

2009 Advisory Council Work Plan
DRAFT – Revised 11/13/08

Major Areas of Interest to the Advisory Council

Below is a list of major topic areas that have been identified to be of interest to the Advisory Council. Whenever an item under these topics is to be considered by MTC, Advisory Council would like the Commission to inform and consult with Advisory Council members. Advisory Council will not necessarily be developing in-depth recommendations in each of these areas, but will, at minimum, provide general input that will inform and shape staff recommendations and/or Commission actions.

1. Transportation and land use/Sustainability

- (a) Existing areas include TLC, Station Area Plans, TOD Evaluation, Resolution 3434, Parking Policy Study
- (b) Implementing and evaluating the regional vision (including consideration of proposals by TALC, the JPC, and other regional entities)
- (c) Interregional coordination and planning
- (d) FOCUS
- (e) Better integrating non-motorized transportation (bicycle, pedestrian and mobility devices) by way of routine accommodation implementation in transportation and land use facilities
- (f) Improve transit performance and convenience
 - Connectivity and coordination
 - Consolidation
 - Safety and efficiency for the elderly and disabled
- (g) Sustainable transportation - Take a close look at how MTC is already advancing sustainable transportation
 - i) Evaluate systems, policies, and technologies (past and projected) that advance sustainability;
 - ii) Look at effectiveness of past policies, as well as the progress they have made (performance measures and criteria)
 - iii) Fuel – investigate a fuel-use characterization study, future fuel availability scenarios and existing alternative fuel infrastructure
 - iv) Consider MTC role in encouraging teleworking

Questions of interest: What strategies can MTC employ to increase public support for compact development, infill and TOD projects? What role should MTC play in determining and influencing the cities' role in providing housing and livable communities? What can MTC do to dramatically increase transit ridership, walking and biking to protect environment and health? What would a sustainable transportation system look like, what are some appropriate indicators for us to evaluate whether we're working toward it, and what could MTC's role be in bringing that about?

2. Freeway system management

- (a) HOT lanes
- (b) Smart corridors/arterial management
- (c) Systemic freeway ramp metering and toll policy

3. Goods movement

- (a) Planning
- (b) Funding
- (c) Coordination with land use and truck traffic

Question of interest: How can industrial lands be preserved at key locations in order to ensure a reasonably efficient goods movement system?

4. Regional rail planning and implementation and California High-Speed Rail

- (a) Regional passenger rail
- (b) Regional freight rail
- (c) California high-speed rail

Questions of Interest: What are the next steps that MTC might take in regarding the Regional Rail Plan? Should the regional rail study look at the pros and cons of BART vs. conventional rail to serve the Fremont to San Jose corridor?

5. Project selection and programming

- (a) New infrastructure bonds.
- (b) STIP, STP, other.

6. Transportation Funding

- (a) What funding strategies, such as a gas tax or fee, could MTC pursue at the regional level, and what are appropriate and important regional needs to be funded?
- (b) Does it make sense for MTC to encourage alternative fuel use and if so, how might it do this? (See Sustainable Transportation below)
- (c) Near-term project readiness (in light of state and federal policy/budget)
- (d) Public/private partnerships

Questions of interest: What criteria should MTC use to prioritize allocation of new infrastructure bond funds (both transportation and housing), as well as any new discretionary regional funds that MTC may receive?

7. Transportation Economics and Pricing

8. Transportation 2035 Plan

9. Climate Change

- (a) Focus should always be on reducing the region's carbon footprint

Questions of Interest - How good a job is MTC doing to predict air pollution emissions from mobile sources and how does this affect our transportation investments? What policies consistent with “smart growth” can MTC implement to reduce global warming gas emissions? Addressing AB 32 (greenhouse gas emissions)

10. Legislation

- (a) Keep abreast on legislation affecting above topics
- (b) Federal Reauthorization

11. Business Outreach