METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Meeting Transcript

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021, 9:35 A.M.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: GOOD MORNING EVERYONE AND WELCOME TO THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. MY NAME IS ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR ALONG WITH NICK JOSEFOWITZ, VICE CHAIR. IF WE COULD PLEASE PLAY THE INTRODUCTORY RECORDING? [RECORDED MEETING PROCEDURES ANNOUNCEMENT] DUE TO COVID-19 THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AS A ZOOM WEBINAR PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT. THIS MEETING IS BEING WEBCAST ON THE MTC WEB SITE. THE CHAIR WILL CALL UPON COMMISSIONERS, PRESENTERS, STAFF, AND OTHER SPEAKERS BY NAME AND ASK THAT THEY SPEAK CLEARLY AND STATE THEIR NAMES BEFORE GIVING COMMENTS OR REMARKS. PERSONS PARTICIPATING VIA WEBCAST AND ZOOM WITH THEIR CAMERAS ENABLED ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE VISIBLE TO VIEWERS. COMMISSIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING BY ZOOM WISHING TO SPEAK SHOULD USE THE RAISED HAND FEATURE, OR DIAL STAR NINE, AND THE CHAIR WILL CALL UPON THEM AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES WILL BE CALLED UPON BY THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THEIR PHONE NUMBER. IT IS REQUESTED THAT PUBLIC SPEAKERS STATE THEIR NAMES AND ORGANIZATION, BUT PROVIDING SUCH INFORMATION IS VOLUNTARY. WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED AT INFO@BAYAREAMETRO.GOV BY 5:00 P.M. YESTERDAY WILL BE POSTED TO

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THE ONLINE AGENDA AND ENTERED INTO THE RECORD BUT WILL NOT BE READ OUT LOUD. IF AUTHORS OF THE WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK, THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO. A ROLL CALL VOTE WILL BE TAKEN FOR ALL ACTION ITEMS. PANELISTS AND ATTENDEES SHOULD NOTE THAT THE CHAT FEATURE IS NOT ACTIVE.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU, JESS. LET'S MOVE TO ITEM ONE. KIMBERLY IF WEEKEND PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES. GOOD MORNING. PEDROZA?

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: JOSEFOWITZ? COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ IS ABSENT. ABE-KOGA?

DIR. MARGARET ABE-KOGA: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: AHN?

EDDIE AHN: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: CANEPA? COMMISSIONER CANEPA IS ABSENT. CHAVEZ?

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CINDY CHAVEZ: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: CONNOLY?

DAMON CONNOLLY: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: DUTRA-VERNACI?

CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: EL-TAWANSY? COMMISSIONER EL-TAWANSY IS ABSENT. FLEMING?

VICTORIA FLEMING: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: GIACOPINI? COMMISSIONER GIACOPINI IS ABSENT. GLOVER?

DORENE M. GIACOPINI: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: COMMISSIONER GIOCAPINI IS PRESENT. AND THANK YOU COMMISSIONER GLOVER? LICCARDO IS ABSENT. MILEY?

SUP. NATHAN MILEY: HERE.

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CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: PAPAN?

GINA PAPAN: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: RABBIT?

DAVID RABBIT: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: RONEN?

DIR. HILLARY RONEN: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: SCHAFF?

LIBBY SCHAFF: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: SPERING?

JAMES P. SPERING: PRESENT.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: WORTH?

AMY R. WORTH: HERE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. QUORUM IS PRESENT.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU KIMBERLY. COMMISSIONER CONNOLY IS LOOKING VERY ARE SHARP TODAY. WHY DON'T YOU LEAD US IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SIR?

DAMON CONNOLLY: THANK YOU. WE HAVE OUR BUDGET MEETINGS HERE THIS WEEK SO I WANTED TO LOOK RESPECTABLE. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE] "I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER, AND WE HAVE ALL BEEN GOING THROUGH THOSE BUDGET WORKSHOPS, SO I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE ALL GOING THROUGH AS WELL. LET'S MOVE TO ITEM THREE, THE COMPENSATION ANNOUNCEMENT. KIMBERLY, IF WE COULD PLEASE READ THE ANNOUNCEMENT?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: SURE. AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE LAW I AM MAKING THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT. EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD HERE TODAY WILL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE $100 PER MEETING ATTENDED UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $500 PER MONTH PER AGENCY. THIS AMOUNT IS A PROVIDED AS A RESULT OF CONVENING A MEETING FOR WHICH EACH MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO COLLECT SUCH AMOUNT.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, KIM. MOVING TO ITEM FOUR NOW TIME TO REOPEN CRITICAL FOR THE REGION THAT TRANSIT OPERATORS FOCUS ON RECOVERY I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THIS MONTH'S FINAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON THE HEALTHY TRANSIT PLAYING DASHBOARD ACCOMPANYING LETTER FROM THE TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGERS, TRANSIT AGENCY TO HAVE ONE LOCATION TO PROVIDE DETAILS AND COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE SAFE RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSIT TO THE BAY AREA. THE LETTER NOTES THAT EVEN AS THE STATE AND REGION SHIFTS TO RECOVERY, KEY MEASURES SUCH AS MASK WEARING AND IMPROVING VENTILATION REMAIN IN PLACE AS APPROPRIATE. I APPRECIATE THE TRANSIT AGENCY'S COLLABORATION ON THE HEALTHY PLAN. AS COMMISSIONERS ARE TALKING ABOUT THE PLAN, I APPRECIATE THE OPERATORS COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENCY MAKING SURE THE PUBLIC KNEW THE MEASURES THAT WERE TAKEN INTO PLACE. I WANT TO UNDERSCORE ALL OPERATORS, BIG AND SMALL. YOU DEFINITELY STEPPED UP TO THE OCCASION. I WOULD LIKE TO REPORT ON THIS MONTH'S ANNOUNCEMENT, THE 2021 PULITZER PRIZE FOR BREAKING NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY SHINED A LIGHT ON THE WORK DONE BY A MEMBER OF THE EXTENDED MTC FAMILY WHEN NOAH BERGER WAS HONORED AS PART OF PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FOR A COLLECTION OF PHOTOS FOR MULTIPLE U.S. CITIES THAT CAPTURED THE COUNTRY'S RESPONSE TO THE DEATH, LAST YEAR, OF GEORGE FLOYD, IN MINNEAPOLIS. NOAH WAS FIRST ENGAGED TO MTC BACK IN 1999 -- COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ WAS STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL -- WHEN HIS NAME WAS A STRINGER FOR THEN WHAT WAS THE OAKLAND

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TRIBUNE. OVER 22 YEARS, NOAH IS KNOWN FOR SHOOTING HUNDREDS OF PHOTOS FOR US, AND ALSO KNOWN FOR RECOGNITION FOR HIS WORK DOCUMENTING WILDFIRES IN THE BAY AREA AND ACROSS THE U.S. NOT ONE TO REST ON HIS LAURELS, NOAH IS ALREADY BACK AT WORK FOR MTC CAPTURING IMAGES TO USE IN THE UPCOMING "BACK TO TRANSIT" CAMPAIGN. IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT THE PULITIZER BOARD DID NOT SEE FIT TO HONOR HIS PHOTOS OF THE COMMISSION. I WANT TO SAY CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OF US AT MTC FOR THE AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER, NOAH, WHO IS ATTENDING TODAY'S MEETING. KIMBERLY, I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE ONE PHOTO THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO DRAW UP. YEAH. I KNOW COMMISSIONER HAGGERTY, WHEREVER HE IS, IN HIS FINER MOMENT. YOU AUTHORED THIS WONDERFUL PHOTO. CONGRATULATIONS. ANY WORDS?

SPEAKER: THANKS FOR HIRING ME. MTC IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE CORPORATE CLIENTS WORKING ON THE BAY BRIDGE WAS A HIGHLIGHT OF MY WORK. AND I WANT TO THANK BRENDA KAHN FOR BRINGING ME ON.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. JOB WELL DONE.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: COMMISSIONER WORTH, I SEE YOUR HAND RAISED. DO YOU WANT COMMENT ON THIS ITEM?

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AMY R. WORTH: YES. AM I UNMUTED?

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: YES.

AMY R. WORTH: GREAT. I WOULD LOVE TO, IF I COULD TAKE THE LIBERTY AND COMMISSIONER SPERING MAY HAVE SOME GEMS TO ADD TOO. I WANT TO SAY HOW PROUD WE ALL WERE WHEN WE GOT THE NOTICE ABOUT THE PULITZER PRIZE WINNING. IT'S SO HUGE IN JOURNALISM AND PHOTOGRAPHY TO GET THAT AWARD. AND FOLLOWING NOAH'S CAREER IT'S BEEN SO WELL DESERVED. IT TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE TO TAKE THOSE PICTURES WHETHER IT'S ENGAGING WITH INDIVIDUALS OR BEING OUT IN CHALLENGING SITUATIONS AND ONE OF MY FAVORITE NOAH BERGER MEMORIES WAS WHEN THE TOWERS, BEHIND ME, HERE ARE THE TOWERS, NOAH, HERE YOU GO. AND YOU SEE THAT WATER NEXT TO THE TOWERS? WHEN WE INSTALLED THOSE TOWERS, IT WAS AN EXCITING TIME. THEY CAME OVER ON BARGES, THEY WERE BROUGHT UP INDIVIDUALLY, LIKE A CRANE, I MEAN, LITERALLY RAISED UP, AND NOAH, WHO HAD THIS NEW BABY, WAS OUT ON THE WATER, LIKE A MOTOR BOAT, HIRED A SPEED BOAT, JUST ONE OF THOSE REGULAR BOATS, TO GET THE CLOSE UP VIEWS OF THE BRIDGE, AND HE WAS STANDING UP ON THE SEAT, AND USING HIS FOOT TO STEER THE BOAT, AND I JUST REALIZED, THIS MAN IS TREMENDOUSLY COURAGEOUS, OR OTHER THINGS IN TERMS OF HIS WILLINGNESS TO DO ANYTHING IT TAKES TO GET A PICTURE. AND, OVER THE DECADES, THE

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WORK, NOAH, THAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR MTC HAS JUST BEEN STUNNING. REALLY, REALLY GORGEOUS, BEAUTIFUL WAYS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONVEY TO THE WORLD, THE WORK THAT THIS COMMISSION HAS DONE, IN TERMS OF TRANSPORTATION AND ALL ASPECTS. AND YOU KNOW, JUST ON ANOTHER NOTE, YOUR WORK ON THE FIRES, REALLY, WERE SO POIGNANT AND BROUGHT HOME TO ALL OF US IN THE BAY AREA, THE TREMENDOUS DEVASTATION THAT THAT CAUSED, AND THE PERSONAL FACE, AND OF COURSE THAT WAS THE THING YOUR PULITZER WINNING PHOTOGRAPH WAS JUST INCREDIBLE. SO POIGNANT AND PART OF THAT INCREDIBLE TEAM. I'M SO GLAD, MR. CHAIR, THAT WE HAD A CHANCE TO CELEBRATE NOAH TODAY. I AM GLAD HE WAS FREE. HIS PHONE IS PROBABLY RINGING OFF THE HOOK NOW THAT YOU'RE WORLD FAMOUS BUT YOU TELL THEM YOU GOT YOUR START AT MTC. CONGRATULATIONS.

SPEAKER: IT'S ALWAYS NICE THAT WAS SUPER WARM WE COULD USE A BIG HUG WHEN WE SEE YOU.

AMY R. WORTH: I REMEMBER THE LITTLE BASS NET THE LAST TIME I SAW THAT BABY.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: COMMISSIONER SPERING?

JAMES P. SPERING: YOU HEART MESSAGE THROUGHOUT MTC PHOTOS, A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS AND THE PHOTOGRAPHY THAT HE

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HAS DONE REALLY EXPLAINED WHAT WE WERE DOING, AND REALLY DEMONSTRATED THE PROJECT THAT WE WERE DELIVERING, AND EVERY PHOTO, JUST AWARD-WINNING, AND YOU FIGURE HOW THE HELL DID HE TAKE THIS PICTURE. GREAT WORK. SOMETHING WE'RE ALL PROUD OF. MTC HAS ALWAYS RECOGNIZED FOR HOW TO PORTRAY WHAT WE'RE DOING IN THE BAY AREA THROUGHOUT WORK OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF NOAH. SHOULD YOU BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, AND VERY REWARDING BOTH TO THE COMMISSION AND TO YOURSELF. THANK YOU.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER. THIS IS TOO MUCH PRAISE. I HAVE GOT TO LET YOU GUYS GET ON TO RUNNING THINGS. THIS IS REALLY SWEET. THANK YOU. I APPRECIATE THAT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: NOAH WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN PERSON SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO SEE YOUR TALENTS SHINE AND CONTINUE TO TELL THE STORY OF MTC. CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR AWARD. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE ON TO OUR NEXT ITEM. ITEM FIVE, POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL, RANDI KINMAN?

RANDI KINMAN: THANK YOU. I NEEDED TO UNMUTE MYSELF. THANK YOU, CHAIR PEDROZA, AND COMMISSION. THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL MET JUNE 6TH AND FROM OUR BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE REPORT, THE COUNCIL WANTS TO ADD THEIR VOICES TO THE QUESTION OF HOW IS THIS GOING TO PROCEED AFTER THE TASK FORCE IS DISSOLVED. HOW CAN THE COUNCIL, IN PARTICULAR, REMAIN ENGAGED

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IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEXT PHASE. AND, FRANKLY, THAT I WANT TO SEE A STEERING COMMITTEE THAT LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE EXISTING TASK FORCE. BECAUSE IT WAS A REALLY UNIQUE BLEND. OUR LEGISLATIVE PORTION OF THE MEETING INCLUDED A LOT OF DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS FOR STAFF, AND REQUESTS FOR FOLLOW UP. AND I WANTED TO GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO OUR LEG STAFF BECAUSE OUR MEMBERS AREN'T AS FAMILIAR WITH THE SAUSAGE MAKING THAT IS LEGISLATION DEVELOPMENT. SO THERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS THAT BOTH GEORGIA AND REBECCA MAKE EASY TO UNDERSTAND. DURING THE MAPPING AND WAYFINDING PROJECT DISCUSSION WITH STAFF, OUR BODY WAS CLEARED THAT THIS PROJECT REPRESENTS A CORNERSTONE OF DEVELOPING REGIONAL TRANSIT DELIVERY. WE WANT THIS PROJECT TO DELIVER NOT JUST STATIC WAYFINDING MAPS AND BRANDING, BUT ALSO DELIVER THE NEWER TECHNOLOGY THAT ALLOWS PEOPLE TO ACCESS REALTIME INFORMATION. WE WANT TO GROW OUR TRANSIT SYSTEM RATHER THAN WATCH IT CONTINUE TO SHRINK AS IT WAS DOING DURING PREPANDEMIC. WE HAVE TO GIVE PEOPLE THE TOOLS TO ACCESS INFORMATION THEY NEED TO ACTUALLY USE THE SYSTEM. THE LAST BIG ITEM ON OUR AGENDA WAS THE DRAFT EIR OF PLANNED BAY AREA 2050, AND I WANT TO COMMEND DAVE VAUTIN AND CREW FOR MAKING THESE DISCUSSIONS FRUITFUL AND REALLY ENGAGING THE COUNCIL. AND NOW I'M GOING TO PUT MY CHAIR'S HAT ON, AND TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE UPCOMING RECRUITMENT POLICY PROCESS FOR THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL HAVING BEEN THROUGH A NUMBER OF THESE PROCESSES, I KNOW IT'S COMPLICATE AND WHILE I DON'T WANT TO MAKE IT ANY

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MORE DIFFICULT, I AND THE OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS FEEL YOU NEED TO HAVE MORE OF AN UNDERSTANDING IN THE BACKGROUND AS RECRUITING MEMBERS OF OUR BODY THE POLICY TO STAFF AND ELECTED PHYSICIANS IN THE ORGANIZATION THE TIME THEY DEDICATE OVER A FOUR YEAR APPOINTMENT OFF BOOKS IT REQUIRES NEGOTIATING WITH EMPLOYERS WORKING SCHEDULE AROUND MEETINGS. WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD TROUBLE WITH REPRESENTATION AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE REGION BECAUSE PEOPLE CANNOT TAKE TIME OFF TO ATTEND A TWO HOUR MEETING. WE HAVE ALWAYS EXPERIENCED TURNOVER, AND FOR SOME IT'S A CHANGE IN JOB STATUS, FOR OTHERS IT'S BEEN THE REALIZATION THAT A REGIONAL POLICY BOD IS DIFFERENT THAN ORGANIZING TO PUT A STOP SIGN AT THE END OF YOUR BLOCK IT'S THE CONFLICT BETWEEN WORKING FROM HOME WHETHER IT'S NEW BABIES, DAYCARE OR EXTENDED COMMUTE TIMES. WE DON'T KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE NEVER APPLIED BECAUSE THEY CANNOT MAKE THE MEETINGS WORK WITH THEIR LIVES. THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, HOWEVER, CHANGED ALL THAT, OUR MEMBERSHIP INCREASED. WE ASKED MEMBERS TO EXTEND THEIR TERMS FOR A YEAR TO SEE MULTIPLE PLANNING PROCESSES IN THE PANDEMIC. AND THEY SAID SURE. WE ASKED THEM TO WORK 12 MONTHS INSTEAD OF THE USUAL 11, NO PROBLEM. WE EXTENDED THE MEETINGS. PEOPLE ATTENDED MORE MEETINGS OUTSIDE OUR MAIN MEETING WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT TRAVELING ON SPARE THE AIR DAYS WE ADDED A NEW SUBCOMMITTEE TO FEED INTO THE FARE INTEGRATION TASK FORCE AND EMPLOYED MEMBERS TO THE AD-HOC WORK ON WITH STAFF ON

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DEVELOPING THINGS LIBRARY THE PILOT PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM. OUR EFFICIENCY GREW OUR MEMBERS WERE BETTER ENGAGE SAID HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN UP FRONT POLICY WORK RATHER THAN WAITING FOR STAFF REPORTS. I HAVEN'T WORRIED ABOUT QUORUMS AND LIKE ALL EXPERIENCE DURING THE IS SHUTDOWNS OUR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GREW. TO CONTINUE OPERATING AT THIS LEVEL, BESIDES RECRUITING FOR THE BODY, WE ASKED THE COMMISSION LOOK AT SEVERAL THINGS: WE NEED TO ENSURE THERE IS CAPACITY TO HOLD MULTIPLE PUBLICLY BROADCASTED MEETINGS IN A HYBRID SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS PEOPLE THE FLEXIBILITY TO ATTEND REMOTELY. OUR COMMITTEES MEET THE SAME TIMES YOURS DO WHICH IN THE PAST MEANT ANYBODY WHO WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR EQUITY AND ACCESS DISCUSSIONS NEEDED TO TRAVEL TO BEALE STREET. THE LAST TWO MONTHS COMMISSION MEETINGS HAVE RUN LONG REQUIRING THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL TO DELAY AND CUT SHORT AGENDA ITEMS. IF WE WANT TO DEVELOP A FULL THREADED EQUITY PLATFORM THEN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WHETHER COUNCIL OR GENERAL PUBLIC NEEDS TO BE ASSURED WITHOUT REQUIRING A PHYSICAL PRESENCE WE NEED TO ABOUT PROACTIVE IN DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR OUR BODY TO CONTINUE TO MEET IN A FLEXIBLE MANNER. THE SUSPENSION OF THE BROWN ACT ATTENDANCE RULES HAS BEEN A BOON TO OUR ATTENDANCE AND EFFICIENCY WHILE INCREASING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WE ASK THE LEG TEAM TO FOLLOW LEGISLATION IN THIS AREA BUT WE ALSO WANT MTC TO TAKE A LEADERSHIP POSITION, JUST AS MTC HAS TAKEN A LEADERSHIP POSITION IN OTHER EQUITY

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MATTERS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, AND THAT CONCLUDES MY REPORT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: RANDI THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE DETAILED REPORT. FOLLOW UP ON THE MEETING STRUCTURE WE ALREADY ADDED OUR CAPACITY TO DO REMOTE AND IN-PERSON IT'S SOMETHING NEW TO US OUR TEAM IS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WE'RE WORKING ON THAT TO UNDERSTAND OUR CAPACITY AND THE FIRST PART OF YOUR PRESENTATION YOU TALKED ABOUT THE POST BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND THE NEXT ONE WHICH IS JUNE 20TH WE'RE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT EXACTLY WHAT YOU JUST MENTIONED, THE POST LIVE REALLY GREAT PLAN TRANSFORMING THE NEAR-TERM AND LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES AND OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE AND CREATION OF A POTENTIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND. THAT'S WHERE WE COULD REALLY HAVE YOUR INPUT BEING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS WE'RE CREATING THESE PLANS. AGAIN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I DO SEE SOME QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSIONERS. GIVE ME A SECOND WHILE WE GO TO THAT. KIMBERLY, I DON'T BELIEVE WE HAVE COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, BUT WE MIGHT HAVE SOME PUBLIC COMMENT?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES. THAT'S CORRECT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT.

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CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: TWO MINUTES WILL SUFFICE?

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: YES.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. FIRST SPEAKER IS ADINA LEVIN. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

ADINA LEVIN: GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS, AND STAFF, ADINA LEVIN, MEMBER OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND SPEAKING FOR MYSELF. I WANTED TO SUPPORT AND ENDORSE EVERYTHING THAT CHAIR KINMAN HAD SAID REGARDING URGING THE COMMISSION AND STAFF TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN THEIR POWER THAT IS AVAILABLE UNDER CURRENT LAW TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY FOR REMOTE MEMBERS OF THE -- MEMBERS OF THE BODY TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY. YOU KNOW, AS MUCH AS ITS ENABLED AND IN CURRENT LAW, AS WELL AS TO SUPPORT FUTURE LAW CHANGES TO MAKE THAT EVEN EASIER, AND THEN, I ALSO WANTED TO MENTION A RELATED TOPIC WHICH CAME UP DURING THE MEETING, AS WELL, WHICH IS ABOUT THE BENEFIT OF ALLOWING ONLINE AND DIAL-IN PUBLIC COMMENT FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE BART BOARD IS ALREADY PLANNING TO DO, AC TRANSIT HAS A SIX MONTH PILOT, WETA IS PLANNING TO DO OTHER AGENCIES, INCLUDING SAMTRANS AND VTA ARE WORKING THAT THROUGH THEIR PROCESS WITH SOME FAVORABLE BOARD AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE MTC ATTORNEY HAD EXPRESSED SOME CONCERNS ABOUT THE LEGALITY OF THIS, CONTINUING

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TO PROVIDE ZOOM PUBLIC COMMENT, IN HYBRID MEETINGS, BUT SINCE THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SO MANY OTHER AGENCIES ARE PLANNING ON WORKING ON, AND APPEAR TO HAVE RESOLVED ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE CURRENT LAW, WOULD REALLY URGE THE COMMISSION TO WORK WITH THE MANY OTHER BODIES THAT ARE MOVING AHEAD WITH HYBRID MEETINGS AND RESOLVE WHATEVER CONCERNS THAT THERE MAY BE, SO WE CAN CONTINUOUSLY PROVIDE ONLINE ACCESS TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE A HECK OF A TIME GETTING IN FROM THE FAR REACHES OF THE REGION TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU ADINA.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: NEXT UP IS RICH HEDGES. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

RICHARD HEDGES: THANK YOU. I WANT TO JUST TAKE A SECOND TO RESPOND TO RANDI AND SAY WHAT A GREAT REPORT YOU GAVE. I'M IN FULL AGREEMENT. I REALLY BELIEVE THE COMMISSION IS DYNAMIC AND FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH JUST ABOUT ANYTHING. YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT IN MY YEARS OF ATTENDING MEETINGS, FOUR YEARS, THAT I WANT TO DISCUSS, AND I AM HOPEFUL THEY WILL FIND A WAY FOR US TO BE MORE PRODUCTIVE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AND THAT'S THE END OF MY COMMEND.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU RICHARD.

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CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER IS ROLAND LEBRUN. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU DIRECTORS. I'M NOT GOING TO NEED TWO MINUTES. I AM GOING TO REMIND EVERYBODY FOR THE RECORD THAT WHAT ADINA ASKED ABOUT THE HYBRID MEETING, THE SEEDS FOR THAT WERE PLANTED RIGHT HERE AT THE JOINT MTC/ABAG, ACTUALLY, WAS THE LEG COMMITTEE, WHEN I BELIEVE IT WAS LISA WHO CAME AROUND ASKING FOR BILLS IN THE LEGISLATIVE CYCLE. SO I PUT THAT OUT THERE FOR THE RECORD. THANK YOU.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU ROLAND.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. NEXT SPEAKER IS VEDA FLOREZ, PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

VEDA FLOREZ: GOOD MORNING SPEAKERS. CAN YOU HEAR ME?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES.

VEDA FLOREZ: HI, THIS IS VEDA FLOREZ, AND I AM PART OF THE MTC PUBLIC ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR MARIN COUNTY. I ALSO WANT TO LIFT UP THE COMMENTS MADE BY RANDI KINMAN. I THINK IT'S -- WE HAVE BEEN DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB TO SUPPORT THE COMMISSION, AND WE

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ARE VERY FLEXIBLE IN CHANGING OUR MEETINGS. AS CHAIR OF THE EQUITY AND ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE, WE HAVE HAD MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS ITEMS WITH STAFF. UNFORTUNATELY A COUPLE OF OUR MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, DUE TO THE OVERCOMMITMENT OF THE -- OF THE RECORDING SYSTEM. SO I HIGHLY URGE YOU TO TAKE MATTERS INTO CONSIDERATION TO MAKE SOME CHANGE SO THE EQUITY AND ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE CAN CONTINUE TO MEET ON A MONTHLY BASIS. IT'S IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT EQUITY IS NOW AT THE FOREFRONT OF PLANNED BAY AREA THAT WE CONTINUE TO MEET AND DISCUSS ITEMS BEFORE THEY COME TO THE COMMISSION. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND THANK YOU, CHAIR KINMAN, FOR GIVING AN EXCELLENT REPORT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU VEDA.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS, MR. CHAIR.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, KIMBERLY. AND RANDI, AGAIN, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION THANK YOU FOR YOUR DETAILED REPORT. WE DEFINITELY SEE THE BENEFITS OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IN THESE HYBRID MEETINGS WE JUST NEED TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY LIMITATIONS AND CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THAT. ALL RIGHT SEEING NO FURTHER QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND COMMISSIONERS. RANDI,

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENTATION. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE TO ITEM SIX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT. THERESE MCMILLAN.

THERESE MCMILLAN: THANK YOU. CHAIR PEDROZA, I HAVE A SHORT REPORT. I WAS GOING TO COMMENT ON THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL RECRUITMENT. I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND FOLKS THE TIME OPEN FOR APPLICATION IS OPENED MONDAY JUNE 14TH AND WILL CLOSE SUNDAY AUGUST 1ST SO FOR THE COMMISSIONERS TO ADVANCE THEIR RECOMMENDATION, WE'LL BE FOLLOWING UP AS WELL WITH REMINDERS. I WANT TO COMMENT ON THE UPDATE ON THE LEGISLATIVE FRONT AS WAS REPORTED AT YOUR JOINT MEETING ON JUNE 4TH THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE UNVEILED INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION, IN AMERICA, THERE IS A LOT OF ACRONYMS PUT INTO THIS SPACE, AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, IN ANY CASE THIS, IS AN INCREDIBLY FAST MOVING INITIATIVE IN DC WHAT WE WANTED TO DO WAS PROVIDE YOU WITH A VERY MUCH MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THIS EXTREMELY COMPREHENSIVE BILL INCLUDES NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH WOULD PROVIDE 547 BILLION IN FISCAL YEARS 2022 TO 2026 FOR HIGHWAY TRANSIT RAIL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INVESTMENTS WHICH WOULD BE 79 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE FUNDING LEVELS FROM THE CURRENT AUTHORIZATION. THERE IS A LOT TO UNPACK AND PROVIDED IN MY REPORT ARE DETAILS OF IMPORTANT EFFORTS HAPPENING IN DC. THANK YOU MR. CHAIR. I CONCLUDE AND TURN BACK OVER TO YOU.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU THERESE. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. KIMBERLY ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU, KIMBERLY, AND THANK YOU THERESE. LET'S MOVE TO ITEM SEVEN, COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, I'LL ASK IF THERE IS ANY COMMENTS FROM OUR COMMISSIONERS. SEEING NONE. LET'S MOVE TO ITEM EIGHT OUR CONSENT CALENDAR. WE HAVE A FEW ITEMS ON CONSENT. AT THIS POINT, IF THERE IS NO QUESTIONS, I WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI: DUTRA-VERNACI MOVES THE ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER DUTRA-VERNACI.

FEDERAL D. GLOVER: SECOND, GLOVER.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECOND GUY GLOVER. KIMBERLY DID WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ASSOCIATED WITH OUR CONSENT CALENDAR?

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CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU. WE HAVE A MOTION AND SECOND. ROLL CALL.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE]

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: LET'S MOVE TO ITEM NINE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER GLOVER?

FEDERAL D. GLOVER: THANK YOU, THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MET REMOTELY JUNE 9TH, AND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE BEFORE YOU FOR APPROVAL. FIRST BEING MTC RESOLUTION NUMBER 4478, MTC AGENCY FISCAL YEAR '21/'22 PAY SCHEDULE. I WOULD MOVE APPROVAL OF MTC RESOLUTION NUMBER 4478.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. FIRST BY COMMISSIONER GLOVER.

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CINDY CHAVEZ: SECOND, CHAVEZ.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ. HAVE WE RECEIVED ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ITEM, KIMBERLY?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. IF WE CAN DO A ROLL CALL VOTE, PLEASE?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES. [ROLL CALL VOTE] THANK YOU. PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

FEDERAL D. GLOVER: THANK YOU. NEXT ITEM BEFORE US IS MTC RESOLUTION 4459 FISCAL YEAR 2021/'22, MTC OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET. I WOULD MOVE APPROVAL OF MTC RESOLUTION NUMBER 4459.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER GLOVER.

DIR. MARGARET ABE-KOGA: SECOND, ABE-KOGA.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ABE-KOGA. DID WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT WITH THIS ITEM?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. I SEE NO COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS. SO, AT THIS MOMENT WE HAVE A FIRST AND SECOND. ROLL CALL VOTE, PLEASE?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: WITH MOTION BY GLOVER, SECOND BY ABE-KOGA. [ROLL CALL VOTE]

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU KIMBERLY, AND COMMISSIONER GLOVER FOR YOUR REPORT. ITEM TEN PROGRAMMING AND ALLOCATIONS. COMMISSIONER RABBIT?

DAVID RABBIT: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE PROGRAMMING AND ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE MET REMOTELY JUNE 9TH, 2021. VICE CHAIR PAPAN CHAIRED THE MEETING IN MY ABSENCE, FOR WHICH I AM GRATEFUL. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION

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FOR APPROVAL. FIRST ONE IS ITEM 10A, MTC RESOLUTION NUMBER 4320 REVISED. CLIPPER START PILOT EXTENSION EXTENDS THE CLIPPER START PILOT BY 18 MONTHS UNTIL JUNE 2023. AND I SO MOVE APPROVAL OF MTC RESOLUTION 4320 REVISED.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT DO WE HAVE A SECOND?

GINA PAPAN: SECOND. PAPAN.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECOND BY PAPAN. I ALREADY SEE WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS, KIMBERLY. WHY DON'T WE GO PUBLIC COMMENT.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES. AND I HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING IN WRITING ON THIS ITEM, MR. CHAIR. ALETA DUPREE. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU CHAIR RABBIT AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ALETA DUPREE FOR THE RECORD, SHE AND HER. I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THIS PROGRAM IN EARNEST, AND IT'S A NO-BRAINER. I BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO MOVE BEYOND A PILOT, AND BY EXTENDING THIS, WE'LL BE ABLE TO PRACTICE THIS PROGRAM OF HEALTH AS WE MOVE OUT OF THE PANDEMIC. AND WE CAN GET THE NUMBERS IN THIS PROGRAM THAT WE HAD HOPED FOR BEFORE THE

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PANDEMIC STARTED. AND THIS IS LONGER-TERM SUSTAINABLE RELIEF. I HAVE USED REDUCED FARE CLIPPER MYSELF FOR EIGHT YEARS, AND REDUCED FARE DOES, INDEED, MAKE A DIFFERENCE. AND THIS DOES COME A LONG WAY FROM SIMPLY FOUR LARGE OPERATORS, TO NOW A HOST OF SMALLER OPERATORS AS WELL. SO THIS IS LEADERSHIP. I ASK THAT YOU APPROVE THIS ITEM SO WE CAN GROW THIS PROGRAM AND HELP MORE PEOPLE. THANK YOU.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS, MR. CHAIR.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: GREAT ALETA THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. SEEING NO FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS AND NO COMMISSIONERS WITH THEIR HANDS RAISED WE HAVE A FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER PAPAN. LET'S DO A ROLL CALL VOTE, PLEASE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE] PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, KIMBERLY.

DAVID RABBIT: AGENDA ITEM 10B, MTC RESOLUTIONS NUMBER 4411 REVISED AND 4412 REVISED THIS APPROVES RM3 NORTH BAY TRANSIT ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS AND PROGRAMMING AND RM3 LETTER OF NO

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PREJUDICE TO THE NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR THE VINE TRANSIT MAINTENANCE FACILITY. AND I SO MOVE.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT.

CINDY CHAVEZ: SECOND, CHAVEZ.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ. ALL RIGHT. DO WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS, KIMBERLY?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. SEEING NO COMMISSIONER COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS. FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ. ROLL CALL VOTE, PLEASE.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE] PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

DAVID RABBIT: ITEM 10C, MTC RESOLUTIONS 44 SCORE, 4465, 4466, 4467, AND 4471 APPROVES THE ALLOCATION 344 MILLION IN FISCAL YEAR 2021, 202, IN FUNDS TO FOUR TRANSIT OPERATORS, MTC AND THE TJPA TO SUPPORT TRANSIT OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS IN

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THE REGION, AND I MOVE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS NUMBERS 4464, 65, 66, 67, AND 4471.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT.

CINDY CHAVEZ: SECOND, CHAVEZ.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SECOND WE CHAVEZ. HAVE WE RECEIVED ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ITEM, KIMBERLY?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. I'LL BRING IT BACK TO THE COMMISSION. SEEING NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS. WE HAVE A FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ. ROLL CALL VOTE, PLEASE?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE] PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

DAVID RABBIT: AGENDA ITEM 10D, MTC RESOLUTION 4202 REVISED. APPROVES REVISIONS TO THE OBAG TWO PROGRAM INCLUDING PROGRAMMING OF $83 MILLION TO VARIOUS PROJECTS WITHIN THE SAFE

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AND SEAMLESS MOBILITY QUICK STRIKE PROGRAM. I MOVE APPROVAL OF MTC RESOLUTION NUMBER 4202 REVISED.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY RATHER. SECOND BY CONNOLY?

DAMON CONNOLLY: YES.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: FIRST BY COMMISSIONER RABBIT SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CONNOLY. KIMBERLY ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ITEM?

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: I MOVE BACK TO THE COMMISSION. SEEING NO PUBLIC COMMENT OR RAISED HANDS. ROLL CALL.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE] PASSES UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, KIMBERLY.

DAVID RABBIT: AND THE LAST ITEM AGENDA ITEM 10E SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 9TH SPECIAL WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS AND NEXT STEPS IN THE

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AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING DISTRIBUTIONS PROVIDING SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION TAKE-AWAY'S FROM THE JUNE 9TH SPECIAL PROGRAMMING AND ALLOCATIONS WORKSHOP FOCUSED ON TRANSIT OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND EXPECTATIONS FOR POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY, AND UPDATE ON NEXT STEPS FOR THE PLANNED PROGRAMMING OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IN JULY AND I BELIEVE THERESA ROMMELL WILL MAKE A PRESENTATION ON THIS ITEM.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: I'LL ADD THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL ITEM. SO WE'RE LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND PUBLIC. THERESA, TAKE IT AWAY.

THERESA ROMMELL: THIS IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 9TH SPECIAL PROGRAMMING AND APPLICATIONS WORKSHOP INCLUDING MAJOR THEMES WE HEARD FROM TRANSIT OPERATORS AND ENSUING DISCUSSION AS WELL AS LISTING SOME IMPORTANT TAKE-AWAY'S STAFF WILL USE INFORMING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLANS WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR FEEDBACK. ON THE BRIGHT SIDE THERE IS OPTIMISM AMONG OPERATORS IN REGARD TO RETURN OF RIDERSHIP. BAY AREA OPERATORS ARE PLANNING TO RESTORE RIDERSHIP IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 TO 90% OF WHAT THEY WERE PREPANDEMIC. THERE IS STILL TREPIDATION OVER HOW QUICKLY RIDERSHIP WILL RETURN AND AS COMMUTER POLICIES CHANGE WITH WORK-FROM-HOME POLICIES AS

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DIFFICULTIES EVOLVE WITH HIRING ENOUGH STAFF TO ACCOMMODATE HIGHER SERVICE HOURS GIVEN MANY OPERATORS WERE NOT HIRING DURING THE LAST 16 MONTHS. THERE -- [INDISCERNIBLE]. IF THE DEMAND IS NOT RETURNED IF A ROBUST WAY. ANOTHER CONCERN THAT WE HEARD RELATED TO THE FEDERALLY DESIGNATED URBANIZED AREAS OR UZAS AS WE CALL THEM, IN SOME OPERATORS FEELING THAT COVID RELIEF FUNDING DISTRIBUTED TO INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS SHOULD BE MORE DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE LEVEL OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY OPERATORS WITHIN A PARTICULAR URBANIZED AREA. BUILDING TRANSIT BACK WAS ALSO A KEY THEME OF -- I'M SORRY -- BUILDING TRANSIT BACK BETTER WAS ALSO A KEY THEME OF THE WORKSHOP DISCUSSION. THERE WAS A GOOD DEAL OF APPRECIATION EXPRESSED FOR THE SIGNIFICANT COORDINATION EFFORTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED AND ARE STILL OCCURRING AMONG TRANSIT OPERATORS. AND THERE WAS ALSO SUPPORT EXPRESSED TO PRIORITIZE BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE -- [INDISCERNIBLE] AND THE FUNDING REPRESENTS PRIMARY OPPORTUNITY FOR DOING THAT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THERESA, LET'S JUST MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE -- I THINK EVERYONE IS MUTED. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

THERESA ROMMELL: IN TERMS OF TAKE-AWAY'S STAFF BELIEVES THAT DISCUSSIONS AT THE WORKSHOP REINFORCE ARP DISTRIBUTION GUIDING PRINCIPLES FUNDS SHOULD BE USED TO PROVIDE MEANS WITH WHICH TO IMPLEMENT SERVICE INCREASES TO ENSURE TRANSIT IS THERE ARE FOR

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RIDERS AND ALSO MECHANISM OF MULTIPLE TRANCHES OFFERING DISTRIBUTION TO DEAL WITH REMAINING UNCERTAINTY ENSURING FUNDS ARE PROVIDED FOR CUSTOMER DEMAND MAKE SURE FUNDS ARE USED AND SUSTAINED IN GROWTH SERVICE WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST. SECONDLY ONGOING UNCERTAINTY IN THE VARIABLE IMPACTS THE PANDEMIC HAS HAD ON OPERATORS IN THE REGION HIGHLIGHTED CONTINUED IMPORTANCE OF NEEDS BASED FUNDING DISTRIBUTION FRAMEWORK. TRYING TO ALIGN DISTRIBUTION OF ARP FUNDS TO BE PROPORTIONATE WITH THE LEVEL OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY OPERATORS IN A GIVEN URBANIZED AREA CONFLICTS WITH FINANCIALLY SUSTAINING BAY AREA OPERATORS IN THIS EMERGENCY-DRIVEN ENVIRONMENT. UNLIKE OUR NORMAL FEDERAL FORMULA TRANSIT FUNDING USED FOR MOSTLY STATE OF GOOD REPAIR NEEDS, COVID RELIEF FUNDING WAS INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL RELIEF TO SUSTAIN PUBLIC TRANSIT AND RETAIN OPERATOR JOBS IN THE NEAR-TERM AS A TOP PRIORITY. ARP DISTRIBUTION POLICY SHOULD STRONGLY CONSIDER THIS INTENT. LASTLY, GIVEN SUPPORT EXPRESSED FOR USING A PORTION OF THE ARP FUNDING TO IMPROVE THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE, THROUGH THE ADVANCEMENT OF BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE INITIATIVES, STAFF RECOMMENDS TARGETING A PERCENTAGE OF OVERALL ARP FUNDS TO BE SET-ASIDE FOR THESE INITIATIVES. YOU MAY DECIDE NOT TO ALLOCATE THESE FUNDS IN THE FIRST TRANCHE DISTRIBUTION HOWEVER SETTING THEM ASIDE UNTIL INITIATIVES CAN BE MORE FULLY DEFINED WOULD CONFIRM YOUR COMMITMENT TO THEM WITHOUT PRECLUDING THE POSSIBLE NEED TO CHANGE COURSE OR THE POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITY OF

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FUNDING FROM ALTERNATIVE SOURCES. BLUE RIBBON INITIATIVES ARE LIKELY TO INCLUDE ADVANCEMENTS IN THE AREA OF REGIONAL MAPPING AND WAYFINDING, FARE COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION, TRANSIT PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBREGIONAL OR COUNTY OPERATOR COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION EFFORTS. SO WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR INPUT ON SOME OF THESE TAKE-AWAY'S AS WE WILL BE WORKING TO DEVELOP AND ATTEMPT TO BUILD CONSENSUS WITH OUR TRANSIT PARTNERS ON THE FIRST TRANCHE ARP DISTRIBUTION RECOMMENDATION BETWEEN NOW AND EARLY JULY. OUR INTENT IS TO BRING THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE JULY PROGRAMMING AND ALLOCATIONS MEETING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. AND THAT CONCLUDES MY PRESENTATION.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU THERESE A GREAT PRESENTATION. YOU KNOW, AGAIN, THIS WAS AN INFORMATIONAL ITEM, AND INTENDED TO SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM COMMISSIONERS AND PUBLIC AT THIS POINT. I'LL ASK IF THERE IS ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS AT THIS TIME? CHAIR SPERING.

JAMES P. SPERING: I WANT TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSION TO SUPPORT THE ALLOCATION EFFORTS OF THE BLUE RIBBON. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE 25 OPERATORS WITHIN THE REGION, AND WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT CONSOLIDATION, HIGHER LEVEL OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG THE OPERATORS FOR OVER 25 YEARS AND YOU LOOK AT THE INITIATIVES THAT MTC HAS BEEN WORKING ON, YOU

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KNOW, THE FARE INTEGRATION MAPPING WAYFINDING MORE OF THIS COORDINATION COOPERATION, AND THIS IS PROBABLY A ONCE IN A LIFETIME FOR MOST OF US POLITICALLY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND BRING THIS TRANSFORMATIVE TRANSIT PLAN FORWARD. AND I THINK THE RECOMMENDATIONS, WE HAVE A BROAD, DIVERSE GROUP THAT'S ON THE COMMITTEE, UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED ON THESE INITIATIVES, AND I REALLY THINK TO KEEP FAITH WITH ALL THE WORK THAT'S TAKING PLACE IS MTC NEEDS TO INVEST IN THESE RECOMMENDATIONS. SO I REALLY WANT TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY, FUND THESE INITIATIVES, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS COMING OUT OF BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE, AND REALLY SHOW OUR COMMITMENT THAT CHANGE IS NEEDED. AND AS TRANSIT RECOVERY COMES BACK BETTER. IN THE POLLS WE'RE CLEAR ON WHAT THE RIDERS ARE LOOKING FOR HIGHER LEVEL OF COORDINATION, COOPERATION, WAYFINDING, ALL OF THE THINGS WE'RE BRINGING FORWARD ARE SUPPORTED BY THE PUBLIC BY 80 TO 90% IN THESE POLLS IT'S NOT JUST MARGINAL SUPPORT IT'S SOLID SUPPORT FOR THE CHANGER IN OPPORTUNITY AND WE REALLY NEED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE. I ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSION TO SUPPORT THE ALLOCATION FOR THE WORK THAT THE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE IS DOING AND THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SPERING. COMMISSIONER DUTRA-VERNACI?

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CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI: YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I JUST WANT TO SUPPORT COMMISSIONER SPERING'S COMMENTS. I DID LISTEN IN ON THE SMALL OPERATORS MEETING A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, WITH THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE CONVERSATION, AND AS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT BRINGING THE ECONOMY BACK, I THINK -- OF COURSE, OUR GOAL IS TO GET MORE RIDERS ON PUBLIC TRANSIT, AND IF WE IMPLEMENT THESE SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN, I THINK WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO JUST THAT. SO, COMMISSIONER SPERING, THANK YOU FOR MAKING YOUR COMMENTS.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER. I BELIEVE WE ALSO HAVE COMMISSIONER ABE-KOGA. I BELIEVE YOU'RE MUTED.

DIR. MARGARET ABE-KOGA: THANK YOU.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: IT HAPPENS TO ALL OF US.

DIR. MARGARET ABE-KOGA: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I APPRECIATE THE COMMENTS, I'M STILL, FRANKLY, LEARNING ABOUT THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE'S WORK. I APPRECIATE ALL THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN PUT INTO THE TASK FORCE. I GUESS, FOR ME, I HAVE A LITTLE -- I GUESS I'M STRUGGLING A BIT IN TERMS OF SOME OF THE TAKE-AWAY'S THAT WERE BROUGHT UP IN THE INTENT OF THE ARP FUNDS, SIMILAR TO WHAT WE'RE DOING IN OUR MUNICIPALITY IN OUR CITY WE'RE FOCUSING ON GETTING BACK TO SERVICE LEVELS, AND KEY TAKEAWAY

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NUMBER ONE TALKS ABOUT THAT RELATIVE TO THE UZA DISCUSSION. AND I APPRECIATE COMMISSIONER SPERING BRINGING THAT UP DURING THE WORKSHOP, BUT, I GUESS, FOR ME, I FEEL THAT BRINGING FOLKS -- BRINGING AGENCIES BACK TO SERVICE LEVELS IS TOP PRIORITY, AND SO, TO SOME EXTENT, I SEE A BIT OF A CONFLICT WITH THAT, AND PUTTING MONEY ASIDE FOR TASK FORCE WORK. I THINK IF WE CAN GET ALL THE TRANSIT AGENCIES BACK UP TO FULL SERVICE, YOU KNOW, THAT WOULD BE PRIORITY FOR ME. THIS IS RELATED TO THE UZA ISSUE, IN THAT, YOU KNOW, I REPRESENT VTA, ONE OF THE AGENCIES IN A UZA THAT HASN'T RECEIVED FULL FUNDING, AND I'M NOT SAYING THAT WE SHOULD RECEIVE FULL FUNDING, BUT THE HOPE WOULD BE TO HAVE MORE CONSIDERATION OF THE NEEDS OF AN AGENCY WITHIN UZA AND TO LOOK AT HIGHER SERVICE LEVEL OR HIGHER ALLOCATIONS FOR THE HIGHER SERVICE LEVELS. BECAUSE ULTIMATELY, I THINK THE WAY TO GET RIDERS BACK IS JUST TO PROVIDE MORE SERVICE. THANKS.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER ABE-KOGA. SEEING NO FURTHER COMMISSIONERS QUESTIONS AT THIS POINT WE'RE GOING TO GO TO PUBLIC COMMENT AND BRING IT BACK TO THE COMMISSION. KIMBERLY DO WE HAVE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON THIS ITEM.

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CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: YES WE DO. AND I HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING IN WRITING FOR THIS ITEM. FIRST SPEAKER IS ROLAND LEBRUN, PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF, MR. LEBRUN, YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONERS. A COUPLE OF COMMENTS. I KNOW WE'RE LOOKING AT THE RIDERSHIP RECOVERY, BUT, REALLY, I'M LOOKING FOR SOME KIND OF FUNDING TO START INITIATE THE MEGA PROJECT DELIVER TASK FORCE WHICH ESSENTIALLY WOULD FOLLOW UP THE SEAT R SEEDS THAT WERE PLANTED HERE ON THE MAP. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE POTENTIALLY HIRING A CONSULTANT I WOULD LIKE TO START WITH THE PRESENTATION ON HOW THEY PLAN TO FINANCE AND DELIVER MEGA PROJECTS INCLUDING HIGH SPEED LINES AT A MUCH LOWER COST TO THE TAXPAYERS. IN CLOSING, I KNOW THIS IS A VERY SENSITIVE SUBJECT, BUT WITH REGARDS TO THE VTA, THE ISSUE WE HAVE GOT, DOWN THERE, IS THAT THE AGENCY IS NOT USING [INDISCERNIBLE] FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION. EVERYTHING IS BEING [INDISCERNIBLE] THE BART PROJECT MAYBE THE SOLUTION WOULD BE A MEGA PROJECT TASK FORCE BRINGING SOME KIND OF OVERSIGHT DOWN THERE AND POTENTIALLY DELIVER A SUPERIOR PROJECT AT A MUCH LOWER COST. THANK YOU.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THANK YOU. THE NEXT SPEAKER IS RANDI KINMAN. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU WILL HAVE TWO MINUTES.

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RANDI KINMAN: THANK YOU. I JUST WANTED TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL. WE HAVE BEEN REALLY CLEAR, ALL ALONG, THAT THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE AND FUNDING THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE COMING OUT OF THAT SUPPORT THE AGENCIES AND DON'T DETRACT FROM THE AGENCIES. THIS ALLOWS US TO BUILD ON THE COORDINATED EFFORTS THAT AGENCIES ENTERED INTO DURING THE EMERGENCY, AND TO BILL A BETTER INTEGRATED SYSTEM THAT SERVES EVERYBODY. ON WHAT'S BEEN INTERESTING IS TO SEE THE STATISTICS COMING OUT THAT IF YOU DO A, YOUR RESULT IS B, C, AND D, WHICH IS ALSO A CONTINUED GROWTH IN RIDERSHIP, BOTH LOCALLY AND REGIONALLY. SO TO BUILD BACK BETTER AND TO CONTINUE TO GROW RIDERSHIP ON ALL SYSTEMS, WE REALLY FEEL THAT THESE INITIATIVES NEED TO BE FUNDED AND FULLY FUNDED. THANK YOU.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: THERE ARE NO -- SORRY -- NO ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS, MR. CHAIR.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU KIMBERLY. BRINGING IT BACK TO THE COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER WORTH? YOU'RE STILL MUTED, COMMISSIONER.

AMY R. WORTH: THANK YOU, SIR. YOU KNOW, I WANT TO PICK UP ON RANDY'S COMMENTS. FIRST OF ALL LOOKING AT THE COST, I THINK IT'S ABSOLUTELY VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE PROVIDE THE FUNDING

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FOR OUR OPERATORS TO INCREASE SERVICE AS RIDERSHIP INCREASES. AT THE SAME TIME, I THINK THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE HAVE THIS SIGNIFICANCE OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE RIDERSHIP ON ALL OF OUR SYSTEMS. AND WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE TRENDS, PRIOR TO THE COVID, WE WERE SEEING A LOT OF THE AGENCIES WERE SEEING, YOU KNOW, SHIFTS DOWNWARD IN TERMS OF RIDERSHIP, AND I THINK OUR GOAL IS TO REALLY INCREASE THE RIDERSHIP AND THE SERVICE TO RIDERS. AND SO I THINK, GIVEN WHAT THE, POTENTIALLY, WHAT THE ALLOCATION TO THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE WOULD CONTINUE TO LEAVE MOST ALL THE FUNDS FOR DIRECT OPERATIONS. BUT I THINK THAT THESE EFFORTS ARE ALL BEING DONE, TOO, IN CONCERT WITH THE AGENCIES, SO THIS COOPERATIVE ELEMENT OF ALL OF THE TRANSIT AGENCIES WORKING TOGETHER I THINK WILL BE BENEFICIAL AND WILL RESULT IN IMPROVEMENTS TO SERVICE, FLEXIBILITY, AND IMPROVEMENT TO, IN THE RIDERSHIP NUMBERS. SO I WOULD CONCUR WITH COMMISSIONER SPERING IN TERMS OF HIS COMMENTS EARLIER.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER WORTH. COMMISSIONER SPERING THEN COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ.

JAMES P. SPERING: I CAN WAIT.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU. COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ?

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CINDY CHAVEZ: THANK YOU. JUST A COUPLE OF OBSERVATIONS THEY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE. ONE IS THAT, ON ITEM TWO, THIS MAINTAIN NEEDS-BASED FRAMEWORK, I THINK THAT WE HAVE TO BALANCE THIS IDEA OF RETURN TO SOURCE TO THE WAY THAT EACH INSTITUTION IS SITUATED, CURRENTLY, AND I THINK THAT IS SOMETHING YOU ALL HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED ESPECIALLY AS IT RELATES TO VERY SUBURBAN, OR MORE SUBURBAN AREAS. IN FACT WE TOOK ACTIONS EARLIER THAT REALLY ARE GOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THEM. AND I THINK THAT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO. I THINK THE CHALLENGE, THOUGH, IS THAT SOME OF US ARE AT A CRITICAL POINT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT WE'RE ABLE TO PROVIDE BASIC SERVICES TO THE REGIONS WE REPRESENT. AND SO, I JUST WANT TO SAY, ON ITEM TWO, I DO HAVE A CONCERN THAT WE DON'T CONFUSE THE DEBATE WE'RE HAVING OVER RETURN TO SOURCE. ALTHOUGH THAT'S CERTAINLY A DEBATE I'M WILLING TO HAVE, BUT ALSO BASED ON NEED. BECAUSE I DO THINK WE HAVE TO BE THINKING ABOUT NEED IN A BALANCED WAY. AND THEN ON ITEM THREE, THIS IS REALLY MORE OF A QUESTION FOR STAFF. AS WE LOOK AT THE ARP FUNDS FOR POTENTIALLY UNDERGIRDING THE REGIONAL ACTIONS, ARE THERE OTHER FUNDS THAT ARE BEING CONSIDERED, ALSO, THAT STAFF IS GOING TO BE RECOMMENDING?

THERESA ROMMELL: THIS IS THERESA. THERE IS NOT A SPECIFIC FUND SOURCE, YOU KNOW, IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FOR BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE INITIATIVES. I THINK, AT THE TASK FORCE MEETING ON MONDAY, THERE WILL BE SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT WE COULD DO

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WITH EXISTING FUNDS OR WHAT POTENTIAL THERE IS COMING DOWN THE ROAD FOR EITHER A NEW INITIATIVE OR STATE AND FEDERAL BUDGETING. THAT'S ALL THAT THAT MEANT. WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING SPECIFIC IN MINDS.

CINDY CHAVEZ: ONE OF THE REASONS I WAS ASKING IS THAT, I KNOW AT A STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL, THAT ALL OF US ARE BUSY LOBBYING TO GET MORE RESOURCES COMING DOWN FROM THOSE SOURCES AND I JUST DIDN'T KNOW IF WE KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK OF THE STATE'S FINAL, WHERE THEY ARE IN THEIR PROCESS AND WHERE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS IN THEIR PROCESS, IN TERMS OF HOW RULEMAKING MIGHT IMPACT FUNDS THAT ARE MORE AROUND INNOVATION, OR THAT ACTUALLY ADDRESS THE VERY DIRECT NEEDS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AND RESOURCES THAT ARE GOING TO ADDRESS EQUITY. I RECOGNIZE THIS IS A WORK IN PROGRESS. AND IN MY OPINION, IT WOULD BE REALLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES THAT ARE -- THAT ARE ACTUALLY BUILT IN, TO BE RESPONSIVE, NOT JUST TO COVID, BUT, REALLY, TO THE KEY INITIATIVES THAT THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE IS ASKING FOR THE BOARD TO INVEST IN. THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU CINDY. I SEE COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ, AND THEN COMMISSIONER AHN, AND THEN COMMISSIONER SPERING.

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COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ: I THINK COMMISSIONER SPERING HAD HIS HAND UP BEFORE ME.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: DO YOU WANT TO GO, COMMISSIONER SPERING?

JAMES P. SPERING: YEAH, I K. WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY IS, YOU KNOW, IN THE ALLOCATION FOR THE BLUE RIBBON, ONE OF THE INITIATIVES IS BUS PRIORITY. IF WE CAN GET THOSE BUSES OUT OF CONGESTION, THAT IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE BIGGEST IMPROVEMENTS WE CAN DO FOR TRANSIT. AND THAT'S PART OF THIS INITIATIVE. BUT I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE, YOU KNOW, THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR SOMETIME, AND SOME WILL KNOW THIS STORY. THIS IS VERY SIMILAR TO CLIPPER. MOST OF THE TRANSIT OPERATORS OPPOSED US GOING FORWARD WITH CLIPPER AND MTC HAD THE COURAGE AND FORESIGHT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THAT INITIATIVE AND I DON'T KNOW OF ANY ONE THING THAT HAS MADE THIS SYSTEM MORE SEAMLESS AND THAT IS CLIPPER. THIS IS ONE CATEGORY THAT THE COMMISSION HAS TO SEE THINGS AS THEY CAN BE, NOT AS THEY ARE TODAY. WE CAN'T JUST SOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT WE'RE FACED WITH TODAY. WE HAVE GOT TO GET INITIATIVES FORWARD THAT WILL MAKE THIS SYSTEM BETTER AND THE BLUE RIBBON RECOMMENDATIONS DOES THAT. AND I JUST HOPE THAT THE COMMISSIONERS CAN SEE IT IN THAT LIGHT. THESE ARE INITIATIVES THAT HAVE TO TAKE PLACE TO MAKE TRANSIT

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BETTER, AND THE PUBLIC IS DEMANDING IT. SO THOSE ARE MY COMMENTS, MR. CHAIRMAN.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SPERING. COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ, AND THEN COMMISSIONER AHN?

COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ: I KNEW IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO LET COMMISSIONER SPERING GO FIRST. I WAS GOING TO SAY A LOT OF WHAT HE WAS SAYING. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO TRANSIT PRIORITY, BUSES STUCK IN TRAFFIC, NO MATTER HOW MANY BUSES YOU HAVE STUCK IN TRAFFIC THEY'RE STILL GOING TO BE STUCK IN TRAFFIC THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE GETTING PEOPLE WHERE THEY NEED TO GO AND THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE A GOOD OPTION FOR PEOPLE TO PROACTIVELY OPT INTO IF THEY HAVE OTHER OPTIONS. THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE PRIORITIZES GETTING BUSES OUT OF TRAFFIC AND THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO -- TO SORT OF TRANSIT RECOVERY FOR ALL AGENCIES. AND I ALSO WANT TO COMMENT BEYOND THAT. I THINK, KIND OF, THE PRINCIPLE THAT IS, KIND OF, THE, WHAT WE ARE, SORT OF LOOKING AT, WITH REGARD TO THE KIND OF DISTRIBUTION OF ARP FUNDS FOCUSED ON ENSURING ADEQUATE SUPPORT CENTERING AROUND THE NEEDS OF DEPENDENT RIDERS. WE CAN ALWAYS GET CAUGHT UP IN POLITICAL BOUNDARIES, AND WHERE THE DOLLARS FALL ON WHICH SIDE OF WHICH ARBITRARY POLITICAL BOUNDARY, BUT I THINK ULTIMATELY, OUR JOB HERE IS TO TRY AND KIND OF MAKE SURE THAT THOSE WHO ARE MOST RE-LIONEL ON TRANSIT, WHO ARE MOST

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DEPENDENT ON IT FOR THEIR LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS ARE KIND OF BEING PRIORITIZED IN OUR FUNDING ALLOCATIONS.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ. COMMISSIONER AHN?

EDDIE AHN: BRIEFLY BUILDING ON WHAT COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ TALKED ABOUT, I WANT TO EMPHASIZE MY OWN SUPPORT FOR A NEEDS BASED FRAMEWORK THIS WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE PRINCIPLES TO ENSURE WE'RE PROGRAMMATIC TO FINANCIAL NEEDS I THINK OUR STAFF IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK IN THAT REGARD AND I ALSO APPRECIATED COMMISSIONER SPERING'S EARLIER COMMENTS ABOUT MAKING SURE WE CAN LEVERAGE, PERHAPS IS THE BEST WORD FOR IT, THE BEST RESULTS FROM THE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE. SO LOOKING FORWARD TO SUPPORTING THOSE EFFORTS, AS WELL.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER AHN. AND WE CAN ALWAYS APPRECIATE COMMISSIONER SPERING FOR GIVING HIS INSTITUTIONAL HISTORIC POINT OF VIEW. IT'S SO NEEDED IN THESE POINTS IN TIME. I APPRECIATE ALL THE COMMENTS COMMISSIONER ABE-KOGA AND COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THOSE ARE FAIR COMMENTS AND CONCERNS TO MAKE AND WE NEED TO INCORPORATE THAT BUT THIS IS A MOMENT ABOUT NOT GOING BACK TO WHERE WE WERE BUT GOING A PLACE WHERE WE WANT TO BE AND WE CAN ALL POINT TO THOSE TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN OTHER PARTS

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OF THE WORLD AND STATES, THE FUNCTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE USERS. THESE INITIATIVES ARE BOLD AND ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR USERS AND OPERATORS, BUT IT'S MAKING THOSE TOUGH DECISION AND I THINK THESE ARE THE TOUGH DECISIONS THAT SOME DAY SOMEONE WILL LOOK BACK AND SAY THAT WAS A DEFINING MOMENT WHERE WE CHOSE TO CHANGE THE REGIONAL MAKE UP OF OUR TRANSIT SYSTEM. APPROXIMATE THIS IS AN EXCITING TIME FOR US. WE'RE GOING TO BE HAVING A WORKSHOP IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS OR A MONTH WHERE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE IN DEPTH CONVERSATIONS ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS. THANK YOU COMMISSIONERS FOR ALL YOUR THOUGHTFUL INPUTS. AT THIS TIME, SEEING NO OTHER COMMISSIONERS RAISING THEIR HANDS. THERESA THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENTATION, AND TO THE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE THANK YOU FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE WORK, AND TO OUR STAFF. WE'RE MOVING TO ITEM 11 PUBLIC COMMENT. I WILL ASK THE CLERK TO READ ITEMS RECEIVED UNDER PUBLIC COMMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ITEM, PUBLIC COMMENT AT INFO AT BAY AREA METRO.GO. I WOULD ASK ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IF YOU HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME. KIMBERLY.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: I SEE ALETA DUPREE.

SPEAKER: CHAIR PEDROZA AND MEMBERS, ALETA DUPREE, FOR THE RECORD, SHE AND HER. THIS IS ABOUT PEOPLE, AND I FOUND OUT ABOUT MTC THROUGH CLIPPER PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL. I GOT MY CLIPPER CARD ABOUT TEN OR 11 YEARS AGO, AND I MAINTAIN THE

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IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING TOWARDS SYSTEMS OF TRANSIT THAT RUN 100% ON CLIPPER. AND WE MUST NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE ABILITY OF EQUITY COMMUNITIES TO FULLY PARTICIPATE. AND THERE ARE POWERFUL INTERESTS THAT ARGUE AGAINST THAT, BECAUSE THERE ARE POWERFUL INTERESTS THAT WANT TO HOLD PEOPLE BACK. I, CERTAINLY, WOULD NOT WANT TO BE HELD BACK, AND I DON'T THINK ANYBODY SHOULD BE HELD BACK. SO I ASK, AS I KNOW YOU TO BE A FORWARD THINKING BODY, TO CONTINUE YOUR STRONG ADVOCACY IN IMPRESSING UPON THE AGENCIES THAT OPERATE TRANSIT TO PUSH TOWARDS SYSTEMS THAT OPERATE 100% ON CLIPPER, AND CLIPPER START. BECAUSE, THE IDEA, THIS HALLMARK OF FULL PARTICIPATION. AND, SO, MTC HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR ME. THESE PROGRAMS HELP ME WHETHER IT BE CLIPPER, OR BATA OR BEING ABLE TO RIDE BUSES ON THE BRIDGE. SO, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO JULY, WHEN WE PROGRAM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN MONEY. AND I ASK THAT, IN YOUR PRINCIPLES, TO REMEMBER THE IMPORTANCE OF REWARDING GOOD STEWARDSHIP. THANK YOU.

ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: THANK YOU, ALETA. GREAT COMMENTS TO END WITH.

CLERK, KIMBERLY WARD: NO ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS, MR. CHAIR.

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ALFREDO PEDROZA, CHAIR: SEEING NO ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE TO ITEM 12, ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING WHICH IS ASKED FOR WEDNESDAY THE 12TH. THANK YOU EVERYONE. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE ON TO OUR NEXT MEETING.

[ADJOURNED]

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