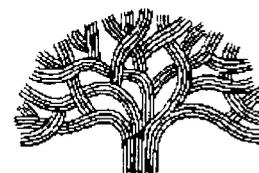


City of Oakland  
Public Works Agency  
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Ste. 4314  
Oakland, CA 94612-2033



## FAX

September 16, 1998

<b>To:</b> Distribution List	<b>From:</b> Diane Tannenwald
<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Fax:</b> (510) 238-2233
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Phone:</b> (510) 238-6386

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I am writing to ask that you to attend and speak in favor of a rail study for the Bay Bridge corridor at the September 23, 1998, MTC meeting. Mayor Harris requested that a formal and comprehensive study of rail options be addressed at the upcoming meeting. It is very important that everyone join together to compel MTC to thoroughly evaluate our transportation needs and options in order to meet increased capacity needs through the corridor, reduce traffic congestion, and preserve the air quality for our region.

Since the June 24, 1998, MTC meeting 4 cities, San Francisco, Oakland, Emeryville, and Berkeley, put an advisory ballot measure on the November ballot. The measure asks if it should be the policy of the city to request MTC and Caltrans include passenger rail service as part of the redesign on the Bay Bridge.

On September 11, 1998, at the MTC Legislative and Public Affairs Committee (LPAC) meeting, information about the proposed legislation was provided to the committee members by staff as information only. However, in response to the ballot initiatives, the LPAC recommended to oppose the issue of rail on the bridge as a ballot measure. Mayor Harris's intent was not to discuss the ballot issue at the MTC meeting. Mayor Harris's request was specifically aimed at asking the commission to have the issue of rail studied and evaluated to ensure that we will have an effective transportation system that meets the needs of the Bay Area for the next 150 years (life span of the proposed bridge).

There has been a lot of misinformation publicized. We are not advocating for:

- Unnecessary delays to the process. Caltrans is continuing to delay their own process. The design consultants for the bridge still do not have a contract with Caltrans and have basically not worked on the project since MTC made their design decision on June 24, 1998. Hence, Caltrans is still at 30% design.
- Reinstating the Key System.
- Installing a rail system at this date (we only want to ensure that provisions are provided for in the framework of the bridge, so that at a later date we will have a viable system that will not force us to completely redo the work already completed or build a completely independent system).
- Removing two traffic lanes in each direction to accommodate a rail system (we believe a rail can be effectively accommodated on the bridge without the removal of vehicle lanes).

According to a September 11, 1998, article in the San Francisco Chronicle there will be "1.1 million more motor vehicles" on the road in the next 22 years. "By 2020, the number of vehicles is expected to increase to 5.47 million, a 25.2 % increase."

Caltrans and MTC are making their design decisions without having conducted appropriate studies. We are unsure as to why MTC and Caltrans are so hesitant to perform a study on what type(s) of transportation systems are most appropriate for this corridor, but unless we are proactive and pressure them to evaluate our options, they will make their decisions without necessary information and delays will continually get worse if we do not have effective transportation systems.

Caltrans is designing the new bridge to last for 150 years **with no increase in capacity**. It is essential that we advocate for:

- a feasibility analysis of light and heavy rail through the Oakland/SF corridor
- that the study be expedited (4-5 months max) so that we can incorporate the findings into the bridge design without any delays
- rail line to run from Oakland to SF (ending the system at Yerba Buena Island would be ineffective)
- no vehicle or shoulder lanes should be removed from service to provide for the rail

The meeting is being held at **10:00 a.m. on September 23, 1998**, in the Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Auditorium, 101 Eighth St., in Oakland. If you have any questions please call me at the above telephone number. I will fax you the agenda with further information as soon as I receive it. Please come and advocate for this necessary study. Thank you.

*Diane Tannenwald*

Distribution:

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Vice Mayor Nora Davis	(510) 596-4375	(510) 658-8095
Mayor Shirley Dean	(510) 644-6092	(510) 644-6255
Vice Mayor Al DeWitt	(510) 748-4529	(510) 748-4504
Mayor Bruce Mast	(510) 528-5720	(510) 528-5797
Councilmember Dona Spring	(510) 644-6266	(510) 644-4822
Mayor Patty White	(510) 420-3040	(510) 653-8272
Councilmember Kriss Worthington	(510) 644-6398	(510) 644-4822

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Steven Grover ✓	(510) 549-9258	(510) 549-9157
- Perry Haviland	(510) 464-3600	(510) 532-6996 - 532-6998 ✓
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**Item 5**

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