

# AB 57 (BEALL)

## METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)

### REAPPORTIONMENT

#### THE ISSUE

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission was created by the State Legislature in 1970 to coordinate transportation planning and funding for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. MTC's governance structure has served the region well for the last 40 years. However, with significant changes in population, the time has come to modify the board's structure so that it provides representation for the Bay Area's three largest cities — San Jose, San Francisco and Oakland.

As the Bay Area works to implement the requirements of Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg), 2008, a focus on development within the existing urban core and near public transit is imperative. A strong partnership with the cities of Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco is essential.

#### BACKGROUND

There are 16 voting members and 3 non-voting members on the 19-member commission. Seats are distributed as follows: The five largest counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara) each have two members, and the four smaller counties (Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma) have one member each. In addition, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) each have one voting seat, appointed by each of the organization's governing board. The three non-voting members representing the State Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

#### SOLUTION

AB 57 will increase the number of members on the commission from 19 to 21. The counties receiving an extra seat are appointed by

the Mayor of the City of Oakland and the Mayor of San Jose, adding an extra seat for Alameda and Santa Clara County. This law would also limit Santa Clara County and Alameda County to no more than three seats each.

These three cities each deserve a seat on MTC, as illustrated by these key facts:

- They are by far the largest Bay Area cities in terms of both population and households.
- They will each play a leading role in the Bay Area's efforts to comply with the state's greenhouse gas reduction requirements.
- They are the only three Bay Area cities with an international airport or with a significant seaport.
- Their combined total of 1.2 million workers represents one-third of the entire Bay Area workforce.
- Their combined total of 183,000 daily transit commuters represents more than 50 percent of all transit commuters in the Bay area as a whole.

#### PRIOR OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION

None

#### SPONSORS/SUPPORTERS & OPPOSITION

**Sponsor:** Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
County of Santa Clara  
Contra Costa Transportation Authority

**Opposition:** San Francisco County Transportation Authority

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Ryan Pessah**, Legislative Consultant,  
Assembly Member Jim Beall, Jr.  
Ryan.pessah@asm.ca.gov  
916.319.2024