

Date: November 20, 2020  
Referred by: Commission

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4441

Resolution of appreciation for Dave Cortese for his 14 years of service on the Commission.

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RE: Resolution of Appreciation for Dave Cortese

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
Resolution No. 4441

WHEREAS, Commissioner Dave Cortese is stepping down from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission after nearly 14 years of dedicated service invariably delivered with his customary dignity, diplomacy, thoughtfulness and respect; and

WHEREAS, Dave served with distinction as Chair of the Commission from 2015 to 2017 and as Vice Chair from 2013 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, Dave's departure is triggered by his recent election to the California State Senate, having registered a 10-point margin of victory in the race to represent the 15<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District; and

WHEREAS, Dave heads to Sacramento after 12 years of service as a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, a position to which he was first elected in 2008 and subsequently re-elected in 2012 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, Dave has served not only as a County Supervisor but also for eight years as a San Jose City Councilmember, including two years as Vice Mayor of San Jose, as well as a Trustee for San Jose's East Side Union High School District; and

WHEREAS, Dave's decades of work on behalf of the people of San Jose, Santa Clara County and the Bay Area reflect a long family tradition of public service that includes his grandfather's service as a Santa Clara city councilmember and his father's service as a Santa Clara County Supervisor and as a member of the state Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Dave steered MTC during a period of unprecedented change for the agency, and of major growth in the Commission's mission and visibility; and

WHEREAS, in his capacity as Commission Chair, Dave guided the consolidation of MTC's staff with that of the Association of Bay Area Governments, working closely with the President of the ABAG Executive Board to design an agreement acceptable to both boards; and

WHEREAS, Dave also captained the successful 2016 move of MTC, ABAG and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to the newly redeveloped Bay Area Metro Center, while also working the levers to smooth the way for the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's later move to the facility; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area during Dave's term as Chair experienced booming job growth both and an associated surge in traffic and housing costs that underscored MTC's and ABAG's role in planning for a more affordable and more sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, Dave played an influential role in the expansion of both MTC's and ABAG's housing portfolio, including working with state legislators to shape Assembly Bill 1487, which established the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority to develop a comprehensive regional strategy for helping local governments tackle the housing crisis on a larger scale by transcending city and county boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Dave exerted his influence as MTC's leader to successfully advocate for the passage in November 2016 of numerous ballot measures around the region, including Santa Clara County's Measure B half-cent sales tax and Measure A, which will raise nearly \$1 billion in bond money for affordable housing across Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, Dave presided over the dawn of a new era of freeway management in the Bay Area when MTC began construction on the Interstate 680 Express Lanes in Contra Costa County, the first segment in a network of MTC-operated Express Lanes that has since grown to include Interstate 880 in Alameda County and is poised to expand even further in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, despite the myriad upheavals that have reshaped Bay Area life during his time on the Commission, Dave invariably has lent a calming presence to all proceedings, with his innate collegiality and unflagging ability to not only listen but also to understand and incorporate colleagues' perspectives and priorities in a way that promotes thoughtful discussion and decision, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the staff and commissioners of MTC thank Dave for his service to the agency; praise him for his poise and professionalism; congratulate him on winning election to higher office; and look forward to working with him on transportation, housing, environmental and economic development issues of critical importance to the Bay Area and to the state in the coming years in Sacramento.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Scott Haggerty, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a duly called and noticed meeting held in San Francisco, California and at other remote locations, on November 20, 2020.