



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Bill Dodd, Chair
Napa County and Cities

Scott Haggerty, Vice Chair
Alameda County

Tom Azumbrado
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Tom Bates
Cities of Alameda County

Dean J. Chu
Cities of Santa Clara County

Dave Cortese
Association of Bay Area Governments

Chris Daly
City and County of San Francisco

Dorene M. Giacopini
U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal D. Glover
Contra Costa County

Anne W. Halsted
San Francisco Bay Conservation
and Development Commission

Steve Kinsey
Marin County and Cities

Sue Lempert
Cities of San Mateo County

Jake Mackenzie
Sonoma County and Cities

Jon Rubin
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

Bijan Sartipi
State Business, Transportation
and Housing Agency

James P. Spering
Solano County and Cities

Adrienne J. Tissier
San Mateo County

Amy Worth
Cities of Contra Costa County

Ken Yeager
Santa Clara County

Steve Heminger
Executive Director

Ann Flemer
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director,
Bay Area Toll Authority

Therese W. McMillan
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

**PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2009
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Spering called the Planning Committee meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Other members in attendance were Commissioners Azumbrado, Dodd, Giacopini, Haggerty, Halsted, Lempert, Rubin, and Worth. Commissioner Bates and Tissier also attended.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Minutes of December 12, 2008

Commissioner Halsted moved approval, Commissioner Worth seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

TRANSPORTATION 2035: Overview of the Draft Conformity Analysis for Transportation 2035 Plan and 2009 Transportation Improvement Program/Amendment #09-06

Ms. Ashley Nguyen reported that MTC has prepared a transportation conformity analysis for the T2035 Plan and 2009 TIP/Amendment #09-06 in accordance with EPA conformity regulations and Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol codified in MTC Resolution 3757. MTC is required to demonstrate that our plans conform to the federal air quality plans known as the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Ms. Nguyen said that based on our draft analysis, staff will likely recommend the following positive conformity findings: (a) conformity analysis was prepared in accordance with EPA conformity regulations and Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol; (b) both the motor vehicle emissions in the T2035 Plan and 2009 TIP are lower than the emissions budget in the SIPs for the national 8-hour ozone standard and national carbon monoxide standard; (c) both the T2035 Plan and 2009 TIP as amended provide for the timely implementation of TCMs.

Ms. Nguyen stated that the Draft Conformity Analysis is subject to a 30-day public review period, which starts on January 9, 2009 and closes on February 9, 2009. Staff will prepare responses to written comments received, and consult with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force on the proposed final conformity analysis. Staff will return to this Committee and the Commission for approval of the proposed final report at the March meetings.

Committee Chair Spering commented on the list of projects, noting that it may be difficult to locate a project on the list, and asked how staff knows if something is missing. Ms. Nguyen stated that the project listing is provided as part of the report document. However, projects identified in both the Transportation 2035 Plan and 2009 Transportation Improvement Program are accessible through our project database. The TIP database (called FMS) is currently available online, and staff will create an online version for the Plan shortly.

Commissioner Worth asked if there are follow-up analyses that look at air quality impacts once a project (such as the Benicia-Martinez Bridge) is completed to see the before and after air quality effects. Ms. Nguyen replied that the Air District has monitoring stations around the region, and they do periodically look at specific areas and monitor the air quality, particularly in the Benicia-Martinez area where there are oil refineries.

Committee Chair Spering asked for a quick summary of next steps, which Ms. Nguyen provided.

TOD CHOICES STUDY

Ms. Valerie Knepper presented a PowerPoint presentation on an MTC study that analyzes why people choose to reside in a transit oriented development.

She stated that the study team started by holding several focus groups of individuals who had recently moved or were interested in moving soon to help understand various issues of interest. Staff then conducted a survey of over 900 individuals, asking about issues when choosing where to live within the Bay Area. The results of the survey were statistically analyzed to define six preference factors that are important to people when deciding where to live. These factors were combined with socioeconomic information to define eight potential user segments, which Mr. Chris Wornum, Cambridge Systematics, summarized.

Ms. Knepper stated that staff will be conducting a small follow-up questionnaire with a sample of the survey respondents from the TOD Potential user segments. The purpose of the follow-up interviews with the target segments will be to 1) improve understanding of how the TOD Potential user segments might respond to specific public policies intended to improvement attractiveness of TODs, and 2) gain qualitative, narrative information on the housing and travel choices of the respondents in the target user segments.

Staff will also hold two small workshops to seek input on potential public policies that support TODs. The workshops will share information among participants regarding the challenges of TOD, share the results of this study, propose TOD performance measures, and culminate in identifying the key public policies and actions to support TODs and the transportation effectiveness of TODs.

Commissioner Tissier asked if TODs can accommodate an aging population, since they have different needs. Mr. Wornum stated that there are a couple of market segments that are much older, without kids, or the kids have left home, and they are looking for a new place to downsize.

Commissioner Lempert commented on the home size, and location to transit. She noted that TODs can be less expensive especially considering less driving. She suggested that staff consider that as a marketing tool.

Commissioner Azumbrado expressed his concern with the disconnect of school and mass transit, and noted that the TODs look good, but the blend with other service needs is not there.

Commissioner Bates commented on schools, and stated that they must be good to attract families to TODs. He agreed with Commissioner Worth regarding attracting young professionals to TODs and make sure activities include parks, cafés, retail, lighting, etc. He also noted that Transit Village sounds better than TOD.

Committee Chair Spering expressed his concern about targeting on how staff develops TOD around one segment - it should be a community built around transit.

Commissioner Worth stated that there needs to be fundamental input regarding people's housing decisions.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee Chair Spering called for public comment. Mr. Bob Planthold stated that the headline newspapers are not covering news that affect the disabled populations. Some of the neglect of the disabled carries over into EIR analysis.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, CA.