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*Amy Rein Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Alix Bockelman*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Policy Advisory Council  
February 11, 2015  
**Minutes**

Chair Randi Kinman called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m. Policy Advisory Council members in attendance were: Naomi Armenta, Cathleen Baker, Jim Blacksten, Richard Burnett, JoAnn Busenbark, Carlos Castellanos, Elizabeth Clary, Wilbert Din, Veda Florez, Sandi Galvez, Charles Kaufman, Jerry Levine, Mark Nicholson, Mike Pechner, Linda Jeffery Sailors, and Harriet Wolf. **Excused:** Caroline Bañuelos, Bob Glover, and Shireen Malekafzali. **Absent:** Richard Hedges, Gerald Rico, Benjamin Schweng, and Alan Talansky.

**Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the January 14, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Linda Jeffery Sailors and a second by Veda Florez.

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

There was no public comment.

**Subcommittee Report**

Equity and Access Chair Naomi Armenta reported that the subcommittee met earlier in the day and received an update on the California Household Travel Survey and the Bay Area Transit Passenger Survey from Shimon Israel in MTC's Planning Section. Ms. Armenta also announced that the subcommittee will hold elections for a new chair and vice chair at its next meeting.

**Cap and Trade Update**

Matt Maloney, Programming and Allocations Principal, gave an update on three of the state Cap and Trade programs. The Council asked clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- Naomi Armenta mentioned that the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan is not included on Attachment C under Item 4, Support for the Region's Adopted Transit Priorities, even though it is one of MTC's adopted policies and has a number of recommendations related to transit. Alix Bockelman, Deputy Director of Policy, responded that it should probably be included, and staff will add it to the list going to the Commission.

### **Cap and Trade Update (continued)**

- Sandi Galvez expressed concern that the state's definition of disadvantaged communities could segregate affordable housing in low-income communities and not provide low-income residents opportunities to move closer to their jobs where there are more resources. In response to her question of whether this issue is reflected in the guidelines, Mr. Maloney stated there has been some broadening of the disadvantaged communities criteria. He also reminded the Council that while 50% of the investments from the state's program will go to the disadvantaged communities, 50% is not so geographically restricted. Ms. Galvez offered to provide staff with information regarding a methodology developed by a collaborative of Bay Area and Southern California health departments for determining disadvantaged communities.
- In response to Harriet Wolf's question about what methods will be used to ensure the housing constructed will remain affordable over time, Mr. Maloney stated that while the SGC scoring criteria in the guidelines does address the issue of affordability, he will have to research the issue of continued affordability over time in perpetuity.
- Mike Pechner asked whether SMART's lack of plans for headway frequencies of 15 minutes or less during peak hours disqualifies them for Cap and Trade funds. Mr. Maloney responded that while SMART might not be eligible under the TOD category, they might qualify as an integrated connectivity (ICP) project. Mr. Maloney also responded to Mr. Pechner's questions about when Cap and Trade revenues might be expected, stating the first two auctions are expected to be held on February 18 and May 21, 2015. By the end of June MTC hopes to have a better sense of how much revenue will be generated, and Mr. Pechner requested a future presentation on that information when it is available.

Mr. Maloney noted the Commission plans to approve the principles at its meeting in February and the project list recommendations at its meeting in May. Ms. Bockelman added if the Council or its Equity and Access Subcommittee would like to view the recommendations and provide input, that would also need to happen in May. The Council requested that the item return at that time, or go to the subcommittee if needed.

Following the presentation and discussion, Ms. Galvez made the following motion:

1. Expand MTC's list of adopted transit priorities to include important documents such as the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.
2. Staff should look further at other ways to avoid displacement and gentrification, including having deed-restrictive covenants put into affordable housing projects.

After a second by Ms. Armenta, the Council unanimously voted to forward the comments to the Commission regarding the principles.

## **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)/Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and Title VI Update**

MTC's Contract Compliance Manager Denise Rodrigues gave the Council an update on MTC's most recent and ongoing DBE/SBE and Title VI activities. The Council asked clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- In response to a question by Cathleen Baker inquiring whether there might be some use for the Business to Government (B2G) program to assist vendors in their Title VI reporting, Ms. Rodrigues noted the program is not currently being used for Title VI, but MTC is talking with B2G and will mention it to their users group.
- Carlos Castellanos commended Ms. Rodrigues for her use of webinars to outreach to businesses.

## **Legislative Update**

MTC Principal Planner/Analyst Theresa Romell briefed the Council on current transportation funding initiatives and goals at both the state and federal level. The Council asked clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- Regarding the state's plans to relinquish state highways to local government, Mr. Levine observed that when a higher level of government relinquishes its responsibilities to lower levels, the burden – both administratively and cost-wise – ends up with the local entity. Randi Kinman responded the Beautiful Way Project in San Jose is a great example of a higher level of government relinquishing their responsibilities to lower levels of government with a positive outcome.
- In response to Ms. Florez' question about Express Lanes, Ms. Bockelman stated the bill would restore the California Transportation Commission's expired authority to authorize Express Lanes in the state.
- In response to Jim Blacksten's question whether capital investment grant funds are available at the state level, Ms. Bockelman stated the Capital Investment Grant Program includes money for New Starts, Small Starts, and Core Capacity Improvements. The Bay Area does have several projects that are receiving New Starts and Small Starts funding, and they would be expected to continue to receive funds.

## **Staff Liaison Report**

Pam Grove went over the highlights of the staff liaison report. Ms. Grove mentioned recruitment for two of the three vacant Policy Advisory Council positions closed, and recruitment for a Contra Costa County disabled representative will remain open until the position is filled. A request for proposals for Plan Bay Area 2015-2017 Community-Based Outreach is now posted to the MTC website at <http://bids.mtc.ca.gov/procurements/196>. Ms. Grove also noted applications for MTC's High School Internship Program are now being accepted. The deadline for applications is March 8, 2015, and information can be found on MTC's web site at <http://jobs.mtc.ca.gov/InternshipOpportunities/HighSchoolInfo/highschoolintern.html>.

### **Council Member Reports**

There were no council member reports.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m. The next meeting of the Policy Advisory Council is scheduled for March 11, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, 101 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, California.