



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 7
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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council
FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison
RE: Staff Liaison Report – October 2016

DATE: October 5, 2016
W.I. 1114

MTC Awards Ceremony Scheduled for October 26

Every two years, MTC recognizes people, organizations, programs and projects that have made extraordinary contributions to Bay Area transportation. This year's awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 26 at 9 am, just prior to the day's normal Commission meetings. For the first time, the event will take place at the Bay Area Metro Center in the Yerba Buena Conference Room on the first floor, and refreshments will be served at 8:30 am before the ceremony. Note that the start time for the Commission meetings to be held in the MTC MetroCenter Auditorium will be moved back to approximately 10:15 a.m.

You will receive an awards invitation via email, and the winners will be posted on the MTC web site following the event. Please mark your calendars and watch your email inbox for your invitation. We hope you can join the Commission in honoring this year's winners.

Governor Brown Signs Historic Climate Change Legislation

Ten years after California adopted the toughest greenhouse gas emission reduction goals in the nation, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. strengthened that commitment, signing Senate Bill 32 by Senator Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills) and Assembly Bill 197 by Assemblymember Eduard Garcia (D-Coachella), which require the state to cut emissions at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and invest in the communities hardest hit by climate change.

To read the entire MTC story on these historic climate bills, go to:
<http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/governor-brown-signs-historic-climate-change-legislation>

Still Time for Comments on Plan Bay Area 2040 Draft Preferred Scenario

In September 2016, MTC released the Draft Preferred Scenario, a framework for accommodating projected regional household and employment growth in the nine-county Bay Area by the year 2040. The Draft Preferred Scenario will form the foundation for Plan Bay Area 2040, a strategic update to Plan Bay Area 2013 and a long-range roadmap for transportation and land use planning in the Bay Area.

Still Time for Comments on Plan Bay Area 2040 Draft Preferred Scenario (*continued*)

MTC is accepting public comment on the Draft Preferred Scenario until October 14, 2016. Feedback should be submitted to MTC via email to info@mtc.ca.gov or via U.S. mail to MTC, 375 Beale Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94105. Public comment will help guide refinements to the preferred scenario prior to adoption by MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board at a joint November 17, 2016 meeting. Plan Bay Area 2040 is slated for final adoption in September 2017.

For more information on the Draft Preferred Scenario, including projected and proposed growth and land use patterns, the proposed transportation investment strategy, and performance against regionally adopted targets and equity measures, go to <http://planbayarea.org/the-plan/Draft-Preferred-Scenario.html> and see “Presentations and Memorandums” in the right-hand column.

Ford to Fuel Major Expansion of Bay Area’s Bike Share Program

Bay Area Bike Share operator Motivate — which manages the program under a contract with MTC — last month announced a seven-year partnership agreement with Ford Motor Company that will allow Brooklyn, N.Y.-based Motivate to complete its plan for a tenfold expansion of the region’s bike share network to 7,000 bicycles from the current 700, at no cost to taxpayers for bikes, station equipment or operating staff. Under the terms of the agreement, Bay Area Bike Share will be rebranded as Ford GoBike.

The first new bike stations are slated for installation by spring 2017, with the expansion continuing through 2017 and 2018. Public costs for the bike share expansion are limited to permitting review by local cities, targeted outreach to low-income and minority residents, and the distribution of membership passes. Twenty percent of the new stations will be placed in lower-income neighborhoods designated by MTC as Communities of Concern, and discounted membership passes will be made available to customers enrolled in Bay Area utility lifeline programs.

To read more about Ford’s sponsorship and the program expansion, go to: <http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/ford-fuel-major-expansion-bay-areas-bike-share-program>

Annual Ranking of Top Ten Most Congested Bay Area Freeways Rolls Out on Vital Signs

The annual ranking of the Bay Area’s most congested freeway segments is now available as part of MTC’s web-based Vital Signs performance-monitoring initiative. The afternoon drive on northbound U.S. 101 and eastbound Interstate 80 in San Francisco has supplanted the morning commute along westbound I-80 from Hercules to San Francisco as the region’s most notorious location for traffic trouble. Despite falling to #2 on the 2015 list, the westbound I-80 drive from State Route 4 in Hercules to U.S. 101 in San Francisco made history with congested conditions typically extending from 5:35 a.m. to 7:50 p.m. This is the first time routine congestion on any Bay Area freeway segment has not been interrupted by a mid-day break.

Annual Ranking of Top Ten Most Congested Bay Area Freeways Rolls Out on Vital Signs (continued)

To read the full story about the top ten, go to: <http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/fresh-data-bay-areas-vital-signs-show-big-jump-freeway-congestion-2015>

For all of the congestion and other data at the Vital Signs website, go to:
www.vitalsigns.mtc.ca.gov

Governor and State Legislature Make Commuter Benefits Program Permanent

After achieving strong bi-partisan support in the State Legislature the Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program has been signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Senate Bill 1128 (authored by Senator Steve Glazer, D-Orinda), which passed the State Legislature without any opposition, authorizes the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to jointly continue the Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program, a program that requires employers with 50 or more full-time employees in the Bay Area to offer commuter benefits to their employees. Employers subject to the program are required by law to register via the program website, select a commuter benefit and offer their program to their employees. The goal of the program is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion by using the federal tax code to encourage employees to commute by adopting alternatives to driving alone.

To read the full story, go to MTC's website at:
<http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/governor-and-state-legislature-make-bay-area-commuter-benefits-program>

Railvolution 2016 Conference Comes to San Francisco Bay Area in October

A "Rail-Volution" is coming to the San Francisco Bay Area in October, in the form of a conference on building livable communities with transit. Rail-Volution 2016 will be held October 9-12, 2016, at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, located in San Francisco at 5 Embarcadero, with additional workshops and events around the region.

This pathbreaking conference brings together thought leaders and innovators to discuss the relationship between public transit and land-use, examine best practices in transit-oriented development, and look at how to maintain diversity and inclusion in the face of a changing urban landscape. With 22 mobile workshops and over 75 thought-provoking presentation and discussion sessions, the conference goes beyond the traditional sit-and-listen experience. Conference goers will have the opportunity to tour new projects such as San Francisco's Transbay Transit Center — billed as the Grand Central Station of the West and rising in the heart of the city's SoMa neighborhood — as well as the newest BART regional rail extensions, San Francisco's under-construction Central Subway and the soon-to-open Sonoma Marin Area Transit system (SMART).

Railvolution 2016 Conference Comes to San Francisco Bay Area in October (*continued*)

To read more about this year's Railvolution offerings, go to:

<http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/rail-volution-2016-conference-comes-san-francisco-bay-area-october>

MTC and Bay Area Council Release First-Ever Shuttle Census

Public and private shuttle services around the Bay Area carried more passengers in the 2014-15 fiscal year than all but six of the region's public transit agencies, according to the 2016 Bay Area Shuttle Census, released this month by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Bay Area Council. Produced through a year-long effort by MTC and the San Francisco-based business group, the 2016 Shuttle Census marks the first comprehensive assessment of the region's varied shuttle resources ever conducted; and includes three years (2012-14) of origin and destination information, as well as data on capacity, ridership, fleet size and service mileage reported by 35 shuttle sponsors and operators, including Apple, Google, Salesforce, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, and many others. During this time, the number of shuttle vehicles on Bay Area roadways jumped by more than 60 percent and ridership increased by 45 percent.

To read the full story, go to MTC's website at:

<http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/mtc-bay-area-council-release-first-ever-shuttle-census>

To download a copy of the shuttle census, go to:

<http://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2016%20Bay%20Area%20Shuttle%20Census.pdf>

Executive Director's Report

The following items are excerpts from the September 2016 Executive Director's Report to the Commission. Read the report in its entirety at:

<http://www.mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/executive-directors-report>.

- ***Metro Center Wins Award – July 21***

The renovation of the Bay Area Metro Center at 375 Beale Street was recognized as the best northern California renovation project in 2016 by the Engineering News Record, a leading industry journal.

- ***Cap & Trade Transit Grants – August 16, Sacramento***

The California State Transportation Agency announced the winners of its second round of funding under the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). Bay Area projects captured \$110 million in grants out of \$391 million available statewide. The largest Bay Area award was for \$45 million to the ongoing purchase of expansion light rail vehicles for the San Francisco Municipal Railway.

- ***Transbay Cost Review Committee – August 24, San Francisco***

The inaugural meeting of this committee composed of representatives from MTC, the San Francisco Controller's office, and the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) took place at TJPA headquarters overlooking the terminal construction site. The committee was created as part of the financial transaction to infuse up to an additional \$260 million in project funding to complete Phase 1 of the new Transbay Transit Center.