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*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Policy Advisory Council  
January 8, 2014  
**Minutes**

Chair Cathleen Baker called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. Policy Advisory Council members in attendance were: Caroline Banuelos, Jim Blacksten, Richard Burnett, JoAnn Busenbark, Carlos Castellanos, Elizabeth Clary, Wilbert Din, Veda Florez, Sandi Galvez, Bob Glover, Jack Gray, Randi Kinman, Jerry Levine, Mark Nicholson, Mike Pechner, Timothy Reeder, Gerald Rico, Linda Jeffery Sailors, Benjamin Schweng, Alan Talansky, and Mordechai Winter. **Excused:** Naomi Armenta, Bena Chang, Chris Coursey, and Richard Hedges. MTC Commissioner Giacomini was also in attendance.

**Approval of December 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the December 11, 2013 meeting were approved after a motion by Carlos Castellanos and a second by Wilbert Din. Alan Talansky abstained from the vote, as he was absent from the December meeting.

**Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

There was no public comment.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Chair Cathleen Baker reported that the Equity and Access Subcommittee did not meet in January.

**2014 Work Plan Discussion**

Chair Cathleen Baker introduced Zach Gautier-Klos and Amanda Moreland of Davis and Associates, who would facilitate a discussion around the Policy Advisory Council's 2014 Work Plan Discussion. Mr. Gautier-Klos divided the Council members into four groups for smaller discussions. In the discussion groups, members brought up the following items as key topics of general interest:

- **Funding**  
Need new sources of revenue – some possibilities are fuel extraction tax, increased gas tax, increased sales tax, cap and trade funds

## **2014 Work Plan Discussion (continued)**

- **Infrastructure Improvements**
  - Maintain and improve transit infrastructure, especially for senior mobility (and to help get people out of cars)
  - More bus improvements (including bus rapid transit)
  - Rail improvements and increased rail capacity
  - Improve public transit (create shorter headways, lengthen service hours and improve Clipper service)
  - Regional connectivity issues (including consolidation where possible); need safe and attractive connections to transit stations and hubs
  - Need more transportation choices that connect cities
- **Smart Growth**
  - Need more density near transit (transit-oriented development)
  - Educate communities about smart growth
  - Address the conflict between environmental/air quality regulations and desired densities for priority development areas
- **Housing**
  - Need more workforce housing
  - Need more affordable housing (very low, low-income, as opposed to workforce housing)
- **Alternative Transportation**

Encourage corporate vanpools (especially for the labor community)
- **Access**
  - Need access to transit stations
  - Disabilities are a factor – need tactile maps; there are also parking meter issues for disabled drivers
  - Need true access to all transportation systems
- **Safety and Security**
  - Bike theft at transit stations is a concern (potentially puts bike/transit riders back in cars)
  - Need safe, multi-modal systems
  - Safety is important (well-lit stops and stations and safe public transportation)
  - Pedestrian safety issues (need safer streets, need complete streets, need to work with transportation partners to improve safety, and need infrastructure improvements focused on pedestrian safety)
- **Education and Outreach**
  - Resistance to growth needs to be addressed via education (about sustainability and Plan Bay Area)
  - Educate the public about sharing the road, best bike practices, and “how to get along” (bicyclists vs. drivers)
  - Need community-level talking points that define jargon
  - Need to reach out to the various constituents that affect transportation (such as corporations and employers, shuttle companies, and school districts)
  - Need to focus on the inclusion of all counties and all communities

### **2014 Work Plan Discussion (continued)**

- **Other/Miscellaneous**
  - Need a holistic approach to transportation planning (housing, job centers, education, etc.) and funding (transit, roads, parking, sidewalks, ferries, etc.)
  - Align overall objectives/infrastructure with local/city level
  - Planning team needs to have on-the-ground experiences for the communities they affect
  - Open spaces/parks

Following discussion, the small groups reconvened and reported their key topics back to the full Council. Several members of the Council stated they enjoyed the small group discussion format of the meeting, noting that it was a great opportunity to get to know some of the other members on the Council. The Council expressed interest in having small breakout group discussions again in the future.

### **Staff Liaison Report**

Pam Grove went over the highlights of the staff liaison report, with special mention of a modified start time of 11 a.m. for the February 2014 Policy Advisory Council meeting.

### **Council Member Reports**

Elizabeth Clary complimented MTC staff on the orientation presentations of the past several months.

Veda Florez informed the Council that Marin Grassroots will be holding a leadership breakfast entitled “Be the Dream” on January 15, 2014 from 8-10 a.m. The event will honor businesses that encompass the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Van Jones from CNN’s Crossfire will be the keynote speaker. More information can be found on their website at: <http://maringrassroots.org/initiatives/equity-impact-initiative/be-the-dream/>

Carlos Castellanos reported that the Oakland Sustainable Neighborhood Initiative will be holding a meeting the evening of February 13, 2014 regarding International Boulevard. They will be looking at transit-oriented development with the intention of bus rapid transit coming. They will also be discussing acid mapping and opportunity sites along the corridor.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m. The next Policy Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2014 in the Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, California.