

Report of the TA Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting of May 2, 2023

Committee Actions

- Approved the Consent Calendar including:
 - Minutes of the CAC Meeting of April 4, 2023
- Motions Regarding TA Board Items for May 4, 2023
 - Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending March 31, 2023
 - Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook
 - Acceptance of Call for a Public Hearing at the June 1, 2023, Meeting on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024
- Approval of Legislative Proposal: Support Assembly Bill (AB) 557 (Hart)

San Mateo US 101 Express Lanes Final Quarterly Project Update

Leo Scott, Co-Project Manager, Gray-Bowen-Scott, provided the final update on the project. Mike Swire asked if all the CAC members were invited to the opening event. Amy Linehan, Government and Community Affairs Officer, said they made announcements at prior committee meetings and will be sure all committee members receive invitations in the future. Ken Chin asked where the landscaping is going to be. Mr. Scott said there are small areas along the entire corridor where planting can go, and the landscape architects tried to maximize the space for planting.

San Mateo County Shuttle Program Call for Projects Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 Draft Recommendations

Patrick Gilster, Director, Planning and Fund Management, provided the presentation. Peter Ohtaki asked if they could do a ridership comparison to pre-pandemic levels and inquired if any shuttle manufacturers were introducing EV (electric vehicle) shuttles. Mr. Gilster said he would come back later in the year with a comparison. He said no shuttle proposal this year includes clear-air vehicles. Peter Skinner, Executive Officer, Transportation Authority, noted the transition to zero emissions vehicles is something which will take several years. Sandra Lang asked what efforts were taken to get more applicants, and asked if cities applied to have shuttles or did the TA reach out first. Mr. Gilster said outreach was done to all the cities.

Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Ladi Millard-Olmeda, Director, Budgets and Financial Analysis, provided the presentation.

Mr. Ohtaki said the allocations for both Measure A and Measure W are looked at as a decrease of 7 percent. Ms. Millard-Olmeda said the decrease is the result of a budget true-up of the prior year's sales tax receipts.

Vice Chair John Fox noted that the TA took out a loan against future revenues for the 101 express lanes. He asked how the TA is doing in regard to the revenue projections. Mr. Skinner said because the lanes opened in March during a wet month with lower use than projected, they do not have enough good data at this point. He said over the next quarters, they would be able to have enough data to determine the revenue potential of the whole corridor. Gus Mattammal asked about the decrease of 7 percent. Ms. Millard-Olmeda said there was a corresponding increase on Line 24 due to the sales tax true-up. Mr. Chin and Mr. Swire suggested the TA could take some highway to pay off some of the express lanes bonds. Mr. Skinner said the intent was for the revenue from the express lanes to pay for the interest and principal on the bonds. He said there is also sufficient capitalized interest to cover interest payments through February of next year. Mr. Skinner also noted Treasury staff can provide more information at the next quarterly update on the performance of the bond and the Policy Program Manager for the San Mateo Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority will provide information on the operations of the lane.

State and Federal Legislative Update and Approval of Legislative Proposal: Support Assembly Bill (AB) 557 (Hart)

Ms. Linehan provided a summary of federal and state legislation. On the federal side, she said there had been some progress on the appropriations committee and subcommittee mark-up process. She said the House was working on a top-line budget number for Fiscal Year 2024. On the state side, she said that budget hearings would continue until the Governor puts out his May revise. She said staff is recommending the TA support Assembly Bill (AB) 557, which would increase the flexibility of agencies to meet remotely during states of emergency. Mr. Mattammal asked why the TA was being asked to support a bill with only a temporary effect. Ms. Linehan said the bill would just continue the emergency procedures that were put in place by AB 361. Ms. Lang asked who determines the emergency situations, and Ms. Linehan said that states of emergency are declared by the Governor.

Report of the Chair

Chair Barbara Arietta announced the TA CAC recruitment period would start on May 4 and end on June 2.