

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (TA)**

1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070  
Dining Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** B. Arietta (Chair), D. Bautista, J. Bigelow, J. Fox, R. Hedges, J. Londer, D. Lujan, D. Maez, L. Shaine, L. Simonson, B. Warhurst, J. Whittemore

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** J. Baker, R. Hees, A. Vargas

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. Averill, J. Hurley

Vice Chair Laurie Simonson called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. and Chair Barbara Arietta led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

Doris Maez said on page 1 under Program Report: Transit – Paratransit, the word “register” should be changed to “registered.”

Motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Motion/Second: Bigelow/Bautista

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bigelow, Fox, Hedges, Londer, Maez, Shaine, Simonson, Warhurst, Whittemore

Absent: Baker, Hees, Lujan, Vargas

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ITEMS FOR REVIEW – NOVEMBER 6, 2014 TA BOARD MEETING**

**Authorize Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2014 (TA Item 10a)**

Bill Osher, CSI Group of Sun Trust, said the benchmarks had small negative returns and the portfolio had small positive returns. The reason is because the TA has a much more conservative stance on interest rates than the market does as a whole, so the TA is not as subject to the negative impact on the bond portfolio. He said the economy is doing well, growing at a modest pace, but the pace is strong enough to bring the unemployment rate down and keep bank loans growing. Any other time interest rates would be a lot higher. The international markets and economies are having a strong influence on the United States markets. He said he expected interest rates to go up quite a bit, but they have actually fallen. The Federal Reserve (Fed) Board is looking at the economic data and saying they will start to raise interest rates next year and by 2017 interest rates will be up considerably. The market is completely ignoring that. It wouldn't take much, maybe a couple of strong months in employment gains, for the market sentiment to change and take what the Fed is saying, and that will create a rapid increase in interest rates. He said he is managing the portfolio to be better safe than sorry.

Jim Whittemore said the vast majority of the TA's holdings are with real estate related to Federal mortgages. He asked if Mr. Osher anticipates the need to bail out Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac again. Mr. Osher said they are nationalized and the market is treating them as if it is all United States Treasury-level credit. He said the percentage of treasury holdings has been steadily increasing in the portfolio. One of the reasons he is adding more treasuries is because it is cheaper to buy a treasury than a Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. He said he perceives this as safe. He does not have concerns that they will have to be bailed out again.

Motion/Second: Shaine/Whittemore

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bigelow, Fox, Hedges, Londer, Maez, Shaine, Simonson, Warhurst, Whittemore

Absent: Baker, Hees, Lujan, Vargas

### **Program Report: Highway Program (TA Item 11a)**

Joe Hurley, Director, TA Program, presented:

- The goals of the program are to:
  - Reduce commute corridor congestion
  - Make regional connections
  - Enhance safety
  - Meet local mobility needs
- Program overview:
  - The Original Measure A was 29.3 percent of the program.
  - The New Measure A is 27.5 percent: 17.3 percent for Key Congested Corridor Projects and 10.2 percent for Supplemental Roadway Projects.
  - The total amount available over the life of the program is \$412.5 million.
- San Mateo County travel patterns and forecasts:
  - There are 698,105 registered vehicles.
  - Vehicle miles traveled in 2010 were 6.5 billion. They are projected to be 10 billion in 2040, and 66 percent are on the State Highway System (SHS).
  - There are 950 lane miles on the SHS in San Mateo County.
  - Currently, 82.5 percent of the travel mode is in automobiles. This is projected to be 79.2 percent in 2040.
- Project development costs between \$6.9 million and \$173.6 million, takes between 96 to 138 months, and consists of the following phases:
  - Preliminary planning
  - Project initiation
  - Environmental
  - Design and right of way
  - Construction
- There are 24 projects in the pipeline, mostly consisting of interchange projects.
- The biggest phase is construction.
- Maps of where the projects are located were shown.

- Stakeholders include:
  - Public
  - Local jurisdictions
  - Regulatory agencies
  - Funding agencies
- TA Highway Program agency list includes, but is not limited to:
  - Federal: United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers
  - State: California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), California Highway Patrol, California Transportation Commission
  - Regional: City/County Association of Governments

Daina Lujan arrived at 5:12 p.m.

- Examples of leveraged funding include:
  - The Highway 101/Broadway Interchange Project: four sources
  - The Route 1 San Pedro Creek Bridge Project: five sources
  - The Highway 101 Auxiliary Lane Project: three sources
- Investment in the Highway Program yields returns. For example, the Highway 101 Auxiliary Lanes Project resulted in:
  - A reduction by 7,100 hours of travel time per day.
  - A yearly increase in productivity of \$40 million.
  - Savings of 5,600 gallons a day in fuel.
  - A 12 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
  - A 20 percent reduction in accidents.

Larry Shaine asked if any projects qualify for design-build. Mr. Hurley said it is a possibility. There are some pilot projects allowed on the SHS. There is some legislation to determine what is allowed.

Mr. Shaine asked who makes the decision. Mr. Hurley said Caltrans.

Mr. Shaine asked for an update on the High Occupancy Vehicle lane study north of Redwood City. Mr. Hurley said the Project Initiation Document is scheduled to be finished the first part of next year.

#### **Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for September 2014 (TA Item 4c)**

Motion/Second: Hedges/Bigelow

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bigelow, Fox, Hedges, Londer, Lujan, Maez, Shaine, Simonson, Warhurst, Whittemore

Absent: Baker, Hees, Vargas

#### **Update on State and Federal Legislative Program (TA Item 11b)**

Mr. Hurley said State agencies continue to develop their respective guidelines for the various Cap and Trade programs. The Strategic Growth Council released their draft Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities Program guidelines on September 23 and accepted comments on the draft until Friday, October 31. They also held four workshops throughout the State in an attempt to explain the guidelines in more detail

and solicit comments. There seems to be consensus from most interested parties that the guidelines are very confusing and cumbersome. Many comments made at the workshops pertained to simplifying the guidelines and using existing definitions for key terms rather than creating new definitions which the guidelines attempt to do. Staff also requested that guidelines be drafted to allow for greater flexibility for transit projects to be eligible for funding. Currently the guidelines give emphasis to transportation projects that are tied to a new affordable housing development, limiting the number of transportation projects that could receive funding. The Council will release revised guidelines on December 1 and anticipate final Council approval on December 11.

**Adoption of Revised Conflict of Interest Code (TA Item 4d)**

Motion/Second: Whittemore/Bautista

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bigelow, Fox, Hedges, Londer, Lujan, Maez, Shaine, Simonson, Warhurst, Whittemore

Absent: Baker, Hees, Vargas

**Approval of 2015 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar (TA Item 4b)**

Motion/Second: Hedges/Bautista

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Bigelow, Fox, Hedges, Londer, Lujan, Maez, Shaine, Simonson, Warhurst, Whittemore

Absent: Baker, Hees, Vargas

**Approval of Minutes of October 2, 2014 (TA Item 4a)**

No discussion.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR – BARBARA ARIETTA**

See attachment for Chair Arietta's complete report.

**REPORT FROM STAFF – JOE HURLEY**

Mr. Hurley said:

- The Highway 101 ramp metering lights in the NB direction north of Route 92 all went to green today. On November 12 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on November 18 from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. the lights will be turned it on as a phased approach to monitor the metering and make any necessary adjustments. Queue detectors are in place so if a backup occurs onto local streets the ramp metering timing adjusts to flush out the queue.
- The San Pedro Creek Project is on hiatus due to environmental restrictions. On the weekend of the Pumpkin Festival, Caltrans manually adjusted the signals to adapt to real-time situations.

**MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS**

Diana Bautista said she attended the Baby Bullet 10-year celebration. They announced a business commuter coalition that Caltrain, the San Mateo County Economic Development Association and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group are partnering with to get businesses to fund Caltrain because their employees use Caltrain and it will be nice to work with public/private.

Jim Bigelow said there is no loss with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission stepping away from the Dumbarton issue. The traffic is atrocious in the corridor and big employers are suffering. He said Google, Facebook, Stanford, Oracle and others are going to come into the picture and get their governmental relations people involved. He said following the certification of the Caltrain environmental document in 2015, there will be some significant action on the issue.

Mr. Bigelow said Google bought the Pacific Shores Development at the Port of Redwood City, and Facebook and Google ran a ferry service as a test. They have a huge employment base and employees like the system, so ferry service might be coming to the south end of the county and these companies might put some money into them.

Mr. Shaine said the Highway 101/Broadway Interchange Project has started.

**DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Carlos, CA 94070

Adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

## **Averill, Joshua**

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**From:** Barbara Arietta <barietta@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 04, 2014 2:43 PM  
**To:** Averill, Joshua  
**Cc:** Hurley, Joseph  
**Subject:** \*\* Chair's Report to CAC - November 4, 2014\*\*

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Here is my Chair's report for Tuesday, November 4, 2014:

### **1. U.S. Route 101 in San Mateo County Ramp Meters to go Green November 4, 2014**

Meters at 18 on-ramps will be activated on northbound U.S. 101 between U.S. Route 92 in San Mateo and the San Mateo/San Francisco County line beginning today, November 4, 2014.

### **2. UPDATE: Paving on State Route 92 at Pilarcitos Creek has been cancelled until further notice**

Paving repairs on State Route 92 to repave the roadway at Post Mile 3.3 to Post Mile 5.1, from Pilarcitos Creek to the Junction of State Route 92 and State Route 35 has been postponed indefinitely.

### **3. Dumbarton Policy Committee seeks to continue, despite MTC abandonment**

On Friday, October 24, 2014, the Dumbarton Rail Policy Advisory Committee, composed of elected officials in the communities that would be served by the project, including Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Redwood City, Fremont, Union City and Newark, resolved to continue on the project, despite the fact that MTC has recently repurposed the project's funding, largely for the Silicon Valley BART project. However, there is still a \$5 Million bridge toll fund stream paying to run AC Transit buses over the Dumbarton Bridge.

It has been reported that at the MTC meeting when the funds were being re-allocated, MTC board member and San Mateo County Supervisor Adrienne Tissier reassured concerned project supporters that after the Caltrain electrification EIR was completed this coming winter, that there would be renewed efforts to restart the project. Instead, the MTC decided to remove its representation from the committee.

Despite these blows the Policy Committee members resolved to keep working on the project. Facebook, whose headquarters are at the base of the Dumbarton Bridge, has expressed strong continuing interest in the project as well as other major employers who have expressed interest in keeping the project alive. The challenge is to find enough resources for staff to look for alternative sources of funds. San Mateo County Transit District representative, April Chan, reported that because her primary responsibilities lie with Caltrain and SamTrans, it would be a conflict of interest to look for funds for a different transit project. Policy Committee members discussed the possibility of creating a Joint Powers Authority to raise money to bootstrap the process of seeking implementation funding. If the November Alameda Measure BB passes, that will at least provide enough money for staff to get started, according to the committee's chair, Carol Dutra-Vernaci,

Mayor of Union City.

#### **4. Sustainable Streets in San Mateo**

The City of San Mateo will host an Open House to review a Sustainable Streets Plan on Thursday, November 6 from 7-8:30pm and a study session to review the plan on November 10 starting at 7:30 pm. Both meetings are at City Hall Council, 330 W. 20th Avenue in San Mateo.

#### **5. RSVP Today! A free Transportation Event is being held on Wednesday, November 12, 11:30 -1:30 at the Ssan Mateo Main Library.**

The featured presentations include: The Future of Mass Transit, Shared Mobility and The Future of Personal Mobility.

There will also be a networking lunch, a transportation expo and a chance to win prizes for attendees who take an alternative mode to the event.

Contact Sustainable San Mateo County to register for the event.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Arietta  
Chair, San Mateo County Transportation Authority, CAC