

Date: February 24, 2021
W.I.: 1111
Referred by: Commission

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4448

Resolution of Appreciation for Scott Haggerty upon his retirement from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

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RE: Resolution of Appreciation for Scott Haggerty

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution No. 4448

WHEREAS, Commission Chair Scott Haggerty is stepping down from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Toll Authority after more than 20 years of unparalleled service invariably executed with passion and purpose; and

WHEREAS, Scott's departure from the Commission is precipitated by his decision to retire after 24 years of service from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, to which the voters of the First District initially elected him in 1996 and then re-elected him five more times; and

WHEREAS, Scott has been elected by his colleagues to serve as MTC Chair twice as often as any other Commissioner past or present; and

WHEREAS, both of Scott's terms as Chair coincided with historic transportation funding crises, calling upon his command and courage to chart the Commission's course through the Great Recession from 2009 to 2011 and then to keep Bay Area transit agencies afloat during the upheavals caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the latter half of his 2019-21 chairmanship; and

WHEREAS, Scott helped MTC meet these challenges by overseeing the swift disbursal of federal dollars through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and then in 2020 through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and in early 2021 with initial distributions through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Appropriations Act; and

WHEREAS, Scott's record as a champion of regional government also includes service as Chair of both the Association of Bay Area Governments' Executive Board and of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, in addition to leadership on the Alameda County

Transportation Commission, the Altamont Commuter Express Joint Powers Authority, the Tri-Valley — San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority and the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Authority, among many other boards, commissions and associations; and

WHEREAS, through his membership in the Mega Region Working Group with the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Scott also has been an effective catalyst for inter-regional cooperation, and through his service as Alameda County's representative to the National Association of Counties has even nipped at the nectar of national leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Commission under Scott's direction laid the groundwork for its first Sustainable Communities Strategy required by the landmark state Senate Bill 375, thus accelerating MTC's efforts to tackle the Bay Area's longstanding housing affordability crisis; and

WHEREAS, Scott during his second term as MTC Chair presided over the formation of the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority as well as key milestones in the development of Plan Bay Area 2050; and

WHEREAS, Scott throughout his MTC service galvanized support for major regional mobility improvements, with the BART-Oakland Airport Connector, the Transbay Transit Center and the Presidio Parkway replacement for Doyle Drive in San Francisco, the Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore and the BART extension to Silicon Valley comprising just a partial list of projects on which ground was broken during his Chairmanship; and

WHEREAS, Scott provided the locomotive force to build momentum for the Valley Link project now under development by the Tri-Valley — San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority to connect the BART and ACE systems via a new a 42-mile, seven-station rail line

linking the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station in Alameda County with the North Lathrop ACE station in San Joaquin County; and

WHEREAS, a fateful 1999 meeting between Scott and then-San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzalez led to Scott's crucial and long-running role in advancing BART's push into Santa Clara County, the first leg of which was the extension from the original Fremont terminus to Warm Springs, followed by the 2020 opening of new stations in Milpitas and San Jose's Berryessa district; and

WHEREAS, Scott's tireless commitment to improve the lives of Bay Area commuters also energized efforts to establish Express Lanes on congested freeway corridors, from his early 2000s advocacy for the southbound Interstate 680 Express Lane over the Sunol Grade to his leadership in securing funds from the 2006 state Proposition 1B bond measure to install Express Lanes along I-580 in the Tri Valley and subsequent efforts to expand the network to I-680 through Contra Costa County and I-880 between Oakland and the Santa Clara County line; and

WHEREAS, Scott led the Bay Area Toll Authority during a critical period of construction on the new East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, including the temporary detour structure just east of Yerba Buena Island and the installation of most steel deck and tower sections for the signature self-anchored suspension portion of the new bridge; and

WHEREAS, Scott provided crucial support for the consolidation of the MTC and ABAG staff, and worked to bring the Commission and the ABAG Executive Board into closer alignment through creation of the Joint Legislation Committee; and

WHEREAS, a review of the public record indicates Scott is the first and thus far only member of the Commission to close a meeting with the declaration, "I'm going to the Super Bowl;" and

WHEREAS, Scott has demonstrated the ability to wield a gavel even with his arm in a sling; and

WHEREAS, regardless of personal injury, inclement weather or inconvenient scheduling, Scott always was game to represent the Commission at groundbreakings, ribbon-cuttings, Bike-to-Work Day rides, press conferences or other events at which a bit of brief oratory might be demanded; and

WHEREAS, in a manner foreign to virtually any other politician, Scott uses the word “frankly” to mark the beginning of a heartfelt and unfiltered download of precisely what is on his mind at that moment rather than as a springboard for obfuscation, pomposity or even premeditated misstatement; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the staff and commissioners honor Scott’s long record of service to the people of Alameda County and to the entire Bay Area, salute him for his extraordinary leadership, pay tribute to his passionate pursuit of real solutions to people’s problems, and fondly extend to him best wishes for a long future filled with Southern hospitality, fast friendship, warm nights, hot chicken, live music, SEC Saturdays, and all the other fine things to be found in the tall cotton of Tennessee life.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

The above resolution was approved by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission held in San Francisco, CA and at other remote locations, on February 24, 2021.