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Deputy Executive Director, Policy

**PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2007
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Spering called the Planning Committee meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Other members in attendance were Commissioners Azumbrado, Giacomini, Glover, Halsted, Lempert, McLemore, Rubin, Yeager and Tissier.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 12, 2007 were approved unanimously.

2007 FOCUS PROGRAM

Mr. Ted Droettboom provided a Power Point presentation on a multi-agency planning program called FOCUS. He noted that it builds upon recent Bay Area regional planning efforts, including the Smart Growth Strategy/Regional Livability Footprint Project, the Transportation for Livable Communities and Housing Incentive Programs, and the Transportation and Land-Use Platform in the Transportation 2030 Plan. He described the schedule for outreach meetings and grant applications culminating in the ABAG General Assembly adoption of an initial set of priority areas on October 18, 2007.

Mr. Steve Heminger described the Commission's existing support for the transportation land use connection including the TLC and HIP programs, which in MTC's current long-range plan represent a commitment of about \$450 million, and the Commission TOD policy, which requires certain jurisdictions in certain corridors to increase density around transit stations and leverages close to \$2 billion. He stated that 80% of the RTP expenditures are dedicated to operating and maintaining the existing system, and the vast majority of those expenditures support established communities.

Commissioner Spering expressed his concern that the FOCUS program not negatively affect TLC/HIP Program. He also stated that there has to be a careful look at how MTC invests funds as a result of these planning activities.

Commissioner Lempert agreed with Commissioner Spering and noted that there needs to be full stakeholder participation over the nine bay area counties for the FOCUS goals to be successful.

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Commissioner Glover noted that in-depth planning will need to consider the region as a whole, as well as the uniqueness of policies developed at the sub-regional level.

Commissioner Halsted stated that staff might need to look at different demonstration projects to compare differences among various sub-regional and local policy approaches.

In conclusion, Mr. Heminger stated that the Joint Policy Committee (JPC) would be very involved with the development of the next Regional Transportation Plan update.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, CA.