Agenda Item 6a

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Memorandum

TO:	Policy Advisory Council	DATE:	March 5, 2014
FR:	Stefanie Hom and Ursula Vogler, MTC Climate Initiatives Program	W.I.	1413

RE: Policy Advisory Council – Climate Initiatives Program Overview

Summary

This item includes an overview of the Cycle 1 Climate Initiatives Program, as well as recommendations for Cycle 2 funding. MTC staff will be bringing the Cycle 2 program to MTC's Programming and Allocations Committee in April for approval.

Background

In December 2009 MTC programmed $80 million in Cycle 1 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to implement the Climate Initiatives Program (Climate Program), a multi-faceted program aimed at reducing transportation-related emissions and vehicle miles traveled (VMT), while also informing the region as to the most effective investments to reduce emissions. A critical strategy of Plan Bay Area, the Climate Program's activities comprise 6.3% of our region's 15% per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target by the year 2035.

For Cycle 1, the $80 million Climate Program includes the following efforts: Safe Routes to School, Innovative Grants, public education and outreach, and program evaluation. While Cycle 1 is currently in progress and has taken longer to implement than anticipated, we are starting to see some initial results. The strategies proposed for Cycle 2 provide targeted recommendations to advance the initial successes of Cycle 1. Please note that a full evaluation of Cycle 1 activities, as well as a more detailed Climate Program implementation plan, will be presented to this Committee in the fall.

The project managers of MTC's Climate Initiatives Program will attend your March 12 meeting to provide you with an overview of the program. Included in your packet, for your preview, are the slides that will be used for the presentation.