



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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

Memorandum

TO: Planning Committee

DATE: March 6, 2009

FR: Executive Director

W. I.

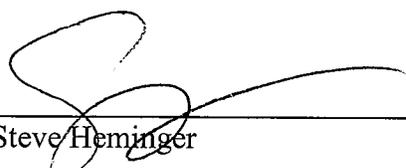
RE: Transportation 2035: Postponement of Plan Adoption

After two years of outreach, policy debates, investment trade-off discussions, and technical analyses, the Draft Transportation 2035 Plan was released for public review on December 19, 2008. Our partner agencies and members of the public have provided the Commission with a number of comment letters and oral comments (via the two January public hearings and Planning Committee meetings) on the Draft Plan. MTC staff has prepared responses to written comments received by the March 2, 2009 close of comment period as well as late comments, and we have provided an overview of the key messages heard at your February 13 Planning Committee meeting. Many of the comments did not require substantive changes to the Draft Plan, and the revisions identified thus far in response to comments are mainly technical revisions or corrections. MTC staff was on track to prepare the proposed Final Transportation 2035 Plan, and companion Environmental Impact Report and Conformity Analysis, for Commission action in March.

However, MTC staff is proposing to postpone the adoption of the Final Plan in light of two recent actions:

- The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) staff presented to their Board new information about the Measure A program, including a new 65% design cost estimate for the BART to Silicon Valley extension and a revised sales tax revenue forecast, on February 27, 2009 – one working day prior to the March 2 close of comment period on the Draft Transportation Plan.
- Recent actions by Sacramento lawmakers on the State budget, particularly multi-year cuts in State Transit Assistance (STA) funding for transit operations, warrant further consideration of how to address these in the Transportation 2035 Plan.

Staff will present a revised schedule for plan adoption at your March 13 committee meeting.



Steve Heminger

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