

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
Supervisory District Four  
Supervisor Ken Yeager



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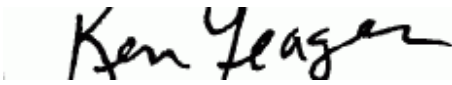
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DATE: April 7, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:   
Ken Yeager  
Supervisor, District 4

SUBJECT: Report from the Board Delegate to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Accept report from the Board Delegate to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) relating to the meeting of March 25, 2009. (Yeager)

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission met on March 25, 2009, in Oakland.

The meeting began with a report from the new chair, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. Following his report, Chair Haggerty announced new committee assignments. I am pleased to report that my committee assignments will continue unchanged. I will once again serve as Vice Chair of the Legislation Committee, and will remain on the Planning Committee

and Operations Committee. Also important, I remain appointed by MTC to the Joint Policy Committee as well.

The Commission adjourned to Closed Session where we conferred with counsel regarding anticipated litigation.

Following closed session, the Executive Director, Steve Heminger, gave his monthly report. Of note, Executive Director Heminger reported that the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) completed the purchase of an unprecedented \$194 million in state general obligation bonds through a “private placement” with the State Treasurer’s Office in order to finance work on 11 highway congestion relief projects that had been stalled due to the inability of the state to sell Proposition 1B bonds on the open market. Also, as directed by the commission at the February meeting, Executive Director Heminger hosted a session with the major public agency stakeholders along the alignment of the proposed California high speed rail service from San Jose to San Francisco. They discussed the concept of fashioning a peninsula corridor investment package for state and federal funding that could feature improvements to the Diridon Station in San Jose, the Transbay Transit Center in San Francisco, and electrification and grade separation projects in between those two points. He reported that they will be meeting again in a few weeks, and hope to conclude these initial discussions by May.

Following the report, the consent calendar was approved. The consent calendar included a number of routine items, including approving the Commission meeting minutes of February 25, 2009. In addition, we allocated funds to Project 7.1 North Connector, approved the program for the Regional Express Bus North pool of projects, and allocated \$50,000 to Pacheco Transit Center. Finally, the consent calendar also contained the minutes for the various MTC committees, including the citizen advisory committees.

On the regular agenda, MTC heard a presentation from staff regarding revisions to the Transportation 2035 Plan and approved releasing the revised draft for public comment. The revisions will specifically address new information about Santa Clara County’s Measure A sales tax program and changes in funding for transit operations, including recently enacted multiyear cuts to the State Transit Assistance (STA) program.

Upon the recommendation of the Programming and Allocations Committee, the Commission approved the discontinuation of RM2 funding on June 30, 2009 for routes not meeting the RM2 performance requirements. The specific routes are AC Transit Route M/MA, Golden Gate Transit Route 75, AC Transit Route J, Contra Costa County Transit Authority Route 820

(already discontinued by the operator) and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority Route 810 (proposed to be discontinued by the operator).

Also from the Programming and Allocations committee, the Commission considered and approved minor changes to the regional programming of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds approved last month. Recent clarification from the Federal government allows for transit operating expenses for up to 10% of the funding, which resulted in some changes to account for this added flexibility. In addition, the California Transportation Commission provided direction to regional agencies to compile project lists for state funding elements of the ARRA for submittal by March 27. The Bay Area share of this funding is estimated to be roughly \$155 million, with \$10 million of that to be spent on transportation enhancements. Direction was given to fund existing Proposition 1B bond projects, with the resultant “freed up” transportation funding capacity available for a more extensive future programming discussion.

Finally, as recommended by the Legislation Committee, the Commission voted to support AB 628 (Block), which seeks to authorize toll authorities to charge and collect tolls using digital images of license plates, giving California drivers another tollpaying option. The Commission also voted to support and seek amendments for AB 1135 (Skinner), which seeks to require California vehicle owners to report the current odometer reading of their vehicle at the time of vehicle registration. The bill specifies that the name of the vehicle owner will not be public, while the vehicle and the mileage information would be public information. The Commission would like amendments to protect the vehicle owner’s privacy.

The Commission took public comment, followed by adjournment.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission will meet next on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. at the MetroCenter in Oakland.