

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Memorandum

Date: June 2023

To: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

From: MTC Policy Advisory Council Chair, Randi Kinman

CC: MTC Policy Advisory Council members;

Policy Advisory Council Transit Transformation Action Plan Subcommittee

members

Regarding: June 28, 2023 Council Report to Commission

Summary:

Below please find a distillation of three Policy Advisory Council + Subcommittee meetings that took place over the past month:

- 1. Equity and Access Subcommittee (5/25/23)
- 2. Transit Transformation Action Plan (TAP) Subcommittee (6/12/23)
- 3. Policy Advisory Council (6/14/23)

Equity and Access Subcommittee

On May 25, 2023 the Equity and Access Subcommittee heard an update on the **One Bay Area OBAG 3** program, with the following main subcommittee comments:

- Continued support for the idea of establishing a list of standards beyond ADA.
- Interest in better documentation of community involvement/outreach and strengthening community-based organization (CBO) and County Transportation Agency (CTA) partnerships to improve program outcomes.
- Recommendation to improve the availability of information and transparency for grants, projects, and the outcomes of the programs/projects.

Transit Transformation Action Plan (TAP) Subcommittee

On June 12, 2023, the Transportation Transformation Action Plan subcommittee received the following information items from MTC staff:

- Update on the **Transit Transformation Action Plan Accessibility Items**.
- Update on Tasks 1 and 2 from the **Transit 2050+ modal plan**.

Overall, the Transformation Action Plan Subcommittee members and Policy Advisory Council members were very happy to see this moving forward, including the close collaboration among MTC and transit agencies with key planners engaged at the agencies. Specific input included:

- Start improving connections in the near term; don't focus solely on longer-term improvements
- Broaden considerations to first and last mile connections, including microtransit, bikeshare, and bicycling/walking.
- Capture the synergy between a stronger transit network with faster, more reliable buses and reliable, frequent service and the region's Transit Oriented Communities policies
- Consider savings from investments in making transit faster and more reliable. For example, bus agencies report that transit priority investments allow them to deliver more service with a given amount of operating funding. It would be helpful for the analysis to highlight these positive efficiencies.

Among all these comments, Committee members expressed enthusiasm and eagerness for the region to move forward with its Network Management system and staffing, in order to more effectively deliver this and other elements of the transformation action plan, in order to improve transit, regrow ridership, and meet our region's goals.

Policy Advisory Council

On June 14, 2023 the Policy Advisory Council received the following information items from MTC staff:

- Update on Tasks 1 and 2 from the **Transit 2050+ modal plan**.
- Update on **FY 2023-24 state budget**, with a focus on transportation, housing, and climate adaptation provisions.

The Council's comments focused on:

- Clarifying goals and network definitions so easier to understand and consistent.
- Ensuring network management and agency coordination acknowledged as important and part of goals.
- Being more aspirational about the transit network desired.
- Importance of workforce development in achieving goals and exploring innovations/partnerships around workforce development.
- Need to strengthen focus on equity, including anti-displacement policies around hubs and extending options beyond limited "fixed route" paratransit requirements.
- Request for more information on outreach timeline and statistics on participants/demographics, etc.
- Recommendation to focus on shorter timelines; find balance between long-range PBA2050 and nearer term Transformation Action Plan.