

Report of the TA Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting of February 28, 2023

Committee Actions

- Approved the Minutes of the CAC Meeting of January 31, 2023

Motions Regarding TA Board Items for March 2, 2023

- Approved the Consent Calendar including:
 - Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending January 31, 2023
 - Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2023 Discussion Highlights
- Program and Allocate \$450,000 for the Development of the Regional Transit Connections Plan

Program Report: Redwood City Grade Separations

Jessica Manzi, Transportation Manager, City of Redwood City, provided the presentation. Peter Ohtaki asked if the Grade Separation study included consideration for possible future Dumbarton Rail integration. Ms. Manzi said there would be an opportunity to integrate the two projects if the Dumbarton Rail project does materialize. Vice Chair John Fox asked if the grade separations are wide enough to accommodate the four-track service or would they need to be reconfigured. Ms. Manzi indicated that the station area is configured for four tracks but not the entire corridor. Karen Kuklin asked how it impacted the Caltrain electrification. Ms. Manzi said that along with the elevated structure, all of the electrical catenaries would need to be rebuilt. Ken Chin asked if they were planning on connecting the bikeways. Ms. Manzi said they had received community feedback about having a bike/pedestrian crossing at Hopkins Avenue. Mr. Chin also asked if the Broadway Burlingame grade separation was coming up next. Peter Skinner, TA Executive Director, discussed the TA's historical pipeline of grade separation projects and indicated that the City of Burlingame's project is the furthest toward being shovel-ready for construction. Ethan Mizzi asked when the design report would be done. Ms. Manzi said the next phase would be a combined project study that would roll directly into the environmental phase, followed by detailed design work. Sandra Lang asked how the projects are prioritized. Ms. Manzi said that safety was one of the key criteria for ranking the projects.

Program and Allocate \$450,000 for the Development of the Regional Transit Connections Plan

Patrick Gilster, Director, Planning and Fund Management, provided the presentation. He noted that since this is a new project category, they were seeking to include full community engagement in addition to hearing from stakeholders. Mr. Chin asked if it was \$9 million per year, which Mr. Gilster confirmed. Gus Mattammal asked how much of the money goes to the consultants. Mr. Gilster said most of the money goes to consultants, primarily for the outreach component. Dave Reed asked if the consultants will present to the TA CAC, which Mr. Gilster confirmed. Mr. Reed asked if they would conduct outreach to local businesses. Mr. Gilster said

yes, that they actively seek out public-private partnerships both for projects and to provide input into the planning process. Mr. Ohtaki asked if there were any way to include the northern cities in Santa Clara County such as Palo Alto and Mountain View in the plan. Mr. Gilster said they would be working with the various county transportation agencies, including the Valley Transportation Authority which covers regionally significant transit services in those cities. Mr. Mizzi asked about funding smaller projects in advance of the planning effort that do not necessarily need much additional work on their own. Mr. Gilster said there is currently no way to evaluate the effectiveness of such projects in terms of the TA's funding scheme.

State and Federal Legislative Update

Amy Linehan, Government and Community Affairs Officer, provided a summary of federal and state legislation. At the federal level, she said Congress is getting off to a slow start and appear to be waiting for the President to release his budget on March 9. She said the TA is working to submit their earmark requests by the stated March deadlines. Ms. Linehan said the state has introduced a large number of bills, which the TA's lobbyists are currently working through to find bills the TA may want to take action on. She said the Governor announced a number of CTC (California Transportation Commission) appointments. Ms. Lang asked what kind of maneuverability happens in the budget revision process. Ms. Linehan said the revisions are based on advice from his advisors, not discussions in the legislature.

Report of the Chair

Chair Barbara Arietta said that she had received notice from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) advising the public that they are currently in the process of planning for transportation, housing, economic development, and environmental needs for the next three decades in the Bay Area. She said they had released their Draft 2023 Public Participation Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area on February 20, adding that public comment on the plan will be accepted until April 10.

Report From Staff

Mr. Skinner thanked the CAC for attending in person and congratulated Mr. Gilster on his recent promotion to Director, Planning and Fund Management.

Member Comments/Requests

Ms. Lang requested an overall summary cover sheet at the front of the Board packets. Mr. Ohtaki said he was pleased to hear from Executive Director April Chan about the Menlo Park undercrossing earmark. Ms. Kuklin noted that each of the County's cities have different transportation priorities, so she advocated an approach for each CAC member to look at the County's needs as a whole. Vice Chair Fox asked how the TA responds to articles about local transportation projects in the media. Mr. Skinner said that members could send articles or links to the CAC Secretary to forward to the membership.