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Deputy Executive Director, Policy

## Legislation Committee

July 11, 2008

### Minutes

Chair Rubin called the committee to order at 11:58 a.m. Members in attendance: Chu, Giacomini, Haggerty, Halsted, Lempert, Spering, Worth, and Yeager. Also in attendance: Commissioner Tissier.

### Minutes

Minutes of the June 13, 2008 meeting were approved following a motion by Commissioner Worth that was seconded by Commissioner Halsted.

### Legislative History

Ellen Griffin distributed the July 8 edition of the legislative history. In the interest of time, Ms. Griffin omitted a summary of the history and, instead, asked Rebecca Long to report on a fast-breaking bill in Sacramento that would significantly affect MTC long-range transportation plan.

For information, Rebecca Long said the California Building Industry Association and the California Major Builders Association are co-sponsoring, SB 303 (Ducheny), to require the adoption of two land use and development scenarios for regional transportation plans. SB 303 also contains a number of cumbersome and prescriptive requirements that would greatly affect MTC's workload and ability to adopt planning documents in a timely manner. SB 303 is an alternative to SB 375, Senator Steinberg's bill about climate change in the context of regional land use and transportation planning, a bill that MTC supports.

Ms. Long explained that MTC Chair Dodd and Legislation Committee Chair Rubin will use the Commission's urgency procedures to allow staff to communicate an oppose position on SB 303 to its author, and that staff will present the matter for consideration by the Commission at its meeting in July.

### State Legislation

*AB 2369 (Fuentes)* revises eligibility requirements for the federal Food Stamps program and the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), which is the state law implementing federal welfare reform legislation enacted in 1996. Specifically, the bill exempts the value of one automobile from a recipient's resource limit, thereby allowing more Food Stamps and CalWORKs recipients to own a personal automobile. Moved by Commissioner Worth and seconded by Commissioner Haggerty, the Committee passed a motion to support AB 2369 and referred to the Commission for its consideration at its July meeting.

*AB 2558 (Feuer)* authorizes MTC, and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, to place on the ballot for a majority vote passage two alternative fee options for up to 30 years — a) Up to 3 percent of the retail sales price on motor vehicle fuel. At a price of \$4.50 per gallon, the fee would be 13.5.cents per gallon; or (b) an annual per-vehicle fee not to

exceed \$90 for each vehicle registered in the Bay Area region that is to vary based on the emissions produced by the vehicle. Because Assemblyman Feuer was willing to include the San Francisco Bay Area in his AB 2558, and it was up for hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing, Commission Chair Dodd and Legislation Committee Chair Rubin used the Commission's urgency procedures to allow staff to communicate a position of "support" on AB 2558 prior to the Legislation Committee's meeting on July 11.

Commissioner Haggerty moved with a second from Commissioner Worth to ratify a position on AB 2558 of "support" and seek amendments to (1) specifically allow for the eligibility of streets and roads repair, and (2) require "return to source" such that the expenditure plan returns to each county an equitable share of the revenues derived from that county. The Committee passed the motion and referred the position to the Commission for its approval.

*The State Budget Update*

The item was received by the committee.

**Federal Legislation**

*Tom Bulger's Report* was received by the committee. Chair Rubin noted that work on transportation reauthorization would resume in the fall.

**Other Business/Public Comment/Adjourn**

There was no other business or public comment. The committee's next meeting was scheduled for Sept. 12, 2008. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.