



MEMORANDUM

To: CMAP Transportation Committee

From: CMAP Staff

Date: September 15, 2023

Subject: Public Participation Plan, draft review

Action requested: Approval

Why a Public Participation Plan?

CMAP is a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and federal law requires every MPO to create a public participation plan that explains to the public the opportunities to be involved in the transportation planning process that MPOs manage.

Every four years, CMAP develops a public participation plan (PPP) to not only comply with federal requirements, but also to guide the agency's proactive engagement of residents and constituencies in northeastern Illinois. The PPP also establishes core values for how CMAP integrates meaningful public engagement into its planning initiatives. CMAP's previous PPP was approved by CMAP's MPO Policy Committee in 2019.

Meaningful public participation is a key component of CMAP's planning processes, to produce regional plans, a transportation improvement program, and local plans that reflect the values and priorities of the people who live and work in the region. CMAP strives to inclusively identify, engage, and sustain relationships with residents in communities affected by regional planning and to provide all stakeholders reasonable opportunities to be involved in the planning process.

This PPP is intended to serve as a guide to both the public on how to participate in the agency's public committees and initiatives, but also as a resource to CMAP staff for planning public engagement processes. Because this Public Participation Plan also serves as the PPP for the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), the RTA reviewed an early draft in June. The CMAP Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) reviewed the PPP at its August meeting and the CAC's comments are incorporated into the draft for both this committee's review and public comment.

What's the timeline?

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| Regional Transportation Authority | Review draft | Completed (June 2023) |
| Citizens Advisory Committee | Review, approve draft | August 8, 2023 |
| Public comment period | Statutorily required 45-day public comment period for draft document | August 21 through October 6, 2023 |
| Transportation Committee | Review draft | September 22, 2023 |
| <i>Final Public Participation Plan</i> | <i>Document finalized</i> | <i>December 1, 2023</i> |
| Citizens Advisory Committee | Review, approve final document | December 2023 |
| MPO Policy Committee | Approval of final document by CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee at joint meeting | January 2024 |

During the 45-day public comment period (August 21 through October 6), the agency is sharing the draft PPP on its [website](#), in its newsletters and through its social media channels to invite members of the public and regional stakeholders to provide feedback.

Staff welcomes the committee's review and comments on the draft PPP and any questions about the process. The draft plan is [linked here](#).

Action requested: Staff requests the committee's review and approval of the draft Public Participation Plan.