

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

September 4, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Arietta (Chair), K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, E. El-Dardiry, J. Fox (Vice Chair), R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, M. Rendon, W. Warhurst

MEMBERS ABSENT: D. Bautista, D. Ross-Jones

STAFF PRESENT: J. Hurley, J. Slavitt, C. David, J. Navarro, L. Low, J. Williams, M. Bouchard, J. Brook

Chair Barbara Arietta called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm and William Warhurst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CAC Secretary Jean Brook called the roll. A quorum was present.

Chair Arietta introduced the newest TA CAC member, Mario Rendon, whose term expires May 2020. Mr. Rendon said he has been a San Mateo County resident since 1989 and serves as District Director for Assemblymember Kevin Mullin. He said he uses a variety of modes to travel to and from his home in Half Moon Bay.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE TA CAC MEETING OF JULY 31, 2018

Motion/Second: Hedges/Londer

Ayes: B. Arietta, K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, J. Fox, R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, W. Warhurst

Abstention: M. Rendon

Absent: D. Bautista, E. El-Dardiry, D. Ross-Jones

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

State and Federal Legislative Update (TA Item 13b)

Lori Low, Public Affairs Officer, gave a summary of state and federal legislation concerning the Authority.

William Warhurst asked about the delivery of SB 1262. Joe Hurley, Transportation Authority Director, said the bill gives the opportunity for the contractor to be embedded with the design team, leading to potential time and cost savings.

Rich Hedges asked about the status of SB 1329 (Hill) regarding a small fee on Uber, Lyft, etc. would go to the counties where the rides originate to support paratransit. Ms. Low said they haven't been tracking the bill but that they will look into it.

Reauthorize Investment of Monies with the Local Agency Investment Fund (TA Item 10a)

Mr. Hurley said the TA's investments are spread out. He said this item authorizes the Executive Director to check in annually with the State.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Kuklin

Ayes: B. Arietta, K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, J. Fox, R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, M. Rendon, W. Warhurst

Absent: D. Bautista, E. El-Dardiry, D. Ross-Jones

Essam El-Dardiry arrived at 4:45 pm.

Program Report: Alternative Congestion Relief (TA Item 11)

Joel Slavitt, Manager, Programming and Monitoring, introduced John Ford, Executive Director of Commute.org, who gave an annual update presentation on his agency's TDM (transportation demand management) programs. He said Commute.org is a JPA consisting of 17 cities plus the County and talked about their funding sources.

Mr. Ford said they cover four main program areas: employer programs, commuter programs, a shuttle program, and transportation technology partnerships.

He reviewed the budget, saying that shuttle operations makes up 58 percent of their expenses. He said Commute.org manages 20 shuttle routes, with 13 being theirs, seven sponsored by SamTrans, and one sponsored by the City of San Carlos. He said that currently the shuttle vendor is having difficulty maintaining staffing levels, resulting in many customer complaints. He said many customers have signed up for text alerts regarding shuttle status.

Mr. Ford described the site's STAR Platform, where users can sign up to receive a guaranteed ride home (GRH) via Uber, Lyft, or taxi, in an amount up to \$60 no more than four times per year. He said the GRH program is open to all commuters who work or attend school in San Mateo County who are using any alternative mode of travel, i.e., not driving alone. He said that the STAR Platform provides incentives and rewards, and has options such as trip logging, trip planning, and carpool matching. He said employers can use this tool to run their own incentive programs.

Jeff Londer asked about the qualifications for the Scoop program. Mr. Ford said the GRH program serves commuters who work or attend school in the County, while the Scoop program is a carpool matching service. He added that San Mateo County residents who commute out of the County to go to work or school are not eligible for GRH but can still use the STAR Platform to log their trips and earn rewards. Mr. Ford noted that a few other Bay Area counties such as San Francisco and Alameda have their own GRH programs. Mr. Londer said he was encouraged that shuttle usage has been increasing.

John Fox asked about further incentives. Mr. Ford said they had many one-time incentives plus ongoing drawings for Commute.org merchandise.

Ken Chin asked about the shuttle problems. Mr. Ford said the shuttle provider has trouble keeping drivers.

Mr. Hedges said that many of his destinations are easier to get to using transit instead of driving.

Authorize the Allocation of \$548,060 in Measure A Alternative Congestion Relief Funds to the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance to Support the Countywide Congestion Relief Program for Fiscal Year 2019 (TA Item 12)

Jennifer Williams, Administrative Analyst II, Transportation Authority, said that 1 percent of Measure A funds is set aside annually for the Alternative Congestion Relief (ACR) program. She said there is a 20 percent increase this year due to (1) transfer of management of several shuttle routes from the District to Commute.org, (2) additional marketing efforts needed for specific transit locations, and (3) a 2.5 percent increase per the Consumer Price Index.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Kuklin

Ayes: B. Arietta, K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, E. El-Dardiry, J. Fox, R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, M. Rendon, W. Warhurst

Absent: D. Bautista, D. Ross-Jones

Program: 2018 Caltrain Annual Count Presentation (TA Item 13a)

Catherine David, Principal Planner, Caltrain Rail Operations, gave a presentation on the annual count on ridership, including its purpose and methodologies. She said they use the counts from late January to February to create a baseline for Caltrain for the year for passenger and bike boardings (stations, time of day, etc.). She said that Caltrain uses this data to allocate equipment such as providing adequate cars on a train. She stated that key findings reports going back to 2002 are posted on the Caltrain website.

Mr. Londer asked about the decrease in ridership from 2017 for midday and evening. Ms. David said that during midday and evenings, only local trains are available. She said that riders may prefer riding bullet trains, which only serve peak periods. She said that electrification may affect future scheduling options.

An Chen asked about statistics for bike bumps due to bike cars being at capacity so that riders are denied boarding. Ms. David said that with electrification, there will be Automated Passenger Counters (APCs).

Mr. Hurley asked if advance notification for bicycle capacity on trains was planned for the future. Ms. David said that now riders can fill out an online form saying that they have been bumped, which then gets uploaded to Caltrain's bike Twitter feed.

Mr. Chin asked if the number of trains at capacity has increased. Ms. David said that she would get back to him. He said that Hayward Park station had the number-one ridership increase at 51 percent. Ms. David said there is a lot of recent transit-oriented development happening there.

Mr. Hedges said that he noticed last year that trains No. 217 and No. 221 are already at capacity. Ms. David concurred that 217 was over capacity and said that the business plan and electrification efforts may mitigate that.

Olma O'Neill said that the data shows an increase in bicycle boardings but that the number of bumps has decrease. She asked if this was a result of increasing bicycle capacity on the trains. Ms. David said that the reduction could be attributed to a reduced number of rainy days. Ms. O'Neill suggested taking passenger counts at different times to get a more comprehensive picture of ridership.

Karen Kuklin asked if the capacity issue would have to wait for electrification to be addresses. Ms. David said that standees are usually not standing for their entire trip.

Essam El-Dardiry asked if there were a short-term plan to address over-capacity. Ms. David said they are working on the business plan to address the issue.

Joe Navarro, Director, Rail Operations, described the process for reporting bike bumps. Regarding capacity, he said Caltrain attempts to provide the right number of cars for each train. He said that in the future, the APCs will count bikes as well as riders.

Mr. Hedges said that he notices that some riders prefer to stand while riding the train.

Mr. El-Dardiry asked what else is being done to improve capacity. Mr. Navarro said they were working on repairing their equipment.

Authorize Redirecting Funding Sources Between the US 101/SR 92 Direct Connector and the US 101 Managed Lanes Projects, and Increasing the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget (TA Item 10b)

Mr. Slavitt briefly summarized the background of the funding of the 101/92 Direct Connector and 101 Managed Lanes projects.

Motion/Second: Hedges/O'Neill

Ayes: B. Arietta, K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, E. El-Dardiry, J. Fox, R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, M. Rendon, W. Warhurst

Absent: D. Bautista, D. Ross-Jones

Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report – 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2018 (TA Item 4c)

Mr. Hurley indicated that the Holly Interchange Project on Page 15 of the report still has a red signal indicating significant schedule issues. He said they are working on securing stormwater permits from the Regional Water Quality Control Board before they can proceed with construction. He also said the 101/Willow Road crossing will be closed during construction in late September/early October.

Chair Arietta asked what the Gray Whale Cove project was. Mr. Hurley said the project involved installing a flashing beacon south of the Tom Lantos Tunnel to facilitate a single point for safe pedestrian crossing of Highway 1 at Gray Whale Cove beach.

Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for July 2018 (TA Item 4b)

Motion/Second: Fox/Chin

Ayes: B. Arietta, K. Bond, A. Chen, K. Chin, E. El-Dardiry, J. Fox, R. Hedges, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, O. O'Neill, M. Rendon, W. Warhurst

Absent: D. Bautista, D. Ross-Jones

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of August 2, 2018 (TA Item 4a)

There were no comments on the minutes.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Arietta said that she had nothing to report.

REPORT FROM STAFF

Mr. Hurley said at his recent meeting in Sacramento that there was a joint effort by the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency to work towards resolution of AB 1282 (Mullin) regarding permitting on transportation projects from state regulatory agencies. He said they would be working on some pilot projects that could include 101 managed lanes. He said that the September 10 workshop on managed lanes will be rescheduled to sometime later in the Fall.

Chair Arietta asked what the conflicts were for AB 1282. Mr. Hurley said that resources were one issue, with regulatory agencies not having enough staff available to handle the increased project volume. He said another issue is the subjectivity of a lot of the regulation language, which causes permitting delays due to a lot of back-and-forth communication.

MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

The Committee members welcomed Mario Rendon.

Ms. O'Neill noted that Rich Hedges was mentioned in the latest issue of *San Mateo Movers and Shakers*.

Mr. Hedges said he went to the opening of the new Transbay Terminal in San Francisco. He also talked about a proposed extension of the Third Street Light Rail to Oyster Point.

DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next meeting will be held October 2, 2018 at 4:30 pm, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, San Carlos, CA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.