

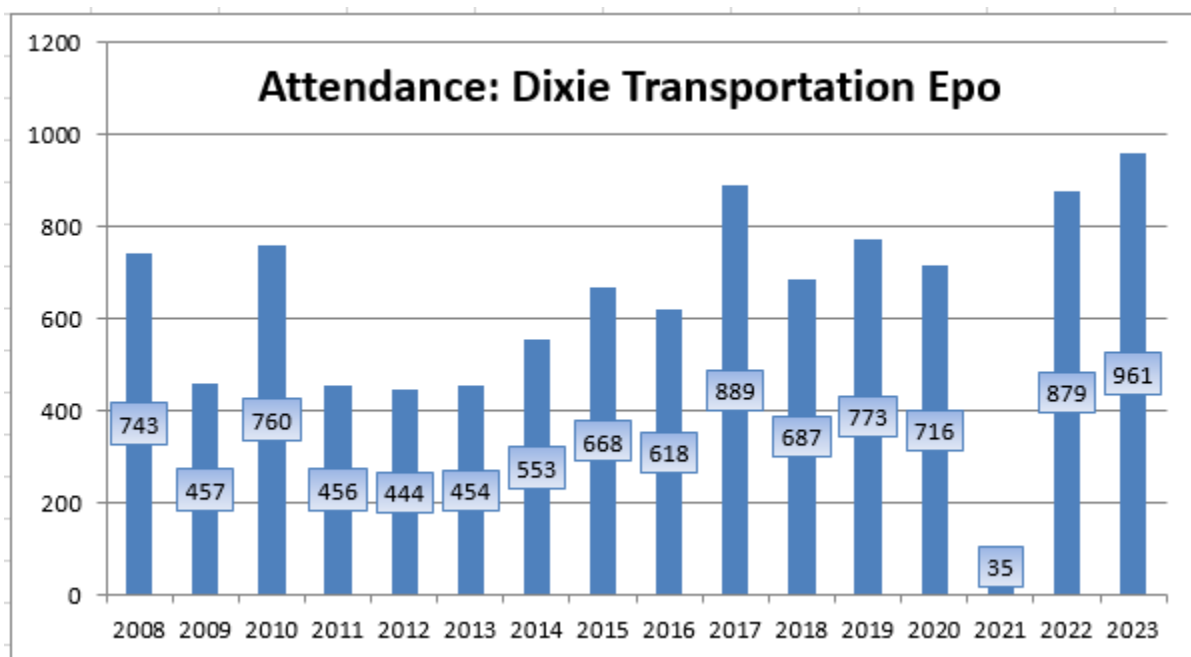
## Chapter 14 – Public Involvement

### Commitment to Public Involvement

The International Association of Public Participation defines five levels of public involvement in the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation. These five levels are 1) Inform, 2) Consult, 3) Involve, 4) Collaborate, and 5) Empower.

Public involvement is vital as the Dixie MPO plans transportation facilities through 2050. The MPO uses a web site, legal notices of meetings, news releases and a variety of newsletters to **inform** constituents of meetings, studies, plans, and opportunities to become involved in the planning process.

The MPO also sponsors an annual “Dixie Transportation Expo” to gather public comments and respond to inquiries, consult with citizen groups, and collaborate with them to realize potential solutions. An estimated 400 to 1,000 people attend the “Expo” annually to ask questions and comment on individual projects, plans, studies, environmental issues, future initiatives, etc. as transportation plans are laid and as projects move forward through the process from concept to construction. The “Expo” is scheduled annually the second Tuesday of February.



In some areas, the MPO has also found ways to empower citizen committees to directly influence plans for the future. The Vision Dixie process discussed earlier in this document was based on citizen input and attempts to capture the public’s vision for the metropolitan area of the future – and then plan to that vision. The bicycle/pedestrian trail section of this plan was also reviewed and expanded through the efforts of a citizen’s committee. In addition, the Southern Utah Truckers Association has given

comments about roadway improvements that can be made to help freight move more smoothly through our communities.

Moving forward, the MPO is committed to include public involvement initiatives in its decision-making efforts, to communicate public concerns to MPO voting members, and to educate the public on MPO deliberation, options, strategies, and plans of regional significance.

### **Public Comments:**

Public comments are currently being taken for this 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan and will be summarized in a separate document.