



Adrienne J. Tissier, Chair
San Mateo County

Amy Rein Worth, Vice Chair
Cities of Contra Costa County

Tom Azumbrado
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Tom Bates
Cities of Alameda County

David Campos
City and County of San Francisco

Dave Cortese
Santa Clara County

Bill Dodd
Napa County and Cities

Dorene M. Giacopini
U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal D. Glover
Contra Costa County

Mark Green
Association of Bay Area Governments

Scott Haggerty
Alameda County

Anne W. Halsted
San Francisco Bay Conservation
and Development Commission

Steve Kinsey
Marin County and Cities

Sam Liccardo
Cities of Santa Clara County

Jake Mackenzie
Sonoma County and Cities

Kevin Mullin
Cities of San Mateo County

Bijan Sartipi
State Business, Transportation
and Housing Agency

James P. Spering
Solano County and Cities

Scott Wiener
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

Steve Heminger
Executive Director

Ann Flemer
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Programming and Allocations Committee May 9, 2012 Minutes

Chair Glover called the meeting to order at approximately 10:13 a.m. Committee members present were: Commissioners Bates, Campos, Cortese, Dodd, and Wiener. Commissioners Tissier and Rein-Worth were present as ex-officio voting members of the Committee. Other Commissioners present as ad hoc non-voting members of the Committee were: Giacopini, Green, Haggerty, Halsted, Mackenzie, and Spering.

Consent Calendar

The Committee unanimously approved the following consent items after a motion by Commissioner Cortese and a second by Commissioner Campos:

- Minutes of the April 11, 2012 meeting;
- 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2011-25. MTC Resolution No. 3975, Revised;
- Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)-Funded Mobility Management Program of Projects. MTC Resolution No. 4052;
- Proposed programming of \$180,000 in RM2 Capital funds for Regional Real-Time Transit Information System Expansion. MTC Resolution No. 3708, Revised;
- Proposed Unmet Needs Finding for Solano County. MTC Resolution No. 4025, Revised; and
- Revisions to the New Freedom Cycle 2 and 3 Programs. MTC Resolution Nos. 3871, Revised and 3930, Revised.

Regional

- *Request for \$2.4 million to support SolTrans transition expenses.*

Anne Richman, MTC Programming and Allocations Section, presented a request to provide approximately \$2.4 million for expenses related to the formation of the consolidated transit operator, SolTrans in Solano County.

Commissioner Spering commented that the consolidation of SolTrans has already resulted in savings of over \$1 million as a result of changes in operational costs and route realignments and efficiencies. Many difficult decisions have been made by the board and a great effort is being made to bring forth a much better service with savings to the public.

Mr. Jim McElroy, Interim Executive Director of SolTrans, commented that by the end of the year the Soltrans board expects to attain a five percent reduction in the cost per hour through their private operator and the realignment of routes.

The Committee, upon the motion of Commissioner Dave Cortese with a second by Commissioner David Campos, unanimously approved the allocation of \$2.4 million to SolTrans.

- *FY2012-13 Regional Measure 2 (RM2) Operating Program and Project Performance Update and amend FY2011-12 RM2 Operating Program. MTC Resolution Nos. 4058, and 3998, Revised.*

Theresa Romell, MTC Programming and Allocations Section, presented the FY2012-13 RM2 Operating Program, including two new services, the Dumbarton Express Bus Service and the South San Francisco Ferry Service, and a performance update for the RM2 operating program.

Commissioner Green commented that he is happy to see the RM2 funds for the Dumbarton Corridor finally go towards the Corridor.

The Committee, upon the motion of Commissioner David Campos with a second by Commissioner Amy Rein-Worth, unanimously approved the referral of MTC Resolution Nos. 4058 and 3998, Revised to the Commission for approval.

- *Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 3 - Proposed Proposition 1B Program. MTC Resolution Nos. 4053 and 3880, Revised*

Kristen Mazur, MTC Programming and Allocations Section, presented the recommended \$25.6 million Proposition 1B program of projects for the third cycle of the Lifeline Transportation Program.

The Committee, upon the motion of Commissioner David Campos with a second by Commissioner Dave Cortese, unanimously approved the referral of MTC Resolution Nos. 4053 and 3880, Revised to the Commission for approval.

- *Funding Requests for Low-Income Transit Pass Pilot Programs*

Anne Richman, MTC Programming and Allocations Section, presented background and context for the funding request received from San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) for youth and low-income transit fare programs.

Public Comments:

Angelina Yu of Adopt An Alleyway Youth Program, Jane Martin of People Organized to Win Economic Rights (POWER), Beatriz Herrera, Jaron Browne, and Alicia Garza of POWER, Mario Yedidia and Phimy Truong of San Francisco Youth Commission, Bob Allen of Urban Habitat, Maria Lombardo of San Francisco County Transportation Authority, Kim Shree Maufus of San Francisco School Board spoke in support of the San Francisco pilot.

Matt Williams, former AC Transit Board Member, commented that the pilot program is a great idea but should be adjusted to consider providing a free pass to all middle and high school students to change students' travel behaviors and increase ridership. He also provided some historical context on the prior AC Transit pilot, information about another current pass program in Western Contra Costa County and consideration to the administrative burden to the county and the transit agencies operating costs and capital costs.

Art Dao, Executive Director of Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC), commented that he would support a free student bus pass pilot if Alameda County were also provided funding for its pilot program or the Commission should consider implementing a region-wide pilot program so as not to exclude any one county and to obtain better data for future decisions on whether or not a free student pass program is effective, feasible, and could be funded in a sustainable fashion.

Commissioner Green commented that Alameda County is exploring the idea of having tax payers contribute to the funding of a low-income transit pass on the November ballot. He further commented that Alameda County has a high percentage of people living in poverty that could benefit from the program and that he would not vote in favor of the low-income transit pass pilot program unless it is amended to include Alameda County.

Commissioner Campos commented that he does understand that San Francisco is not the only county that could benefit from a low-income transit pass pilot and the City and County of San Francisco and its agencies are taking responsibility for paying for as much of the pilot as they can. He further commented that in terms of long-term funding, there is no expectation from San Francisco County that the region would permanently fund the program and that the city and county have an obligation to find permanent funding for the program, and are in the process of doing that.

Commissioner Cortese commented that Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) has been working for quite some time to address the needs of the community as it relates to a low-income transit pass program and was not added to staff's proposal as a "me too" situation. He further commented that VTA would like to be included in any creative solutions and that Santa Clara County has been paying for its version of a low-income transit pass program.

Commissioner Haggerty agreed with comments made by Commissioner Green and added that if a decision is made to move forward with this type of program it should be done region-wide, for all children, in all nine counties within the region. He further commented that it is important to start changing the mind-set of youth by educating them to incorporate public transportation into their everyday lives.

Commissioner Mackenzie commented that he would be in support of the pilot program if it clearly demonstrates how it could be implemented for all nine counties.

Commissioner Tissier commented that it is worth exploring whether or not implementing the pilot can be done region-wide or if the pilot should be implemented in a single county to understand the impacts of the pilot and how it could work in the long term. She further commented that it is important to determine where the funding would come from, what would potentially be taken away when the pilot funding ends, and that not all services can be free.

Commissioner Spring commented that if VTA is included in staff's proposal to the full Commission next month he probably will not support it because it should be made available to all counties. He further commented that there should be greater discussion on discount fares in general and that the discounts should go to people who really need it.

Commissioner Wiener commented that this has been a very topical discussion in San Francisco for quite some time, that there is not a consensus with the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on the proposal, and that he voted in opposition to the original proposal which was free Muni for all youth.

With the development of the alternative approach which is now being presented he may consider supporting the proposal but has not yet decided. He further commented that it is important that transit agencies have sustainable operating plans and cost structures for the long run.

Commissioner Campos commented that he has been working with the Mayor of San Francisco and that they are very mindful of all of the concerns that have been raised by other Commissioners. He agreed with Commissioner Wiener that it is important to determine how to sustain the program long term and the City and County of San Francisco is committed to finding a permanent source of funding.

Commissioner Haggerty commented that it is important to understand the implications of giving free transit to youth and how unruly youth may affect paying customers on transit.

Commissioner Glover commented that a similar pilot program is something that Contra Costa County would like to pursue. He further commented that the pilot program for low-income transit must be well thought through to make sure that the program operates in the way that is expected and that, should a decision be made to move forward, the pilot should be implemented on a region-wide level.

This item was presented for information only and no action is required by the Committee at this time.

California Transportation Commission Update

The Committee received, in writing, updates on the California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting held on April 25 and 26 in Irvine, California.

This item was presented for information only and no action is required by the Committee at this time.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Glover adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:36 a.m.