

**San Mateo County Transportation Authority**  
**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California**  
**Minutes of July 7, 2022**

**Members Present:** R. Medina (Chair), D. Horsley  
**(In Person)**

**Members Present:** E. Beach, J. Mates, M. Nagales  
**(Via Teleconference)**

**Members Absent:** C. Groom, C. Romero (Vice Chair)

**Staff Present:** C. Mau, A. Chan, J. Cassman, S. van Hoften, P. Gilster, P. Skinner, C. Fromson, J. Brook, D. Seamans

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Rico Medina called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**

Dora Seamans, Authority Secretary, confirmed that a quorum was present. Chair Medina requested that Carter Mau, Acting General Manager/CEO, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

There were no comments.

**4. Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee**

Chair Medina noted that the report was posted on the website.

**5. Consent Calendar**

**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 – Approved by Resolution No. 2022-20**

**5.b. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of June 2, 2022**

**5.c. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending May 31, 2022**

**5.d. Program and Allocate \$4,330,880 In Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for the SamTrans Paratransit Program – Approved by Resolution No. 2022-21**

**5.e. Amend Transportation Authority Strategic Plan 2020-2024 Measure A and Measure W Pedestrian and Bicycle Program Match Requirements – Approved by Resolution No. 2022-22**

Motion/Second: Horsley/Beach

Ayes: Beach, Horsley, Mates, Medina, Nagales

Noes: None

Absent: Groom, Romero

## **6. Report of the Chair**

Chair Medina said that he had no report.

## **7. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report**

Chair Medina said that the report was posted on the website and provided a brief summary of SamTrans Board actions, which included voting to make the pilot Youth Unlimited program a permanent program. He also noted that SamTrans was testing a regional pass through MidPen Housing that can be used for any transit agency.

## **8. Report of the Executive Director**

Mr. Mau said that the report was in the packet. He highlighted from that report that the TA granted Measure W funding to the Safe Routes to School program. He then noted that the JPB held a special meeting on June 23 where they approved a draft Caltrain governance MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), which had also been approved by the SamTrans Board on June 21.

## **9. Program**

### **9.a. Alternative Congestion Relief and Traffic Demand Management Program Cycle 1 Call for Projects Draft Recommendations**

Patrick Gilster, Manager, Programming and Monitoring, provided the presentation.

Director Julia Mates asked for details on how the applications were recommended for funding. Mr. Gilster said that all 19 projects/programs that were submitted with funding requests were being recommended for funding.

## **10. Finance**

### **10.a. US 101 Express Lanes: Update on Variable Rate Bond and Phase 1 Operations**

April Chan, Acting Deputy General Manager/CEO, introduced Connie Mobley-Ritter, Director of Treasury, and Lacy Vong, Senior Product Manager, HNTB for the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA).

Ms. Mobley-Ritter provided the presentation on the \$100 million bond that the TA issued for the construction of the 101 Express Lanes project.

Director Emily Beach reminded the Board why the TA took out a loan, including the need to support the full funding of the 101 Express Lanes project and provide funding for equity strategies ahead of the project's full operation and revenue generation. She asked about the assumption of 2 percent interest rate during the three-year period. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said they projected out what they thought would be the maximum exposure for interest over the three-year period and arrived at the 2 percent figure.

Director Don Horsley asked how often the interest rate changes. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said they have two bonds; one that changes weekly and one that changes monthly.

Ms. Vong continued providing the presentation on the operation of the Express Lanes.

Director Mates said she felt reassured with the additional information presented. She suggested having future updates every two or three months and said that she would be interested to see if there would be more usage of the lanes once the northern portion opens.

Director Mark Nagales said he agreed with Director Mates on having more frequent updates on the revenues and interest rates.

Director Beach said the initial financial projections when staff presented the data from March 2020 showed toll revenues ranging from \$4 to 25 million. She said with only the southern segment open, the lanes are currently running at a deficit between revenues generated and expenses. Director Beach said that while interests for the capital loan are currently covered by bond proceeds in the next three years, she would like to know what happens if revenues continue to lag expenses beyond the three years. Ms. Chan responded that it is likely that the two member agencies of the JPA, the TA and C/CAG (City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County), will continue to provide operating loans for the JPA. She added that the TA would possibly take on a larger share as is occurring in the current fiscal year since C/CAG has financial constraint. She noted, however, that the JPA can adjust policy levers to tweak how much toll revenues are generated, which may help with balancing the amount of revenues generated to cover expenses but that more discussion would be needed with the JPA Board.

Director Beach said the express lanes have made the general purpose lanes perform better, but that the project still presents a financial risk.

**10.b. Approve Execution of a Third Amendment to the Cooperative Funding Agreement with the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority – Approved by Resolution No. 2022-23**

Grace Martinez, Acting Chief Financial Officer, presented the staff report.

Director Mates asked what the timing of the payback was. Ms. Martinez said she believed it was five years, but said that she would get back to her.

Director Beach said the project was indebted to the TA, which was able to get a favorable loan to fund the project.

Motion/Second: Beach/Horsley

Ayes: Beach, Horsley, Mates, Medina, Nagales

Noes: None

Absent: Groom, Romero

**10.c. Approval and Ratification of the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation Authority Insurance Program – Approved by Resolution No. 2022-24**

Ryan Hinchman, Director Financial Planning and Analysis, presented the staff report.

Motion/Second: Nagales/Beach

Ayes: Beach, Horsley, Mates, Medina, Nagales

Noes: None

Absent: Groom, Romero

## **11. State and Federal Legislative Update**

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, provided a summary of federal and state legislation.

She noted at the federal level, there was currently a recess. She said there might be another continuing resolution coming from the Senate.

She said at the state level, the Governor passed a transportation budget, including for high-speed rail. She said there was \$3.56 billion for capital projects statewide. She anticipated that Caltrain would be in a position to receiving a lot of state funding and would therefore not require money from the TA for PCEP (Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project).

Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, said they had been watching AB 1778, AB 2237, and SB 917.

## **12. Requests from the Authority**

There were no requests.

## **13. Written Communications to the Authority**

Chair Medina noted that the correspondence was available on the website.

## **14. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting**

Chair Medina announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, August 4, 2022, 5:00 pm in person at the SamTrans Auditorium and via Zoom teleconference.

## **15. Report of Legal Counsel**

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, said that there was nothing to report.

## **16. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at [www.smcta.com](http://www.smcta.com). Questions may be referred to the Authority Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to [board@smcta.com](mailto:board@smcta.com).