

## Bay Area Partnership Board

October 19, 2021

Agenda Item 4b

### Discussion of Partnership Board Meeting Restructuring

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**Subject:**

Discussion of proposed changes to the structure of Partnership Board (Board) meetings.

**Background:**

Last June, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, in collaboration with MTC staff sent correspondence to Board members seeking input on the direction of the Board and proposed changes to the structure of Board meetings to reduce redundancy of discussion and presentations that have occurred at other meetings and committees, and instead focus on big transportation topics and problem solving within selected areas. The proposed meeting structure included:

- A “look ahead” meeting including legislative considerations and policy objectives
- Big topic meetings that include subject matter that touches multiple working committees
- Meetings scheduled based on relevance and/or urgency rather than prescheduled dates

**Feedback Received:**

Responses received from Board members is included in Attachment A. Feedback to date has been generally supportive of the proposal. Additional specific input included:

- MTC and Board members should collectively select the big topics to be discussed and a workplan should be developed as a lead up to the “look ahead” meeting.
- There should be regular reports provided to the Commission from the Partnership Board
- A legislative meeting should be held in the December or January timeframe so that it can be timely and instructive.

MTC staff and Board leadership agrees with the above input and is supportive of incorporating it into the proposed meeting structure changes. Additional feedback and discussion on this topic are welcome.

**Issues:**

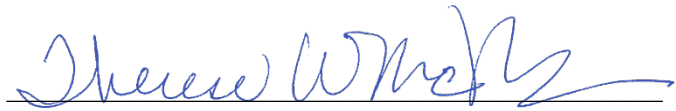
None identified.

**Recommendations:**

Information only.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Proposed Partnership Board Direction and Responses Received



Therese W. McMillan



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415.778.6700  
[www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

*Alfredo Pedroza, Chair*  
Napa County and Cities

June 23, 2021

*Nick Josefowitz, Vice Chair*  
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

Proposed Partnership Board Direction

*Margaret Abe-Koga*  
Cities of Santa Clara County

Dear Partnership Board Member:

*Eddie Abn*  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

This email is to elicit your feedback on proposed changes to the Partnership Board meeting structure/purpose in preparation for further discussion at the next Partnership Board meeting (date to be determined - tentatively in September).

*David Canepa*  
San Mateo County

*Cindy Chavez*  
Santa Clara County

*Damon Connolly*  
Marin County and Cities

*Carol Dutra-Vernaci*  
Cities of Alameda County

*Dina El-Tarwasy*  
California State  
Transportation Agency

*Victoria Fleming*  
Sonoma County and Cities

*Dorene M. Giacopini*  
U.S. Department of Transportation

*Federal D. Glover*  
Contra Costa County

*Sam Liccardo*  
San Jose Mayor's Appointee

*Nate Miley*  
Alameda County

*Gina Papan*  
Cities of San Mateo County

*David Rabbitt*  
Association of Bay Area Governments

*Hillary Ronen*  
City and County of San Francisco

*Libby Schaaf*  
Oakland Mayor's Appointee

*James P. Spering*  
Solano County and Cities

*Amy R. Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Vacant*  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

*Therese W. McMillan*  
Executive Director

*Alix Bockelman*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

*Brad Paul*  
Deputy Executive Director,  
Local Government Services

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) staff and the Chair (Rick Ramacier) and Vice-Chair (Kate Miller) of the Partnership Board met on June 18, 2021 to discuss ways to make the Partnership Board more effective and to identify a structure that better capitalizes on its members' unique perspectives and roles in the region. There was general acknowledgment that the Partnership Board agendas in recent years have been populated with topics that have already been discussed and hashed out, refined, and resolved at the committee level or at other forums such as the Clipper® Executive Board, the Small Operator Forum, and the Bay Area County Transportation Agencies (BACTA). This has resulted in significant topic redundancy and discussion at the Partnership Board level is not necessarily adding value. In our discussion with MTC staff there was general acknowledgment that the work being done at the committee-level has been extremely effective and does not require additional oversight. Moreover, topics of interest frequently vary between transit and county transportation agency members and the Clipper® Executive Board, Small Operator Forum and BACTA offer more relevant channels for discussion.

It is hoped that the proposed Partnership Board meeting changes will result in more substantive discussion among its members and provide greater opportunity to inform transportation-related issues in the region.

Meeting focus: Problem Solving - Big Topics.

Three meetings per year; 1 "look ahead" meeting of major emerging themes and two issue driven workshops

- The "look ahead" meeting would include legislative considerations and policy objectives.
- Big topics would include subject matter that touches multiple working committees.
  - Big topic examples – Corridor Management, Bus Priority, Vision Zero, TOD Policy
- The meetings would be scheduled based upon the urgency/relevance of topics (rather than prescheduled dates).

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rick Ramacier (Chair)

General Manager

Central Contra Costa Transit Authority

Kate Miller (Vice- Chair)

Executive Director

Napa Valley Transportation Authority

**From:** [Damian Breen](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Cc:** [Therese W. McMillan](#); [Alix Bockelman](#); [Theresa Romell](#); [Nalungo Conley](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 9:55:27 AM

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**\*External Email\***

BAAQMD supports the proposed Direction

Damian Breen  
*Senior Deputy Executive Officer - Operations*  
[Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#)  
375 Beale Street, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Tel – (415) 749-5041

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**From:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 8:02 AM  
**To:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Cc:** Therese W. McMillan <[tmcmillan@bayareametro.gov](mailto:tmcmillan@bayareametro.gov)>; Alix Bockelman <[ABockelman@bayareametro.gov](mailto:ABockelman@bayareametro.gov)>; Theresa Romell <[TRomell@bayareametro.gov](mailto:TRomell@bayareametro.gov)>; Nalungo Conley <[nconley@bayareametro.gov](mailto:nconley@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the BAAQMD network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good day Bay Area Partnership Board Members and Staff,

Please submit your feedback on the proposed changes to me by **2:00 p.m., Friday, July 30, 2021.**

Thank you,  
[Martha Silver](#) (she/her)

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**From:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Cc:** Therese W. McMillan <[tmcmillan@bayareametro.gov](mailto:tmcmillan@bayareametro.gov)>; Alix Bockelman <[ABockelman@bayareametro.gov](mailto:ABockelman@bayareametro.gov)>; Theresa Romell <[TRomell@bayareametro.gov](mailto:TRomell@bayareametro.gov)>; Nalungo Conley <[nconley@bayareametro.gov](mailto:nconley@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)

Good day Bay Area Partnership Board Members and Staff,



July 9, 2021

Therese McMillan, MTC/ABAG Executive Director  
Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Rick Ramacier, General Manager County Connection/Bay Area Partnership Board Chair  
2477 Arnold Industrial Way  
Concord, CA 94520

**RE: Structure of Partnership Board**

Dear Therese and Rick:

Thank you for your effort to reform the Partnership Board and for eliciting our comments. The Bay Area Transportation County Agency executive directors are largely supportive of the proposed structural changes to the Partnership Board. We acknowledge that the Partnership Board meetings have not been effective for some time. However, the subcommittees and working groups are functioning well and are able to address specific and diverse topics. We further concur that repeating presentations at the Partnership Board, once the materials have already been vetted through the committee structure, is often redundant and does not necessarily add any value.

We are generally supportive of the proposal to have three meetings a year that includes one meeting that would focus on the year's upcoming legislative considerations and policy objectives with two other meetings focused on "big topics" that touch multiple working groups and committees. We do, however, have some comments that we believe will further enhance the proposed structure:

- The members of the Partnership Board and MTC staff should collectively select the "big topics" that will be discussed in the three proposed meetings. This could be done by developing a coordinated work plan that evaluates regional needs. This could be completed as part of the lead up to the Look Ahead meeting for approval by the members at that meeting.
- We believe that the Partnership Board is essential and it should have a voice with the Commission. In that vein, any proposed policies and recommendations generated by the Partnership Board should be made known to the Commission by way of formal presentations by Partnership Board members.
- A representative from the Partnership Board should from time to time report out directly to the Commission to underscore the importance and or concern on topics of collective interest.
- Members and the subcommittees and working groups should receive briefings/follow up from policy direction originating at Partnership Board meetings (feedback loop).
- A legislative meeting – whether as part of the "look ahead" meeting or separate - should be scheduled in December/January to ensure that members have an opportunity to provide timely input to MTC staff to influence the current year's legislative program.

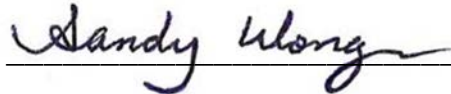
- Consider scheduling the “hot topic” meetings in advance or annually, to hold times on calendars even while the topics are still being developed.

Please contact Kate Miller, NVTB/Partnership Board Vice-Chair, should you have any questions or require further clarification.

Sincerely,



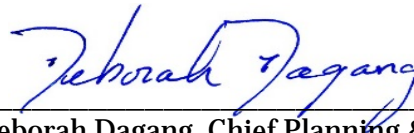
Tess Lengyel, BACTA Chair, Executive Director  
Alameda County Transportation Commission



Sandy Wong, Executive Director  
City/County Association of Governments of  
San Mateo County



Tim Haile, Executive Director  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority



Deborah Dagang, Chief Planning &  
Programming Officer  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority



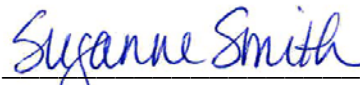
Anne Richman, Executive Director  
Transportation Authority of Marin



Daryl Halls, Executive Director  
Solano Transportation Authority (STA)



Kate Miller, Executive Director  
Napa Valley Transportation Authority



Suzanne Smith, Executive Director  
Sonoma County Transportation Authority



Tilly Chang, Executive Director  
San Francisco County Transportation Authority

cc: Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director of Policy, Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Therese Rommell, Director of Funding, Policy and Programs, Metropolitan Transportation Commission

**From:** [Jeanne Krieg](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Cc:** [Therese W. McMillan](#); [Alix Bockelman](#); [Theresa Romell](#); [Nalungo Conley](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 5:40:10 PM

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**\*External Email\***

I fully support the changes proposed.

Jeanne Krieg

**Jeanne Krieg**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority  
dba Tri Delta Transit  
801 Wilbur Avenue  
Antioch, CA 94509  
(925) 754-6622  
[jkrieg@eccta.org](mailto:jkrieg@eccta.org)

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**Subject:** Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)

Good day Bay Area Partnership Board Members and Staff,

Attached you will find a letter from Chair Rick Ramacier and Vice-Chair Kate Miller regarding proposed changes to the Bay Area Partnership Board meeting structure. Please submit your feedback on the proposed changes by 2:00 p.m., Friday, July 30, 2021.

Be kind to yourself and others.  
Martha Silver

~~~~~  
Clerk of the Committee  
[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)  
**BAY AREA METRO** | [www.BayAreaMetro.gov](http://www.BayAreaMetro.gov)  
Association of Bay Area Governments | <https://abag.ca.gov/>  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission | <https://mtc.ca.gov/>

Bay Area Metro Center | 375 Beale Street | Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 778-6693 – office

**From:** [Feinstein, Diane E.](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:11:25 AM

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**\*External Email\***

I agree with the proposed changes.....

**Diane Feinstein | Transportation Manager**  
City of Fairfield | Public Works  
**O (707) 434-3808**  
[df Feinstein@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:df Feinstein@fairfield.ca.gov)

*City offices are closed the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month.*



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**Subject:** Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)

**From:** [Denis Mulligan](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Cc:** [Justine Bock](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)  
**Date:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 2:44:42 PM

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**\*External Email\***

Martha,

I do not have any comments regarding the proposed changes.

Denis

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**From:** Martha Silver <MSilver@bayareametro.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 8:02 AM  
**To:** Martha Silver <MSilver@bayareametro.gov>  
**Cc:** Therese W. McMillan <tmcmillan@bayareametro.gov>; Alix Bockelman <ABockelman@bayareametro.gov>; Theresa Romell <TRomell@bayareametro.gov>; Nalungo Conley <nconley@bayareametro.gov>  
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Be kind to yourself and others.  
Martha Silver (she/her)

~~~~~

**From:** [Heather McKillop](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Cc:** [Joanne Parker](#); [Farhad Mansourian](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Partnership Board Direction  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 5:03:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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**\*External Email\***

Martha,

SMART doesn't have any comments on the Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction. Thank you for the chance to comment.

Heather

**Heather McKillop** | Chief Financial Officer

Direct: 707-794-3320

SMART | Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit

5401 Old Redwood Hwy., Suite 200, Petaluma, CA 94954



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**From:** [Daryl Halls](#)  
**To:** [Martha Silver](#)  
**Cc:** [Rick Ramacier](#); [Miller, Kate](#); [Therese W. McMillan](#); [Alix Bockelman](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:36:51 AM

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**\*External Email\***

Martha:

I am supportive of the proposed changes to the Bay Area Partnership Board as outlined in the attachment and look forward to the next meeting.

Daryl Halls

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**From:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** Martha Silver <[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)>  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Proposed Bay Area Partnership Board Direction – Feedback Requested (920 and 921)

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Thank you,  
Martha Silver (she/her)

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Martha Silver (she/her)

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Clerk of the Committee  
[MSilver@bayareametro.gov](mailto:MSilver@bayareametro.gov)