



Transit Representation on Metropolitan Planning Organizations & Governance Update/MOU

Action

Author: Erik Johnson

Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Transportation

Issue:

SACOG has a policy to adopt a resolution annually to designate any board member who also serves on a transit board as a transit representative for purposes of complying with federal guidance. Additionally, SACOG has been working with the region's transit operators to update an MOU that provides roles and responsibilities relative to federal transit funding and agency coordination.

Request:

Approve

Recommendation for Board:

The Transportation Committee recommended that the Board of Directors adopt the resolution to designate SACOG board members that jointly serve on a transit board as a transit representative.

Recommendation for Committee:

That the Transportation Committee recommend that the Board of Directors adopt the resolution to designate SACOG board members that jointly serve on a transit board as a transit representative.

Background:

In 2016, the SACOG board adopted a policy to designate any board member who also serves on a transit board as a transit representative for purposes of complying with federal guidance. Federal transportation law requires representation by providers of public transportation on the governing board for each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) that serves a transportation management area. The law allows the requirement for transit representation to be satisfied by a member of the MPO governing board who also serves as a board member for a public transit agency. All transit agency boards in the Sacramento region include elected officials from city councils and county boards of supervisors, many of whom serve on the SACOG board. This requirement is one of many that SACOG fulfills in its obligations as an MPO.

In 2015, SACOG and the region's transit operators signed an MOU that provided roles and responsibilities for agency coordination and how federal transit funding is allocated. As many of the listed parties are no longer relevant due to consolidations and service annexations, as well as other agency changes, this MOU is being updated to reflect current conditions and expectations for federal funding across the region.

Discussion/Analysis:

Staff is recommending that the board adopt a resolution annually designating those board members who serve on public transit boards as transit representatives for the purposes of complying with federal law. To better inform the public, our website also shows which SACOG board members also serve on local transit agency boards: <https://www.sacog.org/about/board-of-directors>.

To complement this, staff is also recommending that the board support the development of an updated MOU between SACOG and transit operators to fulfill federal requirements and outline the roles of every party in the planning, programming, funding, and oversight of federal transit activities. This MOU will not only provide stronger definitions of the parties involved in the agreement but also provides more clarity on aspects such as roles within our funding allocations (including revisions to the earned share component of the FTA's 5307 and 5339 programs) and a larger role for the Transit Coordinating Committee (TCC). Discussions with the transit operators will continue through April and May, with a goal of developing a Transit Coordinating Committee charge to be adopted by the board of directors in summer 2025, and an MOU being completed, adopted, and signed by early fall 2025.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact.

List of Attachments:

Transit Representation Resolution