

PARTNERSHIP TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC) MINUTES

March 17, 2008

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1. Introductions

Marcella Rensi (Chair) requested introductions.

2. Minutes of February 4, 2008 PTAC Meeting

The minutes for the February 4, 2008 PTAC meeting were accepted.

3. Partnership Reports

Partnership Board - *Ben Tripousis, City of San Jose* - The Partnership Board met on February 29, 2008. Highlights of the meeting included the summary report of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission.

Transit Finance Working Group (TFWG) – *Todd Morgan, Chair* – The TFWG met on March 5, 2008. Todd reported that the group finalized the FY 2008-09 Sect. 5307/5309 Program of Projects (POP) and AB 664 Bridge Toll match.

Local Streets & Roads Working Group (LS&RWG)– *Ben Tripousis, City of San Jose* – The LS&RWG meets on April 4, 2008. Ben reported that the local streets and roads group had a joint meeting with the transit planners group to strategize about needs relating to the T2035 plan.

Programming and Delivery Working Group (PDWG) – *Kenneth Kao, MTC* - PDWG met on March 17, 2008. Key topics included: 1) I-Bond update, 2) Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) program, 3) an update on CMAQ baseline agreements, 4) a report on the new CMAQ minimum match guidelines, and 5) FY 2007-08 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) update, which is scheduled to be adopted in May.

4. Legislative Update

Kenneth Folan (MTC) provided an update on SB 1731 (Yee), which doubles the current vehicle-licensing fee (VLF) for registrants in the Bay Area from \$1.00 - \$2.00 to support the Freeway Service Patrol operations. The last time the fee was increased was 1986.

5. Change in CMAQ Minimum Share Amount

Ross McKeown (MTC) reported that on February 13, 2008, FHWA issued guidance in response to language in the Energy Independence and Security Act that revised the federal CMAQ share requirement from CMAQ-funded projects. FHWA guidance stated that as a result of the Act, CMAQ funds obligated in FY 2007-08 or FY 2008-09 after the enactment date of December 20, 2007 could be as much as 100%, but not less than 80% of the total project cost, effectively bring obligations for projects funded with less than 80% CMAQ funds to a halt. The negative impact of this new guidance in the Bay Area totals ~\$2.5B. MTC is working with the State and is seeking reissuance of the guidance from Congressional staff. In the meantime, staff is encouraging project sponsors to process CMAQ projects, except FTA transfers. Caltrans has agreed to supply weekly listings of projects with delivery impacts as a result. The Committee requested that this item be reagendaized for follow-up in April.

Discussion Items6. a. Vision Policy Strategies

Ashley Nguyen (MTC) summarized the Vision Policy Strategies for five policy areas: 1) Investments, 2) Pricing, 3) Focused Growth, 4) Technology, and 5) Individual Actions. MTC staff is seeking comments regarding the vision strategies and/or vision statement. The Vision Policy Strategies will be presented to the Commission for its approval. Comments regarding the proposed strategies should be submitted to Ashley Nguyen by March 18, 2008. Initial comments included not “striking out” the bike/ped network completely under “Where We Are Today” and combining bullets 2 & 3 under “Challenges to Overcome”.

6. b. Transit Capital and Operating Needs and Shortfall Assessments

Christina Atienza (MTC) distributed the updated draft Transit Operating and Maintenance Costs and Revenues Needs Projections for the Transportation 2035 (T2035) Plan, which incorporates comments received from various groups.

Glen Tepke (MTC) distributed and summarized the draft Transit Capital Needs Projections for the Transportation 2035 (T2035) Plan and explained the methodology behind the projections. Committee members

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recommended that the 10% Flexible Set-Aside assumptions be presented to the Transit Finance Working Group for further discussion.

6. c. Local Streets and Roads Needs and Shortfall Assessment

Theresa Romell (MTC) summarized the draft Local Streets and Roads Needs Projections for the Transportation 2035 (T2035) Plan. An outside consultant is evaluating local bridge needs. The numbers do not include deferred maintenance and operating & maintenance shortfall. Staff is seeking input from the Partners on additional investment options. Committee members expressed concern that the operating & maintenance assumption doesn't reflect the shortfall accurately and that the shortfall is significantly greater. Committee members requested that the investment to date in the Metropolitan Transportation System (MTS) be clearly identified.

6. d. MTC's Proposed Regional Projects/Programs for Transportation 2035 (T2035)

Raymond Kan (MTC) provided an update on the Call for Projects for T2035; the deadline to submit projects for consideration was March 5, 2008. Raymond reported on the proposed Regional Projects/ Programs for T2035. Projects and programs approved under the "prior commitments criteria" include ongoing regional operations programs – TransLink®, 511, FSP/Call Box, Freeway Operations, Arterial Signal Timing, Performance Monitoring, and Transit Connectivity along with funding committed to date to the regional transit expansion program under Resolution 3434. The proposed uncommitted regional projects/programs for consideration in the T2035 include: 1) Regional Bicycle Program (\$1.3B), 2) Lifeline Transportation Program (\$1.6B), 3) Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) (\$1.5B), 4) Freeway Performance Initiative (FPI) (\$1.3B), 5) Transportation Climate Action Campaign (\$184M for 5 years), 6) Regional Rail Right-of-Way Preservation (\$435M), and 7) Means-Based Transit Fare Assistance (\$1.2B). Project costs are shown in 2007 dollars; these costs will be escalated to year-of-expenditure dollars during the evaluation process. The proposed uncommitted regional projects/programs are subject to project evaluation and tradeoff discussions for determining the RTP financially constrained element. Lisa Klein (MTC) explained how the projects/programs would be evaluated, particularly against the T2035 targets. Comments should be submitted to Ashley Nguyen by March 21, 2008.

6. e. Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Transportation 2035 (T2035)

Ashley Nguyen (MTC) announced that MTC, as the lead agency, would prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Transportation 2035 Plan in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Notice of Preparation is intended to seek comments with specific detail about the scope and content of the environmental information that will be evaluated in the EIR. Two regional scoping meetings (March 10, 2008 and March 13, 2008) were held to solicit input on the scope and content of the Draft EIR. Comments must be received by MTC, Attn: Ashley Nguyen, no later than March 21, 2008.

6. f. Transportation 2035 Financial Constraint Policy

Theresa Romell (MTC) presented an update on the proposed framework for the financially constrained Transportation 2035 (T2035) and outlined the process and timeline for cost review and risk assessment for major capital projects in T2035. The revised preliminary T2035 revenue (financial constraint) is ~\$222.2B. Comments regarding the T2035 Financial Constraint Policy should be emailed to Theresa Romell at tromell@mtc.ca.gov as soon as possible.

6. g. Project Performance Evaluation Update

Lisa Klein (MTC) reported that the Transportation 2035 project performance assessment is underway. To help ensure consistency and transparency, the Partnership Ad Hoc Committee is expected to meet on March 25 upon reviewing a set of approximately 40 representative projects. Projects sponsors and CMAs will have an opportunity to conduct a technical review of the preliminary analysis results – both qualitative and quantitative – for their projects toward the end of April. Committee members requested that the transit ridership data be published upon conclusion of the performance evaluation assessment.

7. TLC Program Evaluation and Recommendations

Doug Johnson (MTC) summarized the findings and explained the methodology of the Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC)/Housing Incentive Program (HIP) program evaluation and presented MTC's proposed recommendations. Staff recommendations are as follows: 1) eliminate TLC Planning program and concentrate on

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Station Area Planning grant program, 2) eliminate HIP, but use housing as key evaluation factor in TLC criteria, 3) grow TLC program funding, 4) add new funding tools, and 5) use some funds to directly support FOCUS Priority Development Areas. The final draft of the evaluation is expected to be released by the end of March 2008.

8. Draft Lifeline Evaluation

Jennifer Yeamans (MTC) summarized the 3-year Lifeline Program Evaluation key findings and proposed recommendations. Based on the evaluation findings, staff are initially recommending that the future Lifeline program continue to be administered locally by the county congestion management agencies (CMAs), or other designated countywide agency, under policy direction from MTC, with the following changes that will be implemented over the next year: 1) streamline fund allocation and delivery, 2) revise program guidelines to make the project development process and fund eligibility clearer, 3) measure progress toward Lifeline goals, 4) pursue local mobility management strategies throughout the region, and 5) seek out new, more flexible funding sources. Staff anticipates the draft evaluation report will be available for review in April 2008, with final draft to be presented to the Commission in May 2008 and the next Call for Lifeline projects to occur in summer 2008. Committee members recommended for funding for bike/ped projects.

Information Items / Other Business**9. TIP Amendment Update**

Detailed information regarding the TIP and its amendments is available online at <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/tip/amendments.htm>.

10. Recommended Future Agenda Items

- Update on the CMAQ Minimum Share Amount

Proposed Next Meeting:

Monday, April 21, 2008

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

(NOTE: LOCATION CHANGE)

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority

1333 Broadway, Ste 300, Oakland 94607