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TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Apr. 2, 2009

Chair Paul Branson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Members in attendance: Ken Altenburger, Joe Bischofberger, Eleanor Bloch, Myrtle Braxton, Richard Burnett, David Grant, Rich Hedges, Dolores Jaquez, Julio Lacayo, Suzanne Levine, Marshall Loring, Joshua Miele, Marc Roddin, Doug Weir, Thora Worrell, Craig Yates. Excused: Janet Abelson, Dennis Trenten.

Public Comment from Audience Members

Don Rothblatt, MTC Advisory Council, commented on Assembly Bill (AB) 1135. He noted that the bill is a golden opportunity for lowering vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and increasing transit use. He asked the committee to consider a resolution to present to the Commission asking the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to create supplementary materials educating the public about VMT and including it in the vehicle registration mailings.

Minutes

Minutes of the Mar. 5, 2009 meeting were approved after a motion by Mr. Miele and a second by Mr. Hedges. Abstaining: Ms. Braxton, Mr. Roddin.

Member Updates

Ms. Levine announced that the San Francisco Mayor's Disability Council is having community-based organization (CBO) meetings regarding emergency preparedness. They are looking for organizations that want to participate. Also, she discussed a DVD from The Lighthouse for the Blind Independent Living Resource Center about how the issue of cars parked on sidewalks affects mobility for people with disabilities.

### Advisory Council Report

Mr. Grant reported that the big discussion issue at the March meeting was stimulus funding. The Council discussed increasing small business participation in the contracting process by encouraging MTC to adopt new bidding criteria.

### Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Hedges announced that the *Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee* is moving toward a new phase by focusing on TOD-related policy issues and legislation. He announced that Assembly Member Fiona Ma is seeking support for her Tax Increment Financing for Transit Oriented Development (TIF for TOD) bill (AB 338) and the subcommittee is looking for support of the policy statement.

He also announced that the subcommittee created a policy statement – EDAC Policy on Reproduction of Material Using MTC Logo or Letterhead – and asked the committee to approve the policy. He noted that it was good etiquette to request permission to use MTC’s logo on any EDAC-created documents. Mr. Miele expressed concern and noted that a similar policy may already exist within MTC. Ms. Vogler noted that nothing formal exists currently, and that if EDAC passes the policy today, she would work with the Advisory Council and Minority Citizens Advisory Committee staff liaisons to create a policy for all three MTC advisory committees. Mr. Bischofberger moved to adopt the policy, with a second from Mr. Loring. The motion was passed with Mr. Miele opposing and no abstentions.

*Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee* Chair Burnett announced that the subcommittee will focus on two projects in the near term: 1) Search for existing basic emergency response plans in the Bay Area; and 2) Create a GIS base map with paratransit data.

Mr. Burnett mentioned that in response to the new emergency preparedness scoring criteria for the 2009 Section 5310 application process, he will work with MTC staff to collect data from local nonprofits working on emergency planning.

*Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee* Chair Grant mentioned that they are working to build a base of support for a Regional Pedestrian Plan to be included as part of the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). They are working to create a series of activities and projects, including pedestrian counts, for inclusion in the next RTP. Since the comment period for Transportation 2035 was reopened, Mr. Grant asked the committee to support

language he drafted to submit as public comment, asking the Commission to include a Regional Pedestrian Plan in the next RTP. Mr. Hedges moved to support the language, seconded by Mr. Bischofberger. The motion passed unanimously.

*Accessible Technology Subcommittee* Chair Miele announced the subcommittee will meet after EDAC, and also noted interest in renaming the subcommittee.

*Mobility Management Subcommittee* Co-Chair Branson announced that their next meeting will be held in May; Jennifer Yeamans of MTC staff will join the subcommittee's upcoming meetings.

### Chair's Report

Chair Branson encouraged members to attend the April 8 Joint Advisors meeting on the Transportation 2035 Plan revisions. He also welcomed EDAC's newest member, Marc Roddin. Mr. Roddin noted he is a former MTC staff member; he is representing the elderly community of Santa Clara County.

### Staff Liaison Report – Ms. Vogler's announcements:

- Ms. Vogler will send out a subcommittee meetings matrix;
- The Joint Advisors meeting is April 8 at 2 p.m. The comment period is intended for the revisions; and
- Advisory Committee member terms may be extended to December 2009; vacancies will not be filled if extensions are approved by the Commission.

### Legislative Report

Rebecca Long of MTC staff reported that AB 20 (3x) was signed into law. The legislation will provide more flexibility with federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding. Most of the money would have gone to Caltrans, but the legislation now directs 67 percent to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Also included is a guarantee that money used to backfill Proposition 1B projects will be repaid by the state.

Ms. Long noted that MTC is sponsoring two bills: AB 744 (Torricco) and AB 1175 (Torlakson) – Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program. If approved, AB 744 would create a High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane network in the Bay Area. Also of note, the commission took a "support" position on AB 628

(Block) – Pay-by-Plate Toll Collection Authorization, and a “support and seek amendments” position on AB 1135 (Skinner) – VMT: Odometer Reporting Requirements.

*Member comment:*

Mr. Hedges asked how much money California is getting from the overall stimulus funding amount. Ms. Long said about ten percent, or about \$5 billion. Mr. Yates noted that when the HOT lane network was originally presented to advisory committee members six years ago, the revenue collected from tolls would go directly to public transportation, but actually if approved, the HOT lane network would control the revenues, not MTC. Ms. Long said Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) also want some control over the revenues, and that the bill will try to keep revenues in the corridors where they are created. The bill’s language, however, attempts to give priority to transit after the costs of building the network have been paid. Mr. Roddin asked how government vehicles would be included in AB 1135. Mr. Lacayo noted that state vehicles are already required to log and report mileage on a daily and monthly basis. Ms. Braxton asked what regions are currently being developed as “test sites” for the HOT lane network. Ms. Long said corridors along 580 and 680 in Alameda County and corridors along 85 and 880 in Santa Clara County. Mr. Yates asked if certain federal funding depends on whether or not HOT lanes are developed. Ms. Long said no.

Revised New Freedom Program Guidelines

Kristen Mazur of MTC staff presented program guidelines on the New Freedom program. The program provides grants for new capital and operational projects aimed at reducing transportation barriers faced by individuals with disabilities beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

*Member comment:*

Mr. Hedges asked what cities qualify for the program. Page two of the Attachment contains a map that outlines the cities that qualify. Ms. Levine asked if a project had to serve the entire area outlined in the map. Ms. Mazur said no, cities outside the area can apply for funds if they provide services that allow access into the area. Chair Branson asked what was meant by feeder services. Ms. Mazur said it meant services that connected to a fixed route.

Mr. Miele noted that the lag between project approval and funding is very long, and asked if the new funding cycle would address that lag. Ms. Mazur noted that the lag may be due to the fact that the program was new and contract templates didn't exist. Mr. Miele asked if any ARRA funding would go to the program. Ms. Mazur said no.

#### Other Business, Next Meeting

There was no other business. The next EDAC meeting was scheduled for May 7, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.