

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

September 9, 2020

Agenda Item 8

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force - Council Input

Subject: Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force - Council Input.

Background: Over the last several months, the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force met and provided guidance on the distribution of the Phase 2 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding and worked with the transit agencies towards common health and safety measures, which has resulted in the following actions:

- Phase 2 CARES ACT: In July, the Commission approved the programming of \$507.6 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula funds from the CARES Act to support Bay Area transit operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is intended to support transit operations through the end of the calendar year.
- *Riding together: Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan (Healthy Transit Plan):* [The Healthy Transit Plan](#) was publicly released on August 18, 2020. The Plan establishes the operators' common health & safety commitments for transit employees and passengers. Importantly, transit operators have committed to implementing the Plan individually and collectively, to continually improve and adjust to changing circumstances and opportunities during this unprecedented crisis. A Bay Area-wide, public communications effort was launched alongside the Plan's release starting with a press event on August 19, 2020, with MTC providing support to the operators.

At the July 20, 2020 meeting, the Task Force launched Stage 3 of its work, which will include the development of a Transformational Action Plan for public transit, and members weighed in on their priority topics (Attachment A). On September 14, 2020, the Task Force is scheduled to meet to continue discussions on the Stage 3 work and hear a presentation from MTC staff/transit operators and Seamless Bay Area/ SPUR. Staff is seeking your feedback on the priority topics before the September 14, 2020, Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force meeting.

Issues: None

Recommendation: None

Attachments: Attachment A: BRTRTF Priority Topic Slides

DISCUSSION: PRIORITY TOPICS

Ongoing feedback on our region's transit network has identified numerous building block opportunities to consider in a Transformation Action Plan. Please rank your top three priorities from this list – or offer alternatives if an issue is missing.

- Clean air investment in EV
- Coordinated public communication
- Coordinated rail and express bus service
- Equity policies
- Expanded walking & biking opportunities
- Fares (standardized, affordable)
- Federal and state regulations
- Funding
- Governance
- Information management/ data
- Local community-serving transit programs
- Mapping/wayfinding
- Mobile technology
- New mobility options
- Network connectivity
- Operating and capital program linkages
- Paratransit
- Regional land use strategies
- Student transit needs
- TDM & first/last mile
- Transit priority/advantage

LOOK-AHEAD: QUESTIONS TO CONTEMPLATE

1. What should be the parameters of the Transformation Action Plan?

- Plan should consider a five-year horizon to 2025, with a primary focus on the next two years
- Actions recommended should be financially reasonable
- Actions recommended may be challenging but should be feasible

2. What outcomes would you like to see from this process?

3. What would success look like in achieving equitable outcomes in a Transformation Action Plan?