

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Policy Advisory Council**

**May 11, 2022**

**Agenda Item 12**

**Staff Liaison Report**

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**Subject:**

Overview of recent MTC policy decisions and other activities.

**Issues:**

None identified

**Recommendations:**

Information

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Attachment A: Staff Liaison Report – May 2022

## Staff Liaison Report – May 2022

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### Legislative Updates:

- The Governor has proposed allocating \$750 million to transit operators statewide to offset their cost to provide at least three months of free transit. We are working with the region’s transit operators and other stakeholders to evaluate the proposal and consider alternatives that would provide discount fares over a longer period to maximize the ridership benefits, while also providing at least three months of free transit for low-income riders.
- Staff are preparing for the first **Washington, D.C. legislative advocacy trip** since 2019. MTC and ABAG leadership, along with agency executive and legislative staff, are scheduling meetings with members of the Bay Area’s Congressional delegation and key Biden Administration officials. A key topic will be promotion of the Regional Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Grant Strategy that the Commission adopted in March.

### Executive Director’s Report

The following items are excerpts from the April 2022 Executive Director’s Report to the Commission. To read this and past reports in their entirety check the agenda from a given Commission meeting (search for past meetings on [Legistar](#)).

### Key Updates from Executive Director McMillan:

- This May, Bike Month and “**Bike to Wherever Days**” will again roll across the Bay Area and include the return of Bike to Work Day on May 20th. MTC will be hosting an energizer station on May 20th at the Bay Area Metro Center. Details about Bike to Wherever Days can also be found online at [Bayareabiketowork.com](http://Bayareabiketowork.com). Follow on Facebook at [@biketoworkday](#), Twitter [@BikeToWorkSFBay](#), and Instagram [@biketoworkday\\_bayarea](#).
- Mega Projects Workshop (May 25-26, 2021) The agency is planning a 2-day workshop in May to coincide with the regularly scheduled Commission meeting. This will serve to update the Commission on the status of mega projects in progress in the region and plans to update the region’s current transit mega project delivery funding strategy, known as

Resolution 3434, with a proposed multi-modal Major Project Advancement Policy (MAP).

- The Bay Area Metro Center (BAMC) was selected as the Pacific Southwest Regional Winner in the historical category for the Buildings, Owners, and Managers [BOMA] "Outstanding Building of the Year" [TOBY] Award. The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY®) Award is a prestigious and comprehensive program recognizing quality in commercial buildings and rewarding excellence in building management. The building will now proceed to the BOMA International level which will be announced in June.
- **Clipper Update:** The region's trusty old TransLink cards are being phased out as the new Next Generation Clipper card readers cannot read them. MTC did a mailing to active card users to let them know, and we are now posting on social media. TransLink cardholders can call Clipper Customer Service to get a free new Clipper card and a throwback "TransLink" card sleeve. (See the accompanied graphic image of an anthropomorphic green TransLink card walking off with packed bags along with the text "Parting is such sweet sorrow.")



**Other News Updates:**

- **May is National Bike Month:** May is National Bike Month – also known as Bike to Wherever Days – and there's no better time to hit the road on two wheels. Celebrations kick off this week on Wednesday, May 4, with [National Bike & Roll to School Day](#) events across the Bay Area. Check with your school to find out about group rides and other activities. (There may even be goodie bags for students who ride!)

MTC funds [Safe Routes to School programs](#), which feature safe walking and biking education for children and families. MTC also works with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on [Spare the Air Youth](#), which encourages Bay Area students and their families to walk, ride, carpool or take transit to school.

And for the grownups, [Bike to Work Day](#) is Friday, May 20. When COVID-19 hit the Bay Area and many people were working from home, Bike to Work Day pivoted to Bike to Wherever Days. Visit the [Bike to Wherever Days website](#) for Energizer Station maps (for freebies and snacks) and other resources to help you bike to work.

- **[2022 Bike Champion of the Year Winners Announced](#): Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days (BTWD) organizers have named the winners of the 2022 Bike Champion of the Year (BCOY) awards.** Given to individuals for inspiring bicycling in their Bay Area communities, this award recognizes individuals in the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties for their commitment to bicycling as the primary mode of transport. The 2022 winners include Marin County's Marty Albion, who at the age of 85 still mountain and road bikes, keeping up with riders 20 years younger than him. Even an accident last year could not keep this inspiring rider from getting back on his bike. Alameda County's winner is Kellie Scott who is the founder and president of Major Taylor East Bay, a cycling club aimed at growing the community of competitive cyclists of color in the East Bay Area. [Here is the complete list](#) of 2022 Bike Champion of the Year award winners.
- **[MTC Loan Program Expands Funding Options For Purchase and Preservation of Affordable Housing](#)**: The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) today announced new underwriting guidelines for its four-year-old Bay Area Preservation Pilot loan fund, which is designed to help nonprofit housing developers and community land trusts finance the acquisition and preservation of existing multifamily properties that are affordable for lower- and moderate-income renters and located in areas with high-frequency transit service. Revisions to the \$49 million revolving loan fund include a lower leveraging-ratio requirement and the allocation of up to \$6 million for designation as forgivable long-term debt.

### **Transportation, Housing News Right to Your Inbox**

MTC offers a convenient [Daily 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](#) 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. You can find more newsletters to subscribe to at this [link](#).

### **Have a Question? Ask a Librarian**

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### **For MTC and Plan Bay Area glossaries:**

- [Glossary of Transportation Planning Acronyms & Terms](#)
- [Plan Bay Area Glossary](#)