



Supplemental Report

DATE: September 28, 2017

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director
David Chan, Programming and Legislation Manager

SUBJECT: MTC's Proposed Conditions on STIP Funds (Action), Agenda Item No. 12

RECOMMENDATION

Seek input from the TAM Board on MTC's proposal to impose housing requirements on the use of STIP funds by CMAs. Consider the following:

BACKGROUND

- TAM fully recognizes the need for low- and moderate-income housing around the Bay Area.
- TAM has focused in the last several years on moving workers in and out of Marin County with local funds invested in the Richmond Bridge corridor, the Marin Sonoma Narrows, Highway 37, study of park-and-ride lots for express and local bus service, and funding the first-and-last mile access needs of our SMART train.
- TAM has utilized STIP funds over the past 20 years on major improvements to our highway network that addressed regional needs and enable workers to move in and out of Marin.

PRINCIPLES

- It may be a false assumption that constraining our use of STIP funds will incentivize the production of housing. Since our STIP funds are wholly dedicated over the last 20 years to regionally significant projects and we intend to continue that investment, the potential damage in our ability to address the transportation needs of our businesses and residents is a very high risk.
- TAM recognizes that low- and moderate-income housing is in short supply. TAM strongly supports MTC's programs to incentivize, through loans and land purchases, the production of very low-, low- and moderate-income housing.
- TAM requests MTC give upcoming efforts a chance to address the housing shortfall before it constrains our use of our state gas tax funds, including the upcoming statewide housing bond, SB 2, as approved by the legislature recently and the investments enabled by SB1 as well.
- MTC and ABAG should consider other ways to support housing production other than conditioning our state gas tax funds.
- TAM supports further discussion with MTC on expanding their existing loan and land purchase programs.
- If any county wants to screen its programming of STIP funds to jurisdictions producing housing, that should be clearly established as that county's option to do so.
- TAM cannot support any constraint to applying our state gas tax funds that has the potential to damage our local economy by preventing investment that addresses transportation needs.