



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 6

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: November 3, 2010

FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – November 2010

Draft 2011 Legislative Program

Each year, MTC adopts a program to guide its legislative efforts in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. The program is a strategic document that provides the Commission's general direction on MTC's priorities, rather than a comprehensive list of the specific issues that MTC expects to engage in during the coming year. The program is subject to change as specific bills or other legislative initiatives are introduced.

Because of the full agenda for your November meeting, MTC Senior Legislative Analyst Rebecca Long will not make a full presentation of this document. However, the draft will be posted to MTC's web site this Friday, November 5, for your review and comment. The draft legislative program will be presented to the Legislation Committee at its Friday, November 12 meeting, with a final program scheduled for adoption by the Commission on Wednesday, December 15, 2010. Ms. Long will attend your December 8th meeting and take any questions or comments you have at that time.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the draft legislative program prior to your December 8 meeting, please contact Rebecca Long via phone at 510-817-5889 or via e-mail at rlong@mtc.ca.gov.

Draft Revisions to the JARC and New Freedom Program Management Plan

As a follow up to recent correspondence between MTC and FTA, MTC staff is proposing updates to the administration of the JARC and New Freedom programs, including procedures for Title VI monitoring. Staff is working on revisions to the JARC and New Freedom Program Management Plan (PMP) to reflect these changes, and the updated PMP will be considered by the Commission in December. A memo giving some background and a summary of the changes is attached to this report, and a draft of the revised PMP will be available in the next week or so.

Please note that this item also will be discussed in more detail at the Equity and Access Subcommittee meeting at 11:30 am on November 10th.

Comments or questions should be referred to Kristen Mazur at kmazur@mtc.ca.gov or 510-817-5789.

Revised Draft Public Participation Plan

On October 15, 2010, MTC issued a revised draft of its 2010 Public Participation Plan, which lays out the steps MTC will take to involve residents in decisions affecting Bay Area transportation and land use policies and investments. The revised document includes changes in response to comments received from numerous groups and individuals on the first draft, which was issued in July. In particular, additional detail has been added on the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) that MTC is working on with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).

Written comments on the revised plan will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Monday, November 29, 2010 and may be submitted by e-mail to info@mtc.ca.gov; by mail to MTC Public Information, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94607; or by fax to 510.817.5848. A copy of the Plan translated into Spanish and Chinese (or other languages) may be requested by calling MTC's Public Information Office at 510.817.5757.

For more information and to review the revisions, go to MTC's Web site at: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/get_involved/participation_plan.htm

Request for Proposals on School and Youth Outreach for the Climate Initiatives Program

MTC has just issued a request for proposals (RFP) to assist MTC and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) in developing and implementing the Climate Initiatives School and Youth Outreach Program. If you know of any firms or organizations that might be interested or qualified to submit a proposal for this work, please forward the Web site and contact information on to them. **Proposals are due by Tuesday, November 23, 2010.**

Information on the RFP process and proposal evaluation criteria can be found on MTC's Web site at: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/jobs/contracts/School_and_Youth_Outreach_RFP.pdf

For questions and further information, contact the project manager, Ursula Vogler, at 510-817-5785 or via e-mail at uvogler@mtc.ca.gov.

MTC Awards \$33 Million in Climate Change Grants

At its October 27, 2010 meeting, MTC approved 17 grants totaling \$33 million through its Climate Initiatives Program to promote innovative techniques for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle-miles traveled around the Bay Area. The commitments include 13 Innovative Grants totaling \$31 million to support electric-vehicle fleets, encourage alternatives to solo driving, institute dynamic pricing for parking, promote bicycle sharing, allow ocean-going ships to turn off their diesel engines while loading or unloading cargo, eliminate the need to transport hot asphalt for pavement rehabilitation projects, and upgrade signalized intersections to detect and count bicycles. The Commission also approved four Safe Routes to Schools creative grants totaling \$2 million for programs designed to encourage walking or bicycling to school.

MTC Awards \$33 Million in Climate Change Grants (continued)

These grants will supplement \$15 million already distributed to the nine Bay Area counties for local Safe Routes to Schools programs.

For more information on all of the awards, go to:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/press_releases/rel510.htm

Bay Bridge East Span Tower Gets Another Lift

On October 25, 2010, crews on the new East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge began a multiday operation to lift and install the second tier of segments for the span's signature tower. The process involves tilting each leg from horizontal to vertical on a specially-designed barge positioned at the tower's base, and then hoisting the legs 300 feet into the air before securing them in place.

To view the real time web cams of the bridge project, go to <http://bata.mtc.ca.gov/>.

eBART Project Gets Underway

The eBART extension project in Contra Costa County – a 10-mile extension of the BART system out to Antioch – broke ground on October 29 with local, state, and federal officials in attendance. The new eBART segment of the BART line will use clean-diesel technology, which is 60 percent less expensive to build than conventional BART.

For more information on the groundbreaking ceremony and the new eBART line, go to:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/current_topics/10-10/ebart.htm