



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3

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Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 5, 2009

Chair Paul Branson called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. Members in attendance: Janet Abelson, Eleanor Bloch, Myrtle Braxton, Richard Burnett, David Grant, Rich Hedges, Dolores Jaquez, Julio Lacayo, Suzanne Levine, Marshall Loring, Marc Roddin, Dennis Trenten, and Craig Yates. Excused: Ken Altenburger, Joe Bischofberger, and Thora Worrell.

Chair Branson announced that Pam Grove of MTC staff was filling in for Ms. Vogler, who was absent.

Audience Member Self-introductions

Naomi Armenta, ACTIA

Bob Planthold, California Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wendy Alfsen, California Walks

Public Comment from Audience Members

There was no public comment.

Minutes

Chair Branson asked that the October minutes be corrected where Quest is referenced — the correct name of the agency is Outreach/Escort. The minutes as corrected by Chair Branson were approved after a motion by Mr. Hedges and a second by Ms. Bloch. Chair Branson and Mr. Roddin abstained since they were absent from the October meeting.

Member Updates

Mr. Loring enjoyed the Mobility Management Group meeting in San Rafael on November 3. He has business cards for the keynote speaker, David Cyra.

Ms. Abelson attended Railvolution in Boston, where she made a presentation on TODs (transit-oriented developments) and people with disabilities. She also hosted a tour with Commissioner Giacomini on the “T” — Boston’s subway system — to illustrate how difficult it is for people with disabilities to use the system.

Ms. Jaquez also attended the Mobility Management Group meeting, and congratulated Chair Branson for a successful meeting.

Ms. Bloch announced that she spent the last week in Sacramento working at the California Senior Legislature. She noted that the number one concern for seniors is transportation.

Mr. Burnett noted that the second Solano County Senior and Disabled Transportation Summit was a success. As a result of the summit, the Solano Transportation Authority introduced an inter-city taxi plan to serve the senior and disabled population. He shared a newspaper article on the taxi plan.

Mr. Hedges announced that the Sierra Club endorsed the Station Park Green TOD in San Mateo in its latest newsletter.

Mr. Roddin announced that the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority will have to revise its budget again and will have to implement further cuts in weekend service, possibly increase fares again and spend its reserves.

Mr. Lacayo asked members to save the date of November 16 for the Contra Costa County for Every Generation annual senior summit in Lafayette. He will e-mail members with transit information for the event.

Mr. Loring noted that the Station Park Green TOD is next to the Caltrain station parking lot and is also nearby the SamTrans bus line that goes all the way to San Francisco.

Mr. Grant announced that the November 4 Chronicle reported on a study regarding transportation costs in the Bay Area. Mr. Loring will e-mail the report to members.

### Advisory Council Report

Mr. Grant reported that there was a presentation on why people live in TODs — the TOD Choice Study. Ms. Abelson asked for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation made at the September Planning Committee meeting. Ms. Grove will check if staff can present the study at the December EDAC meeting, and she will forward a copy of the presentation to members.

### Subcommittee Reports

*Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee* Co-Chair Hedges announced that members met with Ursula Vogler, Doug Kimsey, Doug Johnson and Rebecca Long of MTC staff to move EDAC's TOD policy forward. He noted that a very similar policy will be put into MTC's TLC (Transportation for Livable Communities) program. He also mentioned that Doug Kimsey will attend the subcommittee's meeting. Mr. Loring thanked staff for their work on the policy. Ms. Abelson and Mr. Branson congratulated TLU's co-chairs for their work.

*Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee* Chair Burnett announced that the subcommittee will meet next month. He also noted that he attended MTC's Regional Emergency Transportation Tabletop Exercise on October 13. He noted that the various transit agencies that attended still need to work on addressing the issues of the special needs population in case of a major emergency. Ms. Bloch noted that there are legislators who are interested in this topic, particularly Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, who is trying to find funding to address their needs. Ms. Levine reminded members to tell agencies that do emergency preparedness work to register with the regional FEMA office.

*Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee* Chair Grant announced that the Regional Pedestrian Summit will be held on January 29, 2010. The subcommittee is finalizing plans for the summit. On a different note, Mr. Lacayo asked if members had been able to access the SWITRS data he e-mailed last month. Members said no. Mr. Lacayo will continue working on gaining access to the data.

*Mobility Management Subcommittee* Co-Chair Branson announced that the subcommittee will meet after the EDAC meeting.

### Chair's Report

Chair Branson congratulated Mr. Grant and the Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee for their work on the summit. He asked EDAC members to consider what must be addressed before the committee is consolidated. He said that regardless of the shape of the new committee, he hopes that members will continue to make their voices heard. He also announced plans to have a party at the committee's last meeting. Ms. Levine asked what happened to the information accessibility policy that members had worked on. Ms. Lara said she will try to get it on the agenda for December.

### Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Grove presented Ms. Vogler's report. She announced that staff will ask the Commission to extend member's terms until the new committee is in place.

### *Member comment:*

Mr. Roddin asked if there is an estimate on the transition period and recruitment. Ms. Grove said recruitment will take about two months and staff is planning for the first meeting of the new committee to happen in April. Regarding the proposed toll hike, Mr. Hedges asked if there would be a toll for carpools. Ms. Grove said that one of the options is to charge \$3 for carpools. Mr. Yates asked if there would be discounts for the disabled, like Golden Gate Transit. Ms. Grove said that is not included in the proposals, but told Mr. Yates he could submit that as a comment.

### Legislative Report

Rebecca Long of MTC staff said, regarding the CTA lawsuit, that the court must still submit a plan on how the state will repay the money to transit agencies. She announced that the 2010 Draft Legislative Program will be presented at the Legislation Committee meeting on November 13. She said the Program is essentially a repeat of this year because a lot was not accomplished. Of note, staff will work to introduce legislation 1) to increase toll enforcement and 2) to remove accessibility-exemptions for townhomes in TODs.

On the federal level, she reported that S. 1733 (Kerry/Boxer), the cap-and-trade legislation in the U.S. Senate, passed out of committee without

Republican votes. She mentioned that the bill has money for transportation — approximately 2.4 percent or \$1.5 billion — which is progress considering the House bill had no funding guarantees. She also mentioned that there is talk of a second stimulus bill, and if it happens, staff will work to secure funding for the region.

On the state level, Ms. Long reported that a number of measures have been introduced for the November 2010 ballot. MTC is helping fund a joint transportation/redevelopment funding measure to protect the money from diversions.

*Member comment:*

Ms. Braxton asked what the problem is with reading paper license plates and toll enforcement. Ms. Long said there is no way to register these plates as they go through the toll lanes. Mr. Lacayo asked how much toll revenue is lost due to toll evasion. Ms. Long said that an estimated \$22 million per year, including the toll and the penalty fee. Mr. Lacayo noted that the DMV's current license plate system of issuing paper plates for new cars is to avoid the loss of the actual plates. Mr. Roddin asked how much funding is estimated to come to the area from S. 1733. Ms. Long said about \$30 million for transit and \$53 million for planning.

TLC Scoring Criteria

Therese Knudsen of MTC staff presented draft scoring criteria for MTC's Transportation for Livable Communities project. She mentioned that EDAC's TOD policy was included in the scoring criteria.

*Member comment:*

Ms. Levine asked if path-of-travel and housing accessibility were included, and she recommended including "universal design" language in the criteria. Ms. Knudsen said path-of-travel and housing accessibility were included, but not universal design. Mr. Loring asked what kind of criteria would be used on project delivery. Ms. Knudsen said it is based on the jurisdiction's past TLC experience. Mr. Yates recommended adding a bonus point for projects that include 50 percent universal design. Mr. Hedges noted that certain types of housing do not have any accessibility standards, so the criteria should not limit the ability to build, but make sure accessibility standards are fulfilled. Ms. Braxton asked to give priority to projects that include universal design.

Mr. Roddin recommended removing 15 points from design principles under project impact and moving them to the other two project impact criteria because it would give more emphasis to alternative modes of transportation. Ms. Knudsen said the reason for the allocation is to get the planning staff and the public works staff to work together. Ms. Abelson thanked staff for making accessibility a requirement. Ms. Levine noted it is important to get the designers and public works staff to work together because it saves money in the long run.

Mr. Hedges noted that developers are beginning to realize that there is money to be made in accessible TOD design. He also recommended creating a check-off list before the final payment is given to the project. Ms. Alfsen recommended including affordable housing into the language of the criteria. Mr. Grant recommended that a review process be implemented after the project is completed. Ms. Levine noted that in San Francisco if a project does not meet the criteria it must be redone at the expense of the party who made the mistake.

### STP/CMAQ Funding

Craig Goldblatt of MTC staff presented the final draft for Cycle 1 STP/CMAQ funding proposal, which was presented to the Programming and Allocations Committee on November 4.

#### *Member comment:*

Mr. Yates asked if the proposal includes bike funding in the transit capital category. Mr. Goldblatt said no since it is funding for transit capital replacement purposes. Ms. Abelson asked if priority would be given to utilitarian bicycle trips vs. recreational in the bicycle program. Mr. Goldblatt said the regional bike program would be funded through CMAQ, and those funds cannot be used for recreational facilities. This requirement comes from the FHWA. Mr. Yates asked if the funding would complete the bicycle network. Mr. Goldblatt said yes.

### Other Business, Next Meeting

There was no other business. The next EDAC meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.