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MTC PLANNING/ABAG ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
February 14, 2014
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Chair Spering called the MTC Planning/ABAG Administrative Committee meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Planning Committee members in attendance were: Commissioners Azumbrado, Haggerty, Halsted, Kinsey, Liccardo and Luce. Commissioners present as ad hoc non-voting members of the Committee were Bates and Wiener. Commission Chair Rein-Worth, and Commission Vice-Chair Cortese were present in their ex-officio voting member capacity.

ABAG Administrative Committee members in attendance were: Chair Pierce, members Cortese, Eklund, Haggerty, Liccardo, Luce, Mar, and Spering.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Minutes of January 10, 2014

Commissioner Kinsey moved approval of the Consent Calendar, Commissioner Luce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ABAG Administrative committee member Eklund moved approval of the Consent Calendar, ABAG Administrative committee member Mar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ONE BAY AREA GRANT (OBAG) REPORT CARD

Ms. Alix Bockelman and Mr. Craig Goldblatt (MTC) provided a summary of the outcomes of the first round of the new funding approach for the \$320 million distributed to the counties through OBAG. The presentation focused on the administrative aspects of the program, including whether jurisdictions and Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) met program requirements and project selection results.

Committee discussion:

- Commissioner Kinsey stated that the OBAG Program makes a strong commitment to focusing the investments where growth is going to happen, and where transportation investments are most cost-effective. He supports the increased flexibility of the program. He also recommends that MTC emphasize that the OBAG program is structured to respond to SB 375, which links transportation and land use. He requested that staff also track the Priority Conservation Area investments. He noted that the complete streets and HCD policies were a success.

- Commissioner Rein Worth stated that the Policy Advisory Council expressed an interest in the implementation process, and noted the importance of community-based planning. She also noted that legislative efforts are extremely important to make sure the federal and state tax incentives are able to promote the housing production.
- Commissioner Spering asked how many jurisdictions are receiving OBAG funds. Mr. Goldblatt stated that there are 109 jurisdictions in total, and 92 received OBAG funds.
- Commissioner Spering inquired about the Complete Streets general plan amendment requirement. Mr. Goldblatt stated that one of the paths to meeting the Complete Streets requirement was to have a general plan circulation element that met the Complete Streets Act of 2008. Because general plan amendments require resources that cities may not have available, an alternate path to compliance was through adoption of a resolution.
- ABAG Administrative Committee member Pierce stated that there are still some challenges, and requested staff to work on refining the process. She stated that the outreach to small jurisdictions should be robust.
- Commissioner Haggerty commented on the increased funding and program flexibility and sought clarity on the disparity in the percentage increase across counties. Ms. Bockelman explained that MTC distributed the money to the counties based 50% on population and 50% based on different housing factors. In addition, some of the silos in Cycle 1 were based on factors such as pavement condition. Commissioner Haggerty requested staff to provide the breakdown of how each jurisdiction did in the generation formula.
- Commissioner Haggerty commented on the Complete Streets requirements, and asked about Alameda County's compliance in terms of the General Plan amendment to the circulation element due in 2015. Ms. Bockelman stated that the jurisdictions in Alameda County are concerned about being able to meet the 2015 deadline.
- Commissioner Kinsey recommended that staff consider changing the requirement to allow the resolution to demonstrate compliance and focus on outcomes thereafter in terms of complete streets and multimodal investments.
- ABAG Administrative committee member Eklund asked if the OBAG funds are tied to Plan Bay Area and the requirements of linking housing and transportation. She noted that her county does not want to apply for any money that has strings attached. Lastly, she requested that the committee have some discussion about meeting the Plan Bay Area greenhouse gas emission targets. Mr. Heminger responded that the OBAG funds are tied to Plan Bay Area and linked to housing and transportation, as well as meeting the region's greenhouse gas emission targets.
- Commissioner Wiener stated that he doesn't think that the requirements for OBAG go far enough, and noted that if a community does not want to add any new housing then they should not get as much regional funding. Staff needs to make sure that the communities that are willing to add housing get the support in terms of the transit infrastructure necessary to support that growing population.

- Commissioner Haggerty agreed with Commissioner Wiener and stated that if communities are not taking the housing then they should not get transportation funding. He noted that there are a lot of suburbs that are taking the housing and are getting no recognition in transit, which he believes is the flaw in the Plan.
- Commissioner Bates commented on constrained BART capacity, and stated that we must invest in bus service as an alternative to ensure reliability and safety.
- Commissioner Spering stated that there needs to be a rural component to transit investment especially in the express bus and connections to regional rail services, such as the Capitol Corridor.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Kinsey inquired about the next round of federal TIGER Grants.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 14, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, CA.