



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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## Tab 24

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June 26, 2017

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Ms. Susan Bransen  
Executive Director  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N. St., Room 2221, MS-52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### RE: Interim SHOPP Guidelines

Dear Ms. Bransen:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Interim State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Guidelines. These Interim Guidelines are on the June 28-29, 2017 CTC meeting agenda for adoption under Tab 24, and were developed to satisfy the provisions of Senate Bill 486 and Senate Bill 1.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning and funding agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. MTC is a close partner with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in implementing important congestion-relief projects on the state highway system (SHS). In mature metropolitan areas such as the Bay Area, incremental operational improvements provide the best benefit compared to cost for congestion relief. To that end, MTC committed regional discretionary funds to augment Caltrans's commitment to operational improvements on the SHS, such as Transportation Management System elements that actively manage the transportation system.

The Interim Guidelines recognize Caltrans's development of a Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP), as required by SB 486. MTC strongly supports the move to use an asset management approach to prioritize projects for SHOPP funding, the Bay Area has used similar strategies for pavement and transit assets. MTC further recommends that CTC require Caltrans to include device lifecycle operations and maintenance funding for any capital traffic operation device projects, either in the Interim SHOPP Guidelines or elsewhere in Caltrans's budget. This will ensure that we have the resources to operate and maintain the equipment as it is deployed throughout the state.

Further, MTC seeks to have more robust involvement in the SHOPP project selection process, particularly in the area of operational improvements and Transportation Management Systems. The SHOPP development schedule and procedures should be expanded to include nomination of projects by regional agencies, and review and formal concurrence of candidate projects and priorities prior to local districts submitting a final list to Caltrans Headquarters. This coordinated effort can maximize the impact of limited transportation resources, in addition to expediting project delivery.

Letter to Ms. Bransen  
June 26, 2017

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Thank you for your consideration of MTC's comments on the Interim SHOPP Guidelines. Should you have additional questions regarding our positions, please contact me at (415) 778-5250, or Andrew Fremier, Deputy Executive Director of Operations, at (415) 778-5240.

Best regards,



Alix A. Bockelman  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

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