



**METROPOLITAN
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COMMISSION**

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: June 5, 2013

FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – June 2013

Policy Advisory Council Recruitment Update

Recruitment for the next term of the Policy Advisory Council was open from April 5th through May 10th, and was extended for an extra week, to close on May 17, 2013. The recruitment announcement and online application was posted to MTC's web site, and a press release was sent out with follow-up conversations with several local newspapers and reporters. In addition, nine display ads were taken out in some smaller/community papers. An announcement was also included in MTC's bi-monthly e-newsletter to approximately 6,500 individuals, and a postcard was mailed to approximately 2,400 people in MTC's database who do not have an email address on file.

Approximately 170 applications were submitted for the 27 available seats, 18 of which were applications from current advisors. As in the last round of open recruitment, there was an impressive list of candidates including professionals from a range of fields, academics, community leaders and users of the transportation system. The typical candidate possessed a rich array of skills and experiences, and there were many outstanding candidates with additional knowledge or background in a particular area.

Commissioners representing counties or cities within a county will be recommending two county representatives: one individual to fill the minority/low-income seat, and one individual to fill the senior/disabled seat in their county. In the counties where there are two or more Commissioners, they will confer and agree upon the recommended candidates. For the environment and economy appointments, Chair Worth and Vice Chair Cortese have reviewed the applications and will be finalizing their recommended list in the next few weeks.

Due to the volume of information going before the Commission related to Plan Bay Area and the San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge during the month of June, the appointments for the Policy Advisory Council's next term have been delayed until July. A list of recommended candidates will be forwarded to the July Legislation Committee and finalized at the July Commission meeting. Note that the final meeting for the current Council will still be July 10, 2013.

Plan Bay Area Comments Now Available on Web

The comment period for the Draft Plan Bay Area was held from March 22 (from April 2 for the Draft EIR) through May 16, 2013. During that time, approximately 1,250 individuals attending public hearings (at which 385 gave oral comments and 170 submitted written comments); approximately 700 submitted written comments on the Draft Plan and the Draft EIR; 90 participated in the online open Town Hall forum; and 2,500 surveys were collected through a statistically valid telephone poll. In addition, approximately 181 participated in community-based focus groups prior to the release of the draft plan.

Staff will present the above-mentioned comments to the Joint MTC Planning/ABAG Administrative Committee on Friday, June 14, and will also be on hand to review the comments at your June 12 Policy Advisory Council meeting. All of the comments received for the Draft Plan Bay Area can be found on the OneBayArea web site at the following two locations:

- <http://onebayarea.org/regional-initiatives/plan-bay-area/meetings-events/What-We-Heard.html>
- <http://onebayarea.org/regional-initiatives/plan-bay-area/plan-elements/environmental-impact-report.html>

New San Francisco Bay Trail Map and Mobile App Now Available

In the making since 1987, the San Francisco Bay Trail – now two-thirds complete – has a few new tools to make navigating the 330-mile network a bit easier.

First, the completely re-designed and updated San Francisco Bay Trail maps are easy to pack and easy to use, and are now available for purchase for \$14.95. A conveniently packaged colorful box of 25 four-by-seven-inch map cards and a large fold-out map are also available as a box set. Second, a companion online and mobile phone application are also available by visiting the website.

The Bay trail – a shoreline walking and bicycling path that will one day encircle the entire Bay, stretching 500 miles through all nine Bay Area counties – offers a ride or a stroll for everyone from the long-time local to the first-time tourist. The trail passes through highly urbanized areas such as downtown San Francisco and natural areas such as the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. It offers access to commercial, industrial, and residential neighborhoods; points of historic, natural and cultural interest; recreational areas such as beaches, marinas, fishing piers, boat launches, and over 130 parks and wildlife preserves. The Bay Trail offers access on paved multi-use paths, dirt trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

To purchase a copy of the Bay Trail map or the 25-card map set, go to: <http://www.baytrail.org>. And to take advantage of the new interactive online map tool that dishes up the entire Bay Trail network on desktops, laptops and mobile devices, go to: baytrail.org/maps-online.html.

Executive Director's Report

There was no May 2013 Executive Director's Report to the Commission.