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# Chapter 7:

## Public Participation

This chapter outlines the process used to encourage involvement in the development of the 2045 Plan and summarizes the input and comments received from stakeholders, partner agencies, and the community at large.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

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The FRMPO Policy Board has an adopted Public Participation Plan which describes the procedures the staff undertakes to collect public and stakeholder input and how that input is used in the development and adoption of its plans and programs, including the Regional Transportation Plan as well as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

#### **Stakeholders**

In addition to participation from the general public, the Public Participation Plan includes the goal of involving freight shippers and providers of freight transportation services, representatives of public transportation employees, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties in the development of the Plan.

#### **Methods of Outreach**

Information about all MPO meetings is advertised through at least one or more of the following outreach channels and media outlets, depending on the nature and significance of the meeting: publication via the local newspapers editions of the Beckley Register-Herald and/or the Fayette Tribune, local radio and TV stations including but not limited to WJLS Radio, WOAY TV, WQAZ Radio, WVNS/CBS TV, WOAY Radio and Summit Media Broadcasting, LLC. In addition, the agenda for upcoming meetings and other public information is posted on the FRMPO's website at [www.frmpo.org](http://www.frmpo.org). All members of the FRMPO are also encouraged to distribute meeting information to their councils and other interested parties via their own websites or through other distribution channels.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

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#### **Steering Committee**

The FRMPO Policy Board appointed a Steering Committee to provide guidance in the development of the region's first long range transportation plan. Members included representatives from the WVDOH and Division of Public Transit, local governments, local and regional economic development agencies, local transit agencies, bicycling organizations and freight carriers. A full list of Steering Committee members is provided at the beginning of this plan document.

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The Steering Committee met at key points during the development of the 2045 Plan update to review and comment on the content and priorities of the draft list of proposed projects.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PLAN**

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FRM conducted a 45-day public review of the draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan between November 17<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. A legal Class I ad was placed in the Beckley Register-Herald to notify the public that the draft plan was available for review both at the FRM office and on the FRM website. No comments were received during the public review period.