

Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority
BAIFA

November 17, 2021

Agenda Item 3a - 21-1371

Express Lanes Executive Steering Committee Memorandum of Understanding

Subject:

A Memorandum of Understanding between Bay Area Express Lanes Operators, County Transportation Authorities (CTAs), BATA, Caltrans, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) formalizing the function of an Executive Steering Committee for the purpose of developing consistent policies for recommendation to policy boards and other coordination efforts.

Background:

The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) has existed informally for more than a decade as a collaboration between executive staff of partner agencies with interest in the on-going development and operation of express lanes in the Bay Area. Working with Bay Area Express Lanes Operators, CTAs with an interest in express lanes, BATA, Caltrans, and CHP (collectively, “Partner Agencies”), staff developed the Bay Area Express Lanes Strategic Plan (“Strategic Plan”), which MTC adopted in April 2021. The Strategic Plan includes:

1. The outline of an express lanes network to be built over 30 years that reflects key policies and goals of Plan Bay Area 2050. This network is included in Plan Bay Area 2050; and
2. A detailed narrative that sets forth agreed upon goals, policies, and strategies to guide implementation of the network.

Among the Strategic Plan’s recommendations is to formalize the function of the ESC through an MOU executed by Partner Agencies.

The primary purpose of the MOU is to document and formalize the process by which the Partner Agencies jointly consult on operations policies that may significantly impact the customer experience and ease of using express lanes with a goal of achieving consistency where it most benefits customers while recognizing the financial and policy considerations of individual operators.

The ESC will make recommendations on various operating policies and the importance of their consistency regionwide. These recommendations are intended to demonstrate the deliberative

process taken to reach them. The ESC will strive for unanimous consent on matters of consistency in operations and will otherwise endeavor to achieve recommendations by consensus to the extent possible. Recommendations will be recorded in ESC meeting minutes documenting the position of each Member Agency and include a summary supporting statement for the recommended operating policy. At the request of any Member Agency, a summary dissenting statement may be included. The MOU recognizes the limited authority of the ESC does not require action on recommendations as some ultimately require approval by member agencies' boards.

The MOU also provides for other types of coordination efforts for which the ESC may be an appropriate venue such as examining new tolling technologies or interfacing with other organizations.

Next Steps:

Partner Agencies will take the MOU to their respective boards for approval.

Issues:

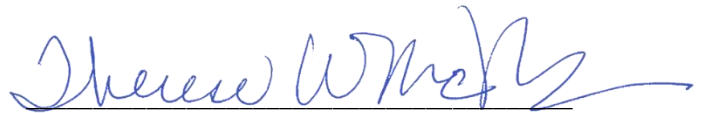
None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff recommends the Authority authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into an Express Lanes Executive Steering Committee Memorandum of Understanding with the Partner Agencies.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: PowerPoint



Therese W. McMillan

Request for Authority Approval

Summary of Proposed Memorandum of Understanding

Work Item No.: 6861/6864

Signatories: Alameda County Transportation Commission; San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority; Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority; Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority; Contra Costa Transportation Authority; San Francisco County Transportation Authority; Solano Transportation Authority; Bay Area Toll Authority; California Department of Transportation; California Highway Patrol (collectively, "Partner Agencies")

Work Project Title: Express Lanes Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Purpose of Project: To formalize the function of the ESC through an MOU executed by Partner Agencies

Brief Scope of Work: To document and formalize the process by which the Partner Agencies jointly consult on operations policies

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$0

Funding Source: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Partner Agencies to formalize the function of the ESC as described above and in the Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority Summary Sheet dated November 17, 2021.

Bay Area Infrastructure
Financing Authority:

Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

Approved: November 17, 2021

Committee Name
Meeting Date
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