
Public Participation Plan

Staff Report
July 14, 2021

BACKGROUND:

In 2007, The Area Plan Commission adopted a Public Participation Plan to comply with the SAFETEA-LU federal transportation act. Although this plan has served its purpose, it has become outdated. Therefore, The Area Plan Commission has created a new plan, *Planning and the Public: A Plan for Engaging Citizens in the Planning Process*.

This plan documents the opportunities for participation, how and when the public is notified of meetings, how we use and will expand our use of visual aids to communicate with the public, where and how transportation related information is available, when and where meetings take place, the opportunities for public comment and our commitment to consider them, coordination with State public involvement efforts, and periodic review of the Citizen Participation Committee membership.

There are a few key components that have been added to this new plan. One of these is using social media to reach out to the public. Currently, The Area Plan Commission uses Facebook, NextDoor, and Twitter. Another key component is how to conduct public meetings if executive orders are issued that recommend or require social distancing.

The plan was reviewed by the Citizen Participation Committee at its June 9th meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this plan to the Policy Board