

INTERIM SAN FRANCISCO BAY PORTS COMMISSION

ITEM 266 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 853
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Interim San Francisco Bay Ports Commission From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$11,721
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	54,000
Decrease (78.3 percent)	<u>\$42,279</u>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$11,721
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	11,721
Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

We recommend approval of the budget as submitted.

The sum of \$11,721 provides for support of the commission to September 30, 1953, only, as the provisions of the act creating the commission are to expire on that date.

The commission was created by Chapter 737, Statutes of 1951, for the purpose of conducting surveys and studies of the needs for a cooperative Bay area ports program with a view to securing greater commerce for the Bay area ports. Under the provisions of the act, the commission is required to report its findings and conclusions and recommendations to the Legislature at the 1953 Session.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT COMMISSION

ITEM 267 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 854
Budget line No. 7

For Support of San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit Commission From the General Fund

Amount budgeted	\$30,332
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	33,182
Decrease (8.6 percent)	<u>\$2,850</u>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$30,332
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	None
Reduction	\$30,332

ANALYSIS

Although the amount of the budget item for this commission is \$30,332, a balance of \$14,503 remaining from a special appropriation by Chapter 1760, Statutes of 1951, is also budgeted for expenditure in 1953-54, making a total expenditure of \$44,835, an increase of \$11,653 or 35.1 percent above estimated expenditures of \$33,182 in the current fiscal year.

The increase in expenditures is composed of the following, by categories:

	<i>Amount of increase</i>	<i>Budget page</i>	<i>Line No.</i>
Salaries and wages -----	\$500	854	43
Operating expense -----	12,488	854	60
Equipment -----	-1,335	854	63
Total increase -----	\$11,653		

The chief items of increase under operating expense are increases of \$4,800 for printing, \$3,000 for public information, \$3,374 for consultant fees, and \$1,314 in traveling expense.

Chapter 1239, Statutes of 1949, enacted enabling legislation for the creation of a San Francisco Bay Area Metropolitan Rapid Transit District. This district was authorized to be created within the area of the nine Bay Area counties. The act provided procedures for the creation of a rapid transit district and authorized all powers, including the power of taxation for the operation of rapid transit facilities. This act, however, has not as yet been put into effect in the Bay Area.

Chapter 1760, Statutes of 1951, created a San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit Commission composed of 26 members partly appointed by the Governor and partly appointed by the boards of supervisors in the Bay Area counties. This commission was authorized to study and investigate rapid transit problems of the San Francisco Bay Area. It was the primary purpose of this commission to make studies and perform other services which would facilitate the creation of an actual rapid transit district. The statute appropriated \$50,000 from the General Fund for this purpose and provided that the commission was to report to the 1953 Regular Session and that the commission would terminate on December 31, 1953, unless the commission by a two-thirds vote extended its life to a date not later than December 31, 1955.

Although the commission is expected to make a progress report to the present session of the Legislature, it is indicated that its work is not yet complete and that it will need at least an additional full year of activities at the same level as for 1952-53 in order to complete its studies. It is further indicated that the commission will propose legislation by which the State would appropriate approximately \$400,000 to support the development of a rapid transit plan for the Bay Area.

We recommend disapproval of the amount requested by the item, representing a saving of \$30,332. This would leave the commission the estimated balance of \$14,503 in order to complete its studies during the current year. We make these recommendations for the following reasons:

1. Although the problem of producing traffic and other necessary studies which would support the creation of a rapid transit district for the Bay Area is a problem difficult of solution, it is essentially a local problem which should be supported by local funds.

2. The State of California, through its general tax sources, has already assisted in the solution of this local area problem to the extent of \$50,000.

3. Since it has been indicated that other legislation will be introduced proposing support for a rapid transit plan in the Bay Area, and that a progress report will be made to the 1953 Legislature, we believe that this item should not be approved in its present form until the Legislature has more clearly determined the basic policy involved in support of this activity.