



Association of Bay Area Governments  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
Bay Conservation and Development Commission  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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## JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE — REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

TO: Joint Policy Committee

DATE: January 13, 2012

FR: ABAG, BAAQMD, BCDC and MTC Executive Directors

RE: Joint Policy Committee Staffing

At your meeting on December 2, 2011, the Executive Directors of MTC, ABAG and BAAQMD recommended that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) enter into a contract with Will Travis to replace Ted Droettboom as the JPC policy advisor. The JPC raised several questions about this recommendation and deferred action until each agency had the opportunity to discuss it further.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District Executive Committee met on December 19. They discussed hiring Will Travis as the advisor for the JPC and were supportive. The Executive Committee report to the full Board is scheduled for January 18, 2012.

The MTC Executive Committee met on December 21, and unanimously approved moving forward with a contract with Mr. Travis on behalf of the JPC member agencies, subject to (a) negotiation of the contract price, and (b) refinement of the scope of work.

Consideration of this issue will be taken up by ABAG and BCDC at their respective meetings on January 19. Staff will report on the results of those discussions at your meeting on January 20.

### **(a) Price Proposal**

The proposal presented in December was to engage Mr. Travis for an amount not to exceed \$150,000 per year. As a result of further discussions, we now propose to pay Mr. Travis the same hourly rate (\$85 per hour) as paid under our contract with Elmwood Consulting for services provided to the JPC by Bruce Riordan. We would further limit the annual contract total to \$135,000 per year, which we believe is a reasonable level of effort for the JPC activities.

### **(b) Refinement of the Scope of Work**

In the course of the MTC Executive Committee's discussion, it was clear that lingering concerns about the role the JPC should play in policy development need to be addressed in order to provide clear direction to the JPC policy advisor and Executive Directors of the four member agencies. The Committee also raised questions about the JPC's decision-making process, which in the opinion of some, now suffers for lack of a clarity to ensure that the JPC reviews draft agency plans early in the process and, therefore, has a real opportunity to influence their content. Both of these issues need to be resolved in order to confirm the contract scope of work for Mr. Travis.

We understand that these same questions have been raised by other members of the JPC. As a result, on today's agenda (Item #5b) is a recommendation to take the next two months for the JPC member agency Chairs and Executive Directors to refine the JPC's purpose, processes and topics for the JPC's consideration in March. Should the JPC agree to this recommendation, we propose that the contract with Mr. Travis include this initial task, with the remaining scope of his work to be amended into the contract once the JPC direction on this matter has been set.

### **Recommendation**

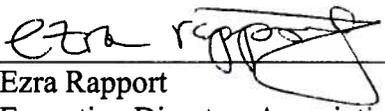
Subject to the deliberations of ABAG and BCDC to take place following the date of this memo but before your meeting on January 20:

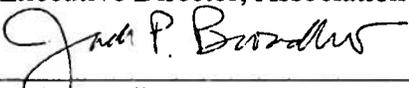
1. Request MTC to approve a one-year contract with Will Travis to serve as Policy Advisor to the JPC. In this role, Mr. Travis is to work and advise neutrally with all four agencies that comprise the JPC and will have no special involvement with BCDC following his retirement other than work associated with the JPC agenda.
2. Establish the contract budget in an amount not to exceed \$85.00 per hour, and in a total amount not to exceed \$135,000 per year, with costs to be shared by the four agencies in amounts to be negotiated by the Executive Directors;
3. Approve the initial contract work scope to be consistent with the outcome of Agenda #5b, with the understanding that the scope of work for the remaining contract period would be modified based on the results of the process described in that agenda item.

Should the JPC approve this recommendation, the MTC Administration Committee would take action on contract approval at its February 8, 2012 meeting.

Unless ABAG and BCDC have any objections as a result of their meetings on January 19, the recommendations will remain as stated in this memorandum. Otherwise alternative recommendations may be presented at your meeting.

  
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Steve Heminger  
Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission

  
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Ezra Rapport  
Executive Director, Association of Bay Area Governments

  
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Jack Broadbent  
Executive Director, Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Approved by Steve Goldbeck via email on 1/13/12 \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Goldbeck  
Acting Executive Director, Bay Conservation and Development Commission



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## JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE — REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Date: January 11, 2012  
To: Joint Policy Committee  
From: ABAG, BAAQMD, BCDC and MTC Executive Directors  
Subject: **Review of JPC Purpose, Processes and Topics**

The discussion at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting raised a number of important questions about *how* the JPC coordinates inter-agency collaboration and *what* subjects the JPC should be addressing. With the Bay Area facing a set of critical challenges to the region's sustainability—including economic development, the impacts of climate change, and the transformation of our energy systems—we believe it is the right time to take a step back and re-examine how the four regional agencies should work together with our public and private partners to address these challenges.

We propose that the JPC staff work with the JPC Chair, and the Chairs and Executive Directors of the four agencies, over the next two months to conduct a thorough review of the JPC's purpose, processes and topics. This review would lead to a proposal to the full JPC at the March meeting for discussion and action. During the two-month review, input would be obtained from all JPC members, starting with a discussion of two key questions at today's meeting (Item 6).

The two-month review will consider the following:

1. The JPC's four historical roles—identifying opportunities for collaboration, the coordination of planning documents, conflict resolution, and regional leadership on important issues.
2. Mechanisms and ground rules that will streamline and clarify the JPC's operations so that board and staff time can be focused much more directly on critical policy discussion and action.
3. The three current JPC projects—Bay Area Economic Development Strategy, Near-Term Green Jobs+, and the Bay Area Climate and Energy Resilience Strategy—plus the identification of new opportunities for inter-agency collaboration.
4. Other ideas to strengthen the JPC's ability to provide regional coordination and leadership, as appropriate.

### **Recommendation**

We recommend that the Joint Policy Committee direct staff to carry out the review as described above and to present a proposal for discussion at the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.