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Policy Advisory Council  
December 8, 2010  
**Draft Minutes**

Vice Chair Dolly Sandoval called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. Members in attendance were Naomi Armenta, Cathleen Baker, Richard Burnett, JoAnn Busenbark, Carlos Castellanos, Bena Chang, Wilbert Din, Richard Hedges, Allison Hughes, Dolores Jaquez, Linda Jeffery Sailors, Randi Kinman, Federico Lopez, Marshall Loring, Evelina Molina, Cheryl O'Connor, Kendal Oku, Lori Reese-Brown, Gerald Rico, Frank Robertson, and Egon Terplan. Chair Paul Branson arrived late. (Note: Carmen Rojas has submitted her resignation.)

### Minutes

The minutes of the November 10, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Ms. Jaquez and a second by Ms. Kinman.

### Subcommittee Reports

#### *Regional Advisory Working Group (RAWG) Ad Hoc Subcommittee*

Richard Burnett gave the report, commenting that the ten proposed targets would be presented later in the meeting. Mr. Loring asked if there was any discussion on reserving land for industrial use, and Mr. Burnett responded yes. Mr. Terplan suggested measuring industry size within the region as part of Target No. 8 in order to understand what is happening with industrial jobs. Mr. Burnett added that preserving industrial jobs is necessary because not everyone in the Bay Area will obtain a college degree. Mr. Terplan questioned how much the targets should be pushed in order to achieve the vision, and suggested the Council discuss whether to push for targets that accomplish a more aggressive vision. Mr. Hedges noted that meeting scheduling changes is problematic.

#### *Equity and Access Subcommittee*

The Council received the report from Ms. Armenta. She noted that the subcommittee received a data matrix, discussed the paratransit element of the Transit Sustainability Project, received a Lifeline overview from staff, and had further discussion about the formation of a Regional Equity Working Group for the Sustainability Communities Strategy/Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Chang asked for specifics on how Lifeline funding levels are changing. Ms. Grove noted that the discussion focused more on STA funding fluctuations, and Ms. Armenta suggested members contact Jennifer Yeamans of MTC staff with further questions.

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### **MTC's 2011 Legislative Program**

The Council received the report from Rebecca Long of MTC staff. Mr. Lopez asked who the next chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee would be. Ms. Long said she believes it will be Rep. John Mica (R-FL). Mr. Hedges noted that several organizations are working to support Federal Item 3 on the draft legislative program. Mr. Burnett noted that Governor Schwarzenegger proposed cutting the welfare-to-work program and asked how this would affect JARC and other program funding levels. Ms. Long noted that it may be too early to tell, but it's likely the Democratic majority does not intend to take up the issue until January.

Mr. Terplan asked if current MTC policy is to maintain parity between the pre-tax transportation benefit for transit and parking, and if future policy could include reducing the parking benefit. Ms. Long noted that eliminating the parking benefit is preferable, but is not politically viable. She added that past legislative programs have included conditioning the pre-tax parking on the provision of a parking cash-out. Mr. Terplan asked if there will be a strategy specifically on the California High-Speed Rail (HSR) Authority in order to ensure funding for Bay Area HSR-related projects. Ms. Long said that while securing HSR funding is part of MTC's overall funding strategy, it is not specifically part of the legislative strategy. Mr. Terplan announced that state Assembly Member Beall introduced a bill that focuses on land use planning around HSR stations in the Central Valley, and added that the legislation could connect to the Bay Area's regional goals. Ms. Long agreed to take a look at that possibility. Ms. Reese-Brown asked what would happen if there was not funding for New and Small Starts and HSR. Ms. Long noted that appropriations would be made; however, the funding levels may not be what we want for the region. Mr. Loring noted that a potential ally for Federal Item 1 on the draft legislative program may be the national laboratories and other research organizations.

### **SCS/RTP – Performance Targets**

The Council received the report from Lisa Klein of MTC staff. Ms. Klein asked the Council to give input and feedback on two questions: do the proposed targets reflect key outcomes, and do they capture distinct outcomes? Ms. Kinman asked how deaths related to PM<sub>2.5</sub> would be tracked and suggested using asthma rates as an additional indicator of successful PM<sub>2.5</sub> reduction. Ms. Klein noted that there is a time lag in terms of the health impacts. In terms of tracking progress, she added that would take collaboration with the Air District. Regarding the reduction of injuries and fatalities from bike and pedestrian collisions, Ms. Kinman noted the importance of capturing data from off-road trails, which is not possible at this time. Mr. Terplan said that the Gross Regional Product (GRP) idea is a step in the right direction; nevertheless, he said a better metric would be basic employment because the Bay Area is a high output per worker region. As such, we can get more GRP growth without the corresponding employment growth. Since GRP is really a proxy for jobs, why not just count jobs and make Target No. 8 an attempt to meet the jobs projection? He added that from an equity standpoint, it would be better to use total jobs as a metric. Mr. Terplan said that Target No. 5 should include mode share and Target No. 9 should include location of jobs and housing near transit as a measure.

Ms. Armenta said that transit modes mentioned in Target No. 9 should include paratransit trips. Ms. Chang noted that businesses really value an efficient transportation system and housing near

### **SCS/RTP – Performance Targets**

employment sites; however, she cautioned that it is hard to tie job creation to transportation and land use policy because there are many other factors involved in the decision-making process of where businesses decide to locate. Ms. Hughes asked why the goals for Target No. 9 are the same for both transit and auto at ten percent. She added that the goal should encourage more public transit use. Ms. Klein responded they will take a look at that. Regarding Target No. 5, Ms. Baker said there are health impact disparities that can be masked by just looking at mode share, and she encouraged staff to leave the target as is. Mr. Branson said he is disappointed that accessibility and mobility of the aging population was not included in the targets, but added that he is pleased they are still under consideration as indicators.

Ms. Sandoval requested an update before the targets are adopted. Additionally, Ms. Baker requested an update on how Target No. 3 plays out. Ms. Sandoval expressed concern on how the targets would be measured in this period of economic uncertainty. She added that implementation will be very challenging for local jurisdictions because of budget issues.

### **Staff Liaison Report**

The Council received the report by Ms. Grove. In addition, she reminded the Council that their ethics training certificates are due, and mentioned staff will be working to fill the vacancies on the Council.

### **Council Member Reports**

Mr. Burnett announced that Solano County is starting the process of consolidating the Vallejo and Benicia transit agencies into a new agency called Solano Transit or SolTrans. He added that the new downtown Vallejo transit center and ferry parking facility is on schedule to open early next year, in tandem with the acquisition of 21 new hybrid buses. Ms. Reese-Brown announced that she and Mr. Burnett will be meeting regularly with Vallejo planning staff to update them on MTC policies and actions. Ms. Chang invited Council members to the Silicon Valley Leadership Group's *Save Caltrain Summit* at Stanford University on Friday, January 21; she will send detailed information through the staff liaison. Mr. Robertson asked if the Council will receive a presentation from Urban Habitat. Ms. Armenta said that can be addressed at the next Equity and Access subcommittee meeting. Mr. Castellanos announced there will be a community workshop on January 6 to explain transit-oriented development along International Boulevard in Oakland. The event will take place at Lion Creek, which is near the Coliseum BART station.

### **Public Comment/Adjournment/Next Meeting**

Mr. Din expressed concern about the migration of middle income jobs out of San Francisco. He added that if jobs keep moving out of the city there will be an increase in automobile traffic out of San Francisco.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.