



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3

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Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2010

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

Audience Members in Attendance

David Reynoso, ACTIA

Public Comment from Audience Members

There was no public comment.

Minutes

The minutes as corrected were approved after a motion by Mr. Hedges and a second by Mr. Loring.

Member Updates

There were no member updates.

Advisory Council Report

The minutes of the December 9, 2009 Advisory Council meeting were received by the committee.

Subcommittee Reports

Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee Co-Chair Loring said that the group is focusing on how to best advance current and past work. They are also

working with Rebecca Long of MTC staff on incorporating the townhouse accessibility requirements through legislation.

Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee Chair Burnett noted that the subcommittee's last meeting will be in February. The meeting will focus on incorporating emergency preparedness standards into the next cycle of Section 5310 grants.

Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee Chair Grant announced that registration for the pedestrian safety summit was a huge success and there is a waiting list for the event. He hopes that the summit will result in increased discussion on pedestrian safety issues.

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

Chair's Report

Chair Branson asked members if holding a February meeting was necessary. Mr. Loring said that a meeting may be necessary to learn more about staff's transit sustainability project. Pam Grove of MTC staff noted that the Commission has just begun discussing the subject, so a February presentation may be premature. Chair Branson suggested putting the item on the March agenda. Mr. Loring said that would be fine. The committee decided not to hold a February meeting, although subcommittee meetings can be held if necessary.

Chair Branson encouraged members to attend the Joint Advisors Workshop on January 12 where the transit sustainability project will be presented. He also reminded members to apply for the new Policy Advisory Council.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Vogler announced that Ms. Grove will be the staff liaison for the new Policy Advisory Council. Ms. Grove updated the committee on the recruitment process and encouraged all current members to apply.

Member comment:

Mr. Roddin asked if the current application volume has met staff expectations. Ms. Grove noted that compared to the last recruitment process, the response has been good. Ms. Vogler noted that staff also placed an ad on Craigslist and hoped to receive more applications that way. Mr. Altenburger asked the potential date and time for the new Council's meeting. Ms. Grove said the new group is tentatively scheduled to meet the second Wednesday of the month, at 12:30 p.m. Ms. Bloch commented that it may be difficult to get people to attend at that time. Ms. Braxton asked if staff was specifically looking for professionals for the environment and economy categories. Ms. Grove said staff is looking for applicants who know those fields well.

Legislative Report

Ms. Long announced that Congress approved a one-year appropriations bill that includes a three percent increase in funding, but noted that they have not yet authorized the entire amount. This will inhibit agencies' ability to deliver projects and create jobs. She also announced that the House passed a second stimulus bill. The bill reappropriates unspent Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds, and transportation will receive the same amount as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). She noted that the Bay Area's share will be larger due to the formula that was used.

At the state level, she mentioned that the governor's budget is rumored to include the elimination of the sales tax on gas and diesel, which would be terrible for transit funding.

Member comment:

Ms. Bloch asked if the tax is reduced, would the money go instead to fix roads. Ms. Long said the money will go to the General Fund, not for transportation, but to plug the \$20 billion deficit. Mr. Roddin asked if the federal government was looking to changing the ozone requirements, which may have an impact on funding. Ms. Long said she would look into it.

TransLink[®] Program Status Report

Jake Avidon of MTC staff provided the committee with a TransLink[®] program update.

Member comment:

Mr. Grant asked if provisions exist for quality assurance. Mr. Avidon noted that it is difficult to review the program when you diffuse maintenance responsibility throughout the system. He said that MTC staff is working closely with transit agencies to increase capacity to deal with system problems. Mr. Grant suggested that spot-checking should be emphasized. Ms. Abelson expressed concern about getting rid of paper fare products since the system is inaccessible to people in wheelchairs, and asked if the card can be reloaded with different categories of products. Mr. Avidon noted that the recommendation to the Operations Committee includes a transition for paper fare media. Ms. Abelson also suggested that the Capitol Corridor be included in the system. Mr. Roddin asked when VTA and SamTrans would accept TransLink[®]. Mr. Avidon responded: one year after the revenue-ready milestone. Ms. Bloch asked if there was a way to key in your information (on a touchpad located on the device) if the reader isn't working. Mr. Avidon said no.

EDAC Work Plan Priorities

Ms. Vogler facilitated a discussion of the priorities the committee will recommend to the new Policy Advisory Council.

Member comment:

1. Mobility Management
 - a. Accessible taxis
 - b. Emergency preparedness for vulnerable populations
 - i. Work on 5310 Program standards, especially for non-profits
 - c. Alternative transportation models
 - d. Education/outreach
 - e. Funding (for Mobility Management, Safe Routes to Transit and low income transit riders)
 - f. Creating an inventory of transportation assets and resources; building partnerships
2. Transportation and Land Use — Accessible townhome legislation
3. Pedestrian Safety
 - a. Adopt a regional pedestrian plan outlining projects, funding and priorities

- b. Encourage community action
- 4. Growing Senior Population
 - a. Alternatives for older drivers
 - b. Signage standards
- 5. Other
 - a. Annual gathering for public and advisors to weigh-in on potential Policy Advisory Council's work plan; impact of major MTC projects on 3 E's.
 - b. Updating technology to be accessible for persons with disabilities
 - c. Rural vs. urban transportation disparity (North Bay)
 - d. Expanding paratransit eligibility standards to seniors
 - e. Transit safety and accessibility

Other Business, Next Meeting

There was no other business. The next EDAC meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.