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Programming and Allocations Committee
May 13, 2009
Minutes

Chair Kinsey called the meeting to order at approximately 11:02 a.m. Committee members present were: Commissioners Bates, Cortese, Daly, Dodd, Glover, and Sartipi. Other Commissioners present were: Chu, Giacopini, Haggerty, Halsted, Lempert, Mackenzie, Rein-Worth, Rubin, and Tissier.

Consent Calendar

The Committee approved the following consent items:

- Minutes of March 4, 2009 meeting as submitted;
- FY 2009-10 State Transit Assistance (STA) Regional Discretionary Program. MTC Resolution No. 3904;
- Revisions to the Second Cycle Lifeline Program of Projects. MTC Resolution No. 3881, Revised;
- Revisions to FY 2008-09 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307 and 5309 Program and AB664 Bridge Toll Allocations to reflect final federal appropriations. MTC Resolution Nos. 3854, Revised, 3855, Revised, and 3872, Revised;
- 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments 2009-17, and 2009-18. MTC Resolution No 3875, Revised;
- Request to hold a public hearing for the proposed reassignment of RM2 funds from the BART Tube Seismic Strengthening project to the Oakland Airport project;
- Regional Measure 2 and Express Bus Operating Program and Allocation Revision for FY 2008-09. MTC Resolution Nos. 3674, Revised, 3853, Revised, and 3863, Revised;
- New Freedom Program Guidelines. MTC Resolution No. 3905.

Federal

- Draft Transit Capital Priorities Process and Criteria for FY 2009-10 through FY 2011-12. MTC Resolution No. 3908.

Glen Tepke, Programming and Allocations, presented the Transit Capital Priorities Policy and Program for FY 2010-12 and proposed several new policy elements of which included: \$150 million vehicle reserve to address upcoming significant vehicle procurements; \$50 million in a preventive maintenance reserve to address budget challenges over a three-year period; and fixed guideway caps to acknowledge vehicle replacement priority and to account for relative needs and multi-year flexibility. Staff will present the final proposed policy at the next Committee meeting on June 10, with a recommendation that the Commission adopt the policy and program at its meeting on June 24.

Dean Chu, MTC Commissioner, asked what resources are available to fill the \$4 billion gap on the fixed guideway shortfalls and Mr. Tepke explained that local measure funds, TDA funds, and economic stimulus funds are potential options. However, he noted that given that these sources are largely committed to other projects, maintenance on fixed guideway is usually deferred to fit the capital budget.

Amy Rein-Worth, MTC Commissioner, asked if this is the first time that this plan has shifted capital money into preventive maintenance operations (an expense) or have we done this in the past. Mr. Tepke responded that this is not the first time; but, staff is proposing that we direct more money than usual. The actual change is the addition of \$50 million in the preventive maintenance reserve. Alix Bockelman, Director, MTC Programming and Allocations, added that during the last recession the region had in 2003, there was an exception to the policy that was created in working with all the operators and MTC deferred capital for the entire region, for one year, and allowed the money to go into preventive maintenance.

- Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): MTC Resolution Nos. 3885, Revised, and 3896, Revised.

Alix Bockelman, Programming and Allocations, presented the proposed revisions to Resolution Nos. 3885 and 3896, including redirecting \$15.3 million towards Tier 2 transit needs; adding various local Streets and Roads System Preservation projects in response to the Commission's action in April that added \$23.5 million in State-Element ARRA funding for these projects; and adding the San Mateo US 101 Belmont bike bridge project in its place.

Sue Lempert, MTC Commissioner, commented that the US 101 Belmont bike bridge will provide a safe and convenient means of crossing.

Steve Kinsey, MTC Commissioner, requested that when we move this agenda item to full Commission, we make it subject to funding actions that occur at the CTC meeting on May 14.

Scott Haggerty, MTC Commissioner, asked why the rehabilitation projects are broken out by project for all counties except for Alameda County. Ms. Bockelman responded that staff has not yet received any specific projects for Alameda County.

Regional

- Progress Updates on the Dumbarton Rail Project and Regional Measure 2 (RM2) Capital Program Update.

Anne Richman, Programming and Allocations, provided an update on the status and progress of the Dumbarton Rail Project.

Jim Bigelow, San Mateo County Transportation Authority and Redwood City Chamber of Commerce, provided a handout showing the 25-year renewed measure, noting that the last page shows an additional \$30 million for this project and requested that MTC's report be updated to reflect \$80 million.

Mr. Bigelow noted that despite the project shortfall, he is very optimistic. The Redwood City Chamber of Commerce would appreciate future help in achieving their goal which will likely be a phased project. Mr. Bigelow further stated that the adoption of a preferred alternative by fall will bring the project to a state of readiness for stimulus money.

Sue Lempert, MTC Commissioner, expressed the importance of this project, noting that many communities are moving forward with station area plans and the Dumbarton Rail project represents an important transportation improvement for the people of the East Palo Alto community.

Shruti Hari, Programming and Allocations, reported on the progress of the capital projects in the Regional Measure 2 program.

- Proposed allocation of approximately \$7.4 million in RM2 Capital funds. MTC Resolution Nos. 3819, Revised, and 3909.

Shruti Hari, Programming and Allocations, reported that to date MTC has allocated approximately \$898 million of the \$1.5 billion capital program and staff is proposing \$7.4 million for capital allocation the Vallejo Station Intermodal Facility (\$4.4 million towards the construction of the bus transit center portion) and the Transbay Commute Ferry Service (\$3 million for WETA to purchase/construct two ferry vessels for use in the planned South San Francisco ferry service).

Steve Kinsey, MTC Commissioner, asked for clarification on where the Proposition 1B bond funds would be directed if brought back to the Committee for action. Ms. Bockelman responded that the funding that WETA is relying on is very specific to WETA (Prop 1B security money) and staff's proposal is trying to address their specific cash flow issues and the fact that they are not getting the bond funding. The MTC staff proposed to provide, WETA with RM2 funds until such time that the security money becomes available.

California Transportation Commission Update

The Committee received, in writing, updates on the California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting held on April 15 and 16 in Sacramento.

Public Comment

Commissioner Kinsey adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:57 a.m.