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Policy Advisory Council
June 13, 2012
Draft Minutes

Chair Dolly Sandoval called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m. Other members in attendance were Cathleen Baker, Richard Burnett, Carlos Castellanos, Bena Chang, Wilbert Din, Sandi Galvez, Richard Hedges, Dolores Jaquez, Linda Jeffery Sailors, Randi Kinman, Federico Lopez, Marshall Loring, Tanya Narath, Lori Reese-Brown, Gerald Rico, and Egon Terplan. **Excused:** JoAnn Busenbark and Tina King Neuhausel. **Absent:** Naomi Armenta, Yokia Mason, Kendal Oku and Frank Robertson.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the May 9, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Hedges and a second by Ms. Sailors.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Subcommittee Reports

Since there were no June meetings of the Equity & Access Subcommittee or the Regional Equity Working Group, there were no subcommittee reports.

Nominations for 2012-13 Policy Advisory Council Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair Sandoval called for nominations for Policy Advisory Council chair. Mr. Hedges nominated Dolly Sandoval as chair.

Chair Sandoval called for nominations for Policy Advisory Council vice-chair. Ms. Jaquez nominated Linda Jeffery Sailors and Mr. Hedges nominated Egon Terplan.

Chair Sandoval reminded the Council that nominations will remain open until the election, scheduled for the next council meeting on July 11, 2012. Nominations can be sent to Pam Grove via e-mail to pgrove@mtc.ca.gov.

Staff Liaison Report

The Council received the report given by staff liaison Pam Grove.

Staff Liaison Report (continued)

Mr. Hedges commented that he and Mr. Loring attended the SMART Parking Workshop on June 12 which was televised and is scheduled to be posted to the web.

Regarding the High School Internship program, Mr. Castellanos asked for clarification on the difference between requests received for interns and the number of allocated internships. Ms. Grove responded that MTC funds a maximum number of internships (between 30 and 40, depending on available funds), and some transit agencies add funding to take on another intern. Ms. Kinman inquired about the cost of funding a high school intern for a local jurisdiction. Ms. Grove agreed to provide the information to Ms. Kinman.

Plan Bay Area: Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Scope and Alternatives

Ashley Nguyen of MTC staff presented the EIR scope and alternatives for Plan Bay Area.

The Council had the following comments regarding the upcoming EIR meetings:

- Concern was expressed about the exclusion of certain areas in the scheduling of scoping meetings, and the Council suggested adding a fifth meeting in Solano County.
- Concern was also expressed that the meetings appear to be geared towards agencies and jurisdictions, and not communities.
- Suggested asking local jurisdictions to post notice of the meetings on their web sites.
- Material shared at the EIR meetings should be clear, concise and easy to understand.

The Council had the following comments regarding the report:

- Concern was expressed over health impacts not being addressed in the criteria for CEQA exemption.
- Regarding the timeline, there is concern about the 45-day public review period including the holidays in December. Municipalities have furlough days during this time, and local jurisdiction staff may not have an opportunity to have the full 45 days to review and respond.
- Suggested including testing of road pricing of existing highways in the EIR.
- Concern was expressed about in-commuting.
- Concern was expressed that there is no mention of schools in the EIR process.

Mr. Terplan made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hedges, that MTC staff study road pricing, particularly open lane tolling, as one of the policy tools within the EIR alternatives. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Terplan also asked staff—in order to make the EIR alternatives easy to distinguish and understand—to test a common set of policy variables across Alternatives 3, 4, and 5.

Chair Sandoval and other Council members strongly encouraged staff to schedule a meeting in Solano County. Mr. Heminger directed staff to check with Commissioner Spering if he concurs with having an additional meeting in Solano County.

Council Member Reports

Ms. Kinman shared that AB 57 (Beall) has cleared the Senate Transportation Committee.

New Business

Ms. Baker requested— as a future agenda item— an update and discussion on the regional prosperity plan and consideration for a Policy Advisory Council member to have a position on either the joint projects committee or steering committee.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m. The next Policy Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2012 in the Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, California.