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Public hearings are conducted by the AMBAG Board and RTPAs during their regular meetings or at special meetings scheduled to attract greater community participation. Public hearings may also be conducted by each agency's standing committees. Meetings are held in facilities that are accessible to people with disabilities and along transit routes, when possible.

As part of a public hearing, the policy board will generally receive a report from agency staff prior to opening the hearing for comments from the public. The hearing will be concluded when all members of the public wishing to speak have been provided the opportunity to comment. Agency staff may respond, as appropriate, to comments provided at the hearing prior to the policy board taking action with respect to the subject of the hearing.

**Public Comment Period:** AMBAG and our partner agencies publish legal notices of public comment periods in local newspapers of general circulation citing the dates when they will be accepting comments on regional plans, MTIP, studies and transportation projects. The public comment period for adoption or revision of the Public Participation Plan, Transportation Plans, the Transportation Improvement Program and other key decision points must be "timely" and for the AMBAG region are as follows:

- **AMBAG Public Participation Plan:** 45 Days
- **The Metropolitan Transportation Plan /Sustainable Community Strategy:** 55 days
- **Approval of Transportation Improvement Programs and Other Plans or Studies:** 30 days
- **Regional Transportation Plans:** 30 days
- **Formal Amendments to the MTIP:** 2 weeks

AMBAG and RTPAS accept prepared comments (oral, written and emailed) from the public during the public review period for plans that require public hearings; all such comments are then made part of the public record.

**Amendment or Modification to Draft Plans (MTP/MTIP/PPP) or Projects:** If draft plans or projects differ significantly from the initial draft which was made available for public comment and raises new issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts, an additional opportunity for public comment on the revised plans or other plans will be made available within schedule constraints. Minor changes in the draft plans or projects generally can be made after AMBAG, our partner RTPAs, and/or our Transit Agencies have completed its public comment process without further opportunities for public

\*Please refer to Title 23: 450.316 from *Federal Register Vol. 72 No. 30* in Appendix D for more information.



























