



## HELP US SHAPE THE METRO VISION REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

# CIVIC ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting Summary: December 8, 2020 (VIRTUAL)

### Attendees:

Areli Alcazar  
Barbara Smith  
Bob Epstein  
Brandon Figliolino  
Carol Buchanan  
Connie Martin

Deya Zavala  
Erik Penn  
Megan Blinov  
Rachael Lehman  
Randle Loeb  
Rey Sosa

Lisa Houde, DRCOG  
Jacob Riger, DRCOG  
Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, DRCOG  
Dorothy Friday, DRCOG  
Robert Spotts, DRCOG

### Introductions

### Previous Meeting Refresher

- Lisa Houde, public engagement specialist, summarized the previous meeting's input that was shared with the Transportation Advisory Committee and Regional Transportation Committee.

### Plan Update

- Jacob Riger, long range transportation planning manager, provided an update on the plan progress over the last several months.

### Environmental Justice

- Dorothy Friday, GIS specialist, introduced the concept of Environmental Justice and discussed the analysis that is being done for the plan. Group members participated in a brainstorming activity to identify locations that vulnerable populations may have challenges reaching to assist in determining the destinations that will be analyzed for the plan.
- Civic Advisory Group members added schools, grocery stores, senior centers, shopping destinations, popular cultural spots like flea markets, government services (DMV, social services, etc.), and parks/open space, to the list of potential destinations to analyze.
- Other topics discussed: the use of transit for shelter for unhoused population, treatment of vulnerable populations on transit, issues and changes related to Covid-19, the impact of automobile infrastructure on neighborhoods, heat vulnerability, tree cover, and how to look at these barriers.

### Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

- Robert Spotts, mobility analytics program manager, described the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of House Bill 1261, transportation emission reduction strategies, and the potential impact of electric vehicles. Panel members addressed discussion questions throughout the presentation.

- Group members brought up the following topics:
  - The need to continue to develop a land use pattern conducive to walking and biking to meet Metro Vision goals and reduce emissions.
  - The tie between land use and transportation, need to stop sprawl and focus on infill.
  - Negative externalities of electric vehicles in terms of safety. They will not be enough to build the region we want, we want a more human scale region.
  - To increase electric vehicle adoption, there should be financial incentives for people to purchase them, like tax credits or gas tax or trade-in incentives. Also important to make sure that there is charging infrastructure to support them.
  - Need other solutions that don't rely on individual purchase of electric vehicles, ensure reductions from other sectors too.
  - Potential strategies for free transit, or at least for particular populations.
  - The inherent costs and burdens of car ownership.
  - Considerations need to be made about transportation for people with disabilities and the challenges of getting around with a wheelchair.

### Next Steps

- Drafting of the plan is starting now. A complete draft is scheduled to be released in February. Group members will receive a copy of the draft prior to the next meeting, which will focus on discussing their reviews of the draft. That meeting will likely take place in February or early March.