

SamTrans Liaison Report

Meeting of May 4, 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 April 6, 2022
- Accepted Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending March 31, 2022
- Accepted Quarterly Investment Report - Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook
- Awarded Contracts to Provide Real Estate and Other Legal Services
- Amended a Contract with MV Transportation for Contracted Shuttle Services
- Adopted a Resolution Honoring Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month
- Approved a Proclamation Declaring May as Older Americans Month
- Appointed Christopher Carey, Representing Community Riders, to the Citizens Advisory Committee
- Adopted a Resolution Expressing a Willingness and Desire to Contribute Funds to the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Caltrain Capital Budget
- Approved a motion to retain the services of Krauthamer & Associates, Inc., to recruit a new General Manager/CEO

Board Highlights

- Chair Peter Ratto noted the passing of Norman Mineta, former US Secretary of Transportation, and that this meeting would be adjourned in his honor. Director Rose Guilbault provided a retrospective on Secretary Mineta's public service career.
- April Chan, Acting Deputy General Manager/CEO, announced the upcoming SamTrans Board virtual workshop would take place on Friday, May 27.

Committee Discussion Highlights

Community Relations Committee

Monthly Performance Report – March 2022

Committee Chair Rose Guilbault asked how SamTrans compared with other transit agencies in terms of DNOs (Did Not Operate). David Olmeda, Chief Operating Officer, Bus, said while the DNO number is high, in reality, the percentage of DNOs as compared to completed trips is very small and the District is doing better than many other transit agencies. Vice Chair Josh Powell requested that future performance reports show a comparison to pre-pandemic levels.

Finance Committee

Preliminary Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets

Grace Martinez, Acting Chief Financial Officer, provided the presentation. Committee Chair Marina Fraser asked if the Board could receive a monthly update on operator numbers needed to implement Reimagine SamTrans. Ms. Chan said they will present an update on Reimagine implementation at the June 1 Board meeting and that there would regular updates on this information. Committee Member Jeff Gee asked about a line item regarding contributing funds to JPB (Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board for Caltrain). Ms. Chan said the TA (San Mateo County Transportation Authority) has historically provided funding for the JPB. She said that the capital dollars needed from San Mateo for Caltrain are to come from the TA, which is why it was not included in the District's budget. Vice Chair Powell asked if surpluses are funded from the prior year's surplus, which Ms. Martinez confirmed. Director Charles Stone asked about paying down debt. Ms. Martinez said they are focusing on addressing unfunded obligations. She said at the upcoming workshop they will be discussing the financial sustainability of the District.

Adoption of a Resolution to Express a Willingness and Desire to Contribute Funds to the Fiscal Year 2023 Caltrain Capital Budget

Ms. Chan presented the staff report. Director Stone asked if VTA (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority) and SFMTA (San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency) had voted regarding their willingness to contribute to Caltrain funding. Ms. Chan said that at this time, Caltrain staff had talked with VTA and SFMTA staff about providing funding for the Caltrain capital budget, and the staff at the agencies have responded positively and are in continued conversations to locate funding sources. Committee Member Gee asked if there was still a funding gap for the State of Good Repair, which Ms. Chan confirmed. Director Stone said he was hopeful that Caltrain would be able to provide consistent and reliable service with the help of partner agencies.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

El Camino Real Bus Speed and Reliability Study - Draft Recommendations

Gwen Buckley, Senior Planner, provided the presentation. Director Stone requested to have staff to conduct vigorous outreach to staff and councilmembers of cities on having dedicated bus lanes. Committee Member Gee said he looked forward to the District providing driver education training regarding bus queue jumps on El Camino Real. Chair Peter Ratto commended all the options for speeding up the bus traffic.

Legislative Committee

State and Federal Legislative Update

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, briefly summarized the highlights of recent federal and state legislation. She said the federal appropriations process is underway. She said that SamTrans would be applying for programs such as the low and no-emissions bus program. She said at the state level, a transportation package has just been released - \$20 billion by the Senate, which does not include funding for High-Speed rail and the free fare program. She said that the May revise coming out later would have more projections on the available budget surplus. Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, summarized bills that

the District is currently following. Committee Member Carole Groom asked why they were looking at a possibly changing fares since Reimagine SamTrans opted to keep fares stable.

Ms. Epstein said that she had heard that a proposed state bill would mandate that all transportation agencies provide free fares to everyone under 25 for a five-year pilot, adding that she did not know if it would require SamTrans to change its fare structure.

Closed Session

There was one closed session regarding retaining the services of a firm to recruit a new General Manager/CEO. The Board reconvened into open session and made a motion to approve the recruiting firm K&A (Krauthamer & Associates, Inc.) as recommended by the General Manager/CEO Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee.