
MTC's Draft 2023 Public Participation Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee

March 10, 2023

Background

- In accordance with 23 CFR 450.316, **MTC is required to engage in a planning process that creates opportunities for public involvement, participation and consultation throughout the development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).**
- SB 375 (Steinberg, 2008) also requires MTC to develop a separate engagement plan for the development of the RTP and Sustainable Communities Strategy — the region's long-range plan, known as Plan Bay Area 2050.

Update Approach

- ***New!*** Provide the public with an overview of how they can get involved in other agency projects and activities with opportunities for input and engagement beyond PBA and the TIP.
- ***New!*** Incorporate Equity Platform into the plan.
- Update **Guiding Principles** and **Engagement Strategies** to help guide all agency public engagement activities.
- Incorporate current best practices for engagement methods.

What We Heard

- The pandemic's impact cemented the expectation for virtual engagement opportunities.
- If we meet in-person, we must “meet people where they already are.”
- Providing online/telephone options for participating — rather than in-person events — was ranked as the easiest option for people to participate in and provide input on MTC's work.
- Use of plain language rose as a top request for improving engagement.
- Participants highlighted the need for more “education.”

What's Different?

Guiding Principles

- Effective engagement has a clear purpose.
- Effective engagement requires two-way education and relationship building.
- Effective engagement is not one-size-fits-all.
- Clear communication is essential in effective engagement.
- Effective engagement demands accountability.
- Engagement requires openness and transparency (adopted as an environmental justice principle by the Commission in 2006).

Next Steps

- February 23 — Release MTC's Draft 2023 PPP for 45-day comment period
- March 10 — Presentation and discussion at Joint Legislation Committee
- April 10 — Close of comment period
- June 9 — Presentation of Revised Draft at Joint Legislation Committee
- June 28 — Final Commission Action on 2023 PPP

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