

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council**

April 26, 2024

Agenda Item 7b

Staff Liaison Report

Subject:

Overview of recent MTC policy decisions and other activities.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Staff Liaison Report – April 2024
- Attachment B: Norman Mineta High School Summer Academy Flyer
- Attachment C: An evaluation of the 2023 Council Work Plan, with an evaluation of what was accomplished.

Staff Liaison Report – April 2024

Follow-up items:

Applications for the Norman Mineta High School Summer Academy are closing on April 26, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. Please encourage students in your networks and communities to apply. The [application form is here](https://mtc.one/summer24) (<https://mtc.one/summer24>), a flyer is included as an attachment to this report as Attachment B. We appreciate your support in encouraging widespread participation in the program. Please contact Ky-Nam Miller (kmiller@bayareametro.gov) if you would like additional resources or have questions about the program.

On February 23, 2024, the Policy Advisory Council received a presentation on the draft work plan for 2024-25. Council Members requested an evaluation of the Council's work on the preceding work plan from 2023-24. That summary and evaluation of the previous work plan is included in Attachment C to this report.

Executive Director's Report:

The following items are excerpts from the March 2023 Executive Director's Report to the Commission. To read past reports in their entirety, check the agenda for a given Commission meeting [search for past meetings on [MTCs Legistar webpage](https://mtc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx) (<https://mtc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>)

State Senators Weiner and Wahab Unveil Senate Bill 1031

- Commissioner David Canepa joined me and transit partners from across the Bay Area on Monday, March 18, at a press conference announcing Senators Weiner and Wahab's SB 1031, which would authorize a 2026 ballot measure to fund, modernize and integrate the Bay Area's transit systems.

Sacramento Advocacy Visits, March 11-12

- I joined MTC Chair Pedroza; Commissioners Canepa, Dutra-Vernaci, Fleming, Glover, Moulton-Peters, Noack and Papan; several ABAG members; and staff in meetings with our Bay Area legislative delegation. The visits touched on three areas: 1) Protecting Regional Early Action Planning Program funds; 2) MTC's enabling legislation for a

transportation revenue measure, SB1031 (Wiener/Wahab); and 3) Update on the Bay Area Affordable Housing Bond.

MTC Officials Tour Port of Redwood City

- Commissioners David Canepa and Gina Papan joined me and staff earlier this month to tour the Port of Redwood City as the Port seeks \$186 million in additional funding for a \$380 million project to upgrade the nearby U.S. 101 interchange with Seaport Blvd. and state Route 84/Woodside Road.

PCA Grants Will Provide Up to \$8.5 Million for Bay Area Conservation Projects

- MTC and ABAG, in partnership with the State Coastal Conservancy, are offering up to \$8.5 million in grants ranging from \$200,000 to \$1 million in the latest cycle of [Priority Conservation Area \(PCA\) grants](https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/priority-conservation-area-pca-grants) (<https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/priority-conservation-area-pca-grants>). The PCA program aims to preserve and enhance the natural, economic and social value of rural lands as the region's population continues to grow. Proposed projects must be within or connected to [an existing PCA](https://mtc.ca.gov/planning/land-use/priority-conservation-areas-pcas) (<https://mtc.ca.gov/planning/land-use/priority-conservation-areas-pcas>), and should protect or enhance resource areas or habitats, provide or enhance bicycle and pedestrian access to open space and parkland resources, support the Bay Area's agricultural economy, or provide urban greening. Applications are due by Wed., May 8, 2024.

Bike to Wherever Days

- Thursday, May 16, is the 30th anniversary of Bay Area Bike to Work Day. Consider [pledging to ride that day](https://bayareabiketowork.com/event-information/pledge-to-ride) (<https://bayareabiketowork.com/event-information/pledge-to-ride>) or for the entire month of May. And for the first time, we now have a Bay Area-wide Bike to Wherever Days [events calendar](https://bayareabiketowork.com/event-information/calendar) (<https://bayareabiketowork.com/event-information/calendar>) on the Bay Area Bike to Work Day website, where residents can find events across the nine counties.

News Headlines from [The Bay Link Blog](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/) (https://blog.bayareametro.gov/): (as of April 8, 2024)

- [Feds offer millions in grants for bicyclist and pedestrian connectivity and safety](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/feds-offer-millions-grants-bicyclist-and-pedestrian-connectivity-and-safety) (https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/feds-offer-millions-grants-bicyclist-and-pedestrian-connectivity-and-safety): The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) this week announced it has [opened applications](https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/353043) (https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/353043) for up to \$44.5 million in funding for projects that will strengthen safety and improve bicycling, walking and access to public transit in communities across the country.
- [New legislation aims to put future Of Bay Area transportation in voters' hands](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/new-legislation-aims-put-future-bay-area-transportation-voters-hands) (https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/new-legislation-aims-put-future-bay-area-transportation-voters-hands) State Sen. Scott Wiener of San Francisco this week joined with State Sen. Aisha Wahab of Hayward to jointly author a bill that would allow voters throughout the Bay Area to consider as early as November 2026.
- [Study: Bay Area providing tech opportunities for women](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/study-bay-area-providing-tech-opportunities-women) (https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/study-bay-area-providing-tech-opportunities-women): As the nation celebrates Women's Day and Women's History month, a new CoworkingCafe study looks at the [country's top metropolitan areas for women working in tech](https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/best-metros-for-women-in-tech/) (https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/best-metros-for-women-in-tech/).
- [Thursday Metro Talks features documentary "Re-Entrification"](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/thursday-metro-talks-features-documentary-re-entrification) (https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/thursday-metro-talks-features-documentary-re-entrification): "Re-Entrification" is a feature-length documentary film that tells the story of residents that have been displaced from their homes due to high cost of living.

Transportation

- [Survey: Caltrans wants to hear from you about transit](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/survey-caltrans-wants-hear-you-about-transit)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/survey-caltrans-wants-hear-you-about-transit>)
Caltrans Bay Area (District 4) is planning how to improve transit on the State Transportation Network (STN) in the Bay Area and wants public input on what investments would help access transit services and improve experiences using transit throughout the Bay Area.
- [Videos: See how easy it is to use Clipper on BART](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/videos-see-how-easy-it-use-clipper-bart)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/videos-see-how-easy-it-use-clipper-bart>) MTC has posted new videos showing how using Clipper makes Bay Area journeys on BART easy with [iPhones](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r80wQYFvrOQ) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r80wQYFvrOQ>) and [Google Pay](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqcYQL9XCuk).(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqcYQL9XCuk>)
- [Toll bridge dollars speed Muni bus electrification](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/toll-bridge-dollars-speed-muni-bus-electrification)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/toll-bridge-dollars-speed-muni-bus-electrification>)
The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) today allocated \$7.6 million in [Regional Measure 3](https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/regional-funding/regional-measure-3) (<https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/regional-funding/regional-measure-3>) capital funds, including \$3.8 million for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Kirkland Yard Electrification Project and \$2.4 million toward new Muni electric buses.
- [California on track to align state's transportation funding with climate goals](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/california-track-align-states-transportation-funding-with-climate-goals)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/california-track-align-states-transportation-funding-climate-goals>) In just two years, California has nearly completed all the actions to align the state's transportation funding programs with its climate goals since adopting a new climate action strategy, according to a [report finalized earlier this month](https://calsta.ca.gov/-/media/calsta-media/documents/capti-2023-annual-report-finalreport-ally.pdf) (<https://calsta.ca.gov/-/media/calsta-media/documents/capti-2023-annual-report-finalreport-ally.pdf>) by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).

- [Black History Month: MTC event notes transportation, housing contributions](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/black-history-month-mtc-event-notes-transportation-housing-contributions)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/black-history-month-mtc-event-notes-transportation-housing-contributions>) MTC hosted a "Gallery of Heroes" exhibition this week highlighting transportation and housing contributions made by African Americans as part of Black History Month celebrations around the Bay Area.
- [SFO gets \\$31 million from feds for sustainability](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/sfo-gets-31-million-feds-sustainability)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/sfo-gets-31-million-feds-sustainability>) The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is awarding \$970 million from President Biden's Bipartisan Investing in America agenda to 114 airports across the country, spanning 44 states and three territories.

Economy

- [Bay Area residents among hardest working, report says](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/bay-area-residents-among-hardest-working-report-says)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/bay-area-residents-among-hardest-working-report-says>) Four Bay area cities are the hardest-working in America, according to a [new study from CoworkingCafe](https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/hardest-working-us-cities/) (<https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/hardest-working-us-cities/>).

Housing

- [Study: Sunnyvale tops list of Bay Area renter "sweet spots"](https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/study-sunnyvale-tops-list-of-bay-area-renter-sweet-spots)
(<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/study-sunnyvale-tops-list-of-bay-area-renter-sweet-spots>) Renters' ability to deal with rising costs and sometimes stagnant wages is the subject of a new study by RentCafe, "[Top Renting Sweet Spots in the U.S.: Where Your Income Goes the Furthest](https://www.rentcafe.com/blog/rental-market/market-snapshots/top-renting-sweet-spots-us/)" (<https://www.rentcafe.com/blog/rental-market/market-snapshots/top-renting-sweet-spots-us/>).

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)