportation planning process. While lengthy, this list is not exhaustive, and it is also not specific to which projects they will be used for and when -- this is intentional. Different public involvement efforts will be prescribed for different CRTPA transportation projects based on factors such as project location in the region, locations of public involvement events planned for the project, location and type of audience targeted, and past experience with both the public involvement for the project and public involvement with the target audiences.

Workshops

Workshops are particularly helpful during project development phases of CRTPA projects as they serve as informal two-way learning experiences educating the public about its inner workings and allowing CRTPA staff to hear opinions and values expressed by the public.

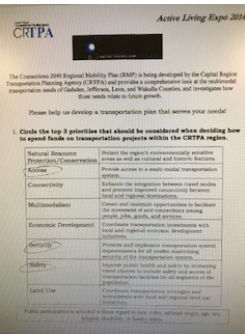
Activities: *Corridor Studies, Master Plans, Long Range Transportation Plans, and other major CRTPA projects employ the use of workshops.*



Community Conversations

Community Conversations are events targeting specific groups of people by employer, special interest, or geographic area. Community Conversations can be initiated by request of the community group, or initiated by the CRTPA through the identification of the community group as representative of a stakeholder in a particular CRTPA project. Examples of Community Conversations in the past have been with Senior Centers, Civic organizations, or university groups, and are helpful in getting the viewpoints of a representative group of a community at their convenience. If you would like a Community Conversation, please contact Lynn Barr of the CRTPA at 891-8630.

Activities: *Corridor Studies, Long Range Transportation Plans, and other major CRTPA projects employ the use of Community Conversations.*



Community Events

For busy individuals who do not typically attend project-specific meetings or who do not belong to organizations that may receive Community Conversations, Community Events offer an opportunity for easy access to information, exposure for the CRTPA to members of the programs thereof, and to engage a wide variety of community members in a casual atmosphere at the leisure of the public. This type of event would involve a variety of exhibits: maps, photos, models, slide shows, videos, and/or give-away items. The CRTPA has been active in Community Events such as Bike To Work Week, Helmet Safety Events, Ground Breaking Ceremonies, and the Active Living Expo among others. If you know of a Community Event that would perfect for engaging a broad audience in



Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, or Wakulla County, please contact Lynn Barr of the CRTPA at 891-8630.

Activities: *Bike to Work Week, Active Living Expo, Transportation Safety Week, Teen Driving Awareness Week* are events the CRTPA has routinely attended.

Plan Reports & Project Newsletters

These documents are published by the CRTPA at regular intervals in the development of major projects such as the long range transportation plan, corridor studies, master plans, and other roadway or trail projects. These documents provide the public with the latest developments and draw their attention to the latest opportunity to make comments and recommendations and can be found on the CRTPA webpage, project-specific web pages, and can be provided via e-mail blast. All CRTPA mandated work products are available in alternative formats (i.e., Braille, audio tape or other applicable sources for those people with limited English or physical abilities) and are available on the webpage at www.crtpa.org.

Activities: *Plan reports are made available to interested persons on the CRTPA webpage and individual project pages.*



Alternative Media

These tools offer additional ways (other than television, newspaper & radio) for the CRTPA to disseminate and gather information, such as via Currently the CRTPA has a website which includes information such as meetings, applications, and reports. The web address is www.crtpa.org. The availability of the site allows staff to more effectively distribute surveys concerning various CRTPA programs, projects, and documents and to provide reports and informational items to the public. Many CRTPA Projects also have their own social media outlets such as project specific videos, Facebook Pages, and links to Twitter, all of which are indicated on the CRTPA webpage at www.crtpa.org



CRTPA Facebook Page

Activities: Facebook pages for the CRTPA and individual projects such as the Regional Mobility Plan and Capital Area to Sea Trail. Major projects will have their own Facebook Pages to provide a more interactive ongoing conversation with interested parties.

CRTPA Master Database for Electronic Communications

The CRTPA keeps an electronic database of attendees at public meetings, homeowner's association members, interested businesses, civic organizations, etc on hand in order to disseminate information quickly.

Activities: Notifications are sent to the groups that have expressed interest in a certain project or which appear to have a reasonable connection to a project.

CRTPA webpage



The CRTPA web site (www.crtpa.org) is a user-friendly tool intended to provide the public with access to transportation information that will increase awareness of transportation planning activities in the area. This site includes information about the metropolitan transportation

planning process, upcoming meeting agendas and other topics pertaining to the transportation planning process. Over the years the Internet has become a frequently used tool for sending and retrieving information; however, the CRTPA recognizes that traditional forms of public outreach will continue to be important, achieving meaningful participation. These traditional methods will be continually used by the CRTPA, but staff will continue its efforts to find the most efficient and effective ways to distribute information to citizens.

Activities: Publications such as the TIP, the LRTP, the UPWP, the various Bicycle - Pedestrian Master Plans, as well as this document, will be accessible directly from the site.

Public Meetings

The CRTPA utilizes public meetings to gather and share information with the public and elected officials. All meetings are ADA accessible and open to the public and are advertised on the CRTPA webpage as well as provided via e-mail blast. To be placed on our e-mail blast distribution list, simply contact a CRTPA staff person at 850.891.8630.

***Activities:** Meetings are held throughout the year and advertised on the CRTPA Calendar on the webpage at www.crtpa.org. Agendas for the CRTPA Board and Advisory Committees can be accessed through the webpage as well. Other public meetings for various other projects are also noticed on the webpage.*

Appendix A: Definitions / Acronyms

DEFINITIONS / ACRONYMS

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA): Federal law that requires that public facilities and transportation services be accessible to persons with disabilities including those with mental disabilities, temporary disabilities, and the conditions related to substance abuse.

Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC) - Representatives of the community and select agencies who provide and gauge public reaction to planning proposals and provide recommendations to the CRTPA regarding transportation needs of the community.

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) - Responsible for coordinating transportation services for disadvantaged individuals.

Environmental Justice - refers to efforts to avoid disproportionate negative impacts on minority or low-income populations from any federally funded program or activity.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) - An administration within the USDOT responsible for federal guidance and funding of aviation issues.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - The state agency granted the legislative authority to develop and maintain state transportation facilities and services.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - An administration within the USDOT responsible for federal guidance and funding for federal and state highway facilities.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - An administration within the USDOT responsible for federal guidance and funding for public transportation facilities.

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) - The federal transportation appropriation bill established to develop a national intermodal transportation system that is economically efficient and environmentally sound, encourages citizen participation, provides the foundation for the nation to compete in a global economy, and moves people and goods in an energy efficient manner.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - Individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English can be limited English proficient, or "LEP." These individuals may be entitled to language assistance with respect to a particular type or service, benefit, or encounter.

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - A federally mandated 20 - 25 year transportation plan, which provides guidance in the development of an efficient, multimodal transportation system.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - An agency created under federal and state law to provide a forum for cooperative decision-making with regard to regional transportation issues. Membership includes elected and appointed officials representing local jurisdictions and transportation agencies.

Multi-modal Transportation System - A comprehensive transportation system which includes travel options for cars, transit, truck, airplane, motorcycle, bicyclists & pedestrians.

Project Development & Environmental Study (PD&E) - A study performed to determine the feasibility of a road improvement by identifying possible alternatives and evaluating the social, economic, and environmental impacts associated with them.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) - A regional representation of local and state planners, engineers, transit operators, and School Superintendents or representatives thereof who provide technical input regarding transportation plans and programs and makes recommendations to the CRTPA.

Title VI - Refers to a segment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, requiring that no person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program/ activity receiving federal financial assistance from the U.S . Department of Transportation on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Transportation Disadvantaged - Refers to those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income, age, or who for other reasons are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation. They may be dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities or may be children who are handicapped or high-risk

Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) - TDCB is responsible for identifying the needs of those who cannot secure their own means of transportation, bringing those needs to the attention of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC), and monitoring the amount of Transportation Disadvantaged Funds being received locally.


Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Incorporates, and coordinates the transportation capital budgets of the FDOT, Gadsden County, Jefferson County, Leon County, Wakulla County, and the City of Tallahassee, delineating project activity, location , estimated costs, and proposed funding sources.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - A federally mandated report that documents the planning and resource activities of the MPO.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - The federal department responsible for guidance and funding for all federally supported transportation activities.

Appendix B: Committee Application

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) CITIZEN'S MULTIMODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CMAC) APPLICATION

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Please return in person to:</p> <p>Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency 300 S. Adams St., 3rd Floor Tallahassee, Florida 32301</p> <p>Or mail to:</p> <p>CRTPA 300 S. Adams St, Box A-19 Tallahassee, Fl. 32301</p> |  | <p>This application will remain in active files for two years.</p> <p>Please contact the CRTPA to advise of any changes regarding the information on this application.</p> <p>Email: lynn.barr@talgov.com</p> <p>PHONE: 850-891-8630</p> |
| Name: | | Date: |
| Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Email: |
| Please list your specific employer/occupation if employed by a State, Federal, or local government: | | |
| Employer: | | |
| <i>Please provide your home and work address (if applicable). Please check that box of your preferred mailing address.</i> | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Address: | | |
| City/State/Zip: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work Address: | | |
| City/State/Zip: | | |
| <p>The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency strives to ensure that its citizens multimodal advisory committee is representative of the community's demographic makeup. To assist in this endeavor, please provide the following information (voluntary).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please also note if you are physically challenged.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> | | |
| Race: | | Gender: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> White | | <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male |
| Identify any potential conflicts of interest that might occur were you to be appointed: | | |
| Do you ride the bus? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Do you drive a car? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please circle your age bracket 18 – 25 / 26 - 35 / 36 - 49 / 50 and over | Do you bicycle to work/shopping? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Do you bicycle for recreation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Do you walk to work/shopping? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Do you walk for recreation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Can you serve a multi-year term? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Can you regularly attend meetings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| Conflicts: | | |
| Please circle any special population interests you may represent: | | |
| Minorities, Road Cyclists, Off-Road Cyclists, | Transit Riders | Transportation Disadvantaged |
| Child, Youth, or Senior Pedestrian Advocates | Students | Persons with Disabilities, Seniors |

CITIZEN'S MULTIMODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Please tell us something about yourself! This information will help us create an advisory board that is reflective of a broad spectrum of the community. If you have any interests, hobbies, community activities, previous experience on committees, or anything else you would like us to know in consideration of your application please write it here. You may also attach this information.

How did you hear about us?

All statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

If you have a disability requiring accommodations, or need assistance filling out this application, please contact the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency at 850-891-8630.

The telephone number for the Florida Relay TDD Service is 711 or 1-800-955-8771.

Appendix C: PIPP Evaluation Guide

The mission of the CRTPA public involvement plan is to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to fully participate in the transportation decision-making process and that the input from the public is carefully considered and reflected in the work of the CRTPA.

To achieve the mission of the public involvement plan, four key goals must be met. These four goals are supported by accompanying objectives and performance indicators. While the goals identify specific outcomes that the public involvement program is designed to produce, the supporting objectives outline a plan of how to get there. The performance indicators listed below each set of goals and objectives are to be used as targets to reach in varying public involvement activities. While most of these targets evaluate how effective the public involvement efforts are at reaching the goals and objectives of the plan, an evaluation of how well these targets are met in each public involvement effort provides an indication of how effectively the public involvement plan is being implemented.

GOAL 1: EQUITY

PROVIDE AN EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN TRANSPORTATION DECISION-MAKING.

Description: This Goal addresses the desire to ensure that all interested persons, including those with disabilities, within the underserved populations (minority, low-income, and elderly), with limited English proficiency, who reside or work in the periphery of the CRTPA boundary, and those who rely on transit services, walking, or cycling as their means of transportation, have as equitable an opportunity as others in the CRTPA boundary to participate in transportation decision-making for the region.

For this goal to be met, the CRTPA must ensure the following seven (7) target actions are met:

1. All persons, including those with disabilities, must have access to notification, information and participation opportunities;
2. Information must be provided in languages other than English and in formats suited for persons with disabilities if requested;
3. The meetings/events must be near public transportation if available.
4. The meetings or events must be held at convenient times and locations, taking into consideration work-home commute times in the outlying CRTPA areas;
5. The public involvement opportunities are geographically dispersed;
6. The public involvement efforts must be designed as accessible to the underserved populations; and
7. Public Involvement events/committees/meetings must be targeted to attract and reflect the demographic make-up of the region.

EQUITY

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

The objectives and performance indicators designed to support the Goal of, "Equity" in the public involvement plan are described below.

OBJECTIVE E.1: The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency will identify traditionally underserved populations within the region, including minority, low income and elderly populations, and plan public involvement and outreach efforts for these segments of the population with their unique needs in mind to promote their participation.

Description: This objective aims to promote involvement by populations that are traditionally underrepresented in the transportation decision-making process by identifying the location of these populations and tailoring outreach and involvement efforts to capture their participation. Because these populations are unique and vary by location and limitations, each CRTPA work project will be presented to these populations in ways that appear most appropriate for the area.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Public involvement efforts are held in areas within or convenient to concentrations of the underserved populations, including the elderly, handicapped, minority, low-income, and limited language populations.
- B. Information and meeting notifications are distributed in common areas such as libraries within or serving the underserved areas.
- C. Input will be solicited by conducting one-on-one interviews with community leaders to gain information.
- D. Diversity of participation is being achieved.
- E. Participation by the underserved populations in the region is being witnessed.

Data and Measurement: The Census Block Group data will be used as a foundation to identify the traditionally underserved population areas. At a minimum, the CRTPA will identify minority, low-income, elderly, handicapped, and language limited population concentrations in the region. Outreach activities will be tailored to involve individuals from these populations in the transportation planning process.

When assessing participation by the underserved populations, zip codes data can be requested on citizen sign-in sheets to help track if the citizen may be coming from an area of the region representative of an underserved population concentration. Census Block Group data can be used to determine if the zip code overlaps an underserved population area. This method of determining participation is very speculative, but due to privacy concerns, this may be the best indicator of reaching representatives of these areas.

OBJECTIVE E.2: The CRTPA will maintain a regional database identifying key representatives of professional organizations and underserved segments of the region's population and solicit their participation in CRTPA transportation-related work products. The database should include, but is not limited to a list of the community leaders from the various churches, neighborhoods, civic organizations, and service organizations for disabled or elderly and other organizations that are located within the traditionally underserved areas within the region.

Description: This objective aims to promote citizen involvement, including populations that are traditionally underrepresented in the transportation decision-making process, by identifying representatives of underserved populations and community leaders throughout the region to assist in the CRTPA outreach and involvement efforts. This database of contact information will be utilized in mail-outs and as a starting point for mass notifications of upcoming workshops, and meetings.

Performance Indicators:

- A. On a yearly basis, CRTPA staff updates the regional contact database and its committees to add new community leaders or groups within the region to the notification and public involvement solicitation contact list.
- B. At least as frequently as every update to the long range transportation plan, the regional profile for the CRTPA area will be updated to identify the locations of the underserved populations and changes to that demographic.
- C. The regional profile database, maps and CRTPA mailing list will be used for distribution of agendas; public notices and any other CRTPA related activities that are part of the public participation program.

Data and Measurement: The Census Block Group map will be used as a foundation to identify the traditionally underserved population areas. Outreach will be tailored to involve individuals from these communities in the transportation planning process. In addition, CRTPA staff will actively solicit input from these areas by conducting one-on-one interviews with community leaders to gain information and solicit their participation or recommendations for community representation.

OBJECTIVE E.3: Provide diversity and seek representation on the CRTPA citizen-based committees (Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee) that reflects the demographics of the region when possible as well as the interests of the underserved populations.

Description: This objective stresses the importance in achieving representation and consistent participation by a set of individuals that are representative of the broader public, and particularly the underserved populations.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The membership of the CRTPA committees represent the demographics of the CRTPA region and maintains the integrity of its purpose.
- B. The CRTPA committee membership and attendance records are reviewed annually, to monitor how closely the demographic composition of the CRTPA advisory committees mirrors that of the demographics on record with the CRTPA region database, and if the interest of the minority, handicapped, elderly, and low- income populations are being represented on the committees.
- C. CRTPA staff seeks interested parties who can adequately represent the interests of the underserved to serve in an advisory capacity when vacancies exist and when that segment of the population is underrepresented on a committee

Data and Measurement: At least as often as every update to the long range transportation plan, census data will be updated for the region that will provide the framework for the desired demographics of the Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC). As membership applications are reviewed for consideration in filling vacancies to the committee, the demographics or representation characteristics, which are lacking will be taken into consideration when seeking an appropriate committee member candidate.

OBJECTIVE E.4: Geographically disperse public hearings and workshops throughout the CRTPA region to equalize the accessibility to information and participation across the region.

Description: This objective tracks whether access to public involvement opportunities is being distributed across the planning area equally.

Performance Indicators:

- A. At least one meeting or opportunity is located in each county of the CRTPA region for work tasks that are of interest to the entire region.
- B. Meeting locations are alternated along the study corridor for projects that are specific to a sub-area within the CRTPA region, and not of special concern to the entire region.

Data and Measurement: This could be tracked through a record keeping of meeting or event locations in relation to projects or actions. It would vary according to the type and nature of the work project...special transportation projects may only involve specific area of the region (such as specific corridor studies) whereas other projects, such as the long- range transportation plan, may involve the entire region. For roadway improvement projects, the objective would be to spread successive meeting locations along the corridor, whereas with widespread work tasks, the objective would be to spread meeting locations throughout the region.

OBJECTIVE E.5: Meeting sites will be selected which are convenient and more easily accessible to traditionally underserved populations.

Description: This objective pertains to the suitability of event locations to most effectively serve the underserved populations. Whenever possible, the general public should be able to use public transportation to attend public involvement events. Limitations include the service area of the transit or paratransit provider. The locations must be accessible to persons with disabilities, with emphasis placed on identifying locations that offer sidewalks, adequate lighting, and which are a short walking distance (less than a quarter of a mile) from available transit.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The majority of participants feel the event is held at a convenient location.
- B. Public involvement efforts are held in areas identified as within or convenient to concentrations of the underserved populations, including the elderly, handicapped, minority, low-income, and limited language populations.
- C. Public involvement opportunities are held in locations that are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- D. Public involvement locations are served by transit or are accessible by means other than the automobile when these amenities are present in the desired location for public involvement events.
- E. Public involvement events are within paratransit service areas, or are held concurrent with events / meetings that have a large attendance by the elderly or disabled, such as Local Coordinating Board meetings.

Data and Measurement: Satisfaction with meeting/event location would be measured largely by responses to surveys administered at the meeting or distributed via the web or by mail. Surveys need to be administered to a large sample of the invitee list

(including those who did not attend) to ensure that a representative opinion of meeting location is discerned from the survey.

Responses to the surveys will be utilized to determine if changes need to be made in the location of future events. Assessments of citizen attendance at events will be made immediately following the events/meetings to assess if changes need to be made to future meetings to capture better participation.

Regarding accessibility to transit services, the meeting locations can be planned within a quarter mile of transit services, unless no transit service is available within the affected area. Records should be kept of suitability of different locations used, as well as surveys conveying the satisfaction from the attendees with regard to the amenities of the location. In addition, locating meetings in areas that have the availability of ADA complementary paratransit service or other coordinated transportation (dependent on available non-sponsored funding) will help ensure that the elderly or disabled population can attend

OBJECTIVE E.6: The CRTPA meetings/events will be held at times designed to be convenient to capture the highest level of public involvement.

Description: This objective aims to ensure that those individuals participating or those invited but not participating feel that the public involvement opportunities are offered at a convenient time. Different areas of the region may require different meeting times to be convenient for the population within that area. For example, evening meetings may be perceived as less convenient in areas with a high proportion of retirees or night-workers, but may be preferred in areas with a high percentage of daytime workers. Those with long commute times to and from work may need even later meeting times than those living and working within close proximity of each other. When possible, meetings should be held at staggered times to increase overall opportunities for participation.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The majority of participants felt the meeting/event was held at a convenient time.
- B. The majority of invited persons surveyed who did not attend, expressed reasons other than inconvenient time for not attending the event / meeting.
- C. Meetings / Events are held at different times during the day, or over the course of several days/weeks/months to capture more participants.

Data and Measurement: Satisfaction with meeting / event time would be measured by responses to surveys administered at the meeting or distributed via the web or by mail. Surveys need to be administered to a large sample of the invitee list (including those who did not attend) to ensure that a representative opinion of meeting time is discerned from the survey.

Responses can be utilized to determine if changes need to be made in the scheduling times in different areas of the region. Assessments of citizen attendance at meetings and events will be made immediately following the events/meetings to assess if changes need to be made to future meetings to capture better participation.

OBJECTIVE E-7: CRTPA information is available in alternate formats for the handicapped, and in languages other than English when the need is made known.

Description: This objective addresses the need to be able to provide alternate methods of information to the public when requested, or when the need is foreseeable. This includes providing information in Braille, large print, audio reproduction, and in languages other than English when requested or when the need is apparent. This is particularly important in areas with large immigrant populations who speak English as a second language, and in pockets of the elderly and handicapped populations.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Information is provided in languages other than English where the affected population comprises a high proportion of non-English speakers.
- B. Information is provided in alternate formats for the elderly and handicapped /vision impaired citizens of the region.
- C. The majority of disabled persons that requested accommodations were satisfied with efforts made to accommodate their needs

Data and Measurement: This indicator requires a determination of whether an affected area contains a high proportion of non-English speakers that will likely require information in another language or potentially need translation services, and if specific areas of the region have other alternate format needs as well. Pockets of elderly may require the foresight to provide materials in large print, for example. Census Block Group data will be used to identify areas of the region where the need to provide information in non-typical formats is greater. After a need has been identified, then CRTPA staff will track if written materials and media announcements related to transportation projects and actions in these areas were translated into languages other than English, or provided in other alternate formats. Records will be kept of requests made and accommodated for alternate formats of information.

GOAL 2: INFORMATION & EDUCATION

INFORM AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC EARLY, CLEARLY, AND CONTINUOUSLY THROUGHOUT THE TRANSPORTATION DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

Description: Effective public involvement requires the open-two-way sharing of information. To participate effectively, people must be kept informed early and continuously throughout the decision-making process. Public information materials must also be clear and understandable to the target audience. This means that public involvement informational materials will need to be shared in different ways with different population groups to be effective. The public must also have a clear understanding of who the CRTPA is, what the organization does, and have complete confidence in the staff.

The following group of objectives and performance indicators aims to ensure that the public is adequately notified about on-going and potential transportation projects and that those interested in participating in the decision-making process are kept informed and have confidence in the public involvement process. The following targets must be met to satisfy the Information and Education Goal of the public involvement plan:

- Information is conveyed to the public regarding the role the CRTPA plays in transportation decision-making in the region;
- Project information/education is conveyed clearly and made available to all interested persons in the planning region; and
- Adequate public noticing of involvement opportunities is provided.

INFORMATION

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

OBJECTIVE I-1: Provide clear and complete information to the public about the CRTPA, the transportation decision- making process, work tasks of the CRTPA, and public involvement opportunities.

Description: This objective aims to ensure that CRTPA information is provided to the public in an easy-to-understand manner, and that it is comprehensive enough in scope to give them the ability to participate meaningfully in the transportation decision-making process.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The CRTPA has provided a comprehensive, up to date, easy to navigate web page to share information with the public. CRTPA contact information, agendas, materials, and schedules are easy to find on the web site. Additionally, all CRTPA related meeting dates, advertisements of public hearings, meetings, or workshops related to transportation planning are included on the web site. All draft and adopted CRTPA documents are easy to download off the site. The web site address is included in all printed materials.
- B. Informational sheets/pamphlets/brochures/newsletters are created to explain CRTPA work tasks, and efforts are made to distribute them to the citizens in the CRTPA region, including those within the underserved populations. Newsletters are sent out to those on the regional profile database contact list as well as made available at libraries, grocery stores, meetings, the Internet and other various locations through the community.
- C. The majority y of persons surveyed, who have received CRTPA information agree that the information provided is clear and that they know where to seek additional information.

- D. The majority of persons surveyed, who have received CRTPA information agree that the information provided is explained adequately such that they understand the work task/public involvement opportunity, and how to get involved further.
- E. Advertisement / public notice material is given with adequate advance notification and is easy to understand.

Data and Measurement. The primary data source would be responses to questionnaires that are distributed to participants at meetings, via the web page or by mail. Information on the public reaction to the amount of notification, clarity and completeness of information provided on informational materials and CRTPA presentations would be sought. Responses to the surveys would be used to determine if improvements need to be made in various forms of agency communications with the public, and if so, to which populations within the CRTPA region.

OBJECTIVE I-2: Seek opportunities to educate the public about the different ways they can influence the transportation improvements for the future, and how they can get involved to shape the future of transportation in the region.

Description: This objective speaks to the need for the CRTPA to engage itself with the public to raise the visibility of the CRTPA and its function, and also to raise the awareness and understanding of the public of the transportation decision-making process. This multi-faceted objective aims to increase the confidence level of the public in the CRTPA staff such that public involvement efforts become more proactive and cooperative than reactive and suspicious in nature.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The CRTPA participates in many different outreach avenues to educate and to elicit participation from the public on various work tasks of the CRTPA.
- B. CRTPA staff takes steps to maintain the continued involvement of citizens in the transportation decision-making process once they have been engaged in the process.
- C. Assistance is provided, such as training, coordination, or the provision of resources, to community and special interest groups, especially those dedicated to transportation issues to increase public awareness of the CRTPA and to provide outreach and assistance.

Data and Measurement: The primary data source would be a record of the outreach and coordination efforts that the CRTPA took part in. Additionally, data on the number of citizen encounters and new repeat participants in public involvement activities would be a good indicator of the successes in introducing new participants to the transportation decision-making process.

GOAL 3: METHODS OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ARE EFFECTIVE

IDENTIFY AND UTILIZE A VARIETY OF METHODS TO MOST EFFECTIVELY INFORM AND ENGAGE THE PUBLIC.

Description: An effective public involvement process involves the citizenry early and often in the decision-making process so their knowledge and concerns can be considered in project development. Although public meetings are a versatile involvement technique, they should be used in combination with a number of other activities to widen the appeal of participating to others within the region. It is crucial to understand the audience and to tailor the methods of public involvement to their specific and unique needs. In particular, efforts to engage the traditionally underserved populations (elderly, disabled, low-income, language limited, to name a few) often require more personal levels of engagement such as neighborhood meetings and one-on-one introductions to be highly effective.

The following group of objectives and performance indicators are intended to produce effective public involvement throughout the CRTPA region. The following targets must be met to satisfy the Methods of Effective Public Engagement Goal:

- Participants must be involved using multiple techniques;
- Interested persons must feel they had an adequate opportunity to participate; and
- Interested persons must see value in their participation opportunities

METHODS OF ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

OBJECTIVE M-1: Use a variety of methods to engage the public and solicit their comments on the plans and projects of the CRTPA in a meaningful way.

Description: This objective requires the use of multiple methods of public involvement to increase the rate of public participation in the CRTPA area. Using a variety of methods recognizes that people respond to different types of public involvement with varying levels of comfort and willingness to participate. Therefore, providing a variety of different types of participation opportunities increases the likelihood that a broader range of the public will become engaged in a meaningful way. Methods to be considered among the possibilities include public meetings, charrettes, neighborhood meetings, professional organization presentations, one-on-one meetings, webpage comment forms, and surveys to name a few.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Public Involvement Invitees are involved using multiple techniques.
- B. Public Involvement participants feel that the methods of involvement are meaningful.
- C. CRTPA staff will utilize email to solicit comments on transportation planning materials and the meaningfulness the participants placed on their involvement in the decision-making process.

Data and Measurement: The number of involvement techniques used per project per area of the CRTPA region can be easily tracked in a record log, and the number of participants reached using multiple techniques can be cross-checked by reviewing sign-in sheets of multiple meetings. To determine the perceived "meaningfulness" of the methods of involvement, surveys will need to be conducted on the attendees.

OBJECTIVE M-2: Provide adequate advance notification and an adequate opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.

Description: This objective aim to ensure that the public involvement activities provide adequate notification (such that individuals can plan to attend participation opportunities) and opportunities to participate in the decision-making process. It also conveys that the CRTPA wants those who participate in the decision-making process to feel that the methods used by the CRTPA to engage them were valuable tools and worth repeating.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The majority of interested persons feel that they have an adequate opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.
- B. The majority of interested persons feel that they have adequate advance notification to be able to participate in the decision-making process.

Data and Measurement: The primary data source is responses to questions in surveys administered at meetings, via the web, or by mail on the value of the public participation strategies employed for that specific project. The responses will provide an indication of which public involvement methods are perceived by the public as being most valuable. This information can then be further broken down into which populations of the CRTPA respond better to different methods of involvement. This second tier of evaluation would require the gathering of zip-code information at public involvement opportunities, and then the cross referencing of zip codes to Census Block Group data to have a clear picture of what methods work best for different segments of the region .

OBJECTIVE M-3: Maintain interest and enthusiasm in the transportation planning process by ensuring that proper techniques for public involvement are used to convey and collect relevant information within the region. Closely monitor the involvement levels from the traditionally underserved population groups, to evaluate which techniques for public involvement are most effective.

Description: This objective speaks to the need to maintain the interest of participants in continued public participation with the CRTPA. This continued participation raises the knowledge base of those in the public involvement activities and strengthens the relationship between the citizenry and CRTPA staff. Increased knowledge and continuity of involvement leads to heightened confidence level in the public participation process and overall citizen voice in the transportation decision-making process. Additionally, it stresses the importance of monitoring the results of public involvement efforts to further their effectiveness.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Citizens attending public involvement activities for a specific project are also involved in additional CRTPA public involvement activities for other projects.
- B. Citizens who are from/who represent the underserved populations within the CRTPA region are actively involved in multiple CRTPA projects.
- C. CRTPA staff evaluates public involvement efforts for effectiveness at capturing target populations, and modifies participation strategies in response to the needs of target areas and the region as a whole.

Data and Measurement: The primary data source is attendance records of public involvement activities in the CRTPA region. Zip-code information will be requested at public involvement opportunities to gain insight into the areas of the CRTPA that the involvement activities are reaching and appealing to. This information can provide guidance on the probability of participation by persons belonging to an underserved population.

GOAL 4: RESPONSIVENESS

CAREFULLY CONSIDER PUBLIC INPUT IN TRANSPORTATION DECISION-MAKING.

Description: Effective public involvement means more than just notifying people about the process and providing them with the opportunity to comment, it means effectively engaging the citizenry with CRTPA staff. Effective public involvement requires that the citizenry has the opportunity to participate, to be heard, and to engage in dialogue with decision-makers that is carefully considered, and met with a response.

The following objectives and performance indicators set the foundation for a public involvement process that is designed to involve and be responsive to citizen input throughout the CRTPA region. The following targets must be met to satisfy the Responsiveness Goal in the public involvement plan.

- Interested persons must feel they had an adequate opportunity to share their ideas and concerns; and
- Interested persons must feel public input was considered in the decision-making process.

RESPONSIVENESS

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

OBJECTIVE R-1: Provide opportunities for the public to have input on any action being proposed by the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency.

Description: This objective speaks to the public's need to have easy and open access to CRTPA staff for the purpose of conveying comments, questions, concerns and ideas on CRTPA projects to CRTPA staff. Interested persons need to have numerous opportunities and avenues available to them to include their ideas in the decision-making process.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Comment cards are available at CRTPA related functions.
- B. CRTPA staff contact information is provided on all distributed materials, including physical & mailing address, phone numbers, and web page address.
- C. Comment opportunities are provided on the CRTPA web page for both broad topics and individual projects.
- D. Each CRTPA subcommittee and CRTPA Board meeting agenda includes dedicated time to hear and address citizen comments and concerns.
- E. A summary of public comments is provided to the CRTPA as they are received. All items adopted by the CRTPA include a summary of the public comment as part of the documentation.

Data and Measurement: Comments received will be evaluated for the issue raised for a particular project and for information the comment may provide on effectiveness of the comment process.

OBJECTIVE R-2: Citizens involved in the process have confidence that their input is considered in the decision-making process.

Description: This objective helps frame the public involvement opportunities in such a way that they are designed to do more than seek comment on work that has already been completed. The involvement opportunities must be true opportunities where decisions have not been pre-determined and the information shared with the CRTPA has an opportunity to be considered and utilized in the decision-making process. The objective addresses the fact that participants need to see that they are "heard" by CRTPA staff and that their input is considered.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The majority of participants feel that their input is considered.
- B. Public comments, reactions and perceptions are conveyed to the CRTPA subcommittees and CRTPA Board. Where appropriate, comments are shared with local, state and federal officials.
- C. Public comments are incorporated into plans and solutions where appropriate.

Data and Measurement: Responses to CRTPA surveys and comment cards will provide an indication on the confidence level the majority of participants have that their input is adequately considered and addressed. Additionally, project documentation will show the degree to which citizen comments and concerns were addressed and incorporated into project development

OBJECTIVE R-3: CRTPA staff is responsive to citizen requests, comments, and concerns.

Description: To achieve confidence in the public involvement process, citizens need to know that their comments and concerns are not only heard, but also taken seriously. For public involvement to be meaningful, the ideas and concerns of participants need to be carefully considered in the decision-making process. CRTPA staff needs to provide a high level of responsiveness to citizen input so that their confidence in CRTPA staff is gained and maintained throughout the process.

Performance Indicators:

- A. The majority of participants feel that CRTPA staff is responsive and encourages citizen involvement and input.
- B. Public comments, reactions and perceptions are conveyed to the CRTPA subcommittees and CRTPA Board. Where appropriate, comments are shared with local, state and federal officials.
- C. Responses to public inquiries are made within 2 working days of the date of inquiry receipt.

Data and Measurement: This objective can be monitored largely by noting the time and date of public requests for information and the time and date of CRTPA responses. E- mail to the CRTPA readily includes this information, whereas telephone calls and other forms of contact will need to be documented. CRTPA staff strives to provide same-day contact to give the citizen assurance that the request has been acknowledged, with an adequate response provided within 2 working days of the inquiry. Citizen surveys can also provide information on if the public perceives the response time from CRTPA staff to be adequate and reasonable. Negative responses will be evaluated further for determination on how to improve customer satisfaction and regain citizen confidence.

OBJECTIVE R-4: CRTPA staff is responsive to the successes and failures of the on-going public participation activities such that adjustments are made along the process to heighten the effectiveness of each successive activity.

Description: This objective speaks to the need to continually evaluate the successes and failures of the various methods employed to solicit public participation in the CRTPA region. The CRTPA must be in tune to the needs of the region's population and adjust involvement strategies to mirror those needs if effective public participation is to be achieved.

Performance Indicators:

- A. Public involvement efforts are evaluated at the conclusion of each activity to document the audience reached, and successes and shortfalls of each method used.
- B. The successes and shortfalls of each public involvement effort are compared against the efforts previously completed to determine relative increases or decreases in involvement effectiveness.
- C. At the end of each year (December) a report that describes the effectiveness of the public involvement strategies used throughout the year is prepared.

Data and Measurement: The CRTPA will keep a public involvement book that keeps track of all of the public involvement activities of the year, with an evaluation report attached outlining what aspects, if any, of the manner in which the public was involved should be altered for the next public participation opportunity.

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