



**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: Administration Committee

DATE: April 1, 2009

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1125

RE: Resolution No. 3899 - FY 2009-10 Caltrans Planning Grants

As part of the FY2009-10 Caltrans Planning Grants cycle, Caltrans is requiring applicants for the Environmental Justice grant program to adopt a local resolution authorizing the agency to enter into a contract with Caltrans, should they be awarded a grant. Grant awards will be announced in late Summer 2009. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is applying as a sub-applicant through MTC for an Environmental Justice Planning grant for “Engaging Underserved Communities in the Sustainable Communities Strategy”. The grant would fund the creation of an outreach program focusing on equity and quality of life in the SB 375 process and the creation of the Sustainable Communities Strategy. The grant would fund a targeted effort to make sure that under-served communities and their needs are a part of the planning process.

Caltrans requires the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in each region to apply on behalf of non-profits and other public entities for the environmental justice grant program. Once Caltrans has selected projects for funding, Caltrans directs the funds through the MPOs to the selected sub-applicants who are responsible for performing the work. Should this grant be awarded, MTC will enter into a funding agreement with ABAG to pass the awarded monies through to them.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Administration Committee refer to the full commission for approval, MTC Resolution No. 3899, authorizing MTC to accept funds from Caltrans for an environmental justice planning grant related to “Engaging Underserved Communities in the Sustainable Communities Strategy” and further authorizing the Executive Director or his designee to enter into a funding agreement with Caltrans, should the grant be awarded and subject to future amendment of the Agency Budget and Overall Work Program (OWP) to include this grant.

Steve Heminger

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