Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Administration Committee

June 10, 2026 **Agenda Item 3e-26-0706**

International Travel Requests: MTC staff participation in the International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Conference (ICSBOC) in Malmo, Sweden

Subject:

International travel requests for MTC staff participation in the International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Conference (ICSBOC) in Malmo, Sweden.

Background:

Pursuant to MTC Resolution No. 1058, Revised, this memorandum constitutes an internation travel request to the Administration Committee. As a reminder, the Commission revised the policies governing Commissioner and staff travel to require that three items be approved by, or reported to, this Committee:

1. International travel (outside the United States and Canada) must be approved in advance by this Committee at a regular public meeting.
2. All MTC-funded Commissioner travel must be disclosed in regular monthly reports to this committee.
3. On a quarterly basis, actual vs. budgeted travel expenditures must be reported to this Committee.

International Travel Requests:

The International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Association (ICSBOA) provides a forum for operators of large cable-supported bridges to share best practices and advance efficient bridge operations and maintenance worldwide. ICSBOA hosts the International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Conference (ICSBOC), its premier event for bridge owners, senior administrators, managers, and technical professionals to exchange knowledge on operations, maintenance, asset management, safety, and emerging technologies.

ICSBOC 2026 is the largest international forum dedicated exclusively to the cable-supported bridge community. International engagement is especially important for BATA toll bridges. For example, the San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge East Span, one of the longest self-anchored suspension bridges in the world, is part of a relatively small U.S. peer group. Of the world's longest suspension bridges, fewer than five are U.S.-owned, with the vast majority located in China, Japan, and Turkey, where owners manage dozens of long-span suspension and cable-stayed bridges with spans, traffic demands, and environmental conditions comparable to or exceeding those of the East Span. As a result, international bridge owners often lead in advanced inspection methods, structural health monitoring, and long-term asset management practices.

Participation in ICSBOC allows James Go and Waleed Aleadelat, Bay Area Toll Authority subject-matter experts in toll bridge operations, maintenance, and asset management, to learn from international counterparts managing comparable large-scale cable-supported bridges and to apply proven practices to long-term maintenance and capital planning in coordination with Caltrans. This participation supports MTC's goals of maintaining safe, reliable, and resilient bridge infrastructure while continuing BATA's role as an active global peer operator.

The event includes ICSBOA member-only workshops and a technical tour of the Öresund Bridge, providing practical insights into cable bridge operations, maintenance, and asset management that inform effective long-term investment and stewardship of critical bridge assets among other topics.

Travel costs for airfare, hotel, conference registration, and incidental expenses will be covered by BATA.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff recommends that the Committee authorize MTC staff James Go and Waleed Aleadelat, for international travel as described above and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside funds for this purpose.

Attachments:

- Request for Committee Approval – Summary of Proposed International Travel Request

Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed International Travel Request

Work Item No.:	1251
Staff:	James Go and Waleed Aleadelat
Travel Location:	Malmö, Sweden
Travel Dates:	September 11, 2026 through September 18, 2026.
Purpose of Travel	Participate in the International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Conference (ICSBOC 2026) to discuss international cable supported bridge operational matters relevant to Bay Area toll bridge assets.
Travel Cost Estimate:	$10,000
Funding Source:	Expenses covered by BATA
Fiscal Impact:	$10,000
Motion by Committee:	That MTC staff James Go and Waleed Aleadelat are authorized for international travel as described above and in the Administration Committee Summary Sheet dated June 10, 2026, and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside funds for this purpose.
Administration Committee:	
	Gina Papan, Chair
Approved:	June 10, 2026