



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3a

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*Memorandum*

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: January 5, 2009

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1114

RE: MTC Advisory Committee Appointments – Resolution No. 3516, Revised

The committee is asked to consider six appointments to its advisory committees: the appointment of Rita Foti to the Advisory Council to fill a vacancy in the engineering category; the appointment of Suzanne Levine to the Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC) to fill a vacancy in San Francisco; and the appointment of Luis Quinonez, Robert Liems, Dustin Daza and Wayne Lee to the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee (MCAC) to fill vacancies in Contra Costa County, Napa County, San Francisco and San Mateo County, respectively.

**Advisory Council**

Rita Foti holds an M.S. in Civil/Structural Engineering, is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and has 22 years of experience in the field of engineering. She has worked for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and Department of Public Works, and most recently was a project engineer for the Port of Oakland. Ms. Foti lists disaster response and goods movement among her areas of interest, and would like to see an increase in the use of public transit and public involvement in transit decision making. As chair and vice chair of this committee, Commissioners Rubin and Yeager have reviewed Ms. Foti's qualifications and support the appointment.

**Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee**

Suzanne Levine is past Executive Director for the National Center on Disability and Journalism, pioneering disability issues in the field of journalism education. In her current job as a GIS specialist for the SF Mayor's Office on Disability, she provides spatial analysis for disability access projects. Ms. Levine is interested in accessibility as it relates to linking pedestrians to public transportation. Commissioner Rubin has reviewed Ms. Levine's qualifications and supports the appointment.

**Minority Citizens Advisory Committee**

Luis Quinonez brings legislative and policy experience to the table, having worked on federal transportation reauthorization (SAFETEA) and currently as chief of staff for Contra Costa County Supervisor Susan Bonilla. As a board member of the Chicano-Latino Youth Leadership Project and a member of the Latino Foundation Young Professional Giving Circle, he demonstrates a strong presence in the Latino community. Commissioners Glover and Worth have reviewed Mr. Quinonez's qualifications and support the appointment.

Robert Liems is interested in transportation that maintains the independence of the elderly and disabled. While his focus is on elderly and disabled issues, his clear ties to community work in Napa County and his past business experience also makes him a good candidate for the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee. Commissioner Dodd has reviewed Mr. Liems' qualifications and supports the appointment.

Dustin Daza has served twice on San Francisco's Civil Grand Jury and is currently a member of the San Francisco Planning Urban Research Association. As a long-time San Francisco resident, he is very concerned and involved in transportation issues within and around the City. Commissioner Rubin has reviewed Mr. Daza's qualifications and supports the appointment.

Wayne Lee has a strong presence in the city of Millbrae where he lives and is currently the chair of the Millbrae Planning Commission. He works for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District assuring business compliance with air quality regulations. He is interested in finding ways to create better and smarter transportation and ultimately increase transit ridership. Commissioners Lempert and Tissier have reviewed Mr. Lee's qualifications and support the appointment.

All vacancy appointments would become effective upon Commission approval, and would complete the terms that expire on July 31, 2009.

Staff requests your recommendation of Ms. Foti to the Advisory Council; Ms. Levine to the Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee; and Messrs. Quinonez, Liems, Daza and Lee to the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee; and referral of Resolution No. 3516, Revised, to the Commission.

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Steve Heminger