



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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Memorandum

Date: June 12, 2024
To: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
From: Alfredo Pedroza, Commission Chair
Regarding: Next Steps to Build Consensus for a 2026 Transportation Revenue Measure

Background:

On May 30, Senator Wiener and Senator Wahab – jointly with me and Vice Chair Josefowitz – announced a decision to not advance Senate Bill 1031 this year and instead introduce legislation in the next session to address the Bay Area’s transit funding challenges. In a joint statement, the senators acknowledged the need for more time to work through various regional differences and a request for MTC to convene key parties starting this summer to create regional consensus for 2025 legislation (see Attachment A). This memo provides a very high-level overview of this effort, all of which will be further developed with input from Commissioners at the special meeting on June 12 and by a Select Committee that I plan to convene shortly.

Select Committee Purpose and Considerations:

The role of the Select committee is to develop and reach agreement on the core goals and the detailed policy components of a future transportation measure – for consideration and approval by the full Commission.

One of the core concerns during discussions about SB 1031 was the expenditure plan’s structure, duration, and funding sources, including concerns about how a regional measure could jeopardize renewal of existing local sales tax measures dedicated to transportation. This concern was especially acute in the North Bay and the South Bay. Similarly, there were concerns about the extent and distribution of transit operating funding in the measure, since those needs are both large and uneven across the nine counties.

To help achieve regional consensus on a transportation revenue measure that can be supported across the region, I will work to ensure the Select Committee membership includes commissioners from across the region while also being mindful of the need to be tight and focused. Meetings will be open to the public in accordance with the Brown Act. I have asked that Commissioner Spring chair the new Select Committee given his strong track record of building regional consensus on difficult topics, most recently as Chair of the Blue Ribbon Transit

Transformation Task Force. I am also carefully considering the non-commissioner participants in the Select Committee and the organizations anticipated to play an important role in the success of enabling legislation and an eventual ballot measure. Lastly, I have asked staff to bring on a meeting facilitator to position the effort for maximum success.

Preliminary Timeline:

The Select Committee's work will begin as early as late June and conclude by mid-October, with an estimated six meetings total. This timeline will allow the Select Committee to develop and ideally endorse the key provisions of the legislation this Fall. Under this timeline, should there be robust agreement, the full Commission (and other key parties) would have an opportunity to endorse the legislation before the bill is heard in its first policy committee.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Joint Statement on Bay Area Public Transit Funding Authorizing Legislation (SB 1031)



Alfredo Pedroza