



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 7

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council
FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison
RE: Staff Liaison Report – January 2011

DATE: January 5, 2011
W.I. 1114

Save Caltrain Summit in the South Bay

At your last meeting, Bena Chang announced a summit will be held to address Caltrain budget issues that threaten the existence of the system; details as follows:

Save Caltrain Summit Details

January 21, 2011
9AM to Noon
Stanford University
John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn Building
Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR)
366 Galvez Street

Interested individuals may register at <http://savecaltrainsummit.eventbrite.com>. Space is limited. Early RSVPs are encouraged.

Final Approval of MTC Documents

- On December 14, 2010, the FHWA/FTA approved the 2011 TIP. The TIP will undergo several amendments over the course of the next few years, but the final adopted version can be found online at <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/tip/> or obtained through the MTC-ABAG library (510-817-5836).
- On December 15, 2010, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission adopted the final draft Public Participation Plan. A copy of the final version can be downloaded via MTC's Web site at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/get_involved/participation_plan.htm or obtained from the MTC-ABAG library. To request a copy in Spanish, Chinese or other languages, please call MTC's Public Information Office at 510-817-5757.

Station Area and Land Use Planning Grants

Applications are now available for the fourth funding cycle of the FOCUS Station Area and Land Use Planning Program. The Planning Program is an initiative to finance planning efforts that will result in land use plans and policies to substantially increase transit ridership around public transit hubs and bus and rail corridors in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

Grants of up to \$750,000 are available to local jurisdictions for planning efforts within a half-mile radius of a transit station. Applicants are limited to: 1) areas approved as planned or potential PDAs, and 2) station areas in transit extension projects identified under MTC's Resolution 3434 that do not currently meet MTC's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) policy for minimum housing thresholds. Applications are due March 2, 2011.

For more information, please see the Station Area and Land Use Planning Program Guidelines (which can be downloaded at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/smart_growth/stations/) or contact Therese Trivedi at 510.817.5767 or ttrivedi@mtc.ca.gov.

From the Executive Director's Report

The following items of interest were in the December 2010 Executive Director's Report to the Commission:

- ***Proposition 84 Grant Recommendations – Sacramento, November 23***

The Strategic Growth Council staff recommendations have been released for 2010 funding awards, and MTC/ABAG have been proposed for \$1 million in funding to help develop the Bay Area's Sustainable Communities Strategy. In addition to the positive news on our regional funding application, the following local jurisdictions have been proposed for funding: Concord (\$860,000), Richmond (\$895,000), San Francisco (\$630,000) and South San Francisco (\$320,000).

- ***CTC Master Plan – Los Angeles, December 1***

Together with our regional counterparts from throughout the state, we are participating in a planning effort led by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) that is attempting to document the unfunded needs to operate, maintain, manage, and expand the state's various transportation modes. This so-called "master plan" is intended to assist our California Congressional Delegation in the forthcoming new authorization of the federal surface transportation program (whenever that might occur), as well as the incoming Brown Administration as it formulates new transportation policies in Sacramento. We hope to complete the work – which largely will be based on the various regional transportation plans such as our Transportation 2035 – by spring 2011.

- ***First High Speed Rail Segment Selected – Sacramento, December 2***

To commence construction of the statewide system, the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) has selected a 65-mile segment in the Central Valley that would start near Madera, include the construction of two new stations in downtown Fresno and east of Hanford, and continue south to Corcoran. Touted by the CHSRA as “a critical portion of track in the heart of the Central Valley” and derided by critics as “a train to nowhere”, the initial segment is projected to cost about \$4.2 billion and cannot begin construction until environmental reviews are complete in late 2011.