Subject

Adopt CEQA determination and adopt Metropolitan’s Proposed Facilities Naming Policies and Procedures

Executive Summary

This Board letter outlines a policy of approved criteria and procedures to name or rename Metropolitan facilities.

Details

Background

Pursuant to Administrative Code section 2310, the ad hoc Facilities Naming Committee (committee) was established on November 17, 2017, to undertake the special assignment of advising the Board on the naming and renaming of Metropolitan facilities. The committee first met on February 27, 2018, and then again on June 26, 2018, to consider criteria and procedures that would provide consistency in evaluating requests to name and rename Metropolitan facilities for an individual, group of individuals or organization.

Many of Metropolitan’s existing and new facilities, buildings, structures, additions, water infrastructure facilities and systems, roads and significant open spaces are named for individuals or their geographic location. The proposed policy principle would establish approved criteria and procedures to evaluate naming and renaming facilities in the future with the following primary criteria:

a. Substantial, important and positive impact upon Metropolitan as a member of its Board or staff
b. Personal achievements of the highest distinction in a public service role, while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to Metropolitan
c. Names that have historical or regional significance to the facility or location, ordinarily not for living persons

Metropolitan has sole discretion in whether to name a facility and name chosen.

The proposed policy principle outlines naming and renaming criteria and procedures, the role of the committee in evaluating naming and renaming requests, the Board’s authority to review the committee’s recommendation and make a final decision, and the role of the General Manager in implementing the Board’s decision (Attachment 1).

Policy

By Minute Item 51004, dated November 14, 2017, the Board established the creation of the Facilities Naming special committee

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21065, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378) because the proposed action will not cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and involves continuing administrative activities such as general policy and procedure making (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA
Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed action is not defined as a project under Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Sections 15378(b)(2) and 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required.

**Board Options**

**Option #1**

Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project and is not subject to CEQA, and

Adopt the proposed Metropolitan Facilities Naming Policy Principle as a Board-Adopted Policy Principle

**Fiscal Impact:** None to implement the policy principle. There would be costs associated to implement naming and renaming decisions for facilities including new signage, as necessary

**Business Analysis:** Adoption of Metropolitan Facility Naming Policy Principle will provide approved criteria and procedures and support the ability of staff and the Board in evaluating naming and renaming requests.

**Option #2**

Take no action

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** Absence of approved criteria and procedures would hinder the ability of the Board and staff to respond to naming and renaming requests in a consistent manner.

**Staff Recommendation**

Option #1

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**Attachment 1 – Facilities Naming Policies and Procedures**

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