ABSTRACT

MTC Resolution No. 4564

This resolution approves policy support for the Regional Network Manager, a framework that sets in place an adaptable structure to achieve near term and longer-range regional transit goals.

In July 2021, the Task Force approved the Bay Area Transit Transformation Action Plan, which identified specific near-term actions to re-shape the region's transit system into a more connected, more efficient, and more user-focused mobility network, resulting in increased ridership and reduced growth in vehicle miles traveled. One of the actions called for an assessment of a preferred framework for Regional Network Management. A 14-member Network Management Business Case Advisory Group (NMBCAG) made up of transit operators and stakeholders was established to guide the analysis and recommendations.

This resolution contains the following attachments:

      Attachment A – Regional Network Management Framework

Further discussion of this subject is contained in the Executive Committee Commission memoranda dated February 10, 2023.

Re: <u>Policy Support for Regional Network Management Framework</u>

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 4564

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to California Government Code Section 66500 <u>et</u> <u>seq</u>.; and

WHEREAS, MTC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), pursuant to Section 134(d) of Title 23 of the United States Code (USC) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region (the Bay Area or region); and

WHEREAS, MTC convened the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force (Task Force) in 2020 and 2021 to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts to transit; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force developed and endorsed the Transit Transformation Action Plan (Action Plan) in July 2021, which identifies near-term actions needed to achieve a more connected, efficient, and user-focused mobility network across the Bay Area and beyond and the Action Plan was received and accepted by MTC in September 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Action Plan called for a Regional Network Management (RNM) Assessment for Bay Area Transit and establishment of a Network Management Business Case Advisory Group to guide the assessment; and

WHEREAS, a Regional Network Management Framework is being recommended to improve the Bay Area's regional transit network, and achieve the desired near-term outcomes in the Action Plan and longer-range regional transit goals as identified in Attachment A, incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Network Management Framework is an initial structure that may evolve over time towards a longer term transformation;

RESOLVED, that MTC expresses policy support for the Regional Network Management Framework set forth in Attachment A; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC directs staff to develop an Implementation Plan meant to set forth a comprehensive process to guide the respective agencies as we move forward to implement the RNM framework.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
at a regular meeting of the Commission held in
San Francisco, California, and at other remote
locations, on February 22, 2023.

Date: February 22, 2023
W.I.: 1621
Referred by:

Attachment A
Resolution No. 4564
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Attachment A
Regional Network Management Framework

I.   Mission and Vision

Anchoring the Regional Network Management (RNM) framework are mission and vision statements.

Mission: To drive transformative improvements in the customer experience for regional Bay Area transit

Vision: To advance regional goals in equity, livability, climate, and resiliency through a unified regional transit system that serves all Bay Area populations

II.   Regional Transit Initial Focus Areas

The RNM focus is centered on delivering operational changes that will directly benefit present and future customers. An initial set of focus areas has been defined as:

Focus Area (Functional Areas)	Regional Role
Fare Integration Policy	• Set the regional vision • Establish regional policies • Establish policy implementation plans, including the identification of funding
Wayfinding and Mapping	• Set the regional vision • Establish regional policies (e.g., design standards, compliance requirements) • Establish policy implementation plans, including the identification of funding • Deliver centralized procurement, where relevant
Accessibility	• Embed accessibility within each of the other functional area plans • Define a regional vision for paratransit operations • Identify improvements needs re: implementation of paratransit policies and requirements • Establish a regional implementation plan
Bus Transit Priority (BTP)	• Set the regional vision • Define BTP corridors and identify needs / initiatives

Focus Area (Functional Areas)	Regional Role
	• Serve as the central coordination point for state, county, and city stakeholders • Establish policy implementation plans, including the identification of funding
Rail Network Management	• Set the vision for the regional rail network • Translate regional vision into regional implementation plan (project prioritization, sequencing, integration points, project funding, delivery approach, etc.)
Connected Network Planning (CNP)	• Identify critical regional transit gaps to create the CNP • Establish and create data tools for regional planning • Identify funding priorities and establish service standards • Draft changes to Countywide Transportation Plan guidelines, as needed

III. Near term Framework Elements

Element	Description
Regional Visioning Element	Leverage existing regional purview and planning capabilities to help set the regional vision for transit in the Bay Area and drive the direction of the RNM.
Steering Element	Council comprised GM-level Operator and MTC representatives who understand transit operations and can represent the interests of their stakeholders and provide leadership and critical input on regional policies.
Administration/ operational elements	Staff, temporary or longer-term groups comprised of a broad range of representatives, including Operators, stakeholders, and subject matter experts, that will help complete analysis and develop policy recommendations / options.

IV. Proposed Roles and Committee Composition

The near-term RNM structure is customer focused, structured for scale and balances short term momentum with long-term transformation. It is proposed to be made up of the following, subject to further action and refinement through the Implementation Plan:

MTC RNM Committee
- A committee of the Commission
- Leverage existing regional purview and planning capabilities to help set the regional vision for transit in the Bay Area and drive the direction of the RNM.
- 8 voting seats for Commission Members

- 2 non-voting seats for transit agency board members
- 1 non-voting seat for a state appointee

Customer Advisory Committee
- Group of stakeholders who represent the customer and can help inform decision-making with the customer in mind.
- Elevated Transit Transformation Action Plan (TAP) Sub-Committee with potential refinements to membership to better support the mission and vision of the RNM.
- Eight (8) members from MTC's Policy Advisory Council
- Nine (9) stakeholder representatives

RNM Council
- Council comprised of GM-level Operators and MTC representatives who understand transit operations and can represent the interests of their stakeholders and provide leadership and critical input on regional policies.
- MTC Executive Director to assemble the Council with anticipated participants including large and small operator General Managers/ CEOs.

V. Performance,Progress, and Long-term Evolution

K**ey Performance Indicators:** To support continuous improvement, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be established to track RNM performance.
- Benefits KPIs: KPIs to track the achieved benefits of regional transit and inform regional transit policy decisions.
- Program KPIs: KPIs to monitor the performance of the RNM and inform the evolution of the RNM.
- KPIs should be tracked and reported on through program performance structures and KPIs themselves would be reviewed and updated periodically.

Recurring Review: Every two years, the KPIs should be revisited and refined through a formal review. The review will consider progress made and drive the long-term evolution of the RNM framework through:
- Establishing leadership roles and scaling support elements to meet changing priorities.
- Establishing and expanding regional tools to drive standardization and improve efficiency.
- Refining and updating processes to meet changing needs or goals and enhance incentives to support process implementation.
- Enhancing agency authorities to align decision-making capabilities with regional goals.