

**Report from the TA Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting of August 3, 2021**

The TA CAC meeting held on August 3 was chaired by John Fox due to Chair Barbara Arietta's inability to access the Internet. Chair Arietta did participate by calling in from a landline.

The committee met online via a Zoom with TA staff. The CAC heard presentations and reviewed reports, and there were both informational items as well as agenda items requiring a motion with roll call vote.

CAC Item 5a (TA board 10a)- US 101 Express lanes Quarterly Update

Leo Scott, Consultant Project Manager for the TA, presented the recent status and progress on the Express Lanes project. The work is ongoing and there has been coordination with VTA regarding joint opening of the southern portion of these lanes. The southern portion of project is testing the tolling signage, tag reading equipment and overall operation. As of July, the project is 68% complete, it is ahead of the original schedule. The public outreach includes online materials, an email newsletter, and Leo keeps track of what materials are being viewed by the public.

Leo was proud to tell us the project achieved a Silver level award from the Institute of Sustainability. This is a first for a TA construction project. The project has been re-using the old paving materials, grinding them up and using them as part of the new surfaces. It also uses water management methods that reduce water use and manage runoff. There was discussion with the CAC that this kind of Sustainability award could be featured in the project newsletter, even as some sort of banner or visible part of the project web material. The sense was the public should know of this award.

CAC Item 5b (TA Board Item 10b) Program Report - Shuttles

Jennifer Williams, TA Administrative Analyst II, gave a presentation on the current state of the TA shuttle program. The ridership in the last year has been greatly reduced, which is not a surprise as the Caltrain and BART ridership is also down due to the COVID pandemic. This year 7 shuttle routes were suspended due to minimal ridership. It is anticipated the shuttle ridership will increase as the Caltrain and Bart ridership increases.

Because of the pandemic, the current year CFP cycle is being extended into the 21/22 CFP cycle. There was a CAC question on marketing surveys and methods to understand what factors are involved in the choice to use the shuttles.

CAC Item 5c (TA board item 10c) - San Mateo County Shuttle Study Update

Daniel Shockley, SamTrans Senior Planner, presented on a study of the current users, management and operations of shuttles in San Mateo County. The study identified four themes (Performance, Demand, Funding and Organization). One of the takeaways from this study is the existing shuttle system is not well-coordinated, with multiple management functions, multiple operational organizations and funding paths. The study suggests great value in centralizing contracts/management, funding sources, the CFP cycles, etc.

CAC Item 5e (TA board Item 12) - State and Federal Legislative Update

Ryan McCauley, Public Affairs Specialist, briefed the CAC on both Federal and State legislation in process. The big news is the federal infrastructure bill, and the impact it can have on transit needs. There are two bills in progress, one legislation requiring senate/house votes (requires bipartisan support), the other bill structured using the budget reconciliation process. Committee member Peter Ohtaki wondered how the TA might help coordinate funding for Caltrain grade crossings, and Dumbarton rail. Peter Skinner, Director of Grants and Fund Management, reported TA staff assists project sponsors in the review of potential funding plans and that Caltrain will be undertaking a Caltrain Grade Separation study. Committee member Ohtaki is concerned that projects won't be successful with more explicit TA and Board guidance/encouragement for these critical crossing needs.

CAC Item 5d - Information on Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending June 30, 2021

Vice-Chair Fox encouraged the CAC to examine the Statements and pass any questions to staff through Joe Hurley, Director of the TA Program.

TA item 5(a) Approval of Minutes of the Board of directors Meeting of July 1, 2021

There were no comments or suggested edits.

Approval of CAC Minutes from June 29, 2021

Minutes were approved unanimously.

CAC item 5d, TA board item 11(a) - Award of Contracts to provide On-Call General engineering Consultant Services

Kevin Yin, Director of Contracts and Procurement, reported on the results of the Request for Proposals (RFP) on general engineering consulting services, which generated over 100 replies. There were 6 qualified firms, of these, 3 have been selected as the best firms to be the general on-call engineering consultants. Contracts in this system are structured so each firm has their base rates for services. When there is a project need, these three firms bid to the TA as effort and \$ for a particular work package. As such, even being selected as one of the On-call Consultants doesn't guarantee the firm the award of any work package. The motion to award these three contracts passed unanimously.

CAC item 5(c)TA Board Item 11(b) -Reprogramming and Allocating \$1.35 Million in Measure A funds from Savings from the Environmental, Design and Construction Phases to the Landscaping Phase of the State Route 92/El Camino Real Interchange project

Arul Edwin, TA Project Manager, indicated the 92/El Camino Real interchange had unspent funds at the completion of the project and the City of San Mateo requested these unspent funds be allocated for landscaping needs on the 92/El Camino Real. The CAC voted unanimously to re-program the funds.

CAC Item5(e), TA board Item 5(b) - Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook for the Period Ending June 30, 2021

Committee member Peter Ohtaki raised questions on the situation with yields on bonds in the TA portfolio, and asked for a yield curve to be included in future reports. The Motion to accept the report passed unanimously. Vice-Chair Fox encouraged the CAC to examine the reports and pass any questions to staff through TA staff.

Report of the Chair

Chair Barbara Arietta provided information on the ongoing Bay Area 2050 re-visioning plan. Public comment on the draft Plan has just closed, and the comments are in review. The public is invited to a Webinar to hear from MTC/ABAG on the Bay Area 2050 Plan and public concerns. Details on the webinar

- Tuesday, August 17, 2021
- 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- Click this link to join the webinar: bayareametro.zoom.us/j/81320840694
- Or join by telephone: (408) 638-0968 or (877) 853-5247

Report from Staff

Peter Skinner, Director of Grants and fund Management, reported for the TA, with news on the almost- completion of the 25th Ave grade separation. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be scheduled, CAC are invited to participate. A CFP as part of the Short-Range Highway Plan will be released soon. The CFP will include \$100M in funding.

Report from Members

Vice-Chair Fox expressed thanks to all the meeting presenters, as well as Jean Brook, assistant District Secretary, for her consistent skill keeping the Zoom meeting running smoothly.

The meeting was adjourned, the next meeting will be August 31.

Submitted August 5, 2021

John D. Fox

TA CAC Vice Chair