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Policy Advisory Council
November 14, 2012
Draft Minutes

Vice-Chair Egon Terplan called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. Chair Sandoval was unable to be in attendance. Other members in attendance were Cathleen Baker, Jim Blacksten, Richard Burnett, Carlos Castellanos, Bena Chang, Elizabeth Clary, Wilbert Din, Sandi Galvez, Richard Hedges, Linda Jeffery Sailors, Marshall Loring, Tina King Neuhausel, Kendal Oku, Frank Robertson and Alan Talansky. **Excused:** Naomi Armenta, Dolores Jaquez, Randi Kinman, Federico Lopez, Tanya Narath, Gerald Rico and Dolly Sandoval. **Absent:** Joanne Busenbark, Yokia Mason, and Lori Reese-Brown.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October 10, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Hedges and a second by Ms. Baker.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Subcommittee Reports

The Equity & Access Subcommittee and Regional Equity Working Group did not meet this month, so there were no subcommittee reports.

Transit Performance Initiative – Incentive Program

MTC Senior Planner Kenneth Folan reminded the Council that in March 2012, they requested the Commission provide incentive programs related to the Transit Sustainability Project. He gave the Council a briefing on a proposal for an incentive program for the Transit Performance Initiative, and solicited the Council's input to a specific set of questions, as well as any additional feedback.

Following clarifying questions, the Council had the following comments:

- Pooling agency resources to purchase transit vehicles and other capital equipment would produce cost and other efficiencies, and perhaps the Council could be briefed at a future meeting on current efforts around joint procurement.

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Transit Performance Initiative – Incentive Program (continued)

- The productivity and efficiency metric appears to favor heavy rail systems; perhaps a more mode neutral metric should be used.
- The small operators should compete with each other, but funding should be allocated according to ridership for that group as a whole (separate from the large operators).
- Should consider giving smaller operators a larger piece of the pie to encourage and assist with creativity.
- Need different criteria for measuring the small operators against one another.
- The program should also include incentives for operators to maintain comfort and capacity as ridership increases (possibly include a threshold that allows for this).
- There should be a metric around overall ridership; from a regional perspective, it's important to spend resources in a way that benefits the most people.
- The weighting of the metrics should favor future performance (ridership and productivity increase).
- Operators need to demonstrate how their use of funds will meet Transit Sustainability Project goals.

The following motions were made, seconded, and passed unanimously:

1. The program should be structured into two separate competitions: one for large operators and one for small.
2. The metrics should be weighted to favor future performance (ridership and productivity increase) over existing ridership.
3. Projects considered for incentive program funding should be evaluated based on increased ridership and/or improved efficiency, and should be consistent with the adopted Transit Sustainability Project goals.

MTC Draft 2013 Advocacy Program

MTC Senior Legislative Analyst Rebecca Long went over the draft 2013 Advocacy Program, and asked the Council to provide preliminary input and suggestions.

Council members had the following comments:

- It would be good to see high speed rail mentioned somewhere in the advocacy program.
- Would like to see MTC advocate for more funding for transit, but also include performance metrics (perhaps focus cap and trade specifically on improving transit service).
- Suggest exempting veterans from any new/increased Vehicle License Fees.
- Suggest adding a well-head tax (a tax on the depletion of oil and gas reserves under California soil).

2012 Election Overview

Due to time constraints, Ms. Long suggested the Council review her written report on the 2012 election results and contact if they have questions or comments.

Staff Liaison Report

Staff liaison Pam Grove presented her report to the Council, highlighting an update on MTC's move to 390 Main Street and the proposed updates to the JARC/New Freedom program.

Council Member Reports

There were no reports from council members.

New Business

There was no new business from council members.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m. The next Policy Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2012 in the Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, California.