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MINORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes – April 14, 2009

Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 3:20 p.m. Those in attendance were Chair James McGhee and Dustin Daza of San Francisco; Vice Chair Darnell Turner, Luis Quinonez and Michael Rubiano of Contra Costa County; Jacquee Castain and Carlos Castellanos of Alameda County; Raphael Durr and Charles Rivasplata of Marin County; Robert Liems of Napa County; Wayne Lee and Carlos Romero of San Mateo County; Michael Lopez of Santa Clara County; Jim Simon of Solano County; Lee Pierce and David Rosas of Sonoma County; Randi Kinman, Low Income Representative; and Michael D'Augelli, Native American Representative. Gerald Rico of Napa County, Harvey Louie of San Francisco, Bill Allen of San Mateo County and Dawn Love, Low Income Representative, were excused.

MTC staff in attendance included Teri Green, Pam Grove, Doug Johnson, Georgia Lambert, Denise Rodrigues and Jennifer Yeamans. Cathy Jackson, MTC Advisory Council chair, Bob Planthold, MTC Advisory Council vice chair, and Don Rothblatt, Advisory Council member, were also in attendance.

Meeting Minutes

The March 10, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

Vice Chair Turner welcomed Kordnie Lee, MTC's new High School Internship Coordinator, and she provided a brief background of her experience.

MCAC Member Reports

High School Internship Subcommittee: Subcommittee Chair Jacquee Castain reported that the subcommittee met just prior to the MCAC meeting. There are still three counties that have no applicants (Napa, Solano and Sonoma), and Marin only has one applicant. The Workforce Investment Board may fund internships in addition to the 25 positions funded by MTC. Applications for high school internship positions are available on MTC's Web site; the application deadline is April 22.

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MCAC Member Reports (Continued)

Advisory Council: Chair McGhee reported that the Advisory Council received a report on greenhouse gases and an update on the MTC economic recovery proposal – transit projects. He also reported that Ms. Jackson, Advisory Council Chair, requested that each subcommittee review its work plan to better engage the range of stakeholders represented on the Council. Ms. Green and Ms. Rodrigues presented information on the updated DBE program (see below).

Equity Analysis Subcommittee: Ms. Kinman, subcommittee chair, reported that the Equity Analysis subcommittee met on March 26 and is still working on developing its work plan for an equity snapshot and how it would be measured.

Update on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program

Teri Green, MTC Director of Administrative & Technology Services, and Denise Rodrigues, MTC staff, provided an update on the implementation of Caltrans' new statewide DBE program, which takes effect June 2, 2009. It affects all projects that receive federal funds. MTC will implement measures to comply with the statewide program changes. Significant changes were detailed in the April packet, including the 13.5 percent overall goal, with 6.75 percent race neutral and 6.75 percent race conscious/contract goals.

Ms. Rodrigues announced that a public participation meeting on April 22 from 4 to 6 p.m. will provide an opportunity for DBEs to provide input on each agency's contracting opportunities. Caltrans and FTA will have representatives at the meeting. There was a successful certification event on March 23 and the Business Outreach Committee is planning two more events, one in the South Bay and one in the East Bay. Chair McGhee stated MTC staff has worked very hard under difficult restraints and he is grateful for the Caltrans disparity study and the opportunities for women and minorities that it has opened. Mr. D'Augelli echoed Chair McGhee's thanks and said he had seen information about the changes and regulations in the media. Ms. Green said there should be more outreach to all of the DBEs as soon as implementation begins June 2.

Mr. Durr inquired about Prop. 209 and what the state of California is doing about implementing a disparity study. He feels the certification process is discriminatory to minorities because other applicants don't need to provide so much information. Ms. Green stated that should minorities choose not to be certified, they need not provide the extra information and can submit a bid like anyone else. The certification provides a competitive edge for smaller and minority contractors should they choose to go through the process of getting certified. Mr. Rubiano inquired about the bidding process – best value vs. low bid - and how the goal percentages will be measured. Ms. Green said that the percentage will be cumulative, that each project will not necessarily need to have 13.5 percent minority participation. Mr. Rubiano asked how MCAC and MTC can help minority firms with certification, accounting, bonding, insurance, etc. and suggested that mentor/protégée relationships would be helpful. Mr. Pierce said that he brought eight or nine

Update on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program (Continued)

people to the March DBE workshop and the DBE certification process certainly seemed onerous. A larger critical mass of applicants is needed, it was agreed.

Ms. Kinman said that staff has been conducting workshops and training sessions and we are positioned better now thanks to the work of the Contracting Subcommittee. She thanked staff for all of their work and reiterated that certification gives women and minorities a competitive edge. Chair McGhee said he thought the certification process was fairly easy, just a matter of providing boilerplate information. Businesses and chambers will be helpful in assisting with funding and the various processes, such as insurance and bonding, he said. The state should now follow the federal example, he said, and MTC seems to be on the right track to make a difference in favor of minorities and women. Mr. Romero asked if the presence of federal funding in a project meant that the minority goals needed to be followed and Ms. Green said yes. He also inquired about local hiring and Section 3 requirements. Ms. Green said there are numerous regulations attached by the federal government to the stimulus funds and MTC as an agency is passing along that information to whoever is getting stimulus funding.

Bay Area Housing and Transportation Affordability Analysis

Jennifer Yeamans, MTC staff, introduced Mary Choca Urban, program director of transportation and community development with the Center for Neighborhood Technology, an independent research center, based in Chicago. She stated that many parts of the Bay Area are transit-rich and provided an update on the neighborhood-level Bay Area Housing and Transportation Affordability study currently under way. All statistics are based on the 2000 Census. Three communities (downtown Oakland, San Mateo and Antioch) were selected as case studies (see detailed information in the April packet).

Mr. Castellanos said that although transit may be located in a community, it may not be serving the community's needs. It was agreed that a full report on this study would be helpful for the Equity Analysis snapshot. MCAC members pointed out that people need jobs near transit and that there are very few jobs in the transit villages. Mr. Lopez asked how Oakland, San Mateo and Antioch were picked for the case study (MTC staff selected those cities based on geographic diversity – urban, suburban and exurban).

Staff Report

Ms. Grove announced that Marissa Cravens with ABAG will be speaking at MCAC's May meeting to discuss how questions from MCAC have been incorporated in ABAG's studies. Ramesh Dhingra, recently appointed to MCAC as one of the Santa Clara County representatives,

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Staff Report (Continued)

had to resign from MCAC due to his wife's health problems. She said that final adoption of the Transportation 2035 Plan is slated for the April 22 Commission meeting. MTC's Legislation Committee has referred to the Commission an extension of the current advisors' terms through December 2009 (current terms expire July 31, 2009). If the Commission approves the request, recruitment for the next two-year cycle of advisors would begin in the fall, with new terms beginning in January 2010.

Tentatively scheduled subcommittee meetings include Contracting on Tuesday, April 28 from 3 to 5 p.m. (subsequently postponed); Equity Analysis on Thursday, April 30 from 3 to 5 p.m.; and High School Internship on Tuesday, May 12 from 2:15 to 3 p.m. All meetings are slated to take place in the "Fishbowl" Conference Room on the third floor.

Other Business/Public Comment

Ms. Castain encouraged all MCAC members to help get youths to apply for high school internship positions, especially from Solano, Sonoma, Napa and Marin counties.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.