

Staff Liaison Report – August 2026

Updates and Follow Up Items:

Following up on the presentation on CARE Power-building and Engagement program, to learn about the Community Based Organizations and projects participating in the program, staff recommends attending and/or reviewing the materials for the upcoming [Programs and Allocations Committee meeting](https://mtc.ca.gov/meetings-events/programming-and-allocations-committee-2026-08-12t164500), (<https://mtc.ca.gov/meetings-events/programming-and-allocations-committee-2026-08-12t164500>) which will happen on Wednesday, August 12.

Executive Director's Report to the Commission & ABAG Exec Board:

The Commission and ABAG Executive Board did not meet in July with the exception of a meeting of the Public Transit Revenue Measure District on July 24 and a special Commission meeting on July 24. The following items are excerpts from the June 2026 Executive Director's Reports to the Commission and ABAG Executive Board. To read past reports in their entirety, see these links:

- [Commission Report: https://mtc.ca.gov/news/executive-directors-report](https://mtc.ca.gov/news/executive-directors-report)

Commission Updates:

[Plan Bay Area 2050+ Approved by CARB](#)

On Friday, June 19th, MTC and ABAG received formal approval of Plan Bay Area 2050+ from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), concurring that if implemented the regional plan would achieve its state-mandated 2035 greenhouse gas emission reduction target, as required by Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg). This marks the final approval step required for Plan Bay Area 2050+ following its adoption in March 2026, given recent approvals by Caltrans and FHWA/FTA. A major update to the long-range regional plan, Plan Bay Area 2060, will kick off this fall, synced with ABAG's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Cycle 7 process.

[State Loan on Track to Fund by July 1](#)

An emergency state loan is on track to fund by July 1, consistent with Assembly Bill 117, which authorized a \$590 million loan for Bay Area transit agencies to avert major service cuts at AC

Transit, BART, Caltrain and San Francisco Muni during the 2026-27 fiscal year that begins July 1.

A major milestone was reached on Monday, June 22nd when all loans were executed, and a loan closing was held with all parties. This clears the way for the state to fund the loan, slated for June 30th, and MTC to transfer funds to the four operators that day or the following day as outlined in the loan agreements. These actions follow the Commission's late May action authorizing loan agreements with the State of California and the transit operators through MTC Resolution No. 4782.

Final Phase One Financial Efficiency Report Transmitted to the Legislature

As shared in an email to the Commission on May 28th, the final Phase One Financial Efficiency Review (FER) report, was approved by the Independent Oversight Committee on May 22, 2026 pursuant to Senate Bill 63. Following the Committee's action, MTC staff and the consultant team incorporated the minor revisions directed by the Committee as part of its approval motion, including the addition of one Early Action Strategy. The approved final report has now been posted to the MTC website at: <https://mtc.ca.gov/SB63>

As required by SB 63, MTC formally transmitted the Final Phase One report to: 1) the California Legislature; 2) the subject transit operators; 3) the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA); and 4) the participating county transportation authorities. Each of the four operators – AC Transit, BART, Caltrain, and SFMTA – have identified the Early Action Strategies it commits to implementing and adopted those strategies through formal actions, in advance of the July 1 statutory deadline.

MTC CARE Power-building and Engagement (Pb+E): Learning Lab Cohort 1 Community-Based Organization Recommendation Summary

At its August 2026 meeting, the Programming and Allocations Committee will consider approval of \$400,000 in CARE Power-Building and Engagement (Pb+E) funding to support MTC-ABAG's Learning Lab Cohort 1, a six-month capacity building program designed to strengthen

the leadership, organizational capacity, and regional participation of community-based organizations serving underrepresented populations and Equity Priority Communities. Following a competitive process that attracted seventy-two (72) applications, twenty (20) organizations were selected based on eligibility, application quality, and cohort representation. Each CBO will receive a \$20,000 stipend upon completion as listed in **Attachment B**. The Learning Lab will provide peer learning, professional development, and technical assistance while fostering long-term collaboration among community organizations and MTC-ABAG, advancing the CARE program's goal of building community power and supporting community-driven transportation, housing, and climate solutions. For more information, visit: <https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/community-action-resource-empowerment-care-program/care-power-building-and-engagement-pbe-program>

Pride Month at MTC

MTC is celebrating Pride Month with our sister agency the Bay Area Air District at the 56th Annual San Francisco Pride Parade this Sunday, June 28. Family and friends are welcome to participate and support the LGBTQ+ community. The agency has also partnered with local transit agencies on the "Moving the Bay Area with Pride" to encourage folks to take transit this month and highlight the inclusivity of public transportation. MTC is supporting the event with a paid digital promotion and giveaways for parade attendees.

FTA to Finalize Triennial Review

This month, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will finalize its second Triennial Review of MTC. FTA conducts a review of every direct recipient of federal public transit funding to ensure accordance with federal funding laws and regulations. Due to the use of federal formula funds for Clipper and the passthrough of funds to subrecipient agencies for purchasing transit vehicles, MTC gets a review every three years. Federal requirements for monitoring of these subrecipients will remain in place until the vehicles that were purchased reach the end of their useful lives.

The draft review resulted in three findings in Clipper asset maintenance and inventory and in the conducting of subrecipients' risk assessments. While maintenance and inventories of assets like card readers and ticket vending machines are regularly performed, the FTA requires that MTC develop more explicit procedures and gather regular evidence of their implementation. Subrecipients are also direct recipients of FTA funding, and additional risk assessment may be redundant. However, MTC will develop a procedure to ensure subrecipient risk assessments are conducted regularly in accordance with FTA rules.

MTC is committed to working with the FTA to ensure our procedures are first-rate and meet all regulatory requirements.

SB 79 Updated Maps Posted

MTC recently released an updated map of the areas where Senate Bill 79 applies in the Bay Area. Pending any final revisions, the map will become official on July 1 when SB 79 goes into effect. Staff is available to support local jurisdictions seeking to use this data to implement SB79. For more information, visit MTC's [SB79 webpage](https://mtc.ca.gov/planning/land-use/senate-bill-79-regional-map). (<https://mtc.ca.gov/planning/land-use/senate-bill-79-regional-map>)

MTC Hosts Workforce Development Partnership Collaborative

On June 22, MTC hosted a collaborative workforce development event at the Bay Area Metro Center in partnership with Growth Sector, a local Engineering Degree Apprenticeship Pathway (EDAP), five Bay Area community colleges, the Contra Costa Workforce Development Board and transportation industry partners representing the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), California Transportation Foundation (CTF), Latinos in Transit (LIT) and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA). The event connected over 40 engineering students with transportation and engineering professionals to support mentorship, career exploration, internship opportunities and the development of a diverse future workforce for the transportation industry. This event

reinforces MTC's commitment to regional workforce development, equity and the cultivation of a robust pipeline for the next generation of transportation and civil engineering professionals.

Active Transportation Workshop, San Mateo County

Thank you to Commissioner Papan for joining staff and kicking off a workshop on June 23, 2026 in Redwood City. This event under MTC's Active Transportation and Vision Zero Program was to support local agency staff in the County tackle key challenges identified in a Peer Exchange MTC hosted in December 2025. A second workshop is planned for this fall in Sonoma County.

Looking Ahead / Save the Date

- Commission Workshop: October 28-29

ABAG Executive Board Updates:

The ABAG Executive Board will next meet on Thursday, August 20, 2026. The September Council Liaison report will provide updates from that meeting's Executive Director Report.

News Headlines from [The Bay Link Blog \(https://blog.bayareametro.gov/\)](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/):

- **Work to start on I-580 carpool lane extension in Oakland**
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/work-start-i-580-carpool-lane-extension-oakland>)
The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) today announced that construction work will begin next week on a six-month project to convert the far-left lane of westbound Interstate 580 to a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from just east of the Piedmont Avenue undercrossing in Oakland to the start of the existing westbound carpool lane near the foot of the MacArthur Maze.
- **San Francisco Bay Ferry shatters ridership record for March**
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/san-francisco-bay-ferry-shatters-ridership-record-march>) San Francisco Bay Ferry this week announced it shattered its ridership record in

March, carrying more than 300,000 passengers over the month. The previous high-water mark for SF Bay Ferry ridership in March was 239,639 passengers in 2019.

- **[Marin Measure AA expenditure plan adopted](#)**
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/marin-measure-aa-expenditure-plan-adopted>) The Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Directors approved amendments to the Measure AA Expenditure Plan last month following a comprehensive review process and extensive input from the community and our partner agencies.
- **[MTC-ABAG Mourn, Remember Life and Legacy of Rod Diridon](#)**
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/mtc-abag-mourn-remember-life-and-legacy-rod-diridon>) Former longtime Santa Clara County Supervisor Rod Diridon, Sr., who served as chairman of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, died Friday, April 3. He was 87.

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](https://mtc.ca.gov/tools-resources/mtc-abag-library) (<https://mtc.ca.gov/tools-resources/mtc-abag-library>).

For MTC and Plan Bay Area Glossaries:

- **[Glossary of Transportation Planning Acronyms & Terms](https://mtc.ca.gov/tools-resources/mtcabag-library/glossary-transportation-planning-acronyms-terms)** (<https://mtc.ca.gov/tools-resources/mtcabag-library/glossary-transportation-planning-acronyms-terms>)
- **[Plan Bay Area Glossary](https://www.planbayarea.org/about/glossary)** (<https://www.planbayarea.org/about/glossary>)