

**San Mateo County Transportation Authority
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California**

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Minutes**

April 5, 2022

Members Present: B. Arietta (Chair)*, D. Bautista (left at 6:03 pm), A. Chen (joined at
(Via Teleconference) 4:44 pm and left at 5:35 pm), K. Chin, J. Fox (Vice Chair), R. Hedges,
K. Kuklin, S. Lang, J. Londer, P. Ohtaki, D. Reed (joined at 5:06 pm),
M. Rendon

Members Absent: N. Hsu

Staff Present: P. Skinner, A. Chan, A. Linehan, J. Williams, J. Brook

* Vice Chair John Fox chaired the meeting in place of Chair Barbara Arietta due to the technical considerations of conducting the meeting via teleconference.

1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair John Fox called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Roll Call

CAC Secretary Jean Brook called the roll. A quorum was present.

3) Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments.

4) Consent Calendar

a) Approval of Minutes of the CAC Meeting of March 1, 2022

TA Board Meeting Agenda for April 7, 2022

b) TA Board Item 5 (a) Adoption of 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

c) TA Board Item 5 (c) Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending February 28, 2022

d) TA Board Item 5 (d) Acceptance of Measure A and Measure W Semiannual Program Status Report

e) TA Board Item 5 (e) Authorize Execution of Master Agreement and Program Supplements for State-Funded Transit Projects

Motion/Second: Hedges/Arietta

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Hsu, Reed

5) TA Board Item 5 (b) Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of March 3, 2022

There were no comments.

6) TA Board Item 10 (a) Program and Allocate Measure W Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Funds for the Safe Routes to School Grant Program

Jennifer Williams, Administrative Analyst II, presented the staff report.

Theresa Vallez-Kelly, Coordinator, Safe Routes to School, San Mateo County Office of Education, provided a background of the Safe Routes to School program.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Arietta

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Abstentions: Chin

Absent: Chen, Hsu, Reed

7) TA Board Item 10 (b) Measure W Citizens' Oversight Committee Report for Fiscal Year 2020 and Annual Audit of Measure W Funds for Fiscal Year 2021

Grace Martinez, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, provided the presentation.

An Chen joined the meeting at 4:44 pm.

Peter Ohtaki said he was pleased that there was a clean, unmodified audit.

Rich Hedges asked how the Measure W income for 2021 compares with earlier projections. Ms. Martinez said she did not have that information at hand but said there was an uptick from the previous year. Mr. Hedges asked if there was \$7.5 million for bicycle/pedestrian (bike/ped) projects. Peter Skinner, Director, Grants and Fund Management, said he would find out what the amount of funds would be for that category in the next call for projects. Vice Chair Fox asked what the next bike/ped call for projects submission date would be and Mr. Skinner said it would be in August 2022. Ms. Martinez said that the dollar amount distributed for bicycle was \$4,415,000 for Fiscal Year 2020.

8) TA Board Item 11 (a) Upcoming Funding Opportunities and TA Strategy

Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, and Mr. Skinner provided the presentation.

Dave Reed joined the meeting at 5:06 pm.

Mr. Ohtaki commended staff on taking advantage of the federal infrastructure bill. He asked if the Dumbarton Rail project would be eligible for funding in light of Seamless Bay Area. April

Chan, Acting Deputy General Manager/CEO, said that Dumbarton Rail has currently been put on hold and put in Tier 2 of Plan Bay Area 2050. She said that MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) funding will be directed towards projects that are in a more advanced state of readiness. Mr. Hedges noted some historical facts about funding the Dumbarton project.

Chair Arietta asked if people working from home and not commuting affected the Dumbarton schedule. Ms. Chan said staff still considered the link between the Peninsula and East Bay is crucial. Vice Chair Fox asked if funding for smaller, yet important projects would be available. Mr. Skinner said it would be difficult to tell until future notices of funding opportunities are released. Ms. Epstein said they requesting all project sponsors be aware of funding opportunities.

9) TA Board Item 11 (b) State and Federal Legislative Update and Approval of Legislative Proposals: Support Senate Bill (SB) 922 (Wiener) and Assembly Bill (AB) 1944 (Lee)

Amy Linehan, Government and Community Affairs Officer, provided a summary of federal and state legislation. She said the Senate approved the omnibus appropriations bill, which the President signed on March 19. She said it provided \$100 billion for transportation. She said that staff is now working on 2023 earmarks. She said the President released his 2023 budget request of \$5.8 trillion, which includes \$1.6 trillion in discretionary funds, \$769 billion of which is for non-defense spending. She said the Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2023 budget is \$105 billion.

She said on the state side, the Governor announced a package to offset high gasoline prices and an incentive grant for local transit agencies to provide free transit.

She said they were requesting CAC support for Senate Bill (SB) 922, a CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) exemption bill to help move local projects forward. She said that Assembly Bill (AB) 1944, is a public meetings bill that addresses changes to rules regarding teleconferencing, and responded to questions about the bill from for Sandra Lang.

An Chen left the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Dave Reed asked why the CEQA exemption was being proposed. Ms. Linehan said the bill would provide more flexibility in the CEQA process.

Vice Chair Fox said he would take a separate motion for support on each of the bills.

AB 1944 (Teleconferencing):

Motion/Second: Reed/Arietta

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Hsu

SB 922 (CEQA Exemption):

Motion/Second: Hedges/Bautista

Ayes: Bautista, Chin, Hedges, Kuklin, Ohtaki, Rendon

Noes: Arietta, Lang, Londer, Reed

Abstentions: Fox

Absent: Chen, Hsu

10) Report of the Chair

Chair Arietta said that Caltrain approved a proposal for governance at their March 3 Board meeting. She provided details of the proposed agreement, which will require approval from Caltrain's member agencies.

11) Report From Staff

Mr. Skinner noted that the TA is releasing the first ACR/TDM (Alternative Congestion Relief/Traffic Demand Management) call for projects with \$4 million in funds. He also noted that they are anticipating releasing \$17 million in bike/ped funding on August 4, 2022, thanks to Measure W.

Diana Bautista left the meeting at 6:03 pm.

12) Member Comments/Requests

Mr. Hedges said the issue of homeless people living in transit stations needs to be addressed.

Ken Chin noted that he had been on the committee for Safe Routes to School since 2017. He suggested that it would be beneficial to have a discussion at a future CAC meeting about success metrics and summarize how and where the TA spends its money on all programs.

Mr. Reed commented that it was important to measure success by setting criteria for identifying important projects and processes and the return on investment.

Ms. Lang said there was a need to measure success in qualitative terms. Mr. Skinner suggested that question be a future agenda item. Mr. Hedges suggested comparing project performance to the current Strategic Plan.

13) Date, Time, and Place of Next Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Fox announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 4:30 pm, with teleconference or location details to be provided prior to the meeting.

14) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.