

Memorandum

To: MPO Committee Members
From: Lucinda Shannon, Senior Planner
Date: May 26, 2021
Reference: CA-MPO Engagement Plan

Purpose:

MPOs are required to comply with federal regulations to ensure that the MPO has an adequate process to involve interested or affected individuals, organizations, and government entities when developing and adopting MPO planning documents. The *CA-MPO Engagement Plan* is the document the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO uses to communicate the strategies that will be utilized to satisfy those requirements.

This plan is intended to provide as much flexibility as possible in meeting the requirements established in the federal regulations. The TJPDC as an organization, which includes the MPO operations, is committed to exceeding the minimum requirements and developing meaningful engagement opportunities, considering the diversity of needs and preferences throughout the MPO area.

Background:

In 2020 the *Public Participation Plan* was updated and there were some substantial changes requested by MPO committees and the public. The draft of the 2021 *CA-MPO Public Engagement Plan* included in your packets reflects the recommended changes. This is an opportunity for the MPO committees to review the plan and provide feedback. The federal regulations require that there be a 45-day public comment period prior to any significant changes to the plan being made. The MPO CTAC committee reviewed the engagement plan in their March 17th meeting and after staff updated the plan based on the feedback received, the public comment period opened on April 17th. The plan and notice for comment was posted on the TJPDC and MPO websites and social media accounts and shared with the MPO localities for their public notices.

Recommendation:

At this time, MPO committees can review the engagement plan and provide comments to staff. Once staff has received feedback, and recommendations are incorporated into the plan, the Policy Board will host a public hearing and vote on adopting the plan in their July meeting.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact Lucinda Shannon at lshannon@tjpd.org.