

Summary Minutes
Marketing, Planning, and Legislative Committee
Thursday, January 7, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted as a teleconference pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

Directors: Amy Worth, Candace Andersen, Kevin Wilk, Rob Schroder
Staff: Rick Ramacier, Bill Churchill, Ruby Horta, Melody Reeb, Madeline Chun
Public: Andy Smith

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:34 a.m. by Director Worth.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda.

2. Public Communication

None

3. Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2020

The Committee approved the minutes.

4. 2021 Federal Legislative Program

Mr. Ramacier provided an overview of the issues that staff is planning to include in this year's federal advocacy program. The newest Coronavirus stimulus package includes about \$14 billion for public transit. However, many transit agencies, including County Connection, will not be receiving funds due to a clause in the bill that limits eligible recipients based on federally designated Urbanized Areas (UZAs). The remaining issues will mostly be carryovers from the previous years, including federal reauthorization and supporting alternative first- and last-mile solutions, as well as restoring the highway trust fund. Director Andersen suggested reaching out to East Bay delegation staff to make them aware of the concerns regarding the distribution of stimulus funds. Director Worth added that MTC staff is currently looking at the issue.

5. 2021 Service Proposals Public Hearings

Ms. Horta informed the Committee that staff has conducted the first two of the four public hearings scheduled on the proposed service scenarios. Attendance was low at the first public hearing, which focused on the north service area. The second one, which covered the core area, had about 12 attendees. However, there were no public comments made at either hearing. Director Worth asked whether service reductions would still be necessary given current financial projections, which have been showing an increase in sales tax revenue. Ms. Horta responded that Scenario 1 is similar to the

service levels that are currently being operated and that staff will be able to restore service if funding becomes available.

6. Blue Ribbon Task Force Update

Mr. Ramacier informed the Committee that the Blue Ribbon Task Force has created two new subgroups. One will be focused on developing the problem statement as it relates to the network manager concept, and the other will focus on developing the alternatives. The general managers of the transit agencies have also continued to meet regularly and have developed a slide deck to update to the various Boards on the Blue Ribbon Task Force. The Committee agreed that staff should present this to the Board.

7. Committee Comments

None

8. Future Agenda Items

None

9. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for February 4th at 8:30 a.m. via teleconference.

10. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Melody Reeb, Manager of Planning