

I.1 OVERVIEW

Task 11 of the Scope of Work, *Public Involvement*, was to engage the public in prioritizing transportation needs for all modes of transportation and to provide opportunities to be actively involved in identifying transportation solutions that serve the City of Olympia.

The consultant team worked with city staff to develop and implement a public involvement program that paralleled the project and allowed a wider audience to provide feedback on the technical side of the project. The program was designed to be an iterative process involving key stakeholders at key points along the way to help guide the project and provide feedback.

Public involvement refers to outreach activities beyond informal meetings with City staff and other technical advisors. An Ad-Hoc Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was convened specifically for this project with the purpose of providing feedback to City staff and the consultant team, and guidance to the City Council. Staff and the consultant team worked with the groups listed below:

- ATAC
- Resource Group
- City Council
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- General public

The next section describes the public involvement process in more detail.

I.2 PROCESS AND PARTICIPANTS

The three central groups involved in the project process were: the ATAC, the Steering Committee, and the technical Resource Group. The Steering Committee guided the consultant team, which reported results to the ATAC and the Steering Committee. The Resource Group provided supplemental feedback.

All background materials, meeting agendas, meeting summaries, draft documents, and other technical materials were provided on a project webpage located on the City of Olympia's website:

Members of the Steering Committee, ATAC and Resource Group are listed below:

ATAC Member	Affiliation	Steering Committee	Affiliation
Joan Cullen	State Government	Karen Messmer	Olympia City Council
Chris Hawkins	Citizen at Large	David Riker	Olympia Public Works
Rob Honan	ADA interests	Sophie Stimson	Olympia Public Works
Jack Horton	Citizen at Large	Caroline Inions	Olympia Public Works
John Koch	Bike/Pedestrian Advisory Committee		
Sam Merrill	Environmental Interests	Resource Team	Affiliation
Karen Messmer, Chair	Olympia City Council	Thera Black	Thurston Regional Planning Council
Jim Morris	Chamber of Commerce	Dennis Bloom	Intercity Transit
Amy Tousley	Olympia Planning Commission	Randy Wesselman	Olympia Public Works
Jeff Trinin	Past Parking Advisory Committee		
Karen Valenzuela	Intercity Transit		

I.3 2009 MOBILITY WORKSHOP

The City invited Olympia residents to provide feedback about the draft Mobility Strategy at the second annual mobility workshop, called “Your Streets, Your City” on April 13, 2009 at the Olympia Center.

Approximately 41 people attended, including staff, ATAC, and Council members. The workshop gave participants a chance to review the key elements of the strategy (described in Chapter 3 of the TMS report) and talk to City staff and members of the ATAC. Chairperson, Karen Messmer, gave a brief presentation for participants explaining the purpose of the mobility strategy. City staff then led participants through a small-group table discussion, with 4-6 participants at each table.

Participants were asked the same questions on the feedback forms (listed below). The bullets below summarize responses from the small group tables *and* feedback forms. A detailed summary of comments is attached to this Appendix.

- **Are the Mobility Strategy concepts moving us in the right direction?** Responses to the first question were generally positive and many participants expressed enthusiasm about the elements of the mobility strategy as they were presented at the workshop. Some participants asked that the overall goal of the strategy as well as its elements be stated more clearly. As a result, the steering committee and consultant team added clarifying language to the TMS report Executive Summary and Implementation Section (Section 3.3) to

identify the goal of the TMS. In addition, each element of the strategy is explained in detail in Chapter 3.

- **What are the most important areas to pursue?** Responses to the second question were varied, however the largest number of those who responded to the feedback forms selected connectivity (7) as the most important element, followed by bus corridors (5), funding (4), and complete streets (3). Participants noted the importance of land use and increasing density along transit corridors. Respondents noted that connectivity needs additional implementation support from City Council. Some participants also asked for more information about how projects are funded. In response to these comments, the steering committee and the consultant team made clear the important connection between land use and transportation (particularly multi-modal corridors) throughout the TMS report. In addition, the TMS report and Appendix E, *Funding* describe how funding for transportation works in Olympia and provide recommendations for steps the City can take to improve the way funding is explained and tracked.
- **Is there something else the City should be considering?** Participants provided a variety of suggestions in response to this question. Some respondents encouraged the City to work collaboratively with neighborhoods to identify key pedestrian, bicycle, and auto-vehicle connections. Others suggested joint planning between the school district and Intercity Transit. Some respondents noted they would like to see transportation impact fees increased or would like the method for charging and allocated impact fee revenues modified.

The TMS draft report Chapter 3, Recommended Strategy, addresses many of the comments we heard at the Mobility Workshop. Chapter 3 explains each element of the strategy; why that element is important and things the team recommends the City can do to work towards achieving outcomes related to that element. The strategy elements respond feedback from the ATAC, steering committee, and comments heard at the workshop. Those elements are:

- Multi-modal corridors (Community Transit Network)
- Complete Streets
- Connectivity
- Transportation Demand Management
- Funding

- Concurrency

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I.4 SCHEDULE OF KEY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The schedule below lists the dates of key meetings and events:

Event	Date
ATAC #1	October 27, 2008
ATAC #2	December 10, 2008
BPAC	January 26, 2009
ATAC #3	February 26, 2009
ATAC #4	March 5, 2009
City Council work session	March 10, 2009
ATAC #5	March 11, 2009
IT Board Presentation	March 18, 2009
ATAC #6	March 30, 2009
Mobility Workshop	April 13, 2009
ATAC #7	May 11, 2009
Council presentation	TBA

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