



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 9

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*Memorandum*

TO: Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee

DATE: Feb. 25, 2010

FR: Ursula Vogler, EDAC Staff Liaison

RE: Staff Liaison Report — March 2010

**Policy Advisory Council Recruitment Update**

The application period for MTC's new Policy Advisory Council closed Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. We received over 350 applications during our strongest recruitment to date. The Commission has nearly concluded its review of the applications and will recommend appointments for approval at the March Legislation Committee meeting — approving the final slate of advisors at the March Commission meeting. If you have questions, please contact Pam Grove at [pgrove@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:pgrove@mtc.ca.gov) or 510.817.5706.

**Oakland Airport Connector**

On February 12, 2010, MTC received a letter from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) rejecting BART's Title VI corrective action plan. Pursuant to MTC Resolution No. 3942, the \$70 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds that had been committed to the Oakland Airport Connector were automatically redirected to the Tier 2 list of backup projects sponsored by the various Bay Area transit operators. Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act governs, in part, how transit agencies reach out to low-income, minority and limited English proficiency communities when making service and fare changes. To view the letter from FTA or the list of Tier 2 projects, visit the News tab of MTC's Web site at <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/>.

**Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities & Smart Growth**

In an effort by the federal government to promote smart growth, the Obama administration is working to increase federal support to communities committed to providing more walkable neighborhoods and

alternative modes of transportation than the car. Through the HUD-DOT-EPA Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities, the administration is asking the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to cooperate in promoting smart growth policies. The president's efforts include a \$527 million funding request for the Partnership in his FY 2011 budget. For more information about the Partnership, visit their Web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/dced/partnership/>.

Separate from the administration's Partnership efforts, HUD has plans to award \$100 million in new grants to regional sustainability plans that integrate transportation, housing, and land use. To view the Notice of Funding Availability for HUD's grants visit the HUD-DOT-EPA Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities Web site.

In addition, \$1.5 billion in recovery funds from Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants were awarded to transportation projects that create jobs and help develop livable communities. To view the list of projects awarded TIGER grants visit:  
<http://www.dot.gov/documents/finaltigergrantinfo.pdf>.