

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Administration Committee

May 08, 2024

Agenda Item 2g-24-0582

International Travel Request: MTC staff and Commissioner participation in the 2024 Social Housing Field Study in Vienna, Austria

Subject:

International travel requests for MTC staff and commissioner participation in the 2024 Social Housing Field Study in Vienna, Austria.

International Travel Requests:

The Global Policy Leadership Academy (GPLA) has invited MTC to participate in the upcoming Vienna Social Housing Field Study Trip from July 14 to July 20, 2024. Program participants will learn from and engage with GPLA key faculty and a variety of Viennese housing experts to gain firsthand knowledge about a proven model of social housing. Key topics include urban planning, construction, financing, land management, and community engagement. The exclusive curriculum will include daily lectures, symposia, gatherings, exhibits, and field trips. Executive Director Andrew Fremier and Section Director, Legislative and Public Affairs, Rebecca Long were identified as staff for whom this study trip would be valuable because of their expertise and experience.

In addition to the above listed staff, the following commissioners and ABAG representative have been identified to participate as valued contributors in their role as representatives of the SF Bay Area:

1. Chair Alfredo Pedroza
2. Commissioner Margaret Abe-Koga

During this program, the delegation will discuss:

1. The role of government in planning and funding social housing
2. The economics of the Vienna Social Housing Model including rents and incomes served
3. A comparison of affordable housing in the USA to the Vienna Social Housing Model
4. Urban planning and urban design
5. Creating permanent affordability for all Housing subsidies in Vienna
6. Creating a walkable and bikeable city

Registration costs include the educational programming, lodging, meals, and ground transportation. All registration and travel expenses will be coordinated and covered by MTC.

Commissioner Libby Schaaf was extended an invitation to this program, and she registered for and attended the spring cohort in April. The program, purpose, and discussions she participated in are the same as the aforementioned summer cohort. As required by Commission procedure, Chair Alfredo Pedroza and Vice Chair Nick Chair Josefowitz have expressed support for retroactive approval and reimbursement of Commissioner Schaaf's participation in the Spring 2024 Vienna Social Housing Field Study Trip.

Issues:

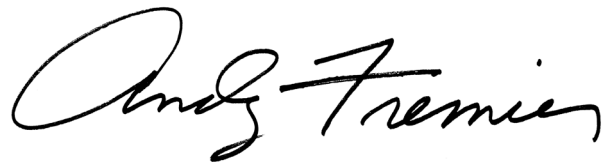
None identified.

Recommendations:

1. Staff recommends that the Committee authorize MTC staff Andrew Fremier and Rebecca Long for international travel as described above, with full registration and associated travel costs covered by MTC.
2. Staff recommends that the Committee authorize Commissioners Alfredo Pedroza and Margaret Abe-Koga for international travel as described above with full registration and associated travel costs covered by MTC.
3. Staff recommends that the Committee authorize retroactive approval of international travel for Commissioner Libby Schaaf, with reimbursement of registration fees and associated travel costs covered by MTC.

Attachments:

- Request for Committee Approval – Summary of Proposed International Travel Request



Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed International Travel Request

Work Item No.:	5100
Staff:	Andrew Fremier, Rebecca Long
Commissioners:	Alfredo Pedroza and Margaret Abe-Koga, and Libby Schaff
Travel Location:	Vienna, Austria
Travel Dates:	July 13, 2024 through July 20, 2024
Purpose of Travel:	Vienna Social Housing Field Study
Travel Cost Estimate:	\$50,000
Funding Source:	Expenses covered by MTC
Fiscal Impact:	\$50,000
Motion by Committee:	Andrew Fremier, Executive Director; Rebecca Long, Section Director, Legislative and Public Affairs; MTC Commission Chair Alfredo Pedroza; and Commissioner Margaret Abe-Koga are authorized for international travel as described above and in the Administration Committee Summary Sheet dated May 8, 2024, with a requirement to set aside funds. Commissioner Libby Schaaf is authorized for retroactive approval of international travel as described above and in the Administration Committee Summary Sheet dated May 8, 2024, with a requirement to set aside funds.
Administration Committee:	Gina Papan, Chair
Approved:	May 8, 2024