

San Mateo County Transportation Authority
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California
Minutes of May 4, 2023

Members Present: E. Beach, J. Mates, R. Medina (Chair), R. Mueller (left at 6:10 pm),
(In Person) M. Nagales, C. Romero (Vice Chair)

Members Present: N. Corzo
(Via Teleconference)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: A. Chan, J. Cassman, P. Skinner, P. Gilster, K. Kelly, J. Epstein, J. Brook,
D. Seamans

1. Call to Order

Chair Rico Medina called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

The Board voted to approve a just cause request to participate remotely due to an emergency circumstance from Director Noelia Corzo.

Motion/Second: Beach/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Corzo, Mates, Medina, Mueller, Nagales, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: None

2. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Dora Seamans, Authority Secretary, confirmed that a quorum was present. Chair Medina led 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. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 6, 2023

5.b. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending March 31, 2023

5.c. Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook

5.d. Call for a Public Hearing at the June 1, 2023 Meeting on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Motion/Second: Medina/Nagales

Ayes: Beach, Corzo, Mates, Medina, Mueller, Nagales, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: None

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Medina announced the annual TA CAC recruitment from May 4 to June 2 and requested two directors to volunteer to participate on the CAC Interview Committee in June.

6.a Appointment of Representatives to the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority

Chair Medina nominated Director Beach, Vice Chair Romero, and himself for reappointment to the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA).

Motion/Second: Mates/Corzo

Ayes: Beach, Corzo, Mates, Medina, Mueller, Nagales, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: None

7. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report

Chair Medina said that the report was in the packet and posted on the website. He noted that the SamTrans public member recruitment had been extended for an additional 30 days until June 5.

Director Emily Beach asked if the position was at large, which Chair Medina confirmed.

8. Joint Powers Board Liaison Report

April Chan, Executive Director, said that the report was posted on the website. She said one of the main items of discussion was the review of the two-year JPB budget for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.

Vice Chair Carlos Romero asked if the TA would need to provide operating funding to Caltrain given their fiscal cliff. Ms. Chan said that the MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) is working with all the transit properties in the Bay Area to advocate for state funding to keep those systems afloat without making significant service cuts.

Director Beach said that Caltrain has had the luxury of Measure RR and federal operating funding to cover operating expenses so that the TA did not have to contribute, and noted that historically Measure A had a bucket of funding set aside for Caltrain until Measure RR was passed. She said the funds are there to assist Caltrain and the TA was in good shape to live up to budget contributions until Caltrain gets past the fiscal cliff.

Director Ray Mueller said that while San Mateo County and the City and County of San Francisco were prepared to make budget allocations to Caltrain, VTA (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority) had requested that the JPB Finance Committee not include member agency contributions in the budget as they have not determined how much they could contribute.

9. Report of the Executive Director

Ms. Chan said the report was in the packet. She welcomed Kate Steiner, the TA and SamTrans' new Chief Financial Officer and noted that Kathleen Kelly, Interim Chief Financial Officer would continue during the transition. Ms. Chan also said that they did not anticipate any contribution from the TA towards SMCEL-JPA's 2024 budget, and would provide a full update at the June Board meeting.

10. Program

10.a. San Mateo US 101 Express Lanes Final Quarterly Project Update

Peter Skinner, Executive Officer, Transportation Authority, introduced Leo Scott, Co-Project Manager, Gray-Bowen, Scott, who provided the last quarterly presentation for the completed project.

Director Beach thanked Mr. Scott for a well-run project that came in under budget. She asked about fixing the potholes before closing out the Caltrans contract. Mr. Scott said that Caltrans used emergency contracts to repair the potholes that resulted from the winter storms. He said there was a provision in the operations and maintenance contract to pay for pothole repairs in the Express Lanes only. Director Beach said there are still large potholes in the general purpose lanes. Ms. Chan said staff will reach out to Caltrans and that Caltrans is also planning a major pavement rehabilitation project that would be coming in the next year or so.

Director Beach asked if there are economies of scale for landscaping that has not been completed for other projects. Mr. Skinner said there are two other landscaping projects that are currently in the design phase and he would speak with Caltrans to determine if it was possible to combine the projects into the Express Lanes landscaping phase.

10.b 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.

Director Beach asked if North Burlingame shuttle had been consolidated. Mr. Gilster said that Commute.org had combined it with the Millbrae/Broadway shuttle. Director Beach also asked if any remaining funds in the category will be available for the next call for projects, which Mr. Gilster confirmed.

Director Mark Nagales said that the South San Francisco West shuttle has been popular. He asked about the Seton Medical Center shuttle, which has some overlap with SamTrans fixed-route service. Mr. Gilster said it did have some overlap, but clarified that the Seton shuttle only runs during peak hours.

11. Finance

11.a Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

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

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

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

On the federal side, she said they anticipate the House to recommend a dramatic reduction in funding for many domestic programs, including transportation. She said, however, that the TA's earmark request to support the 19th Avenue/Fashion Island Boulevard/Complete Streets/Class 4 Bikeway Project is working its way through the system and they hope to see it become an actual earmark.

At the state level, the legislature reconvened on April 10. She said they released the Protect our Progress budget plan to counter the Governor's proposed cuts. She said they are awaiting the Governor's May budget revise. She said all indications point to a dramatically higher budget deficit.

Ms. Epstein said there were multiple Brown Act bills in the state legislature that are being amended. She said staff is requesting that the TA Board support Assembly Bill (AB) 557, which would codify AB 361 to increase the flexibility to agencies to meet remotely during states of emergency.

Director Beach asked if the budget deficit is inevitable, and Ms. Epstein said there is speculation of a \$40 billion deficit.

Vice Chair Romero asked for elaboration on the 10 percent cap for Caltrans indirect costs when overseeing highway projects. Ms. Epstein said the number could go higher than 10 percent if not codified in law. Mr. Skinner said the cap was typically included in the budget bill or budget trailer bills in prior years; however, it was not included in the Fiscal Year 2023 state budget.

Motion/Second: Beach/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Corzo, Mates, Medina, Mueller, Nagales, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: None

13. Requests from the Authority

There were no requests.

14. Written Communications to the Authority

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

15. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting

Chair Medina announced the next meeting would be on Thursday, June 1, 2023, 5:00 pm in person at the SamTrans Auditorium and via Zoom teleconference.

16. Report of Legal Counsel

16.a Closed Session: Conference with Conference with Real Property Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Properties: (1) 50-foot-wide Property Located Directly West of the Caltrain Corridor from 20th Avenue to Approximately 1,000 Feet Past 25th Avenue, City of San Mateo (Portion of APN 035-320-999) and (2) 2777 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA 94403

Negotiators: April Chan and Joan Cassman

**Negotiating Parties: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and the City of San Mateo
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Transfer**

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, announced the closed session and noted that since no reportable action was expected, the open session of the meeting could be adjourned and a report-out provided at the next Board meeting.

Director Ray Mueller left the meeting and the Board recessed to closed session at 6:10 pm.

17. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 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.