



**METROPOLITAN
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Memorandum

TO: Partnership Technical Advisory Committee

DATE: May 14, 2007

FR: Joy Lee

W. I.

RE: Freeway Performance Initiative Overview and Coordination with 2009 RTP

Freeway Performance Initiative Overview

The Freeway Performance Initiative (FPI) is a new MTC effort to improve the operations, safety, and management of the Bay Area's freeway system. The purpose of the FPI is to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to guide the next generation of freeway investment. The goals and objectives are to:

- Improve system efficiency through the deployment of system operations and management strategies;
- Maximize use of available freeway capacity by completing the High Occupancy Vehicle lane system;
- Actively address regional freight movement issues; and
- Close key gaps in the freeway system's physical infrastructure.

The primary product of the FPI will be a prioritized list of strategies and projects that will help guide near-term investments and become the initial proposals that will help frame the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). To develop this list, studies of the major corridors in the Bay Area will be conducted. These studies will focus on freeway operations, incorporating parallel arterials and transit, and will include documentation of existing problems, development of viable short-term and long-term solutions, preparation of rough cost estimates, and an assessment of impacts and benefits of the proposed solutions. Studies for up to ten (10) corridors will be conducted. The effect of a small number of regional multi-corridor strategies may also be assessed.

Although the FPI will be led by MTC, the effort will be a collaboration with the Bay Area Partnership, including Caltrans District 4 and the Bay Area Congestion Management Agencies. Four consultant teams have been retained to provide technical support for this effort.

FPI coordination with RTP

As the stakeholders continue work on the FPI corridor studies, MTC staff will incorporate the RTP project submittals to form a prioritized list of strategy and project recommendations. Key milestones are as follows:

- Continue FPI work with Caltrans, Congestion Management Agencies, and consultant teams in Spring and Summer 2007
- Begin FPI performance assessment starting May 2007
- RTP projects submittals due to MTC by July 27, 2007
- Begin RTP scenario and project performance assessment, building on FPI findings, to produce draft RTP/ FPI recommendations in August 2007
- Complete FPI performance assessment by December 2007
- Produce final FPI recommendations in December 2007 to help frame the RTP financially constrained list of projects and strategies.