

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

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

**May 3, 2022**

**Members Present:** B. Arietta (Chair)\*, A. Chen, K. Chin, J. Fox (Vice Chair), R. Hedges, N. Hsu,  
**(Via Teleconference)** S. Lang, J. Londer (left at 5:29 pm), M. Rendon

**Members Absent:** D. Bautista, K. Kuklin, P. Ohtaki, D. Reed

**Staff Present:** J. Hurley, P. Skinner, A. Chan, J. Epstein, 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 4:33 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 April 5, 2022**

**TA Board Meeting Agenda for May 5, 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 March 31, 2022**

**d) TA Board Item 5 (d) Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook**

**e) TA Board Item 5 (e) Award of Contracts to Provide Real Estate and Other Legal Services**

Chair Arietta said she supported #4b since San Mateo County had the highest COVID infection rate in the state. Sandra Lang requested to pull Item #4e from the Consent Calendar for further discussion. Ken Chin requested to pull Item #4a to note corrections.

The CAC made a motion to approve Items #4b-4d:

Motion/Second: Hedges (amended by Chen)/Arietta

Ayes: Arietta, Chen, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Lang, Londer, Rendon

Absent: Bautista, Kuklin, Ohtaki, Reed

Regarding Item #4a, Mr. Chin said that his comment under Member Comments/Requests regarding having a discussion at a future CAC meeting about success metrics and summarizing how and where the TA spends its money was in regard to all programs and not limited to the Safe Routes to School program.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Chen

Ayes: Arietta, Chen, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Lang, Londer, Rendon

Absent: Bautista, Kuklin, Ohtaki, Reed

Regarding Item #4e, Joe Hurley, TA Director, said that the contract provides for a bench of real estate and legal services to tap into should a conflict of interest arise with the TA's current legal counsel. Ms. Lang asked what the legal services would be and Mr. Hurley provided an example. Kevin Yin, Director, Contracts and Procurement, added that the go-to legal counsel is Hanson Bridgett and that the need to tap into the bench of other counsel would only occur if there was a conflict of interest. Vice Chair Fox asked if the TA had to pay a retainer regardless of whether services were used, and Mr. Yin said no.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Lang

Ayes: Arietta, Chen, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Lang, Londer, Rendon

Absent: Bautista, Kuklin, Ohtaki, Reed

#### **5) TA Board Item 5 (b) Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 7, 2022**

There were no comments.

#### **6) TA Board Item 10 (a) Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2023**

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

Mr. Hedges said that the voters had been very generous and applauded the Wayfair decision, which has resulted in an increase of sales tax revenue for San Mateo County.

Vice Chair Fox noted the stability of sales tax revenues in the county.

#### **7) TA Board Item 11 (a) San Mateo 101 Express Lanes Quarterly Project Update**

Leo Scott, Co-Project Manager, Gray-Bowen-Scott, provided the presentation. He noted that there had been issues regarding the installation of the fiber optic cable. Chair Arietta asked if the TA was the agency that was always responsible for paying for any damages. Mr. Scott said if the damage was done by anyone besides the contractors, then the project would be

responsible while it is still under construction and that if the damage was a result of contractors' work, then the contractor would be responsible. He added that the responsibility for repairs will ultimately be with the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA) once the toll lanes are operational.

Vice Chair Fox asked what were the best outreach methods. Mr. Scott said that his team would consider having such an evaluation.

Mr. Hurley said the marketing team is emphasizing to the public that they must have transponders to use the express lanes and that effort has proven effective as evidenced by an increase in the use of transponders.

Public Comment:

Drew noted that on the south section of the express lanes that several lights are out on the poles supporting the median signs. Mr. Scott said he would look into that.

Vice Chair Fox said he was looking forward to see the public acceptance of the project over time.

**8) TA Board Item 12 State and Federal Legislative Update**

Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, provided a summary of federal and state legislation.

She said there was a lack of funding for pandemic relief. She said the TA has made a request for earmarks for the 101/92 Area Improvement Project.

She said at the state level, they are looking to the May revision of the Governor's budget. She said both the Governor and the Senate had put out their own budgets, both of which have a lot of money for transportation. She provided an overview of bills that they are currently watching.

Mr. Hedges asked if the bill that supported reduction of greenhouse gases would be anti-highway. Ms. Epstein said CAPTI (Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure) projects support highways that included transit and other multimodal components.

Ms. Lang asked about the Governor's gas tax proposal. Ms. Epstein said there are a number of proposals, including a flat rebate. There is another proposal for all transit to provide three months of free fares. She said anything related to the gas tax is not fully agreed to in Sacramento.

*Jeff Londer left the meeting at 5:29 pm.*

**9) Report of the Chair**

Chair Arietta provided an update on the California High Speed Rail Project milestones, which included the completion of several major environmental reports.

**10) Report From Staff**

Mr. Hurley said applications due on May 27 for the ACR/TDM (Alternative Congestion Relief/Transportation Demand Management) call for projects. He said there had been a

successful ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 8 of the new South San Francisco Caltrain Station. He encouraged the members to provide feedback on the new TA website.

### **11) Member Comments/Requests**

Mr. Hedges said that the decision to have a future high-speed rail go to Las Vegas versus Southern California is likely in response to alleviating the traffic between Barstow and Las Vegas. He requested to hear further details about the equity program the next time the TA receives a report on the 101 Express Lanes. Chair Arietta said her husband was very pleased with Caltrain service.

### **12) Date, Time, and Place of Next Regular Meeting**

Vice Chair Fox announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 4:30 pm, with teleconference or location details to be provided prior to the meeting.

### **13) Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm.