

September 12, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

As regional land use, transportation, housing and equity advocates, we have collectively been following and participating in the Bay Area Sustainable Communities Strategy for more than two years. As this process begins moving from planning to implementation, we look forward to continuing our participation at the County and local levels. This includes active engagement in your agency's public hearing process, including around implementation of the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) program.

We write to ask for information about your Agency's anticipated process and timeline for developing your county's PDA Growth and Investment Strategy and investment package for the OBAG program, one of the key components of the Bay Area's SCS. In particular, we are interested in how your Agency will be applying the guidelines provided by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments for prioritizing projects for funding. We are also eager to participate in the analysis and evaluation of local affordable housing policies that your Agency will be undertaking.

The OBAG program explicitly charges CMAs with encouraging community participation in project planning and determining project priorities, and we look forward to being active participants in that process. To that end, we request that you keep us informed of future developments related to your county's PDA Growth and Investment Strategy and the resulting OBAG funding distribution. It also may be helpful for us to meet with your agency as a group to discuss these issues. We look forward to hearing from you and in the meantime, we have attached what we understand to be the responsibilities for Bay Area Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) as well as the criteria for project prioritization, which can be found online as well: http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/onebayarea/RES-4035_approved.pdf. See in particular page 31 section 3 "Establishing Local Funding Priorities" for a list of factors that should be emphasized when developing project criteria."

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Roger Kim, Executive Director
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

boona cheema, Executive Director
BOSS

Bob Planthold, Chair, Board of Directors
California Walks

Dawn Phillips, Program Co-Director
Causa Justa :: Just Cause

Tim Frank, Director
Center for Sustainable Neighborhoods

Fernando Marti
Council of Community Housing Organizations

Gloria Bruce, Deputy Director
East Bay Housing Organizations

Stephanie Reyes, Policy Director
Greenbelt Alliance

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Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County

Marion Taylor, President
League of Women Voters of the Bay Area

Justin Horner, Transportation Policy Analyst
Natural Resources Defense Council

Evelyn Stivers, Field Director
Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California (NPH)

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Safe Routes to School National Partnership

Kirsten Snow Spalding, Policy Consultant
San Mateo County Union Community Alliance

Egon Terplan, Regional Planning Director
SPUR

Carol Johnson, Executive Director
St. Mary's Center

Manolo Gonzalez-Estay, Transportation Policy Director
TransForm

Belen Seara, Director of Land Use & Housing
Bob Allen, Director of Transportation Justice
Urban Habitat

Cc: Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC)
Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)
Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM)
Napa County Transportation Planning Agency (NCTPA)

San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA)
City-County Association of Governments San Mateo County (C/CAG)
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
Solano Transportation Authority (STA)
Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA)
Ken Kirkey, MTC Planning Director
Miriam Chion, ABAG Interim Planning & Research Director

Encl: One Bay Area Grant Program – MTC Resolution No. 4035: Project selection policies and programming for the Federal Cycle 2/One Bay Area Grant Program.