

**THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO. : 10.7**

**SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**DIVISION:** Office of the SFMTA Board of Directors

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

Approving the issuance of Muni transit passes at no cost to be used by registered transportation attorneys and other attendees of the scheduled 53rd Annual Workshop on Transportation Law sponsored by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) to be held in San Francisco on July 13-16, 2014.

**SUMMARY:**

- San Francisco is the site for TRB's 53rd Annual Workshop on Transportation Law, which is expected to attract approximately 125-150 lawyers and other attendees from federal, state, and local agencies and the private sector who work in all areas of transportation law.
- It is customary for the local transit system to provide a transit pass, at no cost, to all registered workshop participants.
- Attendees would be able to ride on the SFMTA's public transit systems beginning on Sunday, July 13, 2014, through Wednesday, July 16, 2014.

**ENCLOSURES:**

1. SFMTAB Resolution

**APPROVALS:**

**DATE**

DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_

June 12, 2014

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

June 12, 2014

**ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE:** June 24, 2014

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### **PURPOSE**

To provide a transit pass for use on Muni at no cost for attendees of TRB's 53rd Annual Workshop on Transportation Law, scheduled to be held in San Francisco on July 13-16, 2014.

### **GOAL**

This recommendation is consistent with the SFMTA Strategic Plan Goal 2: Make transit, walking, bicycling, taxi, ridesharing and carsharing the preferred means of travel.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The (TRB) is one of six major divisions of the National Research Council— a private, nonprofit institution that is the principal operating agency of the National Academies in providing services to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities. The National Research Council is jointly administered by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. TRB's varied activities annually engage more than 7,000 engineers, scientists, and other transportation researchers and practitioners from the public and private sectors and academia, all of whom contribute their expertise in the public interest by participating on TRB committees, panels, and task forces. The program is supported by state transportation departments, federal agencies including the component administrations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, and other organizations and individuals interested in the development of transportation.

Each year, TRB sponsors a workshop on transportation law, and each year the location changes giving different cities the opportunity to host these workshops. The 2014 workshop will be held in San Francisco at the Fairmont Hotel. It was last held in San Francisco in 2002. It is anticipated that approximately 125-150 transportation attorneys and other transportation professionals will attend.

It is customary for the local transit system to provide a transit pass, at no cost, to all registered attendees of TRB conferences and workshops. This pass would allow free transit on all Muni vehicles from July 13-16, 2014.

If approved, either a pass will be designed or we will use the conference badge as the pass. Staff would receive notice of this pass as "proof of payment."

### **PUBLISHED NOTICE**

In order to provide public transit for free, the SFMTA Board's Rules of Order, Section 10 Meetings for the Revision of Rates, Charges, Fares, Fees and Fines states "Before adopting or revising any schedule of rates, charges, fares fees or fines, the Board shall publish in the official newspaper of the City and County for five days notice of its intention to do so and shall fix the time for a public hearing or hearings thereon, which shall be not less than fifteen days after the last publication of said notice, and at which any person may present his or her objection to or views on the proposed schedule of rates, fare or charges."

Pursuant to Charter Section 16.112 and the Rules of Order for the SFMTA Board of Directors, advertisements were placed in the City's official newspaper to provide notice of the public hearing. The Board's Rules of Order require that advertisements run for at least five days and not less than fifteen days prior to any public hearing. In compliance with this requirement, the advertisements ran in the San Francisco Chronicle beginning on June 4, 2014 for the June 24, 2014 hearing.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Modifications to the SFMTA's fare schedule are subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA provides a statutory exemption from environmental review for the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring or approval of rates, tolls, and other charges pursuant to California Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(8) and CEQA implementing guidelines, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations section 15273, if these rates, tolls, and other charges will be used to meet operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, or purchase or lease supplies, equipment, or materials.

Under the authority granted by the Planning Department, SFMTA staff has determined that the proposed free transit service from July 13-16, 2014, as discussed in this calendar item, is statutorily exempt from environmental review under the above-cited provisions.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

The SFMTA Board could choose to not provide transit passes to attendees. Not providing a transit pass to attendees would be a departure from past practice for the SFMTA.

### **FUNDING IMPACT**

The Director of Finance and Information Technology indicates that providing passes for these events would have minimal impact on fare revenues.

### **OTHER APPROVALS RECEIVED OR STILL REQUIRED**

No other approvals are necessary.

The City Attorney has reviewed this calendar item.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the issuance of transit passes at no cost to attendees of TRB's 53rd Annual Workshop on Transportation Law to be held in San Francisco from July 13-16, 2014.

SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Every year, the Transportation Research Board (TRB) holds a Workshop on Transportation Law; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has been selected as the site for the 2014 Workshop, with approximately 100 transportation attorneys and other professionals expected to attend; and,

WHEREAS, It is customary for the host transit system to provide a transit pass, at no cost, to all registered participants to use during their stay in the host city; and

WHEREAS, The Director of the Finance and Information Technology Division indicates that providing passes for the Workshop would have minimal impact on fare revenues; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Charter Section 16.112 and the Rules of Order of the Board of Directors, an advertisement was placed in the City's official newspaper that provided notice of the public hearing; said advertisement ran for at least five days and not less than 15 days prior to the public hearing; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 10 of the SFMTA Rules of Order and Charter Section 16.112, a duly noticed public hearing was conducted on June 4, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA, under the authority granted by the Planning Department, has determined that the proposed free transit service is statutorily exempt from environmental review under California Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(8) and CEQA implementing guidelines, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations section 15273, since these rates, tolls, and other charges will be used to meet operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, or purchase or lease supplies, equipment, or materials; and,

WHEREAS, Said CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and is incorporated herein by this reference; now, therefore be it;

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors revises the Municipal Railway's fare schedule to provide a transit pass at no cost to registered transportation attorneys and other attendees of TRB's 53rd Annual Workshop on Transportation Law scheduled to be held in San Francisco on July 13-16, 2014.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of June 24, 2014.

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Secretary to the Board of Directors  
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency