

Agenda Item 8



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council
FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison
RE: Staff Liaison Report – October 2012

DATE: October 3, 2012
W.I. 1114

Business Outreach Committee Update

As part of its ongoing Title VI activities, MTC has partnered with other transportation agencies to create a regional Business Outreach Committee (BOC) to implement race-neutral measures to increase small business and DBE participation in contracting. The BOC provides business outreach, networking events with prime contractors and agency procurement officers, a quarterly newsletter that includes upcoming procurement opportunities, and direct referral of DBEs to prime contractors.

The next BOC event will take place on Thursday, October 25th, from 2:15 pm to 4 pm at the Caltrans District IV offices, 111 Grand Avenue, in Oakland. A flyer with the event details is attached to this memo, and can also be found at:

<http://procurements.mtc.ca.gov/Files/boc-workshop-20121025.pdf>

For questions, contact Denise Rodrigues at [drodrigues@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:d Rodrigues@mtc.ca.gov) or 510.817.5897.

Spare the Air Youth Web Site Debuts

On October 2nd, MTC, in partnership with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) announced the launch of a new web site aimed at teaching students about the benefits of walking, biking, carpooling or taking transit to and from school. The web site provides resources for parents and teachers to teach kids and families about improving air quality around schools. Program providers will be able to access a wealth of information about best practices, idea sharing, available programs, as well as lesson plans, events and contests that teach youth about safety, clean air and transportation. Providers also will be able to connect with others in their field through the web site.

For more information on the program, see the MTC/Air District press release at:

<http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Communications%20and%20Outreach/Publications/New%20Releases/2012/SparetheairyouthWebsite.aspx?la=en>

To visit the Spare the Air Youth web site, go to sparetheairyouth.org.

San Mateo-Hayward Bridge Closures Planned

Caltrans has announced that the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge will be closed over two upcoming weekends: **October 19-22, 2012** and **October 26-29, 2012**. The full closure for all eastbound and westbound lanes will begin at 10 p.m. on Friday and continue until 5 a.m. on Monday. The bridge will be open for the weekday commute.

For more information on the bridge closures, go to:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/current_topics/9-12/san_mateo_bridge.htm

Smart Parking Workshop

The California state legislature recently proposed a “smart” parking policy for transit-rich areas (AB 904, Skinner). A workshop and discussion with local planners and policy makers will be held at the MTC MetroCenter on November 9 from 2-4:30 p.m. Comments and recommendations from the workshop will be forwarded to state legislators and the American Planning Association California Chapter Policy and Legislation Committee.

To find out more about the workshop, go to:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/smart_growth/parking/workshop_11-9-12.htm

For questions, contact:

- Hanson Hom, hansonapa@gmail.com, 408.730.7450
- Emy Mendoza, mendoza.emy@gmail.com, 510.326.1919

Senate Bill 1339 Signed

On October 1st, Governor Brown’s office announced that he signed Senate Bill 1339, which allows MTC and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to implement a San Francisco Bay Area commuter policy benefiting employees who work at least 20 hours per week for an employer with 50 or more full-time employees. The bill authorizes MTC and the Air District to adopt an ordinance rule establishing a regional commute benefit pilot program for up to four years beginning January 1, 2013. The pilot program will provide Bay Area employers the flexibility to offer employees a choice from a range of commuter benefits. To see the list of benefits and find out more about the bill, read the Air District’s press release at:

http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/Files/Communications%20and%20Outreach/Publications/New%20Releases/2012/SB1339_121001_2.ashx?la=en.

As a reminder, MTC’s Senior Legislative Analyst Rebecca Long will be at the Council’s October 10th meeting and will be able to field questions about this and other transportation legislation.

MTC's Climate Initiatives Program Receives Clean Air Award

On September 19, MTC's Climate Initiatives Program recently received a 2012 Clean Air Excellence award from the Environmental Protection Agency. The Council just received an overview of this program at its meeting last month; however, advisors can read more information about the award and the program on MTC's web site at:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/current_topics/9-12/clean_air_award.htm

MTC Awards Ceremony Set for October 24

MTC has been giving awards for the past 35 years, recognizing those people, organizations and programs that have made extraordinary contributions to Bay Area transportation. This year's awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at 9 am, prior to the day's normal Commission meetings. The event will be at Preservation Park in downtown Oakland, and refreshments will be served at 8:30 am before the ceremony. Awards invitation cards have been mailed to you, and there also be some available at your October meeting. Please join the Commission in honoring this year's winners.

Executive Director's Report

The following items of interest were in the September 2012 Executive Director's Report to the Commission:

- ***BSA Audit Released — Sacramento, August 28***
The Bureau of State Audits (BSA) released its audit findings and recommendations regarding our purchase of 390 Main Street in San Francisco for a new regional agency headquarters.
- ***GARVEE Bonds Downgraded — New York, September 13***
In a significant action reflecting diminishing confidence in the financial stability of the federal Highway Trust Fund, Fitch Ratings has downgraded 11 grant anticipation revenue (GARVEE) bond issues earlier this month. These GARVEE bonds have been issued by state and local transportation entities, and are backed by the gas tax receipts deposited in the federal trust fund. As you will recall, Congress recently reauthorized the federal surface transportation program for two years at current funding levels, but only by infusing the trust fund with yet another sizeable transfer from the general fund.
- ***BATA Bond Sale — New York, September 19***
Brian Mayhew and our finance team hit pay-dirt on Wall Street last week selling \$900 million in fixed-rate bonds at an all-in rate of 3.06% to refund debt originally sold in 2006 and 2007. The earlier debt was priced around 4.50%, so this refunding will allow us to realize significant savings in our debt service costs. Brian and the team will next turn their attention to a similar refunding strategy for our 2008 fixed-rate debt, which was originally priced at 5.30%.

Executive Director's Report (continued)

- ***ABAG Executive Board — Oakland, September 20***

At the request of ABAG Executive Director Ezra Rapport, I attended the most recent ABAG Executive Board meeting last Thursday night where they discussed whether to relocate to the new regional agency headquarters at 390 Main Street in San Francisco. At the end of lengthy public and closed sessions, the ABAG Board approved moving forward on negotiations with the Bay Area Headquarters Authority to acquire a condominium interest in the new facility. The vote was 16-8.

To read the September 2012 Executive Director's report to the Commission in its entirety, go to http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/ed_report.htm.

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SFMTA



**The Business Outreach Committee,
in cooperation with the
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
District 4 Calmentor Program,
invites all Architectural and Engineering (A&E)
and Other Professional Services Firms to the
Fall 2012 Business Development Workshop on
Thursday, October 25, 2012,
from 2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
at Caltrans District 4
111 Grand Avenue, Oakland**

Four workshops will be offered:

- Funding Drives Projects: Learn How to Keep Track of What Funding is Available and When Allocations Can be Made at the State and Local Levels to Projects
- The Advantages of Certification: Agency Thresholds, Bidder Preferences, and Marketing Your Certification Effectively
- Avoid Common Pitfalls to Increase Your Chances of Being the Choice Consultant
- Contracting Methods Used in Bay Area Agency Procurements

To register, visit us at:

<https://docs.google.com/Oct 25 Workshop Registration>

***All are invited. You do not need to be a
Calmentor member to attend.***

The workshops will be followed with an A&E mixer
from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at Vo's Restaurant, located across the
street from Caltrans District 4
at 59 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA.

This is a great opportunity for firms to network with other companies
and public agency representatives.

*The goal of the Business Outreach Committee is to assist small and disadvantaged
companies in doing business with Bay Area Transportation Agencies.*