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## *Memorandum*

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: May 7, 2014

FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – May 2014

### **2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Investment Analysis Methodology**

At the June Equity and Access Subcommittee meeting, MTC TIP Planner Adam Crenshaw will give an overview of the proposed methodology for the 2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) investment analysis. In the past, the proposed methodology for the investment analysis has been reviewed by the subcommittee before the Draft 2015 TIP is released and brought before the full Council. Staff plans to continue that review process again this year.

As a reminder, all Council members are welcome to attend any Equity and Access Subcommittee meeting if they are interested in the subject matter. You do not have to formalize yourself as a subcommittee member in order to be present at a meeting. In addition, the subcommittee packet is distributed to the full Council and is also posted to the MTC web site.

The results of the Draft 2015 TIP Investment Analysis will go before the full Council at your July meeting. If you have any questions about the TIP, please feel free to email Adam Crenshaw at [acrenshaw@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:acrenshaw@mtc.ca.gov) or phone him at 510-817-5794.

### **MTC Honored Twice at 2014 Clean Air Awards**

On Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, two of MTC's programs were honored as winners of Breathe California's 2014 Clean Air Awards. Approximately 200 Bay Area environmental and civic leaders gathered for the awards luncheon at the Westin St. Francis in San Francisco. This year's nominees included just under 30 business, civic, health, and education leaders who made a positive impact on Bay Area air quality through their leadership and advances in technology, research, and education. Six winners were selected, and MTC collected two of the trophies.

The new Bay Area Bike Share pilot program, which is funded in part by MTC and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, received an award in the Transportation category. The program was honored for being the first bike share system to launch in the U.S. as a unified regional system. The pilot program provides an easy and cost effective "last mile" solution, linking public transit with riders' final destinations in the cities of San Francisco, Redwood City, Palo Alto, Mountain View and San Jose. Former Elderly and Disabled Committee staff liaison Ursula Vogler is now one of the project managers of the Bay Area Bike Share program.

### **MTC Honored Twice at 2014 Clean Air Awards (continued)**

In the Public Awareness category, the Youth for the Environment and Sustainability (or YES) Conference was honored. The one-day event held last year brought together Bay Area middle and high school students who are passionate about alternative transportation modes and saying NO to climate change. These students are collectively spearheading efforts in their communities to reduce pollution, increase transportation options and improve overall health. The Conference was spearheaded by former Policy Advisory Council secretary Leslie Lara in partnership with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Spare the Air Youth program staff.

The Clean Air Awards recognize the outstanding work being done across government, business, education, health and nonprofit sectors to address these important issues of air quality and lung health. Congratulations go out to Ursula and Leslie on being honored for their work.

### **Executive Director's Report**

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

#### ***Senators Announce MAP-21 Reauthorization Agreement – Washington, DC, April 10***

Senator Barbara Boxer, Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, and the committee's ranking Republican, Senator David Vitter, announced their bi-partisan agreement on a set of principles to guide reauthorization of the MAP 21 legislation that expires on September 30, 2014. The six principles appear fairly benign, but none contain any hint of how to pay for the next surface transportation bill since the Highway Trust Fund will be unable to meet its current financial obligations as soon as this August. In order to achieve two of the six principles – “passing a long-term bill” and “keeping current levels of funding, plus inflation” – the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has estimated that an additional \$100 billion in funding capacity would be required over the next six years. That's a tall order indeed.

#### ***Steinberg Announces Major Cap & Trade Proposal – Sacramento, April 14***

Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg has ditched his proposal for a carbon tax and pivoted to a major proposal for a long-term, statutory commitment of Cap & Trade funds to a variety of programs dominated by transportation investments such as public transit assistance, road repair, complete streets, and high speed rail. I attended the press conference at the senator's invitation. MTC staff will be intensively involved with numerous other stakeholders as the proposal is translated into detailed bill language that is likely to be negotiated in tandem with the FY 2014-15 state budget this summer.

To read the April 2014 Executive Director's report to the Commission in its entirety, go to [http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/ed\\_report.htm](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/ed_report.htm).