

Date: January 25, 2023
W.I.: 1111
Referred by: Commission

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4558

Resolution of Appreciation for Amy Worth for her service as Commissioner on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

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RE: Resolution of Appreciation for Amy Worth

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
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WHEREAS, Commissioner Amy Rein Worth has stepped away from elected office in the city of Orinda and has stepped down from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission after 16 years of extraordinary service representing the cities of Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, the many leadership posts held by Amy during her years at MTC include service as Vice Chair of the Commission from 2011 to 2013, as Commission Chair from 2013 to 2015, and as Chair of the Bay Area Toll Authority Oversight Committee from 2015 through 2022; and

WHEREAS, Amy was a stalwart champion of such vital Contra Costa County transportation improvements as the e-BART extension to Pittsburg and Antioch that began passenger service in 2018, the direct connector ramps between State Routes 4 and 160 that opened to traffic in 2016, the Interstate 680 Contra Costa Express Lane projects that debuted between Walnut Creek and San Ramon in 2017 and between Martinez and Walnut Creek in 2021, and the long-awaited Fourth Bore of the Caldecott Tunnel that opened in 2013 and for which Amy was a catalyst for the competition in which six decorative medallions designed by six young artists from schools in Contra Costa and Alameda counties were selected to adorn both entrances to the new tunnel; and

WHEREAS, during her term as MTC Chair, Amy led the Commission's 2013 adoption of Plan Bay Area, the region's first unified transportation, land-use and housing plan, and the first to incorporate a Sustainable Communities Strategy, as mandated by California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006; and

WHEREAS, Amy during her term as Chair also guided the project to redevelop and seismically retrofit the 1940s era building that was rechristened in 2016 as the Bay Area Metro Center and now serves as the headquarters for MTC, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and also houses several private tenants; and

WHEREAS, in her role as MTC Chair, Amy cut the ribbon not only for the Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore but also presided over the openings of such other important regional transportation projects as the Tom Lantos Tunnels along State Route 1 at Devil's Slide and the new East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Amy advised the Bay Bridge East Span project management team during the latter months of construction as team members grappled with design and engineering challenges, including the failure of high-strength steel bolts and the selection of an alternative design to maintain the holding power these bolts otherwise would have provided; and

WHEREAS, from her position as MTC Chair, Amy established the BATA Oversight Committee as the primary forum for keeping the public informed not only about the difficulties facing the East Span replacement project but also the way in which BATA and its partners at Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission overcame these difficulties; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her nearly eight-year tenure as Chair of the BATA Oversight Committee, Amy galvanized unanimous support for the coming transition to open-road tolling at the Bay Area's seven state-owned toll bridges and guided the rapid March 2020 switch to all-electronic precipitated by the Covid-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Amy led the BATA Recovery Ad Hoc Working Group to meet the myriad fiscal and operational challenges facing the entire toll bridge enterprise as a result of the disruptions caused by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Amy spearheaded the 2021 adoption of BATA's Equity Action Plan through which toll violation penalties were reduced and these reductions were made retroactive; implemented the Toll Bridge Asset Management Program in partnership with Caltrans; and

managed the planning, design, funding and construction of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Access Improvement pilot projects, including the peak-period eastbound traffic lane from San Rafael to Richmond and the first-ever Bay Trail connection for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling between Contra Costa and Marin counties; and

WHEREAS, Amy was an enthusiastic participant in Orinda festivities associated with MTC's Bike to Work Day celebrations, consistently supported bicycle and pedestrian projects throughout the region, and played a lead role in the 2013 launch of the Bay Area Bikeshare program now known as Bay Wheels; and

WHEREAS, Amy has been an equally consistent and enthusiastic supporter of involving young people in the process of developing transportation plans and making policy decisions, and served as the opening speaker for MTC's first Youth for the Environment and Sustainability (YES) conference; and

WHEREAS, Amy's warm and gregariousness nature helped her establish close bonds with commissioners and staff alike, reinforcing these relationships with her irrepressible interest in learning about the background and experiences of those she encounters; and

WHEREAS, Amy is an inveterate voyager who has visited virtually every part of the planet, and also is an indefatigable browser of boutiques, bazaars, street markets and souks; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the staff and commissioners pay tribute to Amy for her long and illustrious record of public service, express appreciation for the generous and energetic spirit she brought to doing the peoples' work, commend her commitment to constructive collegiality, and extend to Amy and her entire family los deseos mejores de buena salud, mucha diversión, viajes seguros y ofertas increíbles as they pursue new adventures near and far.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission held in San Francisco, California, and at other remote locations, on January 25, 2023.