



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Meeting Agenda

Policy Advisory Council

Randi Kinman, Chair
Cynthia L. Murray, Vice Chair

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

1:30 PM

Board Room - 1st Floor (REMOTE)

In light of Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020 and the Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health, the meeting will be conducted via webcast, teleconference, and Zoom for Policy Advisory Council members who will participate in the meeting from individual remote locations. A Zoom panelist link for meeting participants will be sent separately to Policy Advisory Council members.

The meeting webcast will be available at <http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/meetings>. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely via Zoom at the following link or phone number. Council Members and members of the public participating by Zoom wishing to speak should use the "raise hand" feature or dial *9. When called upon, unmute yourself or dial *6. In order to get the full Zoom experience, please make sure your application is up to date.

Attendee Link: <https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/82375516656>

iPhone One-Tap: US: +14086380968,,82375516656# or +16699006833,,82375516656#
Join by Telephone Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location) US:
+1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 646 876 9923
or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 823 7551 6656

International numbers available: <https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/kR0dQwNNI>

Detailed instructions on participating via Zoom are available at:
<https://mtc.ca.gov/how-provide-public-comment-board-meeting-zoom>

Members of the public may participate by phone or Zoom or may submit comments by email at info@bayareametro.gov by 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting date. Please include the committee or board meeting name and agenda item number in the subject line. Due to the current circumstances there may be limited opportunity to address comments during the meeting. All comments received will be submitted into the record.

The Policy Advisory Council advises the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on transportation policies in the San Francisco Bay Area, incorporating diverse perspectives relating to the environment, the economy, and social equity.

1. Welcome

Randi Kinman, Council Chair

2. Roll Call / Confirm Quorum

Quorum: A quorum of this council shall be a majority of its regular voting members (13).

3. [21-0620](#)

Chair's Report
(7 minutes)

Action: Information

Presenter: Randi Kinman, Council Chair

4. [21-0621](#)

Approval of the April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes
(5 minutes)

Action: Approval

Attachments: [04 Council Minutes Apr 14 2021.pdf](#)

5. Public Comments / Other Business

*Council Members and members of the public participating by Zoom wishing to speak should use the "raise hand" feature or dial *9. When called upon, unmute yourself or dial *6.*

6. [21-0622](#)

Subcommittee Reports
(25 minutes)

Action: Information

Presenter: Veda Florez, Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee
Chair and

Adina Levin, Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration
Subcommittee Chair

Attachments: [06 Handout-Equity and Access Recommendation to Council May 2021 CoC.r](#)

7. [21-0623](#)

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Update
(20 minutes)

Update on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Action: Information

Presenter: Melanie Choy

Attachments: [07 Blue Ribbon.pdf](#)

8. [21-0619](#) Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement
(40 minutes)
- Update on the envisioned release window for Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which will kick off the final round of public engagement, with a deeper-dive briefing for committees and boards slated for next month.
- Action:** Information
- Presenter:** Dave Vautin
- Attachments:** [08_PBA2050-Draft Plan Release Announcement.pdf](#)
9. [21-0627](#) Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language
(40 minutes)
- Proposal to rename “Communities of Concern” as “Equity Priority Communities” for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.
- Action:** Information
- Presenter:** Anup Tapase
- Attachments:** [09_RethinkingCommunitiesofConcern_May2021.pdf](#)
10. [21-0624](#) Staff Liaison Report
(3 minutes)
- Relevant MTC policy decisions and other activities.
- Action:** Information
- Presenter:** Marti Paschal, Staff Liaison
- Attachments:** [10_Staff Liaison-May 2021.pdf](#)
11. [21-0625](#) Council Member Reports
(5 minutes)
- Members of the Council may report on locally relevant issues or events.
- Action:** Information
- Presenter:** Randi Kinman, Council Chair
12. [21-0626](#) New Business
(5 minutes)
- Members of the Council may bring up new business for discussion or addition to a future agenda.
- Action:** Discussion
- Presenter:** Randi Kinman, Council Chair

13. Adjournment / Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Policy Advisory Council will be held Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 1:35 p.m. at the Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA or remotely and by webcast as appropriate depending on the status of any shelter in place orders. Any changes to the schedule will be duly noticed to the public.

Public Comment: The public is encouraged to comment on agenda items at Committee meetings by completing a request-to-speak card (available from staff) and passing it to the Committee secretary. Public comment may be limited by any of the procedures set forth in Section 3.09 of MTC's Procedures Manual (Resolution No. 1058, Revised) if, in the chair's judgment, it is necessary to maintain the orderly flow of business.

Meeting Conduct: If this meeting is willfully interrupted or disrupted by one or more persons rendering orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, the Chair may order the removal of individuals who are willfully disrupting the meeting. Such individuals may be arrested. If order cannot be restored by such removal, the members of the Committee may direct that the meeting room be cleared (except for representatives of the press or other news media not participating in the disturbance), and the session may continue.

Record of Meeting: Committee meetings are recorded. Copies of recordings are available at a nominal charge, or recordings may be listened to at MTC offices by appointment. Audiocasts are maintained on MTC's Web site (mtc.ca.gov) for public review for at least one year.

Accessibility and Title VI: MTC provides services/accommodations upon request to persons with disabilities and individuals who are limited-English proficient who wish to address Commission matters. For accommodations or translations assistance, please call 415.778.6757 or 415.778.6769 for TDD/TTY. We require three working days' notice to accommodate your request.

可及性和法令第六章: MTC 根據要求向希望來委員會討論有關事宜的殘疾人士及英語有限者提供服務/方便。需要便利設施或翻譯協助者，請致電 415.778.6757 或 415.778.6769 TDD / TTY。我們要求您在三個工作日告知，以滿足您的要求。

Acceso y el Titulo VI: La MTC puede proveer asistencia/facilitar la comunicación a las personas discapacitadas y los individuos con conocimiento limitado del inglés quienes quieran dirigirse a la Comisión. Para solicitar asistencia, por favor llame al número 415.778.6757 o al 415.778.6769 para TDD/TTY. Requerimos que solicite asistencia con tres días hábiles de anticipación para poderle proveer asistencia.

Attachments are sent to Committee members, key staff and others as appropriate. Copies will be available at the meeting.

All items on the agenda are subject to action and/or change by the Committee. Actions recommended by staff are subject to change by the Committee.

MTC's Chair and Vice-Chair are ex-officio voting members of all standing Committees.



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0620 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Chair's Report
(7 minutes)

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Chair's Report
(7 minutes)

Presenter:

Randi Kinman, Council Chair

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0621 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Minutes **Status:** Committee Approval

File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council

On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**

Title: Approval of the April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes
(5 minutes)

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [04 Council Minutes Apr 14 2021.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:
Approval of the April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes
(5 minutes)

Recommended Action:
Approval

Attachments:



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Policy Advisory Council

Randi Kinman, Chair
Cynthia L. Murray, Vice Chair

Agenda Item 4

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

1:35 PM

Board Room - 1st Floor (REMOTE)

1. Welcome

2. Roll Call / Confirm Quorum

Present: 23 - Hedges, Hernandez, Kallins, Chair Kinman, Levin, Lopez, Madden, Mendoza, Momoh, Vice Chair Murray, Schweng, Scott, Glover, Gotuaco, Wilson, Baldini, Welte, Burnett, Castellanos, Coates, Cochran, Eldred and Florez

On March 24, 2021, Frank Welte was appointed to the Policy Advisory Council by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

3. [21-0498](#) Chair's Report (7 minutes)

Action: Information

Presenter: Randi Kinman, Council Chair

Chair Kinman stepped down as alternate of the Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee and appointed Frank Welte in her place.

4. [21-0499](#) Approval of the March 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)

Action: Approval

Attachments: [04 Council Minutes Mar 10 2021.pdf](#)

Upon the motion by Hedges and second by Baldini, the March 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 20 - Hedges, Hernandez, Kallins, Chair Kinman, Levin, Lopez, Madden, Mendoza, Momoh, Vice Chair Murray, Schweng, Scott, Glover, Gotuaco, Wilson, Baldini, Castellanos, Coates, Cochran and Florez

Absent: 1 - Eldred

Abstain: 2 - Welte and Burnett

Eldred arrived after the approval of the March 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

5. Public Comments / Other Business

6. [21-0500](#) Subcommittee Reports
(15 minutes)

Action: Information

Presenter: Veda Florez, Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee
Chair and
Adina Levin, Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration
Subcommittee Chair

7. [21-0501](#) Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Update
(20 minutes)

Update on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Action: Information

Presenter: Theresa Romell

Attachments: [07 Blue Ribbon.pdf](#)

8. [21-0497](#) Legislative Update
(60 minutes)

- i. Assembly Bill 629 (Chiu): Seamless and Resilient Transit Act
- ii. Federal Update: Infrastructure Plan, Transportation Bill, and Priority Projects
- iii. Overview of the American Rescue Plan and its impact on the region

Action: Information

Presenter: Georgia Gann Dohrmann and Rebecca Long

Attachments: [08 Legislative Update CoverSS and AB 629.pdf](#)
[08i_1_Correspondence_LEGIS-3e_AB_629_ChIU_Redacted.pdf](#)
[08 LEGIS-4ai Federal Update and Handout.pdf](#)
[08 COVID Relief Package Update.pdf](#)

Upon the motion by Hedges and second by Florez, the Council voted to support the Support and Seek Amendments recommendation on Assembly Bill 629 (Chiu): Seamless and Resilient Transit Act as presented to the Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee on April 9, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 21 - Hedges, Hernandez, Kallins, Chair Kinman, Levin, Lopez, Madden, Mendoza, Momoh, Vice Chair Murray, Schweng, Scott, Gotuaco, Wilson, Baldini, Welte, Castellanos, Coates, Cochran, Eldred and Florez

Absent: 1 - Glover

Abstain: 1 - Burnett

9. [21-0502](#) Staff Liaison Report
(3 minutes)

Relevant MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Action: Information

Presenter: Marti Paschal, Staff Liaison

Attachments: [09_Staff_Liaison_Report_April_2021.pdf](#)

10. [21-0503](#) Council Member Reports
(5 minutes)

Members of the Council may report on locally relevant issues or events.

Action: Information

Presenter: Randi Kinman, Council Chair

11. [21-0504](#) New Business
(5 minutes)

Members of the Council may bring up new business for discussion or addition to a future agenda.

Action: Discussion

Presenter: Randi Kinman, Council Chair

12. Adjournment / Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Policy Advisory Council will be held Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 1:35 p.m. at the Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA or remotely and by webcast as appropriate depending on the status of any shelter in place orders. Any changes to the schedule will be duly noticed to the public.



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0622 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Subcommittee Reports
(25 minutes)

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [06_Handout-Equity and Access Recommendation to Council May 2021 CoC.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Subcommittee Reports
(25 minutes)

Presenter:

Veda Florez, Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee Chair and
Adina Levin, Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration Subcommittee Chair

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 6

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
TEL 415.778.6700
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

TO: MTC Policy Advisory Council
FR: Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee
RE: Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language

DATE: May 3, 2021
W.I. 1114

At its May 3, 2021 meeting, the Policy Advisory Council Equity and Access Subcommittee heard the item Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language, a proposal to rename “Communities of Concern” as “Equity Priority Communities” for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.

Acknowledging that the proposal does not resolve the equity issues faced, members of the Subcommittee stressed the importance of nomenclature. After the staff presentation and discussion, a motion was made by Vice Chair Eldred and seconded by Member Hedges supporting the adoption of the name “Equity Priority Communities.” The motion carried by a vote of eight subcommittee members in support and two abstentions.



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0623 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Update
(20 minutes)

Update on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [07_Blue Ribbon.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Update
(20 minutes)

Update on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Presenter:

Melanie Choy

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

May 12, 2021

Agenda Item 7

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Update

Subject: Update on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Background: Staff will be at your May 12 meeting to discuss the update. Below are the links to the landing page of the previous and upcoming meetings:

April 26, 2021

<https://mtc.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=853593&GUID=20745081-6820-4AA7-84FA-BD08FE45F310&Options=info|&Search=>

May 24, 2021

<https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/meetings/meetings-archive/blue-ribbon-transit-recovery-task-force-2021-may-24>

Attachments: None.



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0619 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement
(40 minutes)

Update on the envisioned release window for Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which will kick off the final round of public engagement, with a deeper-dive briefing for committees and boards slated for next month.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [08_PBA2050-Draft Plan Release Announcement.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement
(40 minutes)

Update on the envisioned release window for Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which will kick off the final round of public engagement, with a deeper-dive briefing for committees and boards slated for next month.

Presenter:

Dave Vautin

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

May 12, 2021

Agenda Item 8

Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement

- Subject:** Update on the envisioned release window for Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which will kick off the final round of public engagement, with a deeper-dive briefing for committees and boards slated for next month.
- Background:** Policy Advisory Council Agenda Item 8, Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement, is attached. This report will be presented to the Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee on May 14, 2021.
- Staff will be at your May 12 meeting to discuss this report. The Council's input is requested.
- Attachments:** Agenda Item 4b from the May 12, 2021 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee meeting.

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee**

May 14, 2021

Agenda Item 4b

Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Plan Release Announcement

- Subject:** Update on the envisioned release window for Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, which will kick off the final round of public engagement, with a deeper-dive briefing for committees and boards slated for next month.
- Background:** In January 2021, MTC and ABAG approved the Plan Bay Area 2050 Final Blueprint as the Preferred Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Alternative. Since then, MTC/ABAG staff have been developing the Draft Plan Document, the Draft Implementation Plan, and corresponding supplemental reports. Furthermore, environmental analysis has been ongoing from fall 2020 through spring 2021, with scoping comments used to inform the Draft EIR and to craft a “reasonable range” of alternatives.
- Draft Plan Release:** Staff envisions releasing the Draft Plan Document, Draft Implementation Plan, Draft EIR, and supplemental reports in the coming weeks, with briefings provided to all relevant MTC/ABAG committees, the Commission, and the ABAG Executive Board in June. Currently, the Draft Plan Document, Draft Implementation Plan, and supplemental reports are slated for release on or around **the week of May 24th**. The Draft EIR will be released soon thereafter, on or around **the week of May 31st**.
- Next Steps:** MTC/ABAG staff will kick off the final phase of Plan Bay Area 2050 public engagement in mid-June with public workshops and public hearings, which will continue to occur virtually given the evolving public health situation. Staff will also present the Draft Plan Document, including the Bay Area’s sustainable communities strategy, to elected officials at County Transportation Agency board meetings in May and June, fulfilling an SB 375 engagement requirement. The public comment period, as established by state law and MTC’s Public Participation Plan, will stretch through mid-July. After the conclusion of the public comment period, staff will report back to the Joint MTC Planning/ABAG Administrative Committee in August and make revisions as appropriate based on feedback received. Plan Bay Area 2050 remains on track for the Commission and ABAG Executive Board to jointly consider for adoption this fall.
- Recommendation:** Information
- Attachments:** None


Therese W. McMillan



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0627 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**

Title: Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language
(40 minutes)

Proposal to rename "Communities of Concern" as "Equity Priority Communities" for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [09_RethinkingCommunitiesofConcern_May2021.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language
(40 minutes)

Proposal to rename "Communities of Concern" as "Equity Priority Communities" for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.

Presenter:

Anup Tapase

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

May 12, 2021

Agenda Item 9

Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language

- Subject:** Proposal to rename “Communities of Concern” as “Equity Priority Communities” for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.
- Background:** Policy Advisory Council Agenda Item 9, Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language, is attached. This report will be presented to the Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee on May 14, 2021.
- Staff will be at your May 12 meeting to discuss this report. The Council’s input is requested.
- Attachments:** Agenda Item 5b from the May 12, 2021 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee meeting.

Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee

May 14, 2021

Agenda Item 5b

Communities of Concern: Reconsidering Our Language

Subject: Proposal to rename “Communities of Concern” as “Equity Priority Communities” for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.

Background: The “Communities of Concern” framework has been in use by MTC and ABAG since 2001 to identify communities with significant concentrations of historically underserved populations, primarily people of color and people with low incomes. Staff has made continual updates to the definition, the demographic factors considered and the methodology over the last two decades. For Plan Bay Area 2050, staff employed the same framework adopted by MTC and ABAG during Plan Bay Area 2040, with updates to the underlying demographic data using best available information from the U.S. Census Bureau. This adopted framework is shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Communities of Concern Framework for Plan Bay Area 2050

<i>Demographic Factor</i>	<i>% Regional Population</i>	<i>Concentration Threshold</i>
1. People of Color	60%	70%
2. Low Income (<200% Federal Poverty Level)	21%	28%
3. Limited English Proficiency	8%	12%
4. Zero-Vehicle Household	9%	15%
5. Seniors 75 Years and Over	6%	8%
6. People with Disability	10%	12%
7. Single-Parent Family	13%	18%
8. Severely Rent-Burdened Household	10%	14%
<i>Definition</i> – census tracts that have a concentration of BOTH people of color AND low-income households, OR that have a concentration of 4 or more factors, above the listed thresholds		

The Communities of Concern designations are used widely at MTC and ABAG, as well as by county and city agencies within the Bay Area. They are used in planning efforts and equity analyses, prioritization criteria in programming of funds (e.g. Community-Based Transportation Plan Planning Grants, Active Transportation Program), and alignment of resources for public engagement.

Nomenclature Update:

The year 2020 was an opportunity for reckoning in our region and beyond. Acknowledging the power of language and that words can shape people, actions and culture, staff began reconsidering the nomenclature “Communities of Concern” in mid-2020. Staff embarked on an inclusive process to identify new nomenclature by engaging with underserved communities, the Policy Advisory Council’s Equity & Access Subcommittee and the Regional Equity Working Group.

Despite this being an abstract topic to discuss, the small group discussions with underserved communities were rich and offered diverse feedback. The discussions began with an open-ended question: “what does the term *Communities of Concern* mean to you?” Staff then provided more context on the definition and use of these designation by MTC/ABAG and our partners, and highlighted why these designations are important given historical context. Staff then sought opinions on the overall framework itself and the nomenclature by providing a variety of new options, including:

- Equity Priority Communities, Equity Focus Communities, Equity Priority Neighborhoods, and Equity Action Areas
- Underserved Communities, Equity Prioritized Investment Communities, Opportunity Zones, and Historically Marginalized Communities
- Economically Distressed Areas, Disadvantaged Communities and Environmental Justice Communities

Staff will share synthesized feedback and a recommendation for new terminology, included in **Attachment A**. In summary, reactions to the existing terminology were almost unanimously adverse. To many, the term “Communities of Concern” is problematic, triggering, demeaning, negative, vague and passive. Recurring feedback themes for a new term were that the term needs to be positive, empowering and uplifting, be forward-looking and action-oriented, communicate “priority” and intentionality and be short and easily understood. Based on the feedback received, staff is recommending the term “**Equity Priority Communities**” to describe these places going forward.

This small but meaningful change can communicate to the region at large that MTC and ABAG intend to prioritize these historically underserved and under-represented communities to advance toward equitable outcomes. Staff acknowledges that there is much work to be done beyond simply changing the nomenclature in the years ahead, and that there must be concerted ongoing effort toward truly achieving the equitable outcomes.

Next Steps:

Staff envisions updating the Community of Concern nomenclature with the new term “Equity Priority Communities” across work products, including the upcoming Plan Bay Area 2050. Furthermore, if approved, staff will share this update with other agencies across the region that frequently use this framework. Beyond the nomenclature, defining and measuring equity-focused populations is a continuous ongoing effort as part of the MTC-ABAG Equity Platform. While a broad reexamination of the existing framework was not possible during the Plan Bay Area 2050 timeline due to resource constraints, staff is looking to refresh the framework and methodology, starting next year in advance of the next long-range planning cycle.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the MTC Planning Committee and ABAG Administrative Committee approve the renaming of “Communities of Concern” as “Equity Priority Communities” for use across all MTC and ABAG work products and projects.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Presentation


Therese W. McMillan

“Communities of Concern” *Reconsidering Our Language*

Anup Tapase

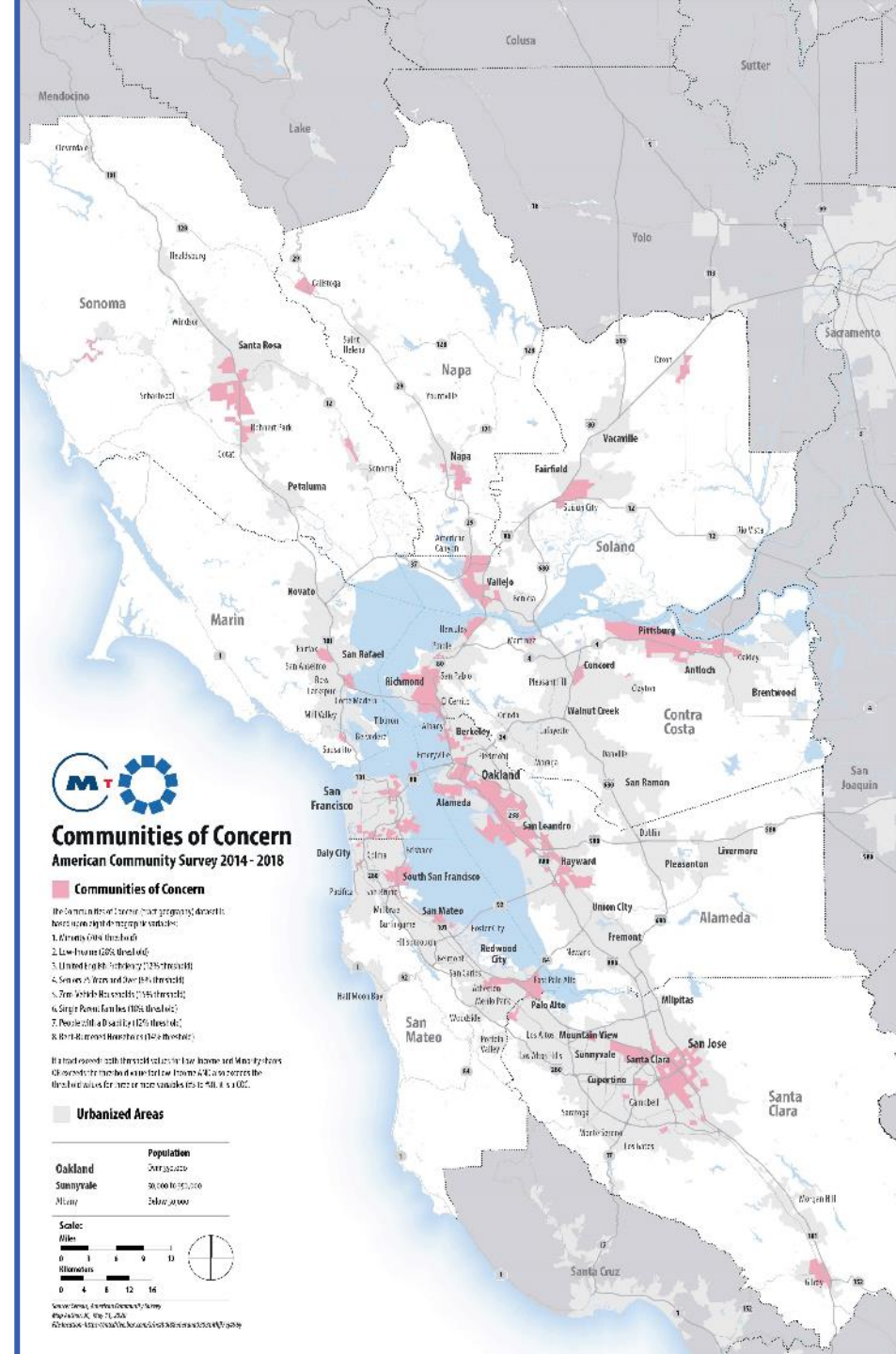
MTC/ABAG Regional Planning Program

May 2021

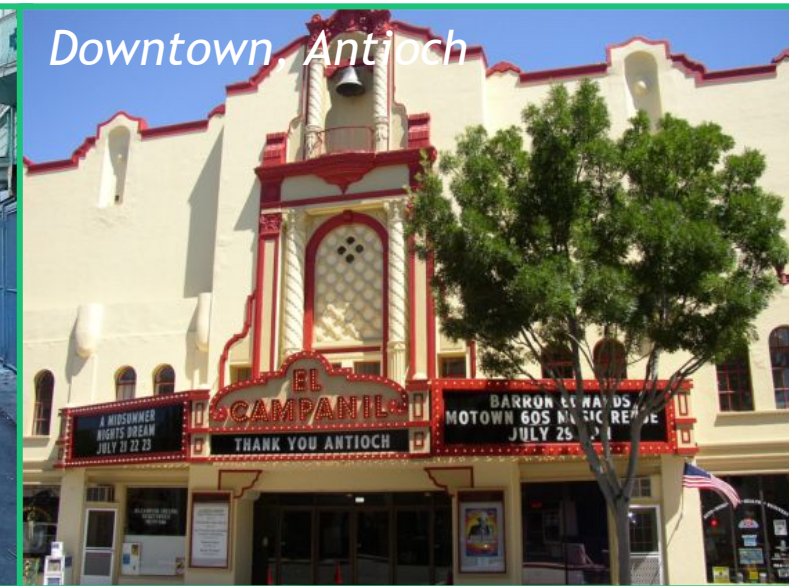
MTC/ABAG has used the “Communities of Concern” framework since 2001.

Communities of Concern are designated geographies (census tracts) that have high concentrations of underserved populations. Designations are based on calculated thresholds for 8 demographic factors, including **race** and **income**.

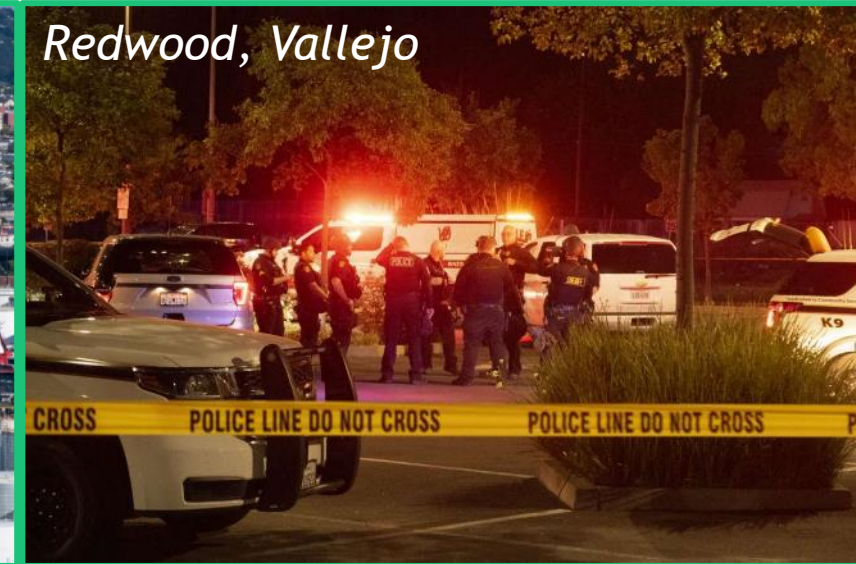
Communities of Concern are updated every plan cycle with most recent census demographic data, in this case in 2020.



These communities are diverse and vibrant...



...but also grapple with various issues.



How does MTC/ABAG use this framework?

- **Planning** (e.g. Plan Bay Area, TIP, various equity analyses)
- **Programming** (e.g. Active Transportation Program, OBAG Grants, Community-Based Transportation Plan Planning Grants, Lifeline Transportation Program)
- **Engagement**
- **Used beyond MTC/ABAG** (by county/city agencies)

Within Plan Bay Area 2050...

Plan Strategies

- Support Community-Led Transportation Enhancements in Communities of Concern
- Provide Targeted Mortgage, Rental and Small Business Assistance to Communities of Concern
- Invest in High-Speed Internet in Underserved Low-Income Communities
- *Prioritization of other strategies within Communities of Concern* (complete streets, incubator programs, parks, clean vehicle initiatives, building retrofits subsidies, etc.)

Engagement

- 70% of pop-up workshops in Communities of Concern
- Outreach through community-based organizations serving Communities of Concern

Performance and Equity Analysis

- Outcomes and disparities measured for Communities of Concern relative to the region and High-Resource Areas

What's in a name?

- The year 2020 was an opportunity for reckoning in our region and beyond.
- In mid-2020, staff began reconsidering the nomenclature “Communities of Concern”.
- Staff consulted with
 - Policy Advisory Council
 - Regional Equity Working Group
 - Under-represented communities, through seven small group discussions facilitated by Community-Based Organizations

How did residents respond to “Communities of Concern” nomenclature?

Across the board, there is a resounding desire to use a different name.

Problematic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Sounds like problem with the communities”• “Sounds like a dog whistle”• “Triggers fear”
Demeaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Makes it sound like the communities’ fault”• “May bring stigma”
Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Concern is a negative word”• “Sounds like communities we should be concerned about in a defensive way”
Vague/ Passive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Detached from communities”• “Does not address struggles”• ““Concern” feels passive - for people from these communities, the community is always a concern /a priority; but from an agency perspective, there are problems to be addressed”

Recurring Feedback Themes for New Name

- Term needs to be “empowering”, “forward-looking” “positive”
- Communicate “priority” and “action”
- “We already know these communities are marginalized - the term should show what we are going to do about it”
- “Communities are continuously changing, so term should not feel stagnant”
- Term should “not be too long”, but should be “clear and understood across audiences”

What nomenclature do other regions use?

Environmental Justice
Areas; Communities
of Concern
(SCAG)

Environmental Justice
Communities
(SACOG)

Areas of
Concentrated Poverty
(Met Council,
Twin Cities metro)

Historically
Marginalized
Communities;
Equity Focus Areas
(Oregon Metro)

Transportation Equity
Zones
(Boston Region MPO)

Equity Emphasis Areas
(MWCOC, Washington
DC metro)

Staff acknowledges the power of language and recommends changing the nomenclature.

from Communities of Concern...

...to Equity Priority Communities

Prioritized Requirements for Nomenclature

- ✓ Positive, empowering, uplifting
- ✓ Forward-looking, action-oriented
- ✓ Communicate “priority” and intentionality
- ✓ Short and easily understood

Some of the Other Names Considered:

Equity Focus Communities; Equity Priority Neighborhoods; Equity Action Areas;

Underserved Communities; Equity Prioritized Investment Communities; Historically Marginalized Communities;

Disadvantaged Communities; Environmental Justice Communities

Beyond the nomenclature, defining and measuring is a continuous ongoing effort.

MTC-ABAG Equity Platform



Define and Measure



Listen and Learn



Focus and Deliver



Train and Grow

Near Term
within
Plan Bay Area 2050

Revise Nomenclature

Augment Methodology:

- Measure disparities for populations AND geographies
- Measure disparities with High-Resource Areas.

Long Term
Part of Equity Platform in
2022+

Re-examine Framework

- Revise overall framework to be more issue specific; e.g. transit deficient, rent burdened, displacement pressure, food deserts, etc.
- Address known gaps in methodology; e.g. definition of low-income, lowered concentrations due to displaced populations, etc.
- Recognize place-based framework is only one dimension

Today: Seeking Approval to Adopt New Name

Staff is seeking approval to rename **Communities of Concern** as ***Equity Priority Communities*** for use across MTC and ABAG work products and projects.



Thank you.

Contact Info:

Anup Tapase, atapase@bayareametro.gov
Associate Planner, Regional Planning Program



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0624 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Report **Status:** Informational
File created: 4/6/2021 **In control:** Policy Advisory Council
On agenda: 5/12/2021 **Final action:**
Title: Staff Liaison Report
(3 minutes)

Relevant MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [10_Staff Liaison-May 2021.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Staff Liaison Report
(3 minutes)

Relevant MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Presenter:

Marti Paschal, Staff Liaison

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

May 12, 2021

Agenda Item 10

Staff Liaison Report – May 2021

Subject: Relevant MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Recommendation: Information

Attachments: Attachment A: Staff Liaison Report – May 2021



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

**Agenda Item 10
Attachment A**
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
TEL 415.778.6700
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council
FR: Marti Paschal, Staff Liaison
RE: Staff Liaison Report – May 2021

DATE: May 12, 2021

W.I. 1114

Clipper® Launches on iPhone and Apple Watch, Debuts New Mobile App

On April 15, MTC launched the Clipper regional transit-fare payment card on iPhone and Apple Watch, and released a mobile app for easier management of Clipper cards.

Clipper on iPhone and Apple Watch gives riders on 24 Bay Area transit systems a new, contactless way to pay fares on buses, trains and ferries. Adding a Clipper card to iPhone or Apple Watch is easy. Customers can add the card directly through Apple Wallet and load cash value with Apple Pay anytime, anywhere. Riders also can transfer the value from a plastic Clipper card to their iPhone. Clipper will be coming to Google Pay in May.

The launch makes paying for and riding public transit easier and safer because Clipper on iPhone and Apple Watch works with Express Mode, which allows riders to quickly tag and pay for rides without having to use Face ID, Touch ID, wake or unlock their device, or open an app. Riders can simply hold their iPhone or their Apple Watch near the Clipper reader and then board the bus, train or ferry. They no longer need to touch a ticket vending machine or reload a Clipper card at a retailer.

The new Clipper mobile app, available on iPhone, allows riders to easily manage their Clipper cards and their Clipper account, and to plan transit trips around the Bay Area. Riders must use the Clipper app to buy transit agency passes for use on iPhone or Apple Watch.

“This new fare payment method works on all 24 Bay Area transit services that accept Clipper,” said MTC Executive Director Therese McMillan. “Riders can easily add cash value from Apple Pay and just tag and ride. It couldn’t be more user-friendly, not to mention timely. We’re looking forward to offering the same convenience soon with Google Pay.”

Transit riders who are enrolled in the Clipper START program and those who use cash to load their Clipper cards also can use the Clipper app, but cash payers will need to use a BART, Golden Gate Ferry, or SMART ticket machine or select Caltrain ticket machines to add value to iPhone or Apple Watch. MTC has been working with Apple and Cubic Transportation Systems, the Bay Area’s fare payment solutions partner, to introduce these convenient new payment and account management features. For more information, visit www.clippercard.com or <https://transit.applepay.apple/san-francisco> .

Highway 37 between US Highway 101 to Interstate 80 Questionnaire

This short survey is one method of gathering information about issues and interest in how Highway 37 can be planned to serve current and future needs. Please visit www.resilient37.org/SR37Map to view an interactive map to familiarize yourself with the highway and adjacent uses. All questions are optional, and any input you provide is valuable to the Project team and will help to inform future plans for Highway 37. The survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/resilient37questionnaire>

Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days Are Coming in May

Bicycling has never been more popular across the region and May brings the return of Bike Month and the Bay Area's "Bike to Wherever Days" (BTWD) as an alternative to the annual Bay Area Bike to Work Day event.

During the pandemic, bicycling for personal wellness, exercise and recreation has seen a pronounced rise in popularity. Social distancing protocols and safer streets have resulted in many people riding for the first time and veteran riders getting back on their bicycles. This year's Bay Area BTWDs will reflect the renewed enthusiasm for bicycling around the region.

In an effort to further encourage people to pedal, the entire month of May has been designated as Bay Area "Bike to Wherever Days" with May 21 being National Bike to Wherever Day.

Each of the nine Bay Area county bike coalitions will offer classes, activities, education and more to help cyclists pedal safely, while building communities, finding new routes and using bicycles as a means of transportation. The counties' traditional Bay Area Bike Commuter of the Year (BCOY) Award has been retooled to recognize each county's Bike Champion of the Year. This year's award winners can be found here: <https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/2021-bike-champion-year-winners-announced>

Bay Area counties have creatively pivoted their programming to accommodate the surge in interest in riding with many of these programs being accessible online. Those wishing to make the pledge to ride during bike month can do so through their respective county coalitions. Details on each county's local BTWD activities can be found at Bayareabiketowork.com. Follow us on Facebook at @biketoworkday, Twitter @BikeToWorkSFBay, and Instagram @biketoworkday_bayarea.

Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days is presented by MTC and 511, the region's traveler information system. BTWD 2021 also receives regional support from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Bay Area Rapid Transit, as well as from many sponsors at the local level. Prizes for the Bike Champion of the Year winners were donated by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Better World Club and Mike's Bikes.

MTC Mourns Loss of Dr. Martin Wachs, Transportation Giant

Dr. Martin Wachs — a giant in the field of transportation, who authored several books, wrote hundreds of articles and taught thousands on the subject — died April 11, 2021. He was 79.

Dr. Wachs was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Civil & Environmental Engineering and of City & Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley, where he directed the Institute of Transportation Studies. Earlier, he spent 25 years at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was Chairman of the Department of Urban Planning for 11 of those years. After leaving the university in 1996, Dr. Wachs became the Director of the Transportation, Space, and Technology Program at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica. In semi-retirement, Dr. Wachs taught courses and conducted research at UCLA in transportation policy, worked on transportation policy projects at RAND and served as a policy expert.

MTC Executive Director Therese McMillan was a longtime friend and called Dr. Wachs a mentor.

"With the passing of Dr. Martin Wachs, the transportation community — and the human community — lost both a giant, and a kind and caring heart," McMillan said. "I got to know 'Marty' as a young professional, during his time at UC Berkeley heading up the Institute of Transportation Studies, and teaching at the College of Environmental Design, my alma mater. And while I didn't have the privilege of sitting in his classroom, I had the joy of being his student nonetheless — with his commitment to advancing young talent, and especially women at a time we were still trying to shoulder our way to equitable standing in the field."

McMillan said Dr. Wachs' legacy is immense.

"Marty's accomplishments are too numerous to articulate, but his greatest was his ability to communicate, listen and share — even in difficult moments," she said. "His stamp on countless individuals as mentor and friend will stand equally strong — I like to think more so — alongside his prodigious research contributions. He will be missed, but forever remembered with deepest gratitude."

Before landing at UCLA in 1971, Dr. Wachs received a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Urban and Regional Planning) from Northwestern University in 1967, an M.S. in Civil Engineering (Urban and Regional Planning) from Northwestern University in 1965 and a B.C.E. in Civil Engineering from City University of New York in 1963. Dr. Wachs also wrote four books and 180 articles on subjects related to relationships between transportation, land use, and air quality; transportation systems; and the use of performance measurement in transportation planning. His research addressed issues of equity in transportation policy, problems of crime in public transit systems, and the response of transportation systems to natural disasters, including earthquakes. His other areas of interest included professional ethics, transportation and aging, transportation and land use, transportation and the environment, transportation finance, and urban transportation planning.

Dr. Wachs was a recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, two Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowships, a UCLA Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award, the Pyke Johnson Award for the best paper presented at an annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), and the Carey Award for service to the TRB. Recently, he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Research and Development for the California Department of Transportation and completed his term as the first Chair of the Advisory Panel for the Travel Model Improvement Program of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Transportation, Housing News Right to Your Inbox

MTC offers a convenient Daily News Headlines (<https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/news-headlines>) subscription, delivering a curated list of stories about transportation, housing, development, the environment and more directly to your email inbox. The headlines are sent each weekday, arriving just in time to enjoy with your morning coffee.

The Bay Link blog (<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/>) offers a more in-depth look at these topics, often in the context of the work that the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and MTC are doing, along with other stories of interest to Bay Area residents and professionals. The Bay Link Blog E-Newsletter, with the top Bay Link features of the week, is distributed every Tuesday.

Sign up for each of these newsletters (<https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAMTC/subscriber/new>) , along with others from the MTC-ABAG family, including the Plan Bay Area 2050 E-Newsletter and updates about MTC Express Lanes.

Have a Question? Ask a Librarian

If you need assistance locating information or are having difficulty navigating the MTC-ABAG websites, please feel free to contact the MTC-ABAG head librarian, Julie Tunnell. Reference assistance is available by telephone (415-778-5236), or email library@bayareametro.gov Information can also be found on the MTC-ABAG library webpage: <https://mtc.ca.gov/tools-resources/mtc-abag-library-information-asking>

Executive Director's Report

The following items are excerpts from the April 2021 Executive Director's Report to the Commission. To read the report in its entirety go to: <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/executive-directors-report>.

Key Updates

COVID-Related Activities

A reminder that all Covid-19 related reporting items can be found on our MTC webpage. We provide monthly updates on all related activities, and statistics that are affecting the region. The website address is below:

<https://www.mtc.ca.gov/covid>

Clipper® Launches on iPhone and Apple Watch, Debuts New Mobile App

On April 15, Clipper launched on iPhone and Apple Watch, along with a mobile app for easier management of Clipper cards. Riders on 24 Bay Area transit systems now have a new, contactless way to pay fares on buses, trains and ferries. Customers can add their cards to iPhone or Apple Watch directly through Apple Wallet and load cash value with Apple Pay anytime, anywhere. Riders also can transfer the value from a plastic Clipper card to their iPhone. Clipper will be coming to Google Pay in May.

Regional Housing Technical Assistance Program Training Series

The ABAG Regional Housing Technical Assistance Program has launched a 10-part training series for local planning and housing staff focused on Housing Element updates. Sessions will be held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., beginning on Tuesday, February 23 and running through August, 2021. See the ABAG Regional Housing Technical Assistance Program Training Series for dates and more information: <https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/housing-technical-assistance-program/abag-regional-housing-technical-assistance>

Items of Note:

CTF Awards: The California Transportation Foundation this month named BATA as its Organization of the Year for 2020. The award will be presented at a virtual CTF Transportation Awards ceremony on Thursday, May 27 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. The CTF chose BATA for this prestigious award because of its effective partnership with Caltrans and with FasTrak contractor Conduent Inc. to transition the region's seven state-owned toll bridges to all-electronic tolling in March 2020. What originally was planned to be a gradual, years-long transition was forced by COVID-19 to take place on just about 48 hours' notice. BATA first adapted its existing toll violation system to begin issuing no-penalty toll notices to customers who did not already have FasTrak accounts, while also beginning an all-out sprint to design, install, test and implement a genuine all-electronic tolling system.

Equity Panel: San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Board of Directors Meeting On Friday, April 23, 2021, I was invited to participate with other equity leaders in a discussion before the Board of SANDAG. While I have often been invited to speak on this topic and the work that we are doing here in the San Francisco Bay Area, this opportunity is worthy of note as it was timed with SANDAG's efforts to finalize their long range plan, with a focus on equity. The conversation was insightful in many respects, including questions from the Board. In short, our collective regional commitments to equity are needed and challenging. The link below is to the presentation to the Board, and the equity panel begins an hour into the meeting, should you wish to check it out. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiQy8Ictnhk>



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

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Title:	Council Member Reports (5 minutes)				

Members of the Council may report on locally relevant issues or events.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Subject:

Council Member Reports
(5 minutes)

Members of the Council may report on locally relevant issues or events.

Presenter:

Randi Kinman, Council Chair

Recommended Action:

Information

Attachments:



Metropolitan Transportation Commission

375 Beale Street, Suite 800
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Members of the Council may bring up new business for discussion or addition to a future agenda.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

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Attachments:

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Subject:

New Business
(5 minutes)

Members of the Council may bring up new business for discussion or addition to a future agenda.

Presenter:

Randi Kinman, Council Chair

Recommended Action:

Discussion

Attachments: