

TO: Grand Boulevard Initiative Task Force Members and Interested Parties

FROM: Russell Hancock, Task Force Co-Chair
Jim Hartnett, Task Force Co-Chair

SUBJECT: March 30, 2016 Grand Boulevard Initiative Task Force Meeting Follow-Up

DATE: May 12, 2016

This memorandum presents the highlights of the March 30th Task Force meeting and is sent to assist Task Force Members in updating other members of your governing body or organization.

➤ **Grand Boulevard Initiative Planning Public Engagement Contract**

Ina Gerhard, Caltrans District 4, made a presentation on the Stakeholder Outreach Plan developed from the grant it awarded to Grand Boulevard Initiative. The Plan focuses on increasing information about our Initiative, by supporting presentations to current and new audiences. It keys on the improved Caltrans design flexibility and its increased sensitivity to local preferences and needs. The first step in implementing the Plan will be the creation of a toolkit to be used at community meetings, based upon a survey of local contexts and development. The Plan is to communicate Grand Boulevard Initiative's Vision and purpose and assure public awareness of Caltrans' partnership and enhanced flexibility for multimodal improvements on the State highway system for urban roadways.

➤ **Caltrans Enhanced Design Flexibility: Bicycle Guidelines and Highway Design Manual**

Lenka Culik-Caro, Caltrans District 4, made a presentation on Caltrans' improved design flexibility process. Starting in 2008 through a collaborative process involving the Bay Area Congestion Management Agencies, Caltrans introduced policy changes that increase flexibility in accommodating local preferences for urban State highway arterials. These changes comprise a number of engineering and planning issues valued by technical staff at the local level and provide flexible and practical solutions for complete street projects along the El Camino Real Corridor. In addition, Ms. Culik-Caro discussed the recently-released Class IV Bikeway Guidelines and Caltrans' endorsement of the NACTO Urban Street Design Guide. More actions are underway, including a Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and the NACTO District Implementation Committee. As reference, Task Force members may remember a presentation by Jeff Tumlin on the NACTO Guidelines at our November 2014 meeting.

➤ **Value Capture: Property-based Funding Strategies for Transportation Projects**

Nadine Fogarty of Strategic Economics made a presentation on Value Capture, which represents a set of tools and programs that can be used by local governments to share the increase in property values that result from public improvements made by local governments. The local public financing mechanisms can be used to fund a range of public improvements. As traditional sources of revenue are depleting, the need for infrastructure maintenance and expansion is on the rise, resulting in a need for innovative funding mechanisms. The presentation provided an overview of the methods available to share in the increased property values caused by public works, including the complexities of implementation. A Value Capture Toolkit, written by Strategic Economics and funded by

MTC, is available for download on the Grand Boulevard Initiative website (www.grandboulevard.net).

➤ **Automated People Movers**

Task Force Member Mark Haesloop of CHS Development and Guido Schwager of Schwager Davis Inc. made a presentation about Automated People Movers (APMs) as a resource to address first- and last-mile transit connections. This connection is seen as a primary challenge to any program to encourage people to use transit for their work commute. APMs offer the potential to bridge that first and last mile, and, if successful, could be a central component to the reduction of Bay Area traffic congestion.

Copies of all meeting presentations are available here:

<http://grandboulevard.net/index.php/library/presentations>.

The next Grand Boulevard Task Force meeting will be held on June 29th at 10 AM at Santa Clara University. More information will follow.

Connect with Grand Boulevard Initiative on social media.

