

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

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

July 9, 2024

**Members Present:
(In Person)** B. Arietta (Chair), I. Bucio, G. Carlini (left at 6:55 pm), N. Enriquez, J. Fox (Vice Chair) (left at 6:17 pm), S. Lang, J. Londer, G. Mattammal (arrived at 4:39 pm), P. Ohtaki (arrived at 4:45 pm)

**Members Present:
(Via Teleconference)** None

Members Absent: K. Kuklin, M. Swire

Staff Present: P. Skinner, P. Gilster, A. Linehan, J. Manzi, C. Mamaradlo, C. Liao, M. Rush, J. Brook

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Barbara Arietta called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm and requested that Sandra Lang lead 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 June 4, 2024

TA Board Meeting Agenda for July 11, 2024

4.b. TA Board Item 5.b Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending May 31, 2024

4.c. TA Board Item 5.c Approving and Ratifying the Transportation Authority Insurance Program for Fiscal Year 2025

4.d. TA Board Item 5.d Programming and Allocating \$9,720,000 in Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for the SamTrans Paratransit Program and Caltrain

Motion/Second: Londer/Fox

Ayes: Arietta, Bucio, Carlini, Enriquez, Fox, Lang, Londer

Noes: None

Absent: Kuklin, Mattammal,-Ohtaki, Swire

Gus Mattammal arrived at 4:39 pm.

5. TA Board Item 5.a Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of June 6, 2024

There were no comments.

6. TA Board Item 10.a Update – US 101/SR 92 Interchange Projects

Carolyn Mamaradlo, Senior Project Manager, provided the presentation.

Peter Ohtaki arrived at 4:45 pm.

Jeff Londer asked what the cost difference was between Build 1 and Build 2. Ms. Mamaradlo said they do not yet have the final costs but Build 2 would be higher. Jessica Manzi, Director, Project Delivery, said the cost difference was the gating equipment to add access to the lanes.

Ms. Lang asked why climate change was not bolded on Slide 12 as one of the priority environmental topics to be studied. Ms. Mamaradlo said there was a lot of overlap between the topics and that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) are more relevant to the project.

Ivan Bucio asked about potential savings by delaying some of the project work. Ms. Mamaradlo said the area improvements project would be constructed first, as delaying the work would result in increased costs to the area improvements project. He asked regarding outreach if it was done to the adjacent community or the whole County. Ms. Mamaradlo said they reached out Countywide and to their partner agencies.

Peter Ohtaki asked if the EIR (environmental impact report) process would look at the transition to electric vehicles (EVs) over the next 15 to 20 years. Ms. Mamaradlo said staff would be working with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) on current and proposed air quality impacts.

Chair Arietta said she had concerns with Build Alternative 2 and the safety of the reversible lane. Ms. Mamaradlo discussed the different types of reversible lane systems currently available.

Vice Chair John Fox asked how higher-density vehicles such as express buses would affect the design of lane designations and suggested looking at installations in other parts of the world. Ms. Mamaradlo said they would continue to engage the community on the concept of the reversible lane.

Patrick Gilster, Director, Planning and Fund Management, noted that they had been in talks with AC (Alameda County) Transit and that there is interest in bringing back public express

buses across the bridge. He said that they would be reaching out to the business community in San Mateo County as well for their input.

Giuliano Carlini said he had concerns over the interchange. He said the project may be taking money away from other projects. Mr. Gilster said after the initial phase of the project, they would decide whether to continue the project. Mr. Carlini asked if there was an HOV (high-occupancy vehicle) lane on Highway 92, and Ms. Mamaradlo said no. Mr. Carlini said that the TA should have a policy on GHG and VMT. Mr. Skinner emphasized that the TA is not a regulatory agency and they would be following federal and state law related to the reduction of GHG and VMT. He said state law requires a project that generates VMT to establish a mitigation plan to offset it. Mr. Carlini said he would like to see a clear policy stating the TA's position to help guide future project decisions.

Public Comment:

Mike Swire asked why San Mateo County taxpayers were funding a project that primarily assists drivers commuting to and from the East Bay.

Chris Florkowski noted that all the alternatives presented involve expensive construction and requested having additional alternatives, including doing nothing.

Rich Hedges said San Mateo residents need to receive more information about the project. He noted that eastbound Highway 92 becomes very dangerous with the flyover.

7. TA Board Item 10.b Input on Policy Governing Use of Land-banked Properties for Transportation Authority-supported Projects

Ms. Manzi provided the presentation.

Mr. Carlini: We should start with market value. Hope that properties can be occupied as long as possible. Reach out to tenants, especially in disadvantaged communities. Mr. Skinner said all the TA's tenants are commercial tenants.

Vice Chair Fox: A rough sense of the value of all the properties would be helpful.

Chair Arietta: Suggested minimizing the relocation of the tenants and asked about the timing. Ms. Manzi said they do not yet have a policy, but that all projects that use public funds have clear rules for relocating tenants.

Mr. Ohtaki: This is a great prioritization of contributing land as a form of TA allocation that would reduce the external financing requirements of getting grants by being able to contribute that funding.

Mr. Bucio: Property should be at market value; if not, the TA should contribute the land in the form of an allocation.

Ms. Enriquez: Are there any best practices in terms of timing? Ms. Manzi said agencies vary by how quickly they provide funding.

Mr. Mattammal: Market value should be the primary way to value properties.

Ms. Lang: Is the City of Burlingame making a request to get something in return? Ms. Manzi said Burlingame is requesting right-of-way funding from the TA as land is required to construct the grade separation.

Mr. Londer: The property should be at market value with some adjustments. Also let tenants know what is happening as soon as possible. Ms. Manzi said they usually give tenants a two-year timeframe to respond.

Mr. Carlini: Is it possible to let other owners of the land deal with tenant issues? Ms. Manzi confirmed that it is.

The meeting recessed from 5:59 to 6:05 pm.

8. TA Board Item 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

Mr. Gilster introduced Leo Scott, Project Manager, Gray-Bowen-Scott, who provided the presentation.

Mr. Gilster presented a slide on details of the request for the right of way allocation.

Vice Chair John Fox left the meeting at 6:17 pm.

Mr. Carlini asked if there were any instances in California where capacity has been added and congestion relief has continued beyond three years. Mr. Scott said he did not have that information.

Mr. Ohtaki asked why the Veterans Boulevard overpass being proposed as opposed to a flyover to Woodside Road. Mr. Scott explained the solution from the future simulation slide. Mr. Ohtaki asked about the potential of money being taken from the Dumbarton Corridor allocation. Mr. Gilster said the Dumbarton project was already allocated.

Mr. Bucio asked if they were providing bicycle access for residents in the area. Mr. Scott said there would be partial access, including a Class 3 bike lane.

Mr. Mattammal said he was pleased with the planned project improvements.

Mr. Carlini asked how much of the total project cost would go towards bicycle/pedestrian improvements, and Mr. Scott said around \$20 million. Mr. Carlini asked how air quality would be improved for the at-risk communities. Mr. Scott said that the VMT and GHG projected for the project was very nominal given that the roadway elements are focused on safety and operational efficiency. Mr. Gilster noted that the project was already approved by the Board and the funds have been programmed. Mr. Skinner added that the question before the CAC is whether the project conditions adopted by the TA Board in 2017 to allocate the funding have been met. Mr. Carlini said he did not want to support the project. Ms. Manzi said the project has an approved environmental document which shows significant benefits to air quality associated with decreasing the amount of congestion and idling that happens currently in the interchange area.

Public Comment:

Mike Swire questioned whether the project would eliminate congestion. Regarding air quality, he wanted to know when the environmental evaluation was completed.

Motion/Second: Ohtaki/Bucio

Ayes: Arietta, Bucio, Enriquez, Lang, Londer, Mattammal,-Ohtaki

Noes: Carlini

Absent: Fox, Kuklin, Swire

9. TA Board Item 12 State and Federal Legislative Update

Mr. Skinner provided a summary of federal and state legislation.

On the federal side, he said the chances of appropriation bills passing both houses of Congress by the deadline of October 1 are unlikely, so a continuing resolution may be necessary.

On the state side, he said the state budget had been signed by the Governor and that \$70 million had been cut from the Broadway Burlingame grade separation project. He said they are working with the Governor's office and the California State Transportation Agency and the budget trailer bill has language indicating that they would prioritize finding funding for those projects that were previously awarded, including Broadway Burlingame.

He introduced Nicole Arshad, Public Affairs Specialist, who had recently joined the Government and Community Affairs team.

Ms. Lang asked about the Broadway grade separation project. Mr. Skinner said the State budget included a statement about providing funding in future years, but those funds are not committed until included in the budget.

10. Report of the Chair

Chair Arietta announced that MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) had released the Draft 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Draft Conformity Analysis Document.

Guiliano Carlini left the meeting at 6:55 pm.

She provided information about the public comment period.

11. Report from Staff

Mr. Skinner said the report was in the packet.

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 the revised Rules of Procedure to the Board for adoption at the July 11 meeting.

Mr. Skinner said once the Board adopts their Rules, he would be working with the CAC Rules of Procedure ad hoc committee to incorporate relevant changes into the CAC rules. He said they hoped to present the ad hoc committee's suggestions at the CAC meeting on September 3.

Public Comment:

Mike Swire commented on changes made to the Board's Rules of Procedure.

12. Member Comments/Requests

Ms. Lang noted an accident with an auto-transport truck that had recently occurred at the Broadway Caltrain crossing in Burlingame, saying it indicates the need for increased action in seeking out grade separations.

Ms. Enriquez encouraged members to publicize the openings on the CAC.

13. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting

Chair Arietta announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 4:30 pm in person at the SamTrans Auditorium and via Zoom teleconference.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at <https://www.smcta.com/video-board-directors>. Questions may be referred to the CAC Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6223 or by email to cacsecretary@smcta.com.