



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3

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Memorandum

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: February 13, 2009 - Revised

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1114

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

The committee is asked to consider seven appointments to its advisory committees: the appointment of Dolores Jaquez, Marc Roddin, and Thora Worrell to the Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC) to fill a vacancy in Sonoma County and two in Santa Clara County, respectively; and the appointment of Ramesh Dhingra, Lee Pierce, David Rosas, and Jim Simon to the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee (MCAC) to fill a vacancy in Santa Clara County, two in Sonoma County and one in Solano County, respectively.

Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee

Dolores Jaquez is retired from her former work at the University of California (in the areas of staff development support of teachers and post-secondary education in low-income regions). She served on AC Transit's Board of Directors from November 2002 through to November 2006, as well as on the Oakland Planning Commission and the California Student Aid Commission. She has expressed an interest in improving interregional travel for Sonoma County residents, especially for those unable to drive. Commissioner Jake Mackenzie recommends her appointment to EDAC representing the elderly community of Sonoma County.

Marc Roddin is a former MTC employee with more than two decades of work on regional transportation planning, policy and funding issues. He authored portions of San Mateo County's first paratransit plan in the 1980s, and was MTC's liaison for Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. He is currently vice president of the South Bay Transportation Officials Association, and is interested in working on funding issues for capital improvement projects. His appointment to EDAC to represent the elderly community of Santa Clara County is supported by Commissioner Ken Yeager and Commissioner Dean Chu.

Thora Worrell has had a varied career involving residential loan assistance, strategic planning, public policy forecasting, public affairs management, information services, and English literature. At the community level, she has been a speaker and panel moderator for many groups and events, as well as a member of the Oakland Patrons of the Arts and Humanities and a member of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Her main interest is in improving access to a variety of transit facilities (bus, train, etc.) for elderly, disabled and low-income residents. Her appointment to represent the disabled community of Santa Clara County is also supported by Commissioners Yeager and Chu.

Minority Citizens Advisory Committee

Ramesh Dhingra has 20 years of experience in the field of transportation, most recently as a Systems Design Manager of Engineering for the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. He is interested in encouraging minority-owned businesses to participate in the MTC bidding process, increasing coverage of transportation issues in minority press, and assisting with the implementation of MTC's high school internship program. Commissioners Yeager and Chu are recommending him to represent the Asian community of Santa Clara County on MCAC.

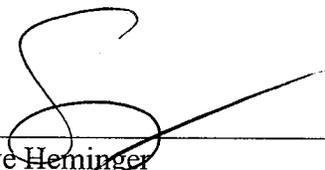
Lee Pierce is a former member of the Santa Rosa Planning Commission and previously served on the Santa Rosa City Council (including a term as Vice Mayor). He is interested in seeing increased ridership on city/county bus systems through increased routes and frequency, as well as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through reduction of vehicle miles traveled. His past work on the Sonoma County Workforce Investment Board, Private Industry Council, Office of Education, Council on Aging, and the North Bay Black Chamber of Commerce makes him a strong representative of the Sonoma County community. Commissioner Jake Mackenzie supports his appointment to MCAC representing the African American community of Sonoma County.

David Rosas is a grant writer and fundraiser for California Human Development, a human service organization that assists people with education, training, criminal justice alternatives, housing and other services in Northern California. His strong ties to the Latino community in his region make him well qualified to open and maintain a dialogue with Latinos on transportation issues in his county. He would like to see a uniform system of public transportation that is easy to navigate and well connected in order to provide the best service to its customers. He also feels cities and communities should be designed with a public transportation focus. Commissioner Mackenzie is recommending him to represent the Latino community of Sonoma County on MCAC.

Jim Simon is currently a member of the Solano County PCC (and served twice as its chair), and served on MTC's Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee for 5 years. He is the co-founder of Vacaville Ride with Pride (now under Faith in Action), which provides transportation to medical or social services for non-driving seniors or persons with a debilitating, chronic illness. He is interested in improving interregional transportation to and from Solano County. Commissioner Jim Sperring supports his appointment to MCAC representing the African American community of Solano County.

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. Jaquez, Mr. Roddin and Ms. Worrell to the Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee; and Messrs. Dhingra, Pierce, Rosas and Simon to the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee; and referral of Resolution No. 3516, Revised, to the Commission.



Steve Heminger