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DATE: December 8, 2009

TO: TransLink<sup>®</sup> Management Group

FROM: Larry Kozimor, Design Review and Implementation Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Limited Use TransLink<sup>®</sup> Cards

Since July 2009, a working group consisting of MTC staff, transit agency staff, TransLink<sup>®</sup> Contractor staff and consultant staff has met to discuss the establishment of operating rules to guide the implementation of limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards. The working group members have included representatives from AC Transit, BART, Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (GGBHTD), MTC, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), VTA, Booz Allen Hamilton and Cubic Transportation Systems. MTC staff reported on the working group's progress at the September TransLink<sup>®</sup> Management Group (TMG) meeting.

The initial impetus for the formation of the working group was SFMTA's decision to implement new Muni Metro faregates that would only accept smart cards; this requires the vending of limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards for any customers who do not have the standard extended use smart card. Subsequently, GGBHTD determined that it would also begin vending limited use smart cards to ferry customers who do not have the standard extended use smart card. The working group's final work product is a set of proposed changes to the operating rules that will apply to any transit operator implementing limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards.

The following are two principles that have guided the development of the more specific operating rules:

1. Operators should deploy limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards in such a way that complements and does not compete with extended use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards; and
2. The operating policies concerning the offering of limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> card should ensure as much consistency as possible between different transit operators with regard to the type(s) of fare products offered on limited use cards, expiration policies, etc.

In accordance with the schedule for implementing the new Muni Metro faregates and vending machines, MTC must provide direction concerning limited use cards by early January 2010.

At this point, transit agencies are planning to provide additional input on two issues: 1. The duration for which limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards will be valid; and 2. The implementation of any surcharge for customers purchasing the limited use TransLink<sup>®</sup> cards.

The Design Review and Implementation Committee (DRAIC) plans to hold a meeting in early January for the purpose of discussing the transit agencies' final comments. MTC will provide input to the TransLink® Contractor based on these final comments. The provision of final comments by the transit agencies will also enable finalizing of the operating rules that will apply to limited use TransLink® cards. The DRAIC will recommend approval of the operating rules at a future TMG meeting.

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