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

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Arietta (Chair), D. Bautista, A. Chen (left at 5:31 pm), K. Chin, J. Fox (Vice Chair) (arrived at 4:40 pm), S. Green, R. Hedges (via teleconference), N. Hsu, K. Kuklin, J. Londer, P. Ohtaki (arrived at 4:40 pm), M. Rendon

MEMBERS ABSENT: O. O’Neill, D. Reed, D. Ross-Jones


1) CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Chair Barbara Arietta called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) ROLL CALL
Acting CAC Secretary Renuka Narayan called the roll. A quorum was present.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE TA CAC MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2020
Motion/Second: Green/Londer
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chen, Chin, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Rendon
Absent: Fox, Ohtaki, O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

4) PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
None.

5) TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2020

10 (a) State and Federal Legislative Update

Amy Linehan, Public Affairs Specialist, briefly summarized highlights of recent federal and state legislation.

Steven Green asked if the TA was watching AB 2057, the seamless transportation bill; Ms. Linehan said yes.

Rich Hedges asked about the new FRA (Federal Railroad Administration) web portal for reporting blocked rail crossings and wondered about its impact on Caltrain. Ms. Linehan said she did not want to speculate on its impact on rail. She said the overall goal was to have a tool to increase safety on the tracks. Joe Hurley, TA Director, said that if complaints about rail crossings lead to increased federal funding for grade separations, then something positive could come out of it.
John Fox and Peter Ohtaki arrived at 4:40 pm

Mr. Hurley requested to take the items out of order

11 (a) Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report for the Period Ending December 31, 2019

Connie Mobley-Ritter, Director of Treasury, presented a staff report. She answered questions from Peter Ohtaki about the portfolio.

Motion/Second: Fox/Bautista
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chen, Chin, Fox, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon
Absent: O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

11 (c) Adopt a Debt Policy and Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from Proceeds of Indebtedness

Ms. Mobley-Ritter presented a staff report.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Hsu
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chen, Chin, Fox, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon
Absent: O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

10 (b) San Mateo County US 101 Express Lanes Project Update

Leo Scott, Co-Project Manager, Gray-Bowen-Scott, provided a presentation.

Jeff Londer asked if the various planned construction activities would start at the southern end and move north; Mr. Scott said yes.

An Chen said that she was concerned that current social media channels were not reaching younger drivers. Mr. Scott said they have been providing the cities with the information for them for dissemination by their respective public information officers.

Mario Rendon inquired about advertising during the morning commute from 7:30 to 9:30 am to create greater awareness. Mr. Scott said that when the press release goes out, it should be heard during prime time.

Mr. Hurley proposed having a standing item on upcoming TA CAC agendas to share concerns that Committee members are hearing from the public. He said the TA could adjust its strategies in response to these concerns.

John Fox asked if the information side of the project is included in the communications plan, such as lane closure announcements. Mr. Scott said that the TA can do that for significant lane closures and have signs on the side of the road.
Diana Bautista said she had heard radio announcements and seen the road signs. She said that she was willing to share the press releases.

Naomi Hsu said she would share with her Bay Meadows neighbors. She asked what toll testing would entail. Mr. Scott said they would run test vehicles after installing the tolling equipment.

Ms. Chen left the meeting at 5:31 pm

11 (b) Authorize an Amendment to the Contract with Eide Bailly LLP for Financial Audit Services

Derek Hansel, Chief Financial Officer, presented a staff report.

Ms. Hsu asked if the increase in fixed price was prorated from the original contract. Mr. Hansel said the increase was based on normal cost escalation and the volume of work.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Hsu
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon
Absent: Chen, O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

11 (d) Amendment of Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

Mr. Hansel said the amendment was based on the normal annual true-up process of the budget.

Motion/Second: Hsu/Bautista
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon
Absent: Chen, O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

5 (b) Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for December 2019

Motion/Second: Bautista/Hsu
Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Green, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon
Absent: Chen, O’Neill, Reed, Ross-Jones

5 (a) Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of January 9, 2020

No comments.

6) REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Arietta noted that the Caltrain Board had approval of a proposed Transit-Oriented Development policy.

She also noted an upcoming closure of the lower Crystal Springs dam bridge.

7) REPORT FROM STAFF
Mr. Hurley gave an update on the Holly Street/US 101 Interchange Project. He noted that the Express Lanes Project will proceed ahead of the Interchange.

Mr. Green asked if money was moved from the express lanes budget to construct the Holly interchange; Mr. Hurley said the transfer was not done.

Chair Arietta asked about the bids for the Interchange Project. Mr. Hurley said that two things may have contributed: the current volume of work for contractors and the one-year delay in the start of construction after bids.

Mr. Hurley said that the 101/Peninsula project involving the relocation of southbound ramps located at Poplar Avenue in San Mateo. He said that the Peninsula Avenue overcrossing will be used by both the City of Burlingame and the City of San Mateo. He said that the project will likely go before the Burlingame City Council in April, while the San Mateo City Council had a study session on February 3.

Mr. Londer said he was not aware of the San Mateo study session. Mr. Hurley said the City of San Mateo was working on doing more aggressive outreach.

Ken Chin said he heard that the new San Mateo Facebook campus is slated to have 8,000-plus employees. He asked when construction would be complete. Karen Kuklin said it would be April. Mr. Londer said the number was more likely 3,000 employees. Mr. Chin said that the 8,000 number may have referred to the full expansion to all properties under consideration by Facebook.

8) MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

None.

9) DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Chair Arietta announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 4:30 pm, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Gallagher Conference Room, 3rd Floor, San Carlos, CA.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.