

Date: April 28, 2021  
W.I.: 1111  
Referred by: Commission

ABSTRACT  
Resolution No. 4476

Resolution of Appreciation for Jim Macrae upon his retirement from the Metropolitan  
Transportation Commission.

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RE: Resolution of Appreciation for Jim Macrae

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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WHEREAS, Jim Macrae is retiring from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission after more than 20 years of outstanding service to the agency and to the people of the Bay Area, for whom he helped develop, deliver, refine and administer many of MTC's customer-facing programs; and

WHEREAS, Jim started his career at MTC as an intern in the summer of 1998, when he was hired by Hisham Naomi and Wes Wells to work on GIS projects for the Pavement Management System, and proved so adept at this work that his internship was extended until December of that year; and

WHEREAS, Jim returned to the MetroCenter building in Oakland the following summer for an ABAG internship focused on transit-oriented development near BART stations and along busy bus routes, during which time additional GIS mapping work informed Jim's research thesis for a graduate degree that ultimately paved the way for his return to MTC; and

WHEREAS, this thesis subsequently was discovered online by James Corless, whose study of the results of Jim's analysis precipitated an interview for an MTC position that did not win Jim the job but did win him the respect of those who would become his colleagues after a chance encounter with Wes Wells in the fall of 1999 led to a part-time gig with MTC's call box program; and

WHEREAS, Jim over the years has been a jack of all operational trades, transitioning from his part-time post with the call box program to a full-time position before joining the 511 program, where he helped develop the 511 Transit Trip Planner, the 511 phone system, the 511 traffic website, and eventually spearheaded creation of the 511 Real Time Transit program; and

WHEREAS, Jim in 2012 put 511 on hold to help run the Regional Express Lanes program, where he successfully launched the first MTC-operated Express Lanes along Interstate 680 in Contra Costa County and also assumed responsibility for myriad other deliverables, including development of the Express Lanes Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, in each of his many positions Jim's hard work and diligence have earned him both the respect and affection of coworkers and consultants alike, consistently going above and beyond the call of duty to provide support and mentorship for colleagues and interns; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being an exemplary colleague, Jim is an accomplished tennis player, wine taster, hiker and pie baker who will get to spend his retirement enjoying these pursuits and further honing these skills; and

WHEREAS, Jim also will have more time to tend his gardens, both in his backyard and in a city garden plot where he grows trees, bushes, flowers, vegetables and fruit; and

WHEREAS, because travel is in Jim's blood, he soon will be able to journey to places near and far, including visits with family in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee, as well as to Europe to begin a new business venture with his husband, Allen; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the staff and commissioners of MTC thank Jim for his many long-lasting and valuable contributions to the Bay Area and to the agency; acknowledge that he will be missed dearly and that their MTC lives will not be the same without their "Jimmy;" and wish him all the best as he enjoys his retirement in the years ahead.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'AP' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

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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 April 28, 2021.