



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 7

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: November 14, 2012

FR: Rebecca Long, Sr. Legislative Analyst

W. I. 1131

RE: November 2012 Election Analysis: Impact on Transportation

The November 6, 2012 election proved to be significant at the local, state and federal levels and resulted in new funding for transportation and an expected two-thirds supermajority in both houses of the state Legislature.

Bay Area has Two New Congressional Representatives

This was the first election since the new districts drawn by the California Citizen’s Redistricting Commission took effect. This redistricting, combined with California’s new open primary system, where the top two vote getters face each other in the general election even if they are from the same party, were major factors in the outcome of a number of races.

In newly formed Congressional District 15, a district that encompasses the East Bay communities ranging from Hayward to Livermore, Eric Swalwell defeated long-time East Bay Congressman Pete Stark. In Congressional District 2, a district that stretches from Marin County to the California/Oregon state line, Jared Huffman is taking over for Representative Lynn Woolsey, who is retiring after 20 years in office.

Democrats have Two-Thirds Supermajorities in Both Houses in Sacramento

As of this writing it appears that the Democratic Party now controls two-thirds of the seats in each of the two state houses. This is a historic moment of full one-party control of the entire legislative process, including the ability to raise taxes as specified by the California Constitution. The last time Democrats had a 2/3rds majority in both houses was in 1883. While this outcome will change the dynamic in Sacramento, exactly how is uncertain.

Local Measures: Roadway/Pavement Measures Fared the Best

As shown in Table 1, a number of transportation-related measures appeared on local ballots in the Bay Area and Los Angeles County. The outcomes are summarized below. As shown, the outcome of Alameda County’s Measure B1 is still uncertain at the time this memo was updated.

Table 1: Local Measures Affecting Transportation Funding

Measure Name	Sponsoring Agency	Summary of Measure	Estimated Annual Revenue	Outcome	Vote (% Yes/No)
Measure B1	Alameda County Transportation Commission	Make existing 1/2-cent sales tax permanent and add another permanent 1/2-cent sales tax	~ \$215 million	Uncertain – still counting provisional ballots	66.19 Yes 33.81% No

Measure Name	Sponsoring Agency	Summary of Measure	Estimated Annual Revenue	Outcome	Vote (% Yes/No)
Measure T	Napa County Transportation Planning Agency	½-cent sales tax for 25 years, dedicated to local street and road repair. Not a tax increase as it replaced an expiring flood control measure.	\$11.2	Passed	74.42% Yes 25.58% No
Measure L	City of Orinda	½-cent 10-year sales tax with funds proposed for local streets and roads	\$540,000	Passed	69.12% Yes 30.88% No
Measure K	Town of Moraga	1% 20-year sales tax increase with funding proposed for street repairs	\$1 million	Passed	70.7% Yes 29.93% No
Measure J	Los Angeles County	Extension of ½-cent sales tax for 30 years after 2039.	\$600 million	Failed	64.73% Yes 35.27% No

Source: County registrar websites, last updated 11/13/12

Impact of Statewide Measures on Transportation – Proposition 30 and 39

While there were no measures on the statewide ballot that were specifically focused on transportation, Proposition 30's success will reduce the chances that the Legislature will redirect funding from transportation to help balance the budget. Passage of Proposition 39, which creates additional funding for the General Fund in the near term, also provides near-term funding of about \$500 million per year, growing to over \$1 billion in later years, for "clean energy" projects. While Proposition 39 is focused on energy efficiency at school sites, provisions in the initiative may be eligible for electrified transportation infrastructure or similar types of projects.

Legislative Races

Both current and former MTC Commissioners featured prominently in state legislative results. Commissioner Kevin Mullin was elected to the State Assembly. Former Commissioners Jim Beall and Mark DeSaulnier were elected and re-elected, respectively, to the State Senate. Attachment A is a list of Bay Area legislators now serving in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Selected Statewide Ballot Measures: Progressive Bay Area vs. Rest of California

Attachment B shows vote totals in the Bay Area vs. statewide on four controversial state ballot measures involving higher taxes, labor union political activity, and criminal justice. As you might expect, Bay Area voters led the way in approving Propositions 30 and 36, and in defeating Proposition 32. The measure to repeal the death penalty (Proposition 34) actually passed in our region, even though it was defeated statewide. Thus, the pattern of Bay Area "exceptionalism" in statewide voting continued in the 2012 general election.

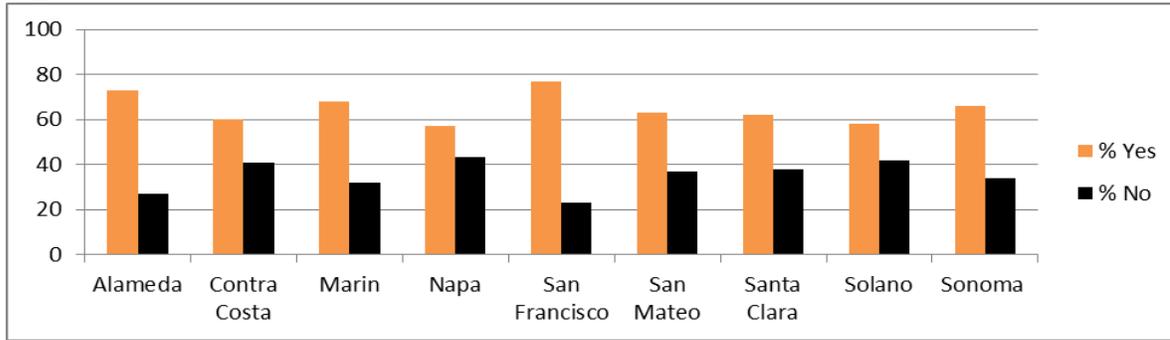
**Attachment A – Results by District
Bay Area State & Federal Delegation**

Assembly	
District	Member
2	Wesley Chesbro (I) Incumbent
4	Mariko Yamada (I) Incumbent
10	Marc Levine
11	Jim Frazier
14	Susan Bonilla (I) Incumbent
15	Nancy Skinner (I) Incumbent
16	Joan Buchanan (I) Incumbent
17	Tom Ammiano (I) Incumbent
18	Rob Bonta
19	Phil Ting
20	Bill Quirk
22	Kevin Mullin
24	Rich Gordon (I) Incumbent
25	Bob Wieckowski (I) Incumbent
27	Nora Campos (I) Incumbent
28	Paul Fong (I) Incumbent
29	Mark Stone
Senate	
2	Noreen Evans (I) Incumbent
3	Lois Wolk
7	Mark DeSaulnier (I) Incumbent
9	Loni Hancock (I) Incumbent
10	Ellen Corbett (I) Incumbent
11	Mark Leno (I) Incumbent
13	Jerry Hill
15	Jim Beall
17	Bill Monning
Congress	
2	Jared Huffman
3	John Garamendi (I) Incumbent
5	Mike Thompson (I) Incumbent
9	Jerry McNerney (I) Incumbent
11	George Miller (I) Incumbent
12	Nancy Pelosi (I) Incumbent
13	Barbara Lee (I) Incumbent
14	Jackie Speier (I) Incumbent
15	Eric Swalwell
17	Mike Honda (I) Incumbent
18	Anna Eshoo (I) Incumbent
19	Zoe Lofgren (I) Incumbent
20	Sam Farr (I) Incumbent

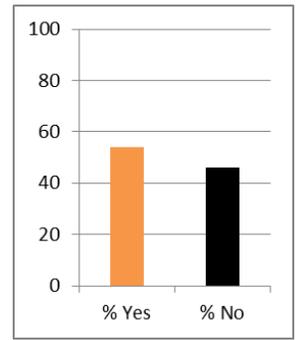
Attachment B Selected Statewide Ballot Measures: Progressive Bay Area vs. Rest of California

Prop. 30: Governor's tax plan for education

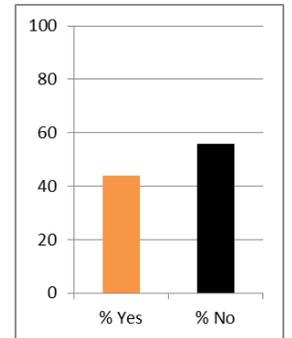
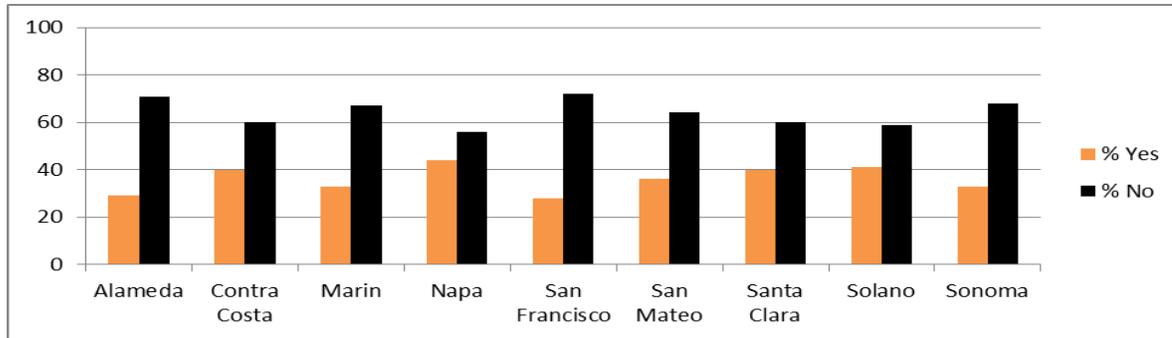
Bay Area



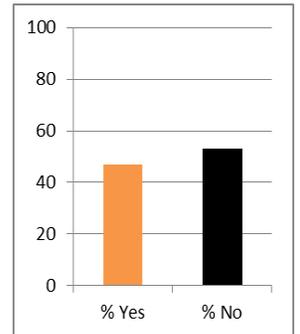
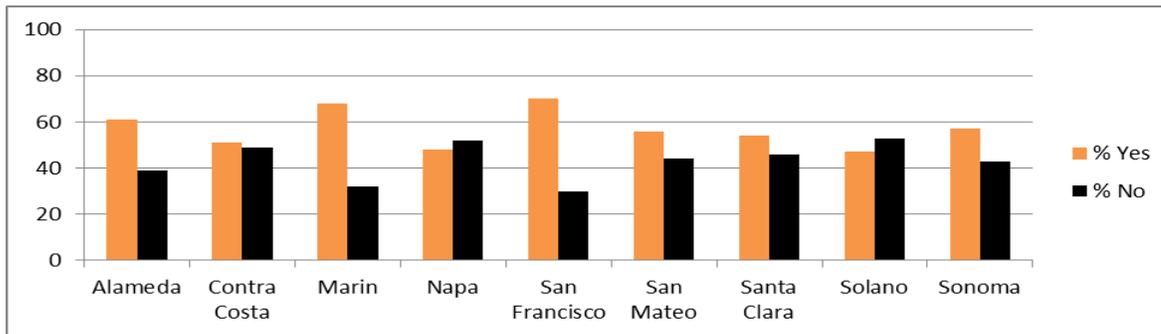
Statewide



Prop. 32: Stops payroll political contributions



Prop 34: Repeals death penalty



Prop. 36: Revises three strikes law

