

Megaregion Working Group Meeting Notes

Friday, September 29

12:30-2:30 p.m. meeting held via Zoom with public participation available throughout

Next Meeting

o Friday, January 26, 2024

Meeting Agenda

- The Megaregion's Zero Emission Transit Transition
- Megaregion Funding Update
- Look Ahead to 2024
- Rotate Megaregion Working Group Chair and Vice-Chair
- Save the Dates" for 2024 Megaregion Working Group Meetings

Working Group Representatives in Attendance

SACOG Representatives: Bonnie Gore, Gary Bradford, Paul Joiner, Mike Kozlowski

MTC Representatives: Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Nate Miley, James Spering

SJCOG Representatives: Gary Singh, Robert Rickman, Nancy Young, Leo Zuber

Meeting Summary

This was the third and final meeting of the Megaregion Working Group in 2023, with the focus of the meeting on focusing on the transition to zero emission vehicles for transit. A panel of speakers from across the Megaregion presented on the challenges, opportunities, costs, and partnerships related to navigating this transition successfully.

The Working Group celebrated full funding awards for Megaregion Dozen projects, including two MTC supported projects and one SACOG project, the Capitol Corridor Sacramento-Roseville Third Track Phase 1. The Working Group then turned to formal items closing out 2023, including a look ahead to 2024, rotating chair and vice chair, and approving dates for the three meetings in 2024.

Welcome and Framing Remarks

Chair Gore provided background on the Megaregion Working Group's focus areas for 2023 and the interest in zero emission vehicles. This meeting focused specifically on the zero emission for transit issue given state regulations to transition to a 100-percent zero-emission bus fleet and upcoming funding opportunities. James Corless noted the latest innovation in technology in the space, including the feasibility of hydrogen fuel cells.

James Corless also provided an update on the Megaregion Zero Emission Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Study, which SACOG is leading the study in partnership with SJCOG and MTC. The Study will help to identify locations for up to 15 Direct-current fast chargers (DCFC) and/or hydrogen fueling stations to enable zero-emission freight, goods movement, and transit. SACOG staff plan to present recommendations at a future Megaregion Working Group meeting.

The Megaregion's Zero Emission Transit Transition

The first presenter was Craig Bosman at MTC, who presented on the Bay Area Zero Emission Transit Transition Strategy Update. This included an overview of the operators throughout the region and the status of their transition and opportunities for partnership and funding. The next set of presenters from the Sacramento Region partnered on presenting the "Solving the Zero Emission Puzzle"- Sacramento ZEV Transition. Anthony Adams at Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) kicked off the group presentation by providing an overview of the SacRT operations and fleet, the planning work they have undertaken, and the electrical capacity needs, including the feasibility of hydrogen. Evan Speer at Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) then described the process for supporting SacRT, including grid planning, collaboration, and incentives. Raef Porter at Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) concluded this presentation by describing the regional strategy, the costs of the transition, and the charging network design.

Wil Ridder at Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (Valley Link) presented next on the Valley Link Hydrogen Vision. This included an overview of the project, the hydrogen zero emission vehicle technology, and their efforts to work with a firm and the City of Tracy to develop a hydrogen production facility for future train operations. Adam Hansen at Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority presented on the NextGen Transit Facility to support their transition to zero emission vehicles. This included the existing facility constraints, their planning work to identify their new site, and the opportunities for solar and possibly hydrogen generation on-site.

Megaregion Funding Update

Megaregion staff presented the funding update on Megaregion Dozen projects. This included an overview of the projects funded by the SB-1 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), including full funding awards to I-80 Westbound Truck Scales Replacement, awarded \$129 million, and Port of Oakland Green Power Microgrid, awarded \$42 million. MTC staff will present on two new Megaregion Dozen projects to adopt at a future Megaregion Working Group Meeting.

Capitol Corridor: Sacramento-Roseville Third Track Phase 1 was awarded full funding from two awards, including \$25 million from the SB-1 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), and \$42.5 million from the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program.

Look Ahead to 2024

SJCOG Executive Director Diane Nguyen provided an update on priorities for 2024, which include continued strategic support for the Megaregion Dozen projects. Diane Nguyen proposed holding the second annual Megaregion Lobby Day in Sacramento in 2024, recognizing the success of the first meeting in April 2023. Finally, potential topics in 2024 include updates on the MTC and SACOG roadway pricing studies, coordinated planning, and the Megaregion ZEV study.

Rotate Megaregion Working Group Chair and Vice-Chair

The Megaregion Working Group approved the action to rotate the position of Megaregion Working Group Chair and Vice Chair to SJCOG and MTC, respectively, for 2024. The Chair and Vice Chair will be nominated at the first meeting on January 26, 2024.

Save the Dates” for 2024 Megaregion Working Group Meetings

The Megaregion Working Group approved “Save the Dates” for Megaregion Working Group meetings in 2024:

- Friday, January 26, 2024, from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm;
- Friday, April 26, 2024, from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm; and
- Friday, September 27, 2024, from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm.