

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee**

April 14, 2023

Agenda Item 3a

MTC/ABAG Sacramento Advocacy Visit – May 2023

Subject:

Update on preparations for MTC/ABAG's May 2023 Sacramento advocacy trip.

Overview:

Earlier this year, the Legislation Committee provided direction that MTC and ABAG should plan for two Sacramento visits this 2023 state legislative cycle, one in February/March to introduce 2023 advocacy priorities and a follow-up advocacy trip in mid-to-late May after the Governor releases the May Revise, which jumpstarts budget negotiations. Given the range of MTC/ABAG budget-focused priorities – including our request for a Transit Recovery Package to avert the transit operations fiscal cliff and support ridership recovery and the transition to a sustainable funding model – it is essential to have a strong presence in Sacramento during that budget negotiation window.

Staff have identified Monday, May 22nd as an ideal date for the MTC/ABAG Sacramento lobby day. This allows for adequate time to assess the May Revise, which is expected to be released on May 11th or 12th and prepare subsequent recommendations to the Legislature. We anticipate the Transit Recovery Package will be the primary focus of our meetings, though we will also note our priority bills, as appropriate, including our MTC/ABAG sponsored AB 1319 (Wicks), the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority “clean-up” bill.

Next Steps

The MTC Chair and ABAG President will invite a subset of commissioners and board members to participate in the legislative visit, including Commission and ABAG Executive Board leadership, with additional consideration for geographic balance and MTC/ABAG committee leadership. Invitations typically go out at least one month in advance.

Reception

Each year, Southern California transportation stakeholders led by Mobility 21 – a coalition of local government leaders, transportation providers, business, labor and community leaders – host a legislative reception in Sacramento. Several Bay Area partners have suggested MTC consider organizing a similar Bay Area effort. Though at this time we do not recommend hosting a large reception, staff are exploring the potential for a small-scale reception after the May 22nd lobby day, to which we could invite Bay Area transportation leaders and stakeholders to display a similar show of unity.

We look forward to hearing the Committee’s feedback and answering any questions you may have.

Recommendation:

Information

Attachments:

None



Andrew B. Fremier