

SAMTRANS LIAISON REPORT

Regular and Special Meetings of March 2, 2022

BOARD ACTIONS

- Adopted a Resolution Making Findings that the Proclaimed State of Emergency for COVID-19 Continues to Impact the Board's and Committees' Ability to Meet Safely in Person
- Approved Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of February 2, 2022
- Accepted Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending January 31, 2022
- Accepted the Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2022
- Accepted the Quarterly Fuel Hedge Update
- Approved a Resolution Honoring National Women's History Month
- Authorized an Amendment to Contract #21-S-M-050 for the Purchase and Delivery of 17 Battery Electric Heavy-duty Low-floor Buses and 20 Depot Chargers, Increasing the Budget for the Express Bus Project by \$16,535,180, and Amending to Increase the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget to \$55,519,700
- Adopted the SamTrans Service Policy Framework
- Adopted the Reimagine SamTrans Final Plan, Approved the Associated Title VI Service Equity Analysis, and Adopted a Negative Declaration Under the California Environmental Quality Act

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- Carter Mau, Acting General Manager/CEO, introduced the 2021 award recipients:
 - The Operator of the Year award was presented to Albert Perez by Ana Rivas, Director of Bus Transportation.
 - The Mechanic of the Year award was presented to Long Lau by David Harbour, Director of Maintenance.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Community Relations Committee

Citizens Advisory Committee Update

Meredith Park, CAC Vice Chair, provided a summary of the February 23 meeting, noted that a number of the Committee members felt that the 101 Express Lanes project was not equitable. Director Charles Stone noted that the Managed Lanes project had been instituted by the State of California and suggested having a public website page that provides a background of the project and further explains the equity program.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

Adoption of Reimagine SamTrans Final Plan, Approval of the Associated Title VI Analysis, and Adoption of a Negative Declaration Under the California Environmental Quality Act

Christy Wegener, Director of Planning, introduced Millie Tolleson, Manager, Strategic Planning, who provided the presentation. Committee Member Jeff Gee requested that Ms. Wegener share what the purpose of Title VI is. Ms. Tolleson said Title VI is designed to

protect the low-income and minority populations against being disproportionately or negatively impacted. Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, said that Title VI is a federal requirement, and any changes abide by it to ensure that the affected populations are not disproportionately affected. Chair Peter Ratto commended staff on the broad amount of work and outreach that went into the plans and their compliance with Title VI. Director Charles Stone noted that some underprivileged riders living in more affluent areas would be negatively impacted by the changes. He encouraged schools and school districts to communicate with the District about bell schedules. The Board members commended staff on their outreach and engagement efforts, especially given the pandemic.

Update on Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Transit Network Management (TNM) Business Case and Fare Coordination and Integration

Mr. Mau and Ms. Wegener provided the presentation. The directors had comments about the regional fare integration pilot project and the transit network manager business case study. Director Josh Powell asked if more riders are expected to make multi-agency trips. Ms. Wegener said they are studying if travel behavior changes with integrated fares.

Legislative Committee

State and Federal Legislative Update and Approval of Legislative Proposals: Support AB 2197 (Mullin) and SB 942 (Newman)

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, briefly summarized the highlights of recent federal and state legislation. She said that they expected to have an omnibus package soon and are anticipating a State transportation program by the summer. The directors voted to approve support of the two bills:

- AB (Assembly Bill) 2197, which would provide \$260 million from the State's general fund to help fund and close the gap for the Caltrain electrification project.
- SB (Senate Bill) 942 regarding a low-carbon transit operations program that would allow for a free or reduced fare transit program and give transit agencies the flexibility to use the carbon transit operation program to fund current projects as well as help with longer-term benefits for free youth ridership programs in the future.