

Meeting summary

Public Engagement Review Committee, January 10, 2024

Members present:

Isaiah Jackman
Makerusa Porotesano
Michael Foley
Henry Miller
Amanda Garcia-Snell
Cameron Ruen
JR Lilly

Members absent:

Carine Arendes
Alisa Kajikawa
Diana Ospina Lara
Jennifer Parrish Taylor (alternate)

Presenters:

Gloria Pinzon-Marin, Metro Communications (facilitator)

Marissa Grass, Principal Policy & Engagement Specialist, Waste Prevention and Environmental Services Communications

Sabine Rear, Accessibility Specialist, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department

Rebecca Descombes, member of the Committee on Racial Equity

Abe Vega, member of the Committee on Racial Equity

Keisha Brewster, member of the Committee on Racial Equity

Purpose:

Members of the Public Engagement Review Committee (PERC) convened to review partial content of the draft Public Engagement Guide (PEG). Committee members were joined by Metro staff members, as well as guest attendees from the Committee on Racial Equity (CORE).

Topics:

Project updates:

Following introductions and committee updates, the meeting began with an overview of the purpose for the Public Engagement Guide, the role of the committee, and an update on the project timeline. The committee received an update that their input from the December 20th, 2023 meeting was incorporated to an updated draft of the application of the guiding principles section for the guide. The committee was reminded that a Metro Council work session on the Public Engagement Guide is scheduled for January 23, 2024 and they are invited to attend or present with staff.

Committee feedback:

Most of the meeting time was allocated for committee feedback on two specific elements of the draft Public Engagement Guide: the “language check” box and a first look at a draft informational graphic about how transportation projects are selected, funded, and built.

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Discussions on the “language check” included the nuance differences between the terms “public” and “community.” Committee members also explored the possibility of including examples of when or how these terms should be used.

A draft graphic of how transportation projects are funded garnered robust discussion around comprehension, context, intended audiences, and actionable ways people might engage with the graphic. Committee members provided feedback on the overall organization of the information, suggestions on how to improve the color coordination across the image, and some additional elements that could be included, such as short links to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT).

Follow-up items:

- Committee members can provide additional written feedback on the transportation graphic after the meeting.
- The meeting concluded with some open-ended questions for consideration: What questions are you left with after seeing this information? What else do you want to know?