

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
between  
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS  
and  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is made and entered into as of the 30th day of May, 2017, by and between the Association of Bay Area Governments, (ABAG), a Council of Governments established by agreement among its members pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code §§ 6500, *et seq.* and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), a regional transportation planning agency established pursuant to California Government Code § 66500.

### RECITALS

- A. ABAG was created in 1961 and serves as the Council of Governments for the 101 cities/towns and nine counties that make up the region with powers and responsibilities granted to it under the laws of the State of California.
- B. MTC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (“MPO”), pursuant to Section 134(d) of Title 23 of the United States Code (USC) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region (the “Bay Area” or “region”).
- C. In November 2015 MTC and ABAG agreed to a jointly retain Management Partners to conduct a merger study and to propose a merger implementation plan.
- D. At the June 2016 meeting of the ABAG Executive Board, it adopted Resolution 07-16 stating its support for merger options 4 and 7 and their respective implementation action plans as presented by Management Partners with the ABAG Executive Board acknowledging moving forward with merger option 7.
- E. On May 25, 2016 MTC adopted Resolution No. 4245 approving an implementation plan dated May 17, 2016 for merger option 7.
- F. ABAG and MTC have concluded that this MOU and the concurrent Contract for Services is the preferred means for ABAG and MTC to jointly pursue their respective missions and to carry out their respective responsibilities for the benefit of the San Francisco Bay region.

## STATEMENT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

### 1. **Option 7**

ABAG and MTC have agreed to pursue the implementation of Option 7 through a mutually agreed upon Contract for Services that governs how ABAG and MTC will share the use of a consolidated staff to carry out their respective missions and statutory powers and responsibilities and a mutually agreed upon memorandum of understanding to jointly pursue with MTC new governance options.

### 2. **This Memorandum of Understanding**

This MOU is the memorandum of understanding required by Option 7.

### 3. **Concurrent Contract for Services**

ABAG and MTC have agreed upon the Contract for Services required by Option 7 which is attached as Exhibit A.

### 4. **Deadline to Initiate Discussions on Governance**

No later than July 1, 2019, ABAG and MTC will begin discussions on whether the two agencies should restructure their governing boards to better serve the region and to better utilize the consolidated staff. These discussions may be conducted directly through the Executive Board of ABAG and the Commission of MTC, or their respective designated policymakers or designated policy bodies. Both parties retain the sole individual discretion to decide whether or not to merge the two governing boards.

### 5. **Commencement of Information Gathering and Staff Support for Discussion on Governance**

No later than July 1, 2018, ABAG and MTC will direct and jointly fund the consolidated staff to begin collecting information on the governance structures of regional planning agencies with a focus on those with both land use and transportation planning powers and responsibilities, including transportation funding and investment.

### 6. **Selection of Future Executive Director**

The Executive Director of MTC will continue to serve as the Executive Director of MTC under the Contract for Services between MTC and ABAG. The Executive Director of MTC will also serve as the initial Executive Director of the consolidated staff. If there is a vacancy in the position of the Executive Director prior to a merger of MTC and ABAG, the Chair of MTC will establish an Executive Director interview/selection committee comprised of MTC commissioners who do not serve on ABAG, with the exception of the ABAG representative on the Commission who will be a member of the committee, to interview and select a final candidate or candidates who will then be presented to an ABAG Ad Hoc review committee should the ABAG President decide in his or her discretion to establish one. The MTC Chair and ABAG President may, in their discretion, appoint themselves, the MTC Vice Chair and ABAG Vice President and ABAG appointed representative on the MTC Commission, respectively, to serve on the respective interview committees and none of the five aforementioned officers/board

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members shall be deemed ineligible if serving in a dual capacity for each agency. If an ABAG Ad Hoc review committee is appointed, its recommendation will be communicated to the MTC interview/selection committee who will then make a recommendation to the full MTC Commission for the final decision.

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Signature Page to Follow

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\*\*\*\*\***


**AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, ABAG and MTC have caused this MOU to be duly executed on its behalf.


Association of Bay Area Governments

  
Julie Pierce, President

Approved as to Form:

  
Kenneth K. Moy, Legal Counsel

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

  
Jake Mackenzie, Chair

Approved as to Form:

  
Adrienne Weil, General Counsel