



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

**Agenda Item 8**

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## *Memorandum*

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: September 6, 2017

FR: Ursula Vogler, Acting Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – September 2017

### **Policy Advisory Council Applications Received**

The advisor selection process is underway, and staff anticipates the Commission will appoint the 2017-2021 Policy Advisory Council at its October Legislation Committee and Commission meetings. The new Policy Advisory Council members will be announced prior to the November 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

### **Shuttle Canceled**

The shuttle from BART to the Bay Area Metro Center has been cancelled. For information on transit options to the Bay Area Metro Center go to, <http://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/contact-us/directions>.

### **Plan Bay Area 2040 Adopted**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) adopted Plan Bay Area 2040 on July 26, 2017. This culminates a three-year process of plan development and intensive public outreach. The second such regional housing and transportation plan adopted by MTC and ABAG, Plan Bay Area 2040 is a long-range blueprint to guide transportation investments and land-use decisions through 2040, while meeting the requirements of California's landmark 2008 Senate Bill 375, which calls on each of the state's 18 metropolitan areas to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy to accommodate future population growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks.

The Action Plan portion of Plan Bay Area 2040 also focuses on economic development, particularly improving transportation access to jobs, increasing middle-wage job creation and maintaining the region's infrastructure. Another focus of the Action element is resilience in terms of enhancing climate protection and adaptation efforts, strengthening open space protections, creating healthy and safe communities, and protecting communities against natural hazards.

The draft Plan and approved revisions can be viewed at <http://2040.planbayarea.org/reports>. The final report integrating the comments will be available in the coming weeks at the same location.

To read the full story go to: <http://www.planbayarea.org/>.

– more –

### **CASA – The Committee to House the Bay Area**

CASA brings together 46 leaders from every conceivable sector across the Bay Area to build an actionable political consensus around increasing housing production at all levels of affordability, preserving existing affordable housing, and protecting vulnerable populations from housing instability and displacement.

CASA will be co-chaired by Fred Blackwell, CEO of the San Francisco Foundation, whose community foundation gives millions of dollars a year to improve life in the Bay Area; Leslye Corsiglia, executive director of [SV@Home](#), the voice of affordable housing in Silicon Valley; and Michael Covarrubias, chairman and CEO of TMG Partners, a developer focused on urban infill projects in the Bay Area. Key advisors to CASA include Estolano LeSar Perez Advisors, as well as the University of California, Berkeley. The effort will also be supported by staff at MTC/ABAG, who will be serving as CASA's hosts and conveners. The steering committee for CASA – which includes Commissioners Cortese, Liccardo, Mackenzie, Pierce and Schaaf – will meet for the first time directly after the Commission meeting on September 27th.

Over the next 16 months, CASA will work to develop a Regional Housing Implementation Plan for the nine Bay Area counties. The plan is expected to include innovative financing strategies, state and local legislation, and recommendations to address the current regulatory environment, with a final report slated for release in October 2018.

To read the full story go to:

<http://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/plans-projects/casa-committee-house-bay-area>.

### **Bay Area's Popular 511 Phone Service Now Available in Spanish**

MTC announced the addition of a fully-interactive Spanish language voice recognition and response system to the Bay Area's 511 phone system. This latest expansion of the toll-free 511 traveler information service allows Spanish-speaking drivers, carpoolers and transit riders to access all the options that have been used more than 80 million times by English-speaking callers. Spanish-speaking callers who are planning a trip or already on the go can now simply dial 511 and then press \*3 to enter into Spanish mode, and then navigate through a state-of-the-art speech recognition system to access all of 511's interactive tools, including real-time transit departure times, traffic conditions, current driving times, and real-time parking availability. As with English, the Spanish service also provides callers with important traveler information and free transfers to 511 Freeway Assist, Clipper®, FasTrak®, public transit and paratransit agency call centers, and more.

To read the full story go to:

<http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/bay-areas-popular-511-phone-service-now-available-spanish>.

### **MTC and ABAG**

There is a new web portable for access to both the MTC and ABAG website:

[www.bayareametro.gov](http://www.bayareametro.gov). In addition, the staff e-mail addresses now have the same domain name, as in: [uvogler@bayareametro.gov](mailto:uvogler@bayareametro.gov). However, the previous e-mail addresses work as well. Stay tuned for more changes in the months ahead.

### **Executive Director's Report**

The following items are excerpts from the July 2017 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>.

- **Cap & Trade Agreement – July 17, Sacramento**

The Legislature has passed a 10-year extension of the state's cap & trade program through 2030 by the requisite two-thirds vote margin. In testimony before a state senate committee, Governor Brown called the measure "the most important vote of your life".

- **ABAG Executive Board Meeting – July 20, San Francisco**

I thought the Commission would be interested to know that I attended my first set of ABAG committee and board meetings last week since the staff consolidation on July 1st. Commissioner Pierce presided over the board meeting, where the major item of business was the process underway to stand up a new conduit financing enterprise to serve local governments in the Bay Area. Starting in September, I intend to transition this Executive Director's report into a document that would inform both the MTC and ABAG boards of recent executive staff activity.