

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

September 22, 2023

Agenda Item 5c

Staff Liaison Report

Subject:

Overview of recent MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Staff Liaison Report – September 2023

Staff Liaison Report – September 2023

The Policy Advisory Council did not meet on July 28, 2023.

- Summer Academy Highlights:
 - 152 applicants from 8 out of 9 Counties (Napa missing);
 - 112 completed the Academy (compared to 56 and 29 in 2022 and 2021 respectively)
 - 100% rated positive experience, including 50% who called it “excellent”
 - One participant from Santa Clara said, “It was a wonderful program that allowed me to view my community through a new lens of justice and equity.”
- Prior materials relevant to today’s Policy Advisory Council and Equity & Access Subcommittee agenda items:
 - The [link](#) to the March 2023 NextGen Freeway presentation materials from the previous update to the Council.
 - The [link](#) to the January 2023 Regional Mapping and Wayfinding Project presentation to the TAP subcommittee.

Executive Director’s Report:

There was no Commission meeting in August. To read past reports in their entirety, check the agenda for a given Commission meeting (search for past meetings on [MTCs Legistar webpage](#)).

News Headlines from [The Bay Link Blog](#):

- [Bay Day Challenge has started](#): The month-long [Bay Day Challenge \(link is external\)](#) has begun and runs to October 7. The event is an opportunity for everyone to get outside and [connect with San Francisco Bay](#).
- [Public input needed for Bay Trail SFO Gap Study: The Bay Trail SFO Gap Study](#) will identify potential Bay Trail alignments to close a three-mile Bay Trail gap around San Francisco International Airport and project planners want to hear from the public. The Bay Trail SFO Gap Study is now conducting its first phase of public engagement. An online survey and map ask the community about key destinations they want to access in the study area, route preferences, and general information about future uses of the trail. The survey closes September 30, 2023.

- The Bay Area celebrates [transit in September with events, rides, and prizes](#), spotlighting the work the region's transit agencies do to keep residents commuting, traveling to school and visiting favorite places, while cutting greenhouse gases. MTC is the presenting sponsor of Transit Month.

Further News Updates:

- [Berkeley sued over Brown Act interpretation](#): ADA lawsuit claims Berkeley policy on virtual meetings (in compliance with the Brown Act) is ‘dangerous and invasive’ because it requires remote meeting attendees to publicly share and open up their meeting location. Plaintiffs are saying that the city’s widely held interpretation that the Brown Act requires that officials who attend meetings over Zoom share their meeting location and make it open to the public [violates the federal Americans with Disabilities Act](#).

The [Bay Link blog](#) offers a more in-depth look at these topics, often in the context of the work that the ABAG and MTC are doing, along with other stories of interest to Bay Area residents and professionals. The Bay Link Blog E-Newsletter, with the top Bay Link features of the week, is distributed every Tuesday. You can find more newsletters to subscribe to at this [link](#).

Have a Question? Ask a Librarian

If you need assistance locating information or are having difficulty navigating the MTC-ABAG websites, please feel free to contact the MTC-ABAG head librarian. Reference assistance is available by telephone (415-778-5236), or email library@bayareametro.gov Information can also be found on the [MTC-ABAG library webpage](#).

For MTC and Plan Bay Area Glossaries:

- [Glossary of Transportation Planning Acronyms & Terms](#)
- [Plan Bay Area Glossary](#)