

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Regional Network Management Committee**

October 10, 2025

Agenda Item 2c

**MTC Resolution No. 4736: Design Immunity and CEQA Exemption for the Dumbarton
Bicycle Access Improvements Project**

Subject:

Referral of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Resolution No. 4736: Design Immunity and CEQA Exemption for the Dumbarton Bicycle Access Improvements project to the Commission, which would find that the project is exempt under the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption pursuant to CEQA, and authorize the delegation of plan approval of the Dumbarton Bicycle Access Improvements design plans to specified staff.

Background:

The Dumbarton Bicycle Access Improvements project (“Project”) is part of MTC’s Dumbarton Forward initiative, which focuses on providing near-term solutions for improving traffic operations, increasing person throughput, and supporting other modes of travel other than single occupancy vehicles along the Dumbarton Bridge corridor. The Project focuses on delivering a more connected and continuous bicycle network with access to major activity centers, regional public transit, and recreational facilities in Redwood City, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Fremont, and Newark.

MTC, in coordination with the Cities of Redwood City, Menlo Park, and Newark, have identified a set of bicycle access improvements that will improve safety and access for bicyclists along the Dumbarton Bridge corridor. The improvements focus on completing missing gaps in the existing bicycle network, improving intersection crossings, and improving connections to regional public transit. The Project advances the goals of Dumbarton Forward by encouraging bicycling and other sustainable modes of travel.

Notice of Exemption:

MTC is the lead agency for the Project and is responsible for completing any required environmental studies pursuant to CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15000 et seq.) for the Project. MTC analyzed the

potential environmental effects of the proposed project and concluded that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1 for modifications to existing facilities; Section 15302, Class 2 for replacement and reconstruction of existing structures and facilities; and Section 15304, Class 4 for minor alterations to land. The proposed Project is also consistent with the common sense exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which applies when it can be seen with certainty that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment. MTC further concluded that the project does not meet any of the exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. Based on these findings, the proposed MTC Resolution No. 4736 would direct staff to post a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Project within five working days of approval of Resolution No. 4736.

Design Immunity:

In September 2023, MTC approved MTC Resolution No. 4605, Establishment of Process for Approval of Design Plans and Procedures for Delegation of Approval Authority, which provides the process for securing immunity pursuant to Government Code section 830.6. The proposed MTC Resolution No. 4736 would delegate to specified staff the authority to approve plans and future design changes for the Dumbarton Bicycle Access Improvements project. Authorized staff would be delegated the responsibility to review and approve the reasonableness of the plans and changes to the design and plans as represented by the design consultant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., or by others.

Issues:

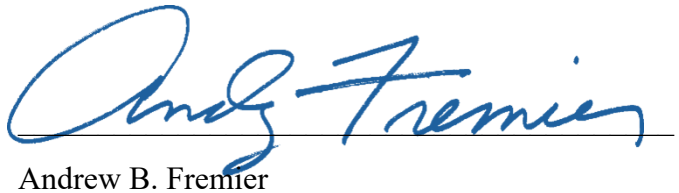
None identified.

Recommendations:

Refer MTC Resolution No. 4736 to the Commission for approval.

Attachments:

MTC Resolution 4736



Andrew B. Fremier