

Report of the TA Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting of July 9, 2024

Quorum and called to order 4:36 pm.

No public comments

4. Consent Calendar

Consent calendar approved unanimously by vote

5. (5.a.) BOD Minutes - no comments

6. (10.a.) Update – US 101/SR 92 Interchange Projects

Staff provided a presentation on the US 101/92 Area Improvements and Direct Connector project, focusing on the initial public scoping meetings for the Direct Connector.

Discussion questions from Committee

- Are there rough cost estimates at this conceptual stage? is there a way to estimate cost or schedule differences between the options?
- Question on evaluation of impacted communities and environmental justice concerns?
- Outreach question - is this just to nearby stakeholders or to the county at large?
- Question on evaluation of the environmental impact of the vehicles and traffic - is the possible Future mix of more EV vehicles considered?
- Concerns on bi-directional lanes and potential for confused drivers and collisions
- Idea to plan ahead for future express bus use of HOV/managed lanes
- Question about the consistent application of policies to reduce greenhouse gases or vehicle miles travelled - do projects like these just increase impacts?

Public Comment: this expansion and development seems focused on benefitting east bay commuters. Why should the San Mateo county funds be spent to benefit east bay and central valley commuters? Are there uses of the funding that might be more beneficial to San Mateo County residents? Do benefits to county employers outweigh benefits to residents?

Public Comment: are there other alternatives that should be considered? More than “do nothing?”

Public Comment: concerns about required ROW and possible eminent domain actions. Impacts on existing housing?

7. (10.b.) Input on Policy Governing Use of Land-banked Properties for Transportation Authority-supported Projects

Staff provided a presentation and asked the Committee for feedback on how to value TA land banked properties as well as the timing of when to allocate right of way funding. Several committee members indicated the properties should be sold at fair market value and relocation of tenants should be delayed as long as possible. One request from the CAC is to make an inventory of land bank properties, year acquired, and maybe adjusted value based on costs over time, and estimated market value. This inventory would clarify the scale of the potential concerns and help design a sound policy.

8. (11.a.) Allocating \$20,145,000 from the Measure A Highway Program for the Right-of-way Phase of the US 101/Woodside Road (SR 84) Interchange Improvements Project

Staff and the city of Redwood City provided an overview of the 84/101 project and the request to allocate right of way funding that was previously programmed to the project. There was a general discussions and questions on the highway 84/101 interchange. There was attention to multi-modal users, such as potential commuters to/from the planned Ferry terminal, and the investments in bike and ped infrastructure is seen as important. Many committee members expressed their support for the project. One committee member had several questions about VMT (vehicle miles traveled) impacts, expressing opposition to projects that could be viewed as capacity increasing. Staff reminded the Committee the action at hand was to determine whether the project met the 2017 award conditions to allocate the right of way funds.

Public Comment: concerns about lane widening in the project area and that the project would not eliminate congestion. When was evaluation of air quality completed; concerns from air pollution resulting from auto idling.

Motion to approve passed 7 to 1.

9. (12) State and Federal Legislative Update

Peter Skinner, Executive Officer, Transportation Authority, provided a summary of federal and state legislation. In response to a question about the status of the Broadway Burlingame grade separation project, he noted that an uncommitted amount of money would be available for previously funded projects.

10. Report of the Chair

Chair Barbara Arietta announced that MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) had released the Draft 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Draft Conformity Analysis Document and provided information about the public comment period.

11.a Adoption of Updated Rules of Procedure for the San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors

Mr. Skinner said that legal counsel was bringing this item to Board for adoption at the July 11 meeting. He said once the Board adopts the Rules, they would be working with the CAC Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc committee to incorporate relevant rules into the CAC rules. He said they hoped to bring the ad hoc committee's suggestions back to the CAC in September.

12. Member Comments/Requests

- Ms. Lang said there was an accident with an auto-transport truck at the Broadway Burlingame Caltrain crossing, highlighting the need to have grade separations.
- Ms. Enriquez encouraged members to publicize the openings on the CAC.