



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

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## *Memorandum*

TO: Regional Pedestrian Committee

DATE: April 19, 2007

FR: Sean Co

W. I.

RE: 2007 Work Plan Element- Regional Pedestrian Needs

### **Background**

The 2007 RPC work plan was discussed at the December 14, 2006 RPC meeting. A revised work plan is attached (Attachment A).

A subcommittee developed suggestions for a cumulative project for the 2007 meetings that would provide background for a discussion of a regional pedestrian plan. MTC staff are willing to support the RPC in this effort, if the committee wishes to proceed on this route.

MTC Staff will conduct periodic reviews on the meeting topics to ensure the committee maintains the proper focus on the task. The committee should note that by committing to the project as outlined below, MTC is not committing to the development of a regional pedestrian plan. These meeting topics as well as the summary report are a basis for consideration of developing such a plan.

### **2007 Work Plan**

The draft RPC work plan has been revised with subcommittee input. The work plan helps the committee to identify particular projects for 2007 in addition to the regional pedestrian planning needs project. Feedback on the work plan is requested.

### **Regional Pedestrian Planning Needs**

The framework for the regional pedestrian needs project would be structured as follows:

- Starting at the June RPC meeting, and continuing through the rest of the 2007 meetings each meeting would have an agenda item on a specific issue as outlined below. (These items would carry over to a few 2008 meetings.) Agendas would also continue to include items addressing the elements of the RPC work plan.
- Each meeting would result in a 2-3-page memo to be completed by RPC members on the specific item.
- The memos would be shared with MTC staff and committee members.
- Following the conclusion of the specific issues, a short report would be generated that presents the case for why pedestrian planning has regional significance and why a regional pedestrian plan may be relevant to MTC.

## Meeting Topics

1. Project Basis: How are pedestrian issues of regional significance relevant to transportation planning?
  - a. Pedestrian connections to regionally significant transit.
  - b. Pedestrian design (or mitigations) associated with regionally significant roadways (freeway crossings at interchanges and pedestrian/bicycle bridges, arterial streets that are state highways, and roadways on the Metropolitan Transportation System)
  - c. Cross-county projects including regional trails, bridges, etc.
2. Plan Component - Existing Conditions: Based on work already completed by the MTC including pedestrian counts, collision analysis toolkit, etc.
3. Plan Component - Policies: Based on existing MTC resolutions and planning documents like routine accommodations, TOD policy, etc.
4. Plan Component - Design Guidelines or Best Practices: Based on MTC toolkit.
5. Plan Component - Implementation: Based on existing MTC funding programs.
6. Synthesis / Summary Report: The last meeting would bring together the plan components discussed in the prior four meetings, presenting the basis for a regional pedestrian plan along with an outline of what it would include (based largely on completed work to date).

## Regional Pedestrian Plan

To date, MTC's efforts on regional pedestrian issues have focused on the Pedestrian Districts Study, which was completed in fall 2005. Since then, the Commission has taken two important steps that provide a policy framework for prioritizing MTC's pedestrian (and bicycle) planning activities.

1. The Commission adopted the MTC Strategic Plan, which plainly lays out areas where there is a regionally significant function and where staff is directed to increase the level of effort. In other areas, including bicycle and pedestrian planning, the Strategic Plan directs staff to support local jurisdictions assessment on important local issues.
2. The Commission adopted the Routine Accommodation Policy, which outlines specific steps MTC will take to promote non-motorized planning and support local jurisdictions that routinely accommodate pedestrian and bicycle facilities in road and transit projects. In particular, MTC will support funding for bicycle and pedestrian planning.