# Metropolitan Transportation Commission Operations Committee

September 9, 2022 Agenda Item 4b

MTC Resolution No. 4538: 2021 MTC Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

## **Subject:**

Adoption of the MTC report, "2021 MTC Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## **Background:**

As defined in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subpart M, Section 206.401, hazard mitigation is "any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards." As such, hazard mitigation is any work to minimize the impacts of any type of hazard event before it occurs. Hazard mitigation aims to reduce losses from future disasters. It is a process that identifies, and profiles hazards, analyzes the people and facilities at risk, and develops mitigation actions to reduce or eliminate hazard risk. The implementation of the mitigation actions—which include short and long-term strategies that may involve planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities—is the end result of this process.

Over the past two decades, local hazard mitigation planning has been driven by a federal law, known as the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000). On October 30, 2000, Congress passed the DMA 2000 (Public Law 106-390), which amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 (Title 42 of the United States Code Section 5121 et seq.) by repealing the act's previous mitigation planning section (409) and replacing it with a new mitigation planning section (322). This new section emphasized the need for state, tribal, and local entities to closely coordinate mitigation planning and implementation efforts. This new section also provided the legal basis for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) mitigation plan requirements for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

In 2021, MTC developed a local Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) to fulfill the planning process requirements for MTC and eight partner transit agencies who needed a FEMA-approved plan. The participating agencies were Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit), Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA), Marin County Transit District (Marin Transit), MTC, Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA), Santa Rosa CityBus, Solano County Transit (SolTrans), Western Contra Costa Transit Authority (WestCAT), and San

Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA). These agencies will be eligible to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs upon resolution adoption by the participating agencies and final approval by FEMA and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The entire document is available at:

https://mtc.ca.gov/operations/programs-projects/emergency-management/multi-jurisdictional-hazard-mitigation-plan-mjhmp

The mitigation actions in the appendices of the plan help achieve the goals of the MJHMP. In general, the recommended mitigation actions include education and awareness, structure and infrastructure projects, preparedness and response, and local plans and regulations. The actions address every hazard profiled in the plan and are based on the plan's risk assessment as well as lessons learned from recent disasters. They were developed using FEMA success stories and best management practices, FEMA job aids, local and regional plans and reports, and input from planning committee members, stakeholder groups, and sustainability practitioners.

#### **Issues:**

None identified.

#### **Recommendations:**

Staff recommends that MTC Resolution No. 4538 (Attachment A) adopting the 2021 MTC Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan be forwarded to the Commission for approval.

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: MTC Resolution No. 4538, 2021 MTC Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Therese W. McMillan