



Agenda Item 8

METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TDD/TTY 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: April 2, 2014

FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – April 2014

Bike to Work Day is May 8

The San Francisco Bay Area's Bike to Work Day will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Thursday, May 8, 2014, when thousands of new and seasoned bike riders will commute using pedal power. The event is part of National Bike Month, and once again all nine Bay Area counties will participate in the annual celebration. More than one million Bay Area residents live within five miles of their workplace, an ideal distance for bicycling.

On May 8, over 300 Energizer Stations will be located along Bay Area commute routes where cyclists can stop for refreshments, giveaways, and bicycling information or simply be "cheered on" by volunteers. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute hours and some will re-open during the evening commute. In addition to the Energizer Stations, the day offers prizes for those who register and pledge to ride. Registration is free, quick and easy, and automatically enters you into a drawing to win various prizes. Visit youcanbikethere.com for complete event details, Energizer station locations and to register.

Perhaps you know of someone who is already a regular bike commuter. Nominate that person for Bike Commuter of the Year. This year's bike commuter of the year award program opened for nominations on Tuesday, March 18. One bike commuter from each of the nine Bay Area counties will be selected in an effort to recognize their dedication to riding a bicycle for everyday transportation. The deadline to submit a nomination is April 18. Visit youcanbikethere.com/user/register to register and submit a nomination at youcanbikethere.com/bcoy.

And this year's festivities will once again include the Team Bike Challenge and Company Bike Challenge. The month-long Team Bike Challenge and Company Bike Challenge competitions were incorporated into the program in 2006 and 2008, respectively. Last year, nearly 3,500 riders competed in the Team & Company Bike Challenges, forming over 1,000 teams and including over 350 companies. The competition starts May 1 and runs through May 31. To register, visit teambikechallenge.com.

For more information on Bike to Work Day, see MTC's press release at: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/press_releases/rel634.htm

For regional bicycling information, visit bicycling.511.org.

Oakland Airport Connector Gets Test Drive

Last month the Oakland Airport Connector (OAC) cable system successfully made its inaugural run at full speed. Scheduled to open later this year, the OAC shuttle will transport travelers between the Oakland Airport and the Oakland Coliseum. Each of the four OAC vehicles is about the length of a traditional BART car and will carry 150 passengers at a speed of 30 miles an hour. Each trip will take eight minutes and will drop passengers off closer to the airport than the nearest parking space.

For more information about the OAC shuttle, visit MTC's web site at:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/current_topics/2-14/oac.htm

For continuous updates on the project, visit the Oakland Airport Connector web site at:

<http://www.oakconnector.com/>

Interested individuals can also phone the project information line (510.464.6463) or send an email to oaklandairportconnector@bart.gov for specific information.

2014-2015 Policy Advisory Council Work Plan

Attached is a copy of the final version of the 2014-2015 Policy Advisory Council work plan, which was presented to the Commission at its March 26th meeting. Staff will use this work plan to schedule several brainstorming sessions to solicit your input over the coming year.

May 14 Brainstorming Session

Next month, the Council will have the first of several brainstorming sessions outlined in your 2014-2015 work plan. The discussion topic for May centers around public education and engagement. In preparation for this session, I am requesting that you review several documents, which can be found online:

1. Evaluation of Plan Bay Area Public Outreach and Participation: http://onebayarea.org/pdf/Evaluation_Report_PBA_Outreach.pdf
2. Legacy of Leadership: http://www.onebayarea.org/pdf/Plan_Bay_Area_Report.pdf
3. MTC Public Participation Plan: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/get_involved/ppp/Final_PPP_Dec_3_2010.pdf

Executive Director's Report

The following items were in the March 2014 Executive Director's Report to the Commission:

Meeting with new VTA General Manager – San Jose, March 7

I had a lengthy and cordial lunch meeting with Nuria Fernandez, the new general manager of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). Nuria and I have known each other for some time due to our joint service on the Mineta Transportation Institute Board of Directors.

Executive Director's Report *(continued)*

SSTI Workshop – Detroit, March 25

At the invitation of the State Smart Transportation Initiative (SSTI), I traveled to Detroit to make a special presentation to several state DOT directors about MTC's experience in performance-based planning and project selection. SSTI is the organization that recently conducted an independent management review of Caltrans, and both California Transportation Secretary Brian Kelly and Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty attended the Detroit event.

To read the March 2014 Executive Director's report to the Commission in its entirety, go to http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/ed_report.htm.

Attachment: 2014-2015 Policy Advisory Council Work Plan

MTC POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL 2014-2015 WORK PLAN

Overview

The Commission met in February 2014 with its Policy Advisory Council (Council) to discuss the Council's continued role in providing valuable insight and advice regarding MTC's programs and initiatives. Both the Commission and the Council brought forth topics of interest for the Council's focus in the coming year. Areas of intersection between the Commission and the Council were highlighted during the meeting. The Council expressed interest in further exploring these topics during its meetings in small group style formats.

Work Plan Recommendations

The Council narrowed down the list of common topics at its March 2014 meeting, and will focus on five items over the next year:

1. Brainstorm best ways to **educate the public** about the idea of sustainability, the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and how Plan Bay Area fits into the picture (why it is important, what it does, what it doesn't do, the process and schedule for updating it, etc.).
2. Suggest **incentives for local governments and developers** to create transit-oriented development (TODs) and ensure affordable housing.
3. Brainstorm ways of developing **new funding sources** for transit.
4. Consider any new or remaining issues that should be addressed in the next **regional transportation plan** update, as well as potential barriers to local implementation of Plan Bay Area and ways to eliminate those barriers.
5. In addition, the Council's standing subcommittee on Equity and Access will take a look at **paratransit** in an effort to suggest standardization of policies and identify best practices for the region.