

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

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

November 29, 2022

**Members Present:
(In Person)** I. Bucio, J. Fox (Vice Chair), R. Hedges, S. Lang, G. Mattammal (joined at 4:38 pm), E. Mizzi, P. Ohtaki (joined in person at 4:53 pm)

**Members Present:
(Via Teleconference)** B. Arietta (Chair)*, D. Bautista, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, P. Ohtaki (left Zoom meeting at 4:53 pm), M. Swire (left at 7:34 pm)

Members Absent: K. Chin, D. Reed, M. Rendon

Staff Present: A. Chan, P. Skinner, P. Gilster, A. Linehan, K. Scribner, 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 Fox called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Jean Brook, CAC Secretary, called the roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments.

4. Consent Calendar

4.a. Approval of Minutes of the CAC Meeting of November 1, 2022

TA Board Meeting Agenda for December 1, 2022

4.b. TA Board Item 6.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, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Board and Committee Meetings to Continue

4.c. TA Board Item 6.c Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending October 31, 2022

4.d. TA Board Item 6.d Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2023

Motion/Second: Hedges/Mizzi

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bucio, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Mattammal, Mizzi, Ohtaki, Swire

Absent: Chin, Reed, Rendon

Gus Mattammal joined the meeting at 4:38 pm.

Sandra Lang had a question regarding Item #4.c, Page 35, on pothole repair. Peter Skinner, TA Executive Officer, responded that funds are provided per Measures A and W to the local jurisdictions. He said the local cities are then responsible for expending those funds on transportation projects, which may or may not include pothole repair; however, if a local agency's pavement condition falls below a certain level, they are required to expend Measure W funds on pavement maintenance.

TA Board Item 6.b Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of November 3, 2022

There were no comments.

5. TA Board Item 9.a Reallocation of Funds from Construction to Landscaping Phase of US 101 Express Lanes Project

Mr. Skinner presented the staff report.

Ethan Mizzi asked what the project consisted of. Mr. Skinner said plans included installing irrigation, repairing damaged irrigation. and replanting trees that had been removed along the corridor.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Arietta

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bucio, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Mattammal, Mizzi, Ohtaki, Swire

Absent: Chin, Reed, Rendon

6. TA Board Item 9.b Adoption of Pedestrian and Bicycle Program 2022 Cycle 6 Call for Projects Program

Patrick Gilster, Manager, Planning and Fund Management, presented the staff report.

Rich Hedges said he was pleased that the number of project applicants had increased over the years.

Ms. Lang said she was pleased that the cycle was moving forward.

Gus Mattammal asked why the Holly Street project was behind schedule. Mr. Gilster said the project was delayed due the Express Lanes construction and the need to identify additional funding after an Active Transportation Program grant expired. He said that TA staff were working closely with the City of San Carlos to address the increased costs resulting from delays on various projects.

Mike Swire said he supported funding as many projects as possible.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Lang

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bucio, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Mattammal, Mizzi, Ohtaki, Swire

Absent: Chin, Reed, Rendon

8. TA Board Item 10 2023 Draft Legislative Program

Amy Linehan, Government and Community Affairs Officer, reviewed the legislative program for the upcoming year.

Mr. Swire said he thought bike and ped issues should be a higher priority. Ms. Linehan said she would look how they could incorporate that into the program.

Mr. Mizzi asked for language regarding grade separations if they could mention adding additional tracks. Mr. Skinner said each grade separation is unique and there are specific locations where grade tracking and passing tracks are appropriate.

Peter Ohtaki said he appreciated that grade separations are being advocated. He asked if there any lobbying necessary to tap into funds for larger projects that would have a major impact on the County. Ms. Linehan said the Program has language that indicates that the TA will continue to look for anything coming out of the IIAJ (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) and other major organizations and competitively apply for funding.

Ms. Lang asked about equity. Ms. Linehan said that at the federal level, they had added equity as a priority for transportation projects, with a focus on first- and last-mile transit options.

Mr. Mizzi asked if there could be an ask at the federal level for support for electrification. Ms. Linehan said that there was an electrification category at the federal level.

Mr. Hedges asked if there was any more money available from high-speed rail for passing tracks. Mr. Skinner said he would need to get back to him with that information. Mr. Mizzi said he was concerned about having as many passing tracks as possible for the simultaneous running of both Caltrain and high-speed rail.

Vice Chair Fox noted that there had been pushback from communities about having four-tracking on the Peninsula and the “blended model” had been put forth as a compromise. He said that deviations from the blended model risked raising community opposition.

Mr. Hedges said that not having grade separations on the main arterials would lead to traffic delays, particularly with regard to the increased frequency of electrified trains.

9. TA Board Item 11 State and Federal Legislative Update

Ms. Linehan provided a summary of federal and state legislation.

On the federal side, she noted the leadership shifts in the Senate and Congress. She said a CR (continuing resolution) will run out on December 16.

She said on the state side, the new session will convene briefly on December 5, and then start in January.

Mr. Ohtaki asked what a deficit would mean at the state level in terms of transportation funding. Ms. Linehan said in that case that transportation is less likely to be a priority, and stressed the importance of aggressively seeking available funding.

10. Report of the Chair

10.a Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2023 Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Hedges, Mr. Mizzi, and Ivan Bucio volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Mizzi

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bucio, Fox, Hedges, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Mattammal, Mizzi, Ohtaki, Swire

Absent: Chin, Reed, Rendon

Mike Swire left the meeting at 7:34 pm.

Chair Arietta reported that she had attended an MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) webinar entitled The Future of Freeways on November 17 and recommended the other CAC members attend a future session. Gus Mattammal said he had attended an earlier session and that the general theme was making use of existing infrastructure rather than building more highways.

11. Report From Staff

Peter Skinner, Executive Officer, Transportation Authority, said his report was in the packet.

April Chan, Executive Director, on behalf of staff thanked the members for their dedication to and support of the TA.

12. Member Comments/Requests

Mr. Hedges said he had had a positive experience recently using the express lanes and said if used properly, the lanes will be cost-efficient for drivers.

Ms. Lang said she was concerned with pedestrian fatalities in the County.

The members expressed thanks to the TA staff for their hard work and support.

13. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Fox announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 4:30 pm via Zoom teleconference (additional location, if any, to be determined).

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at <https://www.smcta.com/about-us/board-directors/video-board-directors-cac-and-smcel-jpa>. Questions may be referred to the Authority Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to board@smcta.com.