

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

REGION V

Prepared by MIDAS Council of Governments for the Region V MAP-21 TAC and the Iowa
Department of Transportation.

October 1994

Reviewed 1999

Revised August 2000

Reviewed 2001

Reviewed 2002

Reviewed 2003

Reviewed 2004

Amended 12/9/05

Amended 11/13/06

Reviewed 11/5/07

Reviewed 1/21/10

Reviewed 11/8/10

Amended 12/1/11

Amended 2/14/13

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

I.	Public Participation	1
II.	Purpose Statement	1
III.	Goals	1
IV.	Potential Participants	1
V.	Participation Techniques	2
VI.	Implementation Procedures	2

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

DEFINITION: Public Participation is an open process which seeks out and encourages early and continuous public involvement throughout the development of transportation plans and projects.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this process is to provide a mechanism of public involvement that is proactive, and provides complete information, timely public notices, full public access to key decisions, and opportunities for early and continuing involvement.

GOALS

The goal of this process is to provide full opportunity for the public to become involved in identifying transportation needs, planning to address those needs, and selecting and evaluating projects and thereby building a planning system that is responsive to changing needs and priorities. This will provide new approaches, enhance accountability of decisions, reduce delays and costs, and build public trust and satisfaction with the planning system.

POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS

Public Interest Groups

Pheasants Forever
Isack Walton League
Conservation Commissions
Chambers of Commerce
Ducks Unlimited
Parks and Recreations
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Skiing Associations
Trails Groups
Economic Development Commissions
Betterment Groups
Trees Forever
Senior Citizen Groups
Disabled Citizen Groups
Bicycle Groups
Off Road/Highway Vehicle Groups

Transportation Related Interest Groups

Airport Commissions
Railroads
Transit Operators
Shippers
Cooperatives
Manufacturers
Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Trucking Firms
Highway 20 Association
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Elected Officials

City Representatives
County Representatives
State Representatives

*** This list will be updated as needed.

PARTICIPATION TECHNIQUES

A regional meeting will be held annually in order to gain public input. Appropriate mailings will be sent or e-mailed to the above participants, along with public notices to the officially designated newspapers inviting all interested parties. The regional meeting will be to discuss the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and the region's transportation system.

The rules and regulations developed by Region V MAP-21 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) to implement MAP-21 will then be explained, including the use of regional subcommittees to provide 'grassroots' input to the TAC. Interested individuals (or groups) will be highly encouraged to participate in any (or all) regional subcommittees. Updates on the status of regional Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) development using the MAP-21 process are included in the MIDAS regional newsletter, posted on the MIDAS Web site and sent or e-mailed to all city council persons, county board supervisors, and economic development groups. Individuals from these groups, in turn, pass along to any interested individuals (by word of mouth), the updates on the regional LRTP and the regional TIP. The Region V MAP-21 TAC is available to assist the regional subcommittees with whatever meetings they wish to have.

A public hearing will be held on the draft regional LRTP, and draft regional TIP, after allowing the public a period to view and comment on both. These draft plans will be available for review on the MIDAS Web site and the MIDAS office.

IMPLEMENTATION

After review of this process, notice will be published in the official county newspapers of each of the six counties comprising Region V that the process is available for public review and comments solicited. The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) will review all comments received and constructive modifications made to this process, before its final adoption by the MIDAS Executive Board.