METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Meeting Transcript

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH, 2024, 9:40 AM

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. WELCOME TO MTC'S ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE. I'M THE CHAIR GINA PAPAN HERE WITH MY VICE CHAIR VICTORIA F. I WOULD LIKE TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER. THIS MEETING IS BEING WEBCAST ON THE MTC WEB SITE. COMMISSIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ZOOMING WISHING TO SPEAK SHOULD USE THE RAISED HAND FEATURE OR DIAL STAR NINE AND YOU WILL BE CALLED UPON AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES WILL BE CALLED UPON BY THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THEIR PHONE NUMBER. ITEM ONE, ROLL CALL, PLEASE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: CERTAINLY. CHAIR PAPAN?

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: PAPAN PRESENT. VICE CHAIR FLEMING?

V. CHAIR, VICTORIA FLEMING: PRESENT.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: FLEMING PRESENT. ABE-KOGA?

MARGARET ABE-KOGA: HERE.

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CLERK OF THE BOARD: ABE-KOGA PRESENT. CHAVEZ?

CINDY CHAVEZ: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: CHAVEZ PRESENT. NON-VOTING EL-TAWANSY?

DINA EL-TAWANSY: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: EL-TAWANSY PRESENT. GLOVER?

FEDERAL D. GLOVER: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: MILEY IS ABSENT. COMMISSIONER RONEN? RONEN PRESENT. COMMISSIONER NON-VOTING SCHAFF IS ABSENT. AND COMMISSIONER THAO IS ABSENT. WE HAVE QUORUM.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: PRETTY GOOD. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MOVING ON TO AGENDA ITEM TWO, CONSENT CALENDAR, WHICH INCLUDES ITEMS 2A THROUGH 2I. ARE THERE ANY COMMISSIONERS THAT WOULD LIKE TO PULL AN ITEM FROM CONSENT? (LAUGHTER) SEEING NONE. DO WE HAVE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR?

CINDY CHAVEZ: SO MOVED, CHAVEZ.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: MOVED BY CHAVEZ.

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FEDERAL D. GLOVER: GLOVER SECONDS.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: GLOVER SECONDS. ANY COMMENTS? DID WE RECEIVE ANY CORRESPONDENCE?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: WE RECEIVED NO WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE THERE IS NO MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IN THE BOARDROOM AND NO MEMBER ONLINE WHO WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: EXCELLENT. ALL MEMBERS IN FAVOR SAY AYE? [AYES]

CHAIR: ANY OPPOSED? ABSTAIN? NONE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MOVING TO 3A, METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NUMBER 4637 FISCAL YEAR 2024, 2025 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM.

MATT MALONEY: GOOD MORNING. MATT MALONEY OF REGIONAL PLANNING THIS IS AN APPROVAL ITEM BEFORE YOU TODAY REQUEST THAT THE COMMITTEE REFER MTC RESOLUTION 4637 THIS IS THE FY 2024, 2025

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OVERALL WORK PROGRAM COLLABORATIVE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION PROCESS TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. SO, ESSENTIALLY THE OWP IS A FEDERAL REQUIREMENT OF ALL MPOS, LIKE MTC, AND IT'S ESSENTIALLY A DOCUMENT IDENTIFYING THE PLANNING WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR. AND THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE DOCUMENT IS THE EXPENDITURE OF FEDERAL PLANNING FUNDS. AND THE AUTHORIZATION HERE IS THE PROGRAMMING OF APPROXIMATELY 21 MILLION IN THOSE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS. IN TERMS OF THE CONTENTS OF THE OWP, YOU WILL FIND THAT IT INCORPORATES A LOT OF TOPICS THAT COME TO YOU ROUTINELY THROUGH THE YEAR. OVER THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR WE'LL BE WORKING QUITE A BIT ON UPDATING PLANNED BAY AREA, WORKING ON THE TWIT 50 EFFORT CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL JURISDICTIONS FROM THE TOC POLICY CONTINUING IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE MITIGATION STRATEGIES ALL WORK WE'RE DOING ON REGIONAL NETWORK MANAGEMENT AND SO ON. AND SO WE DOCUMENT ALL OF THAT AHEAD OF TIME IN THE OWP. SO, AGAIN, ABOUT 21 MILLION, WE WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH CALTRANS, FHWA AND FTA ON THIS DOCUMENT. WE'RE CURRENTLY IN DRAFT STAGE, WE'RE AWAITING COMMENTS FROM CALTRANS AND THE FEDS ON THE DOCUMENT, AND BY THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR, WE WRAP IT UP WITH A FINAL. SO, THE COMMISSION APPROVAL IS THE FIRST STEP IN AUTHORIZING THIS DOCUMENT. SO WE ASK FOR YOUR APPROVAL TODAY, AND HAPPY TO TAKE ANY QUESTIONS.

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CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS? COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ?

CINDY CHAVEZ: I JUST WANTED TO MAKE A COMMENT AND THAT IS THAT IT'S A REALLY AMAZING BODY OF WORK AND WHEN YOU SEE IT IN THE WAY THAT THE -- I MEAN, IT'S A DOCUMENT, I KNOW, BUT JUST TO SEE HOW MUCH DIFFERENT WORK STREAMS ARE GOING TO THE ORGANIZATION, IT IS ENORMOUSLY IMPRESSIVE. AND -- AND I -- AND FRANKLY, IT WOULD BE SOMETHING I WOULD USE AS AN ORIENTATION FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS, BECAUSE IT'S REALLY MORE ROBUST AND GIVES YOU AN INSIGHT INTO THE LEVEL OF WORK THAT YOU'RE DOING. THANK YOU FOR THAT. MY QUESTION WOULD BE, WHAT KIND OF FEEDBACK DO YOU ACTUALLY GET ON SOMETHING THAT -- THAT LOOKS THIS ENORMOUS? I MEAN DO THEY SAY WELL YOU'RE NOT DOING ENOUGH OF THIS OR THAT? OR IS IT MORE JUST A WAY OF DEMONSTRATING THE BROADBAND WIDTH OF WORK THAT YOU DO?

MATT MALONEY: A FEW THINGS WE HEAR, THERE IS PRETTY STRINGENT FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. SO, I THINK, WITH AN AGENCY LIKE OURS THAT'S DYNAMIC AND CROSS-CUTTING IN TERMS OF WORKING ON LAND USE AND HOUSING. WE HAVE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH CALTRANS AND THE FEDS TO ENSURE THAT WHEN WE'RE USING FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDS THAT WE'RE ENSURING THAT THE ACTIVITIES ARE ELIGIBLE. WE DO A PRETTY GOOD JOB OF THAT IN COLLABORATION WITH THEM. OBVIOUSLY THERE IS A LOT THAT OUR FINANCE

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DEPARTMENT DOES WITH ENSURING, SORT OF, WE HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CARRYOVER OF FUNDS THAT WE'RE DOCUMENTING THE FUND SOURCES CORRECTLY BY TASK. WE HAVE A LOT OF FUND SOURCES IN THE DOCUMENT. AND, SO, THE FEDS AND CALTRANS USUALLY ARE QUITE ATTENTIVE TO THOSE TYPES OF THINGS.

CINDY CHAVEZ: I IMAGINE THEY ARE, AND THAT'S HELPFUL. AND GINA'S LIKE, GREAT, WE ARE. THAT MAKES A LOT OF SENSE TO ME THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME CONCERN IT ALSO SEEMS TO ME THAT IT PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR POLICY MAKERS TO LOOK AT INTEGRATION AND INTERSECTIONALITY AS A WAY TO ACTUALLY FUND INSTEAD OF BEING SO WORRIED ABOUT THE DIVISION OF FUNDS LOOKING A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT CROSS DEPARTMENT INVESTMENTS AND ANYWAY. SO THANK YOU FOR THE WORK.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: COMMISSIONER?

DINA EL-TAWANSY: I WANT TO SECOND THE COMMENT. THIS IS DEFINITELY OPPORTUNITY AND ONE OF THE GOOD THINGS ABOUT REVIEWING THE DOCUMENT IS TO LOOK AT THESE OPPORTUNITIES WHERE WE CAN DEFINITELY PARTNER ON PROJECTS ENSURING WE'RE MAXIMIZING. THANK YOU.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: ONLY 21 MILLION?

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MATT MALONEY: ONLY 21 MILLION PART OF THE FUNDS WE SEE IN THE BUDGET ONE SUBCOMPONENT LARGELY FOCUSED ON THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS AND A BIT OF STATE PLANNING FUND AS WELL AND THAT TOTALS 21 MILLION FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: OKAY. I HOPE WE KEEP THIS AS A LIVING BREATHING DOCUMENT. WE UNDERSTAND WE LOVE WORKING WITH THE FEDS, SPECIFICALLY WHEN THEY COME WITH MONEY, BUT I THINK WE ALSO NEED TO KEEP OUR -- WORKING WITH LOCALS. YOU MENTIONED TRANSIT ORIENTED COMMUNITIES, ALL OF THAT. MANY ARE A WORK IN PROGRESS, IN ALL DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS. SO, THIS IS EXCITING. DO WE HAVE A MOTION?

FEDERAL D. GLOVER: GLOVER MOVES APPROVAL.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: GLOVER MOVES APPROVAL.

VICTORIA FLEMING:

V. CHAIR, VICTORIA FLEMING: SECOND.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: SECOND FLEMING. ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION? ANY COMMENTS? THERE.

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CLERK OF THE BOARD: NO MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ONLINE NOR IN THE BOARDROOM AND NO WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR THIS ITEM.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: THANK YOU. ALL IN FAVOR PLEASE NOTE BY AYE. [AYES]

CHAIR: ABSTENTIONS? OPPOSED?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: WONDERFUL. THANK YOU EVERYONE. OKAY. MOVING ON. WHERE AM I HERE? EXCUSE ME. AND THIS ONE. WHERE IS MY ITEM FOUR? SO, OKAY. OKAY. SOMEHOW I MISSED THE PAGE. BUT ITEM FOUR. THANK YOU. ITEM FOUR IS AN INFORMATION ITEM, DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES PROGRAM UPDATE. THANK YOU.

DENISE RODRIGUES: GOOD MORNING I'M DENISE RODRIGUES DIRECTOR OF MTC DIRECTOR FACILITIES CONTRACT SERVICES RYAN MTC'S PRINCIPLE COMPLIANCE MANAGER AND I WILL PRESENT INFORMATION UPDATE ON AGENCIES DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS SMALL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS YOU WILL HEAR ME REFER TO THEIR ACRONYMS DBE AND SBE PROGRAMS HERE AT MTC AND REFERENCE MTC BROADLY BECAUSE THESE

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PROGRAMS APPLY TO ALL AGENCIES THAT ARE AT ABAG, ET CETERA. NEXT SLIDE. BEING ADOPTED EQUITY PLATFORM CONTAINS FOUR PILLARS WE PRESENT THIS MORNING HOW WE REFER TO THESE PILLARS AND APPLY THEM TO THE SBE AND NDB PROGRAMS TO GROW AND MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE INCLUDING AND ALLOWING SMALL BUSINESSES AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES HERE AT THE AGENCY. NEXT SLIDE. THIS SLIDE YOU WILL SEE A TIMELINE OF MAJOR CHANGES TO BOTH SBE AND DBE PROGRAMS. WE UPDATE THE PROGRAMS EVERY FEW YEARS. SOME OF THESE ARE EXTERNAL, REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, AS IN 2009 WHEN CALTRANS REQUIRED MTC TO ADOPT THEIR DB PROGRAM SO THAT WE HELP THEM MEET THEIR STATEWIDE GOALS. AND THEN IN 2020, AN INTERNAL FOCUSED EFFORT THERE, TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION. WE DID SOME REVISIONS TO THAT PROGRAM TO MAKE IT EASIER TO PARTICIPATE ON THAT SBE PROGRAM. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. SO, AGAIN, DEFINE AND MEASURE. I'M USING, YOU KNOW, DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE, DBE PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SBE PROGRAM ARE THOSE PROGRAMS THE DBE PROGRAM IS FEDERALLY MANDATED PROGRAM DEFINED BY CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS CFR AGENCIES SUCH AS FTA FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. DEVELOPED AND ADOPTED TO INCREASE DBE PARTICIPATION IN FEDERALLY FUNDED CONTRACTS WE APPLY THE DBE PROGRAM TO OUR FEDERALLY FUNDED CONTRACTS. UNDER THE DBE PROGRAM CONTRACTS SPECIFIC GOALS ARE DEVELOPED AND APPLIED THROUGH PROCUREMENT INTO THE CONTRACTS AND THEY MUST BE MET AND MONITORED AND TRACKED IN PROJECT

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CONCEPTION THROUGH COMPLETION AND OTHER EFFORTS ALONG WITH THOSE GOALS LIKE REMOVING BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS THINGS LIKE THAT, UNBUNDLING BIDS ARE THINGS WE DO ON THE DBE PROGRAM TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION. SINCE DBE IS A FEDERAL PROGRAM WE'RE REQUIRED TO REPORT THOSE GRANTOR AGENCY TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THAT PROGRAM. IS THE BE PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED BY STAFF IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LEADERSHIP HERE AT THE AGENCY AND APPROVED BY OUR COMMISSION THROUGH RESOLUTIONS SBA PROGRAM IS APPLIED NON-FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAM A PREFERENCE PROGRAM WE'RE NOT REQUIRED TO REPORT TO GRANTOR AGENCIES BECAUSE IT'S AN INTERNAL PROGRAM BUT WE KEEP OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE REPORTING TO LEADERSHIP TO THIS COMMITTEE ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAM SAME THING FROM PROJECTS INCEPTION THROUGH CLOSE OUT MONITOR AND PERFORMANCE OF THAT INFORMATION ON AVERAGE DBE ON OUR CONTRACTS AND AVERAGE SB COMMITMENTS ARE NOTED IN BOLD ON THIS SLIDE. THANK YOU

RYAN DECOUD: THANK YOU, DENISE. GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS MY NAME IS RYAN DECOUD, PRINCIPLE COMPLIANCE MANAGER AT MTC NEXT SLIDE I'LL BE REVIEWING COMMITMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS PROCUREMENTS AND ACTUAL PAYMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE TERMS THE RESULT OF THE PROGRAMS BEFORE REVIEWING INFORMATION ON THE SLIDE I WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE COMMITMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS COMMITMENTS TO DBE ARE MADE CONTRACT GOALS REPRESENTING

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PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT THAT'S EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED BY DBE CONTRACTORS DBE GOALS VARY DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF WORK INVOLVED AVAILABILITY OF DBES AND WORK UNDER THE CONTRACT UNDER THE SBE PROGRAM PRIME PROPOSALS RECEIVE PREFERENCE POINTS EVALUATION OF THEIR PROPOSAL SBE PRIME CONTRACTORS SUBCONTRACTED SUBSTANCE PREFERENCE POINTS ARE INTENDED TO INCENTIVIZE SB SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION AND ARE BASED ON MEETING EXCEEDING MINIMUM PARTICIPATION LEVEL OF 25% PROPOSERS COMMIT TO MEETING DBE GOALS AND SBE PARTICIPATION LEVELS IN THE PROCUREMENT CONTRACTING PHASE. COMING BACK TO THE SLIDE REPRESENTING COMMITMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS PROCUREMENTS ISSUED BY MTC. THE LIGHT BLUE BAR ON THIS GRAPH REPRESENTS TOTAL AWARDS PROCUREMENTS ISSUED BY MTC, WHILE DARK BLUE BAR REPRESENTS COMMITMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS WHERE EITHER THE DBE OR SBE PROGRAMS APPLIED. NOTE, INCREASE IN TOTAL AWARDS, FISCAL '21, DUE TO TWO MTC PROCUREMENTS EXCEEDING $50 MILLION. IN FISCAL 2022/2023 THERE WAS INCREASING COMMITMENTS TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS. THIS INCREASE DUE TO CYCLE OF OUR PROCUREMENT AND SERVICE PATROL PROCUREMENT WHERE WE SEE A NUMBER OF AWARDEES WHO ARE SBE PRIME CONTRACTORS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. THIS CHART REPRESENTS PAYMENT MADE ON ACTIVE CONTRACTS THAT INCLUDE DBE AND SBE REQUIREMENTS REPRESENTING THE CRITICAL IMPACT THAT MTC DBE AND SBE PROGRAM AS IT INCLUDES INFORMATION ON MONEY THAT HAS BEEN PAID TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS TYING BACK TO OUR EQUITY PLATFORM PILLARS OF

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DEFINE MEASURES. LIGHT BUT BAR DISPLAYS PAYMENTS MADE TO NON-DBE, FIRMS WHILE THE DARK BLUE PAR REPRESENTS PAYMENTS MADE TO DBE AND SBE FIRMS. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR PAYMENTS MADE FOR THE PAYMENTS BEYOND WEATHER FIRM IS DBE OR SBE CERTIFIED FIRM AND LOCATION OF PRIME CONTRACTORS IN PART THIS IS DUE TO CURRENT FINANCIAL SYSTEM NOT HAVING VENDOR MANAGEMENT MODULE WITH ABILITY TO CAPTURE INFORMATION BEYOND THESE DATA POINTS WE'RE CONFIDENT AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGENCY'S NEW ERP ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SYSTEM THAT WILL BE RECOMMENDED TO THIS COMMITTEE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WE'LL BE ABLE TO CAPTURE REPORTING AND ROBUST DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION AND OTHER KEY POINTS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE.

DENISE RODRIGUES: SO, THROUGH THE PILLARS WE TALKED ABOUT DEFINE AND MEASURE. THIS SLIDE INFORMS HOW WE LISTEN AND LEARN AND TRAIN AND GROW. THROUGH THAT VARIETY OF MEASURES NOTED HERE, IN THAT INTERVAL AS NOTED THERE. ONE OF THE THINGS WE DO IS WE PARTNER WITH OTHER TRANSIT AGENCIES THROUGH THE BUSINESS OUTREACH AGENCY, VTA, BART, OTHER AGENCIES. I HAVE THAT NAME RECOGNITION, WHAT'S MTC, WHAT'S BATA, SO LET SMALL BUSINESSES, DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES KNOW ABOUT ALL OF OUR REGIONAL UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ONE TIME USING NEWS LETTERS, ALSO LET THEM KNOW ABOUT BENEFITS OF BECOMING CERTIFIED AS A DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OR SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE FIRM. WE PARTNER WITH CALTRANS AND THEIR MENTOR PROGRAM

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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH CONFERENCE MINORITY TRANSPORTATION OFFICIAL. NEXT SLIDE. WE HAVE TALKED A BIT ABOUT DEFINING AND MEASURING, LISTENING AND LEARNING TRAINING AND GROWING BUT WE KNOW WE NEED TO IMPROVE ON THIS SLIDE WE'LL SEE RECOMMENDED STAFF -- RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS OF STAFF IS RECOMMENDING AND HOW THEY'RE APPLIED TO BOTH THE DBE AND SBE PROGRAMS. FIRST ONE THERE IS PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND TRAGEDIES, KNOWING WHAT'S COMING UP, HOW DO WE UNBUNDLE IT, HOW DO WE LOOK AT MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS TO MAKE SHARE THEY'RE NOT CREATING BARRIERS TO THOSE OPPORTUNITIES. OF COURSE, WE HAVE INFORMATION ON OUR MTC BUT WE WANT TO ENHANCE THAT AND GET INFORMATION OUT. NOT EVERYBODY HAS THE TIME TO GO TO ALL THESE PLACES AND LEARN ABOUT THESE, WHAT CAN BE, HONESTLY, TYPICALLY, IN A VERY BUREAUCRATIC PROGRAM. HOW WE MAKE SURE THE INFORMATION IS OUT THERE. ALLOWING UNDERSTANDING. SOCIAL MEDIA, THIS PROCUREMENT IS COMING UP. IT'S NOT ON THE STREET YET. IT'S COMING UP. HOW DO WE CREATE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SUBS AND PRIMES. WITH ENGAGEMENT WE WANT TO ENHANCE THAT GREATLY SO WE HEAR WHAT ISSUES ARE AND WHAT BARRIERS ARE, SO THAT WE CAN WORK TO REMOVE THEM. AND, OF COURSE, TRAINING, AS I NOTED REALLY MAKING SURE, BECAUSE LOOK EVEN WITHOUT THE SBE AND DBE PROGRAMS, PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COOS CAN BE QUITE DAUNTING TO RESPOND TO. SO MAKE SURE WE GET THAT TRAINING OUT THERE. AND THEN LASTLY, DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS. WHY I NOTE THAT WE HAVE SOME GAPS IN THIS TYPE OF DATA WE CAN

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COLLECT, AND IF I'M BEING HONEST, THE INFORMATION WE HAVE SHOWN ON THOSE GRAPHS, IT'S A MANUAL COLLECTION OF VARIOUS SPREADSHEETS AND WE DON'T COLLECT SUBCONTRACTOR DATA SO WE'RE VERY INTERESTED IN DETERMINING WHAT INFORMATION WE CAN START TO COLLECT NOW BEFORE THE ERP, OR ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING IS IMPLEMENTED. SO THAT ONCE THAT SYSTEM IS THERE, WE HAVE A REALLY -- WE GET THAT DATA, WE GET IT FAST, WE SEE WHERE THE GAPS ARE, AND WE CAN WORK TO CORRECT THEM. SO, NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. ON THIS SLIDE WE TALKED A LOT ABOUT THE SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND DISADVANTAGES TO THE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM THERE ARE LINKS ON OUR WEB SITE AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RYAN AND I AND OTHER CONTRACT STAFF. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. AND THAT CONCLUDES OUR PRESENTATION AND BOTH RYAN AND I ARE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: THANK YOU. COMMISSIONERS? COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ?

CINDY CHAVEZ: FIRST OF ALL, I WANTED TO SAY, THIS IS REALLY EXCITING WORK. AND I SO WANT TO JUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE POINT YOU RAISED ABOUT HOW WE GET BETTER AT DOING THIS. BECAUSE I THINK ONE CHALLENGE IN PUBLIC LIFE, HONESTLY, IS THAT YOU COME HERE AND WE EXPECT YOU TO SAY EVERYTHING'S PERFECT AND GOOD JOB AND WE DON'T GET BETTER WHEN WE DO THAT SO, I APPRECIATE YOU SAYING HERE ARE THE NEXT STEPS WE'RE GOING TO TAKE TO IMPROVE

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OUR WORK. AND SO BECAUSE OF THAT, I JUST HAD A COUPLE OF MORE -- A LITTLE MORE, MAYBE TACTICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT YOU RAISED. AND ONE IS, IS IT REALLY SET HOW PROCUREMENT IS STRUCTURED SO THAT WE GET -- WE REALLY ARE KIND OF REACHING DEEP INTO OUR COMMUNITIES? ARE THERE AGENCY US THAT THINK HAVE REALLY FIGURED OUT HOW TO GET DEEP IN THAT -- THAT YOU'RE THINKING, YOU KNOW, WE WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THAT AGENCY IS DOING, ESPECIALLY IN THE TRANSIT WORLD?

DENISE RODRIGUES: YOU KNOW, OUR COLLEAGUES AT BART, I WOULD SAY, HAVE DONE -- HAVE MADE SOME EFFORTS AROUND THIS. THEY WORK A LOT WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH WE ARE PLANNING, [INDISCERNIBLE] TO START WORKING WITH THEM. BUT THEY ALSO HAVE DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROCUREMENTS AS A TRANSIT AGENCY. THEY HAVE ROLLING STOCK. THEY HAVE A LOT OF OTHER CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS. BUT AS NOTED WE WORK WITH THEM THROUGH THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE AND OTHERS SO THE BEAUTY OF THIS IS WE'RE SHARING IDEAS AND LESSONS LEARNED, WHAT DIDN'T WORK, LEVERAGING WHAT THEY'RE DOING TO TRY TO IMPROVE HERE.

CINDY CHAVEZ: LET ME MAKE AN OBSERVATION. I DO THINK IT MAKES A TON OF SENSE, IN MY MIND, FOR US, PARTICULARLY IN THIS AREA, TO BE SHARING RESOURCES WITH ALL OF THE OTHER AGENCIES THAT WE CAN. WHAT I'M REALLY INTERESTED IN UNDERSTANDING IS HOW WE ELICIT SOME UNIQUE BEST PRACTICES BECAUSE A LOT OF THE SERVICE

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CONTRACTS ARE AN EXAMPLE WHAT ARE THE TOOLS OUT THERE THAT WE'RE NOT ACCESSING AND I DO NOT JUST MEAN THE ERP TOOLS BUT LOOKING AT WHAT ARE THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES COMING ONLINE THAT ARE MORE GEARED TOWARDS SMALL AND EMERGING BUSINESSES THAN MID-SIZED BUSINESSES? AND SO ONE RECOMMENDATION THAT I WOULD LOVE TO MAKE FOR YOUR BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE IS TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT IT MAKES SENSE TO DO, YOU KNOW, SOME, SORT OF -- REALLY, AN RFI, OR AN RFS, REQUEST FOR SOLUTIONS OR REQUEST FOR IDEAS, BECAUSE WHAT I HAVE RECENTLY SEEN IS SOME REALLY INNOVATIVE BUSINESSES THAT ARE MAKING THE LINK BETWEEN SMALL AND EMERGING BUSINESSES, PRIMARILY, THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO A BID SYNC, SORT OF, MODEL, LIKE HELPING PEOPLE GET CONNECTED TO BID SYNC WHEN IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR BUSINESS. IT'S A LITTLE BIT BLUNT AS A TOOL RELATIVE TO GETTING FOLKS INVOLVED. I WOULD NOT HAVE MET THEM BUT THEY WANTED TO DO A PILOT WITH THE COUNTY BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE PROCUREMENT. SO, IT GOT ME THINKING, LIKE, WHO ELSE IS OUT THERE. THEY'RE REALLY BRIGHT AND REALLY SMART AND DOING INNOVATIVE WORK. BUT I WOULD NEVER HAVE FOUND THEM HAD THEY NOT FOUND US. SO, THAT'S ONE THING I WOULD BE CURIOUS ABOUT. AND THE OTHER THING IS, I THINK THAT WHEN WE'RE LOOKING AT HOW WE'RE REALLY USING PUBLIC DOLLARS TO FUNDAMENTALLY CREATE A MORE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY, THAT WE SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT HOW WE RESEARCH THE IMPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS OF THE ACTIONS WE TAKE. AND SO ONE THING WE HAVE ALL DONE, AND I THINK IT'S A BIT TREND E BUT

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PART OF FEDERAL LAWS, AND WE ALL DO DISPARATE STUDY THAT SAYS YOU ALL ARE DOING A TERRIBLE JOB, I MEAN, WE ALL KNOW THAT, THERE'S NOT MECHANISM FOR MAKING SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES AND ONE OF THE CHALLENGES IS THAT THE DISPARATE STUDIES ARE MOSTLY SNAPSHOTS IN TIME AND IF THEY GO BACK THEY GO BACK VERY LITTLE TIME SO WE CAN'T SAY NOT ONLY ARE WE USING OUR COMMONWEALTH THAT'S REFLECTIVE OF THE COMMUNITIES WE LIVE IN BUT WHEN WE'RE USING OUR COMMONWEALTH IN THAT WAY, WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF IT. IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADE WE USE CERTIFIED PAY ROLLS TO SAY YES WE'RE PAYING THIS PERSON AND FRANKLY IF WE WANTED TO WE COULD LOOK AT BOTH ZIP CODE AND CENSUS DATA TO SAY HERE IS THE PUBLIC DOLLARS AND HERE'S THE PHYSICAL PLACE THAT THESE DOLLARS ARE GOING ESPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE USING LOCAL PREFERENCE. WHAT I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN, NOT -- YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER THIS TODAY, BUT AS YOU'RE PART OF THIS REGIONAL EFFORT, I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN GETTING YOUR FEEDBACK ON HOW WE DEMONSTRATE WHAT THE BARS ACTUALLY MEAN FOR THE FINANCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE SERVE. AND ESPECIALLY GIVEN HOW MUCH WE ASK PEOPLE TO TAX US AT A LOCAL LEVEL, I THINK THIS COULD ACTUALLY BE SOMETHING THAT HELPS PROMOTE THE DIRECTION THAT, YOU KNOW, THE GOOD WORK THAT YOU'RE DOING, BUT ALSO HELPS SYNC SOCIETY HOW WE'RE USING RESOURCES THAT LIFTS UP AND MEETS MULTIPLE GOALS NOT ONLY SPENDING THAT $1 MILLION, WE'RE BUILDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND MAKING A FAIR AND LIVABLE WAGE AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE GETTING THE WAGE ARE

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ACCESSING THE HOUSING WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES AND THEREFORE WE CAN SAY THE IMPACT IT'S HAVING ON MULTIPLE LINES AND OUTCOMES. I KNOW THAT'S NOT SIMPLE. SO I'M REALLY SAYING THIS RECOGNIZING YOU'RE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF HOW WE DO THAT. I WAS THINKING OF CERTIFIED PAYROLL BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY ONE I COULD THINK OF I UNDERSTAND IT'S COMPLEX LOVE TO GET YOUR THOUGHTS MOVING FORWARD ON THAT.

DENISE RODRIGUES: R APPRECIATE THAT, DATA IS ONE FURTHER, WE'LL TAKE THAT INTO ACCOUNT.

ANDREW FREMIER: LET ME ADD TO THE FIRST QUESTION YOU HAD, PART OF THE REASON WE INVEST SO MUCH ENERGY IN THE TRADE ASSOCIATIONS THAT ARE OUT THERE IN THE INDUSTRY TO SHARE INFORMATION IS TO COMMISSIONER FLEMING'S FAVORITE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE TUNNELS TURNPIKES ASSOCIATION TOLLING INDUSTRY THAT'S WHERE WE GET A LOT OF INFORMATION AND SHARE WITH COLLEAGUES A LOT OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS A PDA, IS ANOTHER PLACE IT GOES ON BUT WE PARTICIPATE AND ENGAGE AND SHARE INFORMATION THERE ARE WAYS TO HANDLE PROBLEMS LIKE THIS BUT WE ENGAGE NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY FOR THAT REASON.

CINDY CHAVEZ: I'LL JUST COMMENT, I ACTUALLY THINK THIS'S REALLY IMPORTANT AND THIS IS ONE OF THOSE PLACES WHERE THE PUBLIC SAYS OH MY GOD THAT'S A JUNKET BUT I HAVE TO SAY

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ESPECIALLY WHEN WE THINK WE'RE GOOD AT WHAT WE DO GETTING OUT AND LEARNING WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE DOING IS WHEN WE SHOULD BE DOING THAT. I JUST APPLAUD MAKING SURE WE'RE GETTING OUR STAFF IN THE RIGHT PLACES. THANK YOU.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ. COMMISSIONER RONEN?

HILLARY RONEN: THANK YOU. THANKS FOR THE PRESENTATION AND FOR FOCUSING ON THIS WORK. I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT, SINCE THESE ARE GOAL ORIENTED PROGRAMS AS OPPOSED TO MANDATES, I WONDER IF WE HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT MANDATES AND WHAT WOULD BE POSSIBLE OR DIFFICULT ABOUT DOING THAT?

DENISE RODRIGUES: ON THE FEDERAL SIDE SINCE THAT'S A FEDERALLY MANDATED PROGRAM IT IS A GOAL BUT AS NOTED THE GOAL MUST BE MET THEN MONITORED. IF A PRIME CONTRACTOR SAYS THEY'RE GOING TO -- LET ME GIVE AN EXAMPLE, PRIME CONTRACTOR IS 20% GOAL ON CONTRACT, THEY COME IN AND SAY WE CAN ONLY DO 15%. IF, TO CLOSE THAT GAP, THEY HAVE TO SHOW THEY MADE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT AND THAT IS PRESCRIBED HOW THAT IS REVIEWED THROUGH THE CODE OF FEDERAL OF REGULATIONS AND THROUGH CALTRANS LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MANUAL. IF THAT'S APPROVED, WE WORK WITH CALTRANS AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO GET THAT APPROVED THEN THEY MEET THE SMALLER THRESHOLD. EVEN THOUGH IT'S A GOAL, I LOOK AT

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IT AS A FEDERAL MANDATE, AND THEN THIS IS WHY WE'RE MONITORING ALL THE WAY. YOU CAN'T SAY 15% OF COMMITMENT LEVEL AND THEN NOT DO ANYTHING ELSE. THAT'S WHY WE TRACK IT ALONG WITH NO SURPRISES TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE, HOPEFULLY, MEETING THAT FULL GOAL. NOW --

HILLARY RONEN: THE GOAL SAYS ZERO TO 31%. SO --

DENISE RODRIGUES: SO, AND SOMETIMES THE GOAL, AND THIS IS WHY IT'S IMPORTANT FOR US TO MAKE SURE TO INFORM SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS OR OTHERS THROUGHOUT THE REGION OR THROUGH THE, ACTUALLY, CALIFORNIA ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF GETTING CERTIFIED AS A DBE. BECAUSE IT HAS TO BE WHAT THEY CALL THE COMMERCIALLY USEFUL FUNCTION. AS COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ NOTED, WE HAVE A LOT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS AND SOMETHING MIGHT BE REALLY UNIQUE, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, AI, IF WE DON'T HAVE CERTIFIED DBES IN THAT AREA IT'S GOING TO SHOW 0% GOAL.

HILLARY RONEN: SO THERE IS, EVEN THOUGH IT SAYS ZERO.

DENISE RODRIGUES: THERE IS AND OUR JOB TO MAKE SURE PROCUREMENTS ARE COMING UP HOW DO WE CREATE A GROUP OF DBE'S SO THAT WE DON'T END UP WITH 0% GOALS.

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HILLARY RONEN: AND THEN WHAT ABOUT THE SBE PROGRAM?

DENISE RODRIGUES: AND THEN THE SBE IS A PREFERENCE PROGRAM, WHICH IS A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT.

HILLARY RONEN: WE -- THEY -- GET A TEN POINT --

SPEAKER: YEAH. THAT'S CORRECT. SO, IT'S SUBCONTRACTING OUT OR HAVING IT PRIME CONTRACTED THAT DOES 25% OF THE WORK, OR MORE, THEY'LL GET 5 PREFERENCE POINTS ON THE BID. UP TO FOUR -- OR 40% OR MORE THEY WILL GET TEN POINT PREFERENCE ON THE EVALUATION OF THEIR BID. SO, IT'S A PREFERENCE BASED POINT, PREFERENCE BASED PROGRAM THAT INCENTIVIZES FIRMS TO WORK WITH DBE AND SBE FIRMS.

HILLARY RONEN: AND HOW MANY -- WHAT PERCENTAGE OF OUR PROCUREMENTS DOES THAT 5- TO 10% MAKE THE REAL DIFFERENCE?

SPEAKER: YOU KNOW, I DON'T HAVE THE INFORMATION ON HAND. BUT I CAN LOOK THAT UP AND GET IT TO YOU. BUT IT HAS MADE AN IMPACT ON PROCUREMENTS THAT WE ISSUED.

HILLARY RONEN: AND IF WE WERE TO PUT A MANDATE ON A PREFERENCE MANDATE PROGRAM, WHAT WOULD -- I IMAGINE THAT WON'T BE EASY. [LAUGHTER] I'M JUST CURIOUS, WHAT WOULD BE THE MAIN

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CHALLENGES? LIKE, WHAT WOULD WE BE FACING IF WE WANTED TO MAKE THAT CHANGE LOCALLY.

DENISE RODRIGUES: WE WOULD, OBVIOUSLY, WORK WITH LEADERSHIP AND GENERAL COUNSEL ON THAT CHANGE. OUR SBE PROGRAM IS FAIRLY NEW. AS WE LOOKED AT THAT TIMELINE, WE ADOPTED A PILOT PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTION. I'M GOING ON MEMORY, BECAUSE I [INDISCERNIBLE] WANT TO FLIP TO THE SLIDE. IN 2017, AND FULLY ADOPTED IN 2020. IT'S STILL A FAIRLY NEW PROGRAM. AND AS WE LOOK AT THE DATA, THOUGH, IF WE'RE NOT PERFORMING THE WAY WE SHOULD, THEN WE WOULD WORK WITH LEADERSHIP THEN COME BACK TO YOU ALL TO THEN UPDATE THAT RESOLUTION TO MAKE IT A REQUIREMENT. ONE OF THE CHALLENGES THERE COULD BE, AS I NOTED, IT'S A UNIQUE WORK AREA -- BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE COMMERCIALLY USEFUL FUNCTION, IF THERE AREN'T SBES IN THAT AREA AND IF IT'S A MANDATE YOU KNOW, WHAT ARE WE DOING, RIGHT? THAT'S SOMETHING WE WOULD DISCUSS INTERNAL TO LOOK AT HOW WE WOULD APPLY A MANDATE LIKE.

SPEAKER: NICK ROW THAT WILL: WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE GET THE WORK DONE AND THE CONCERN WITH THE MANDATE GIVEN THE UNIQUE WORK WE DO WOULD BE OWP ON THE LAST ITEM SO THAT WOULD BE THE CONCERN.

HILLARY RONEN: THANK YOU.

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CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: COMMISSIONER EL-TAWANSY.

DINA EL-TAWANSY: THANK YOU FOR THE PRESENTATION DENISE AND RYAN. I THINK AS A PUBLIC AGENCY WE DEFINITELY SHARE THAT CONCERN WITH DBES AND SBES AND I WANT TO SHARE A FEW THINGS THAT I FELT WAS WORKING WELL FOR US. SO, YOU KNOW, YOU A LUTED TO OUR COMMENTER PROGRAM, WHICH IS -- IT'S FOCUSED ON ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES BUT WE ALSO HAVE THE MENTAL PROTEGE FOCUSED ON CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AND ONE OF THE CHALLENGES GOING BACK TO COMMISSIONER RONEN'S COMMENT ABOUT THE MANDATES OF CERTAIN GOAL PERCENTAGE, ONE OF THE CHALLENGES IF THE WORK IS SPECIALIZED SOMETIMES IT'S A BIG CHALLENGE TO FIND A DBE THAT CAN DO THAT KIND OF WORK. SO WE'RE LEARNING THAT ONE OF THE BEST THINGS TO DO IS TO TRY TO GROW THAT POOL THROUGH WORKSHOPS AND TO REALLY BRING THESE SMALLER CONTRACTORS IN AND PAIR THEM UP WITH BIG AND EXPERIENCED CONTRACTORS THAT CAN GUIDE THEM THROUGH THE PROCESS AND HELP THEM, YOU KNOW, BASICALLY, ALIGN THEMSELVES BETTER TO BE ABLE TO REGISTER WITH THE STATE FOR WORK LIKE THAT. AND IT HAS BEEN, TO SOME DEGREE, A SUCCESS, BUT LOOKING AT SOME OF THE DATA THAT OUR STAFF BROUGHT BACK, WE NOTICED THAT OUR NUMBERS FOR BLACK AND HISPANIC BUSINESSES IS NOT AS GOOD AS WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE. SO MAYBE TARGETING THESE, YOU KNOW, THESE PARTICULAR COMMUNITIES AND THESE PARTICULAR

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CONTRACTORS IS SOMETHING ELSE THAT WE NEED TO FOCUS ON THE OTHER THING I ALSO NOTED AND THAT COULD BE ON THE STATE SIDE, JUST BECAUSE OUR PROCESS IS NOT THE EASIEST TO NAVIGATE, WHERE DO PEOPLE LOOK FOR WORK? WHERE DO PEOPLE FIND THIS ONE-STOP-SHOP THAT HELPS THEM TO COME IN AND SAY, OKAY, THE PROJECTS ARE COMING DOWN THE PIPELINE. THESE ARE THE SPECIALISTS THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE LOOKING FOR, AND WE SHOULD SEE SPECIALISTS APPLICABLE TO THEM. TWO THINGS WE'RE WORKING ON, ONE HAS BEEN ONGOING FOR A WHILE AND IT'S PROVEN REALLY SUCCESSFUL AND THIS'S QUARTERLY MEETING WITH THESE SUBCONTRACT -- SMALL BUSINESSES AND MAIN CONTRACTORS, THE PRIMES, BRING THEM INTO THE OFFICE TALK ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PIPELINE IN THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO YEARS, AND SOMETIMES WE UPDATE THAT INFORMATION EVERY THREE MONTHS SO THEY HAVE THE LATEST INFORMATION AND THEN WHAT CONTRACT ITEMS TO LOOK FOR IN THESE CONTRACTS SO THAT THEY CAN HAVE A CONVERSATION AND ASK US QUESTIONS. AND YOU KNOW, DEFINITELY THE SECOND THING IS MAKING SURE THE ONE-STOP-SHOP IS SOMEWHERE ONLINE WHERE THEY CAN GO AND TAKE A LOOK AT ANY GIVEN TIME BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE ON OUR END AND IF THEY HAVE QUESTIONS TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER THEM. I APPRECIATE MTC'S APPRECIATION IN THE WORK PROGRAM. IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO SPEAK AS PUBLIC AGENCIES TO SPEAK FOR THESE CONTRACTORS

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: PED.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA: WHAT PERKED MY INTEREST IS WE KNOW THERE IS GAPS IN QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS SPECIFICALLY TO LATINO COMMUNITIES OR OTHERS WHAT DO WE DO WITH THAT INFORMATION WHETHER OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH SPECIFIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OR BUSINESS GROUP TO SHARE THAT INFORMATION TO REALLY FIND A WAY TO EMPOWER BUSINESS GROWTH WHERE THERE IS NEED TO ME I WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT TO PARTNER AND HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES GROW TO MEET THESE OBJECTIVES. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT RESONATED WITH ME.

DINA EL-TAWANSY: THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE DOING DEFINITELY IT'S WORKING MORE WITH THE BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO BRING THEM ON BOARD BUT YEAH ABSOLUTELY.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: FANTASTIC THANK YOU A COUPLE OF QUICK THINGS, NICK'S CHOMPING AT THE BIT TO HELP CAN'T GET THAT SOON ENOUGH. IT'S SO NICE TO SEE THE LIST OF RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE DIRECTION WE'RE HEADED HERE. DBE, DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND IS SBE, SINCE WE WHIPPED THOSE ACRONYMS AROUND, SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE FOR THOSE JUST TUNING IN. THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS IS DONE BY WHOM?

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DENISE RODRIGUES: THE DBE PROGRAM, THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS IS DONE BY THE CALIFORNIA UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. AND THERE ARE TRANSIT AGENCIES, AS WELL AS CALTRANS ARE CERTIFYING AGENCIES MTC IS NOT A CERTIFYING AGENCY BUT IT'S A FEDERALLY PRESCRIBED CERTIFICATION PROCESS THAT'S WHO DOES THE CERTIFICATION FOR DBES. FOR SBE MTC IS NOT A CERTIFYING AGENCY WHAT WANTED REMOVE BARRIERS IF YOU ARE A SMALL BUSINESS CERTIFIED BY THE STATE REGIONAL ENTITY TRANSIT AGENCY JURISDICTION AS LONG AS WE CAN VERIFY IT BY SEARCHING IT WE WILL ACCEPT IT.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: GOOD TO KNOW WE SHOULD HAVE A LIST OF THOSE AGENCIES THAT AGENCIES DO CERTIFY ONE-STOP-SHOP SO IF THEY'RE COMING ON OUR WEB SITE HERE IS WHERE YOU CAN GO TO, THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL ALSO HELPFUL WOULD BE IF WE CAN WORK WITH THESE AGENCIES, PROVIDING SOME, SORT OF, HOW TO VIDEO, YOUTUBE, SOMETHING, IF YOU ARE APPLYING, BE IT CALTRANS OR SOMEWHERE ELSE, HERE IS HOW YOU DO IT. BECAUSE, I THINK WE HAD A PRIOR DISCUSSION. THESE SMALL BUSINESSES ARE WORKING THEIR BUTTS OFF, JUST TO SURVIVE, AND TO TAKE TIME OUT, YOU KNOW, DURING A MIDDLE OF THE WORK DAY TO GO TO SOME WORKSHOP IS REALLY NOT GOING TO GET US TO WHERE WE WANT TO BE. SO, THE MORE ACCESSIBLE WE CAN MAKE THIS INFORMATION, ANY TIME OF DAY IS REALLY, REALLY HELPFUL. AND I THINK WE CAN WORK WITH OTHER

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GROUPS HERE. THERE IS THIS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS THREW OUT CALIFORNIA DO WE HAVE ANY COORDINATION WITH THEM?

DENISE RODRIGUES: I DON'T BELIEVE WE DO. WE WORKED WITH VARIOUS CHAMBERS AND TRANSIT AGENCIES BUT THAT'S SOMETHING WE LOOK TO DO AS WE EXPAND WORKING WITH COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS.

GINA PAPAN: I THINK SO. THESE ARE PRETTY BIG ORGANIZATIONS IF YOU LOOK ONLINE. SAN FRANCISCO, THE BIG JURISDICTIONS HAVE THOSE OFFICES AND I DO THINK THAT'S -- I MENTIONED I NEED TO GET YOU IN CONTACT WITH THE FEDS, SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PEOPLE, ARE EAGER TO HELP TOO. SO, AGAIN, I THINK IT'S CONNECTING ALL THE DOTS, AND, SO, REALLY, I APPRECIATE ALL THE EFFORTS THAT ARE GOING INTO THIS RIGHT NOW. ONE TINY ISSUE THAT CAME UP -- AND HOPEFULLY WE CAN WORK THIS OUT -- THE FEDS DON'T HAVE THE SAME EQUITY STANDARDS WE HAVE. AND WE HAVE HAD A DISCUSSION WHERE THEIR REQUIREMENTS DON'T, KIND OF, MATCH WHAT WE HAVE HERE. SO, IT WOULD BE NICE TO SEE AN INTEGRATION OF SOME OF OUR STANDARDS, AT LEAST BEING TRANSPARENT, AS TO WHAT THE EXPECTATIONS ARE. WE DID HAVE AN APPEAL RECENTLY. [LAUGHTER] THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID THINGS LIKE THAT IN THE FUTURE, AND THEN KEEPING THE STANDARDS, WHICH THIS COMMITTEE HAS COME TO DEVELOP, WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. BUT I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE THAT RIGHT IN OUR PERFORMANCE HERE, AS WE'RE RECOGNIZING THAT,

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THAT THESE ARE OUR EXPECTATIONS. WE HAVE HAD QUESTIONS ABOUT WHERE THE MINIMUM IS, BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO TRY TO UP THE BAR IN REACHING OUT TO PEOPLE. SO, THAT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. AGAIN. LOTS OF GREAT WORK TO DO, AND I KNOW YOU GUYS ARE WORKING REALLY HARD TO DO THAT. I HOPE WE CAN GET MORE PARTNERS TO HELP IN THE PROCESS HERE. SO, ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE? ANY CORRESPONDENCE OR PEOPLE WISHING TO SPEAK ON THIS ITEM?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: WE HAVE ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ONLINE. HOW MUCH TIME WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROVIDE THEM?

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: TWO MINUTES.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: OKAY. VINAY PIMPLE, IF YOU COULD PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. AND YOUR TIME BEGINS NOW.

VINAY PIMPLE: HI. VINAY PIMPLE, MEMBER OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL. I'LL MAKE IT SHORTER THAN TWO MINUTES. I JUST WONDERED IF FOLKS HAVE TRIED TO, YOU KNOW, PARTICULARLY FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT, IF THEY ARE TRYING TO CONNECT WITH THE PROGRAMS OR WHAT YOU HAVE BECAUSE THAT IT WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL BUSINESSES AND IT MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SECTOR TO ACTUALLY SEE THE SCHOOLS, AS THEY TEACH THEIR COURSES, THAT

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THEY GIVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION TO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO START UP NEW BUSINESSES. THANK YOU.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: THANK YOU, CALLER. THERE IS NO FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENT ONLINE.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: OKAY. I BELIEVE THIS IS -- WE NEED AN ACTION ITEM TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL.

SPEAKER: MOVE APPROVAL.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: OKAY. AGAIN I'M GETTING ALL MESSED UP HERE. MY APOLOGIES. IT SAYS INFORMATION. THANK YOU EVERYONE. GREAT WORK. WE LOOK FORWARD TO MUCH SUCCESS. THANK YOU. MOVING TO ITEM FIVE, PUBLIC COMMENT. COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA OR INVOLVING OTHER BUSINESS. DO WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: THERE IS NO MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ONLINE NOR IN THE BOARDROOM AND I RECEIVED NO WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE.

CHAIR, GINA PAPAN: THANK YOU SO MUCH. ITEM SIX, THE REEF TOUGHY. THIS IS THE ADJOURNMENT. OUR NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY

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MAY 8TH, HERE AT 375 BEALE STREET. THANK YOU, EVERYONE, FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. ADJOURNED. [ADJOURNED]

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