



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 3a

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
TEL 415.778.6700
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

Date: January 24, 2024
To: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
From: MTC Policy Advisory Council Chair, Randi Kinman
Regarding: January 2024 Council Report to Commission

Summary:

This memo provides a summary of the activity of the Policy Advisory Council (Council) over the previous month.

December 2023 Meetings

The Council met on December 15, 2023. The Council received an update on the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Blueprint from MTC staffer Chirag Rabari. The Council had a brief update on potential 2026 revenue measure as it ties into the financial forecast for the goals of PBA 2050+. There was a lengthy question and comment period that followed based on the following subsections:

- Revenue messaging:
 - Avoid using “baseline” services. Focus on what new or innovative cost saving measures will be taken or how services will be changed. Visionary.
 - The disability community is concerned. We have done little to put forward new or consolidated requests, their issues are always back burner.
 - We as an advisory body did not have a robust conversation about priorities for the measure. That might help with messaging.

- PBA 2050+ Transportation
 - People do not understand where “all their money” goes to when they pay licenses and fees; we need succinct messaging in our documents: there’s not enough money, we can’t count on state or Fed.
 - Focus on ongoing refinement; adapt/expand NextGen to other definition rather than boxed into one meaning. Make sure we know what words like “safety” mean when surveying transit riders.
 - Identify in PBA document that this is not MTC “taking over”, do a better job of educating in one sentence up front.
- PBA 2050+ Housing
 - Ensure that the funding and projects create accessible units up front for both seniors and families. Having units classified as accessible inside doesn’t count if there are no external ramps. Cheaper than retrofitting and higher levels of equity for seniors, families, disabled.
 - Ditto with greening of units; sustainably built/remodeled now not later.
- PBA 2050+ General
 - We talk of GHG measurement, lowering VMT, but we don’t talk in measurable terms of health or healthy communities.
 - What are we using as baseline measurements and for whom? Especially disabled.
 - Provide mapping of existing urban open space, parks, trails and add as we go. COVID showed vast discrepancies in access to simple outdoor recreational or restive space.
 - Can we look at freeway capping to create space for recreation, housing or commercial/mixed use?

The Council also was briefed on the nomination process for the 2024-2025 Chair and Vice Chair leadership elections, taking place at this month’s Council meeting on January 26, 2024.

While I told you last month it would be my last time before you, I didn’t take into account the fact we meet after you, so, here I am again. We will be finalizing elections this month, enjoying a

peaceful transfer of power and I will be finishing out my term with the rest of this cohort in two years.

Finally, the **Equity and Access Subcommittee** met on December 15, 2023. The Subcommittee heard reports on the various one seat ride programs that were initiated by agencies themselves during and after COVID along with the proposed 2024 pilot programs from MTC. Members of the public and the subcommittee provided input. The subcommittee looks forward to future conversations in developing these pilots and discussing the goals and objectives, which are key to implementing the Transformation Action Plan. The Subcommittee highlighted that MTC needs to lift up the program as an example of what complete accessibility for people with disabilities traveling across multiple jurisdictions should look like, acknowledging that much more investments are needed to meet everyone's needs.

An example of complete accessible transit includes paratransit access to SFO, OAK, SJC, and other regional airports. Committee members also requested more details about what MTC's plan for informing community members about the Regional Mapping and Wayfinding Project pilot program would look like.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

-Randi Kinman

Chair, Policy Advisory Council