2016 Dashboard January Meeting
March 3, 2016

Present: Raul Alvaez (CAN), Catie Bialick (CAN), Michelle Buckley (United Way 211), Greg Cumpton (Ray Marshall Center), Caitlin D'Alton (Capital Metro), Tiffany Daniels (WFS Capital Area), Korey Darling (Travis County HHS), Mary Dodd (CAN), Kathy Green (Capital Area Food Bank), Stephanie Hawley (ACC), Jennifer Lee (CPPP), Louise Lynch (ATCIC), Simon Tidd (E[3] Alliance), Jonathan Tomko (City of Austin NHCD)

Approval of minutes: The Committee reviewed and approved minutes of the Jan 28, 2016 meeting.

Recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors: The CAN Board approved the following Dashboard Steering Committee recommendations at its February 12, 2016 meeting:

- **Voting:** updated State election target year to 2018
- **Poverty:** changed indicator from low-income to poverty
- **Uninsured:** changed target to 15% by 2020
- **School Ready:** changed target date to 2018 (to be aligned with Travis County School Readiness Action Plan)
- **High school graduation:** changed target year to 2020

The Dashboard Steering Committee's recommendation for the unemployment indicator was not presented to the board. The DSC voted to change the indicator from the January monthly rate to the annual rate, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and to change the target to 3.5% by 2020. However, preliminary data released just before the Board meeting showed that Travis County's unemployment rate for 2015 was 3.2%, exceeding the previously approved target. CAN staff withheld the item to allow the Dashboard Steering Committee to review this development before taking the issue to the Board.

Recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors: The Dashboard Steering Committee voted to take the following recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors for their March 11, 2016 meeting:

Unemployment: the Committee voted to keep the target at 3.5%. If the 2015 annual unemployment rate is confirmed as being below 3.2% (which is probable), the CAN Dashboard will consider the target met and focus on disparities in unemployment rates by race and ethnicity and also on low wages. Greg Cumpton and Tiffany Daniels noted that economists do not consider unemployment rates below 3.5% to be healthy for the workforce and economy. Jennifer Lee also suggested that we take a look at work status by full and part time employment, and Tiffany Daniels suggested that we look at Workforce Solutions Capital Area's underemployment rates for the community.

Housing Cost-Burdened: A sub-committee of Jonathan Tomko, Mandy DeMayo, Catie Bialick, Mary Dodd and Raul Alvarez met on February 11th to review housing data and to consider whether housing cost burdened or severe housing cost-burdened is a better indicator for the Dashboard. Tomko said the sub-committee recommends using housing cost-burdened data, but highlighting the fact that 86% of renter households earning less than $35,000 a year are housing cost-burdened. The Dashboard Steering Committee voted to accept the Housing sub-committee's recommendation to rescind its August 6, 2015 vote to recommend that the CAN Board change the indicator from Housing Cost-Burdened to Severe Housing Cost-Burdened and allow the indicator to continue to be Housing Cost-Burdened. The

committee also suggested that the report and web-site drilldown highlight the fact that transportation costs increase as households move further from employment centers and other services also face quality of life challenges and difficulty in accessing jobs and services. The housing cost-burdened rate was so high five years ago that it is good that we are improving, however affordability is clearly still an issue for the community.

Update Target Years to 2020: the Committee voted to update all targets to 2020, with the exception of those where a Target year aligns with other community dashboard efforts or election years.

Reporting Data to the Nearest Decimal: It has been suggested that the Dashboard should report data to the nearest decimal (XX.X%) for all percentages below 20%. Two primary concerns were voiced: 1) using the extra decimal point makes it appear the data is more precise than it really is, given the small size of the survey and the high margin of error; and 2) using the extra decimal doesn't improve the communicability. The Committee recommended reporting the data to the 10th percent only when it is statistically significant, ex. VMT and unemployment.

Updates to smoking, obesity and mental health indicators: The target years for all three of these Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System indicators was increased to 2020. The Committee voted to change the smoking target to 10% by 2020, as recommended by the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department. The Department also recommended a target of 15.5% for mental health and 19.5% for obesity, but the Dashboard Steering Committee decided to go with slightly more aspirational targets of 15% for mental health (which is what the target has been for several years) and 19% for obesity (higher than the current target of 17%).

Poverty: The Committee voted to set the Poverty Target to 15% by 2020. This was the poverty rate in 2008, before the Great Recession. The Committee felt it was important to talk about the number of people in poverty, not just percentages, and to discuss the effects of displacement for families who need access to services.

College Success: Simon Tidd recommended we change the college success indicator to align with the E3 Alliance's Educational Blueprint. The new indicator would represent the percentage of high school graduates who enroll in a Texas college or university within one year of graduating from high school and earn a post-secondary credential within 6 years. E^3's current goal is 50% by 2020, which has already been met. Tidd will discuss a new goal with his colleagues. The Dashboard Steering Committee agreed to adopt whatever goal E^3 sets. For future reports, the Committee agreed that we need to consider adult postsecondary educational attainment as well.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.