

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: E. Beach (Chair), C. Groom (arrived at 5:24 pm), D. Horsley, J. Mates,
Via K. Matsumoto, R. Medina (Vice Chair), C. Romero
Teleconference

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: J. Hartnett, C. Mau, A. Chan, J. Hurley, J. Cassman, S. van Hoffen,
D. Hansel, G. Martinez, P. Gilster, P. Skinner, C. Fromson, J. Brook,
D. Seamans

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emily Beach called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

2. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Beach led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Authority Secretary Dora Seamans confirmed that a quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

4. REPORT OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Beach noted that the report was in the packet.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a) **Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of November 5, 2020**
- b) **Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending October 31, 2020**
- c) **Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2021**

Motion/Second: Horsley/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Horsley, Mates, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero

Absent: Groom

6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Beach said she had nothing to report.

7. SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT

Director Karyl Matsumoto noted that the Public Member Nominating Committee re-appointed Directors Rose Guilbault and Josh Powell to new four-year terms.

She added that SamTrans Vice Chair Peter Ratto offered to remain as Vice Chair for 2021 and graciously offered the Chair position to Director Charles Stone, and the Board approved Charles Stone as Chair and Peter Ratto as Vice Chair.

She noted that the Board had approved the Zero-emission Rollout Plan to comply with the California Air Resources Board. Jim Hartnett, Executive Director, noted that the plan will achieve zero emissions in advance of the state mandate and provides for flexibility as the technology for developing zero-emission vehicles matures.

8. JOINT POWERS BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Hartnett said that the report had been posted to the website. He highlighted details of the report, including the budget, governance process, and the CalMod electrification project.

Director Carlos Romero asked for clarification regarding the required substantial borrowing. Mr. Hartnett said the JPB had an operating line of credit where approximately \$15 million could be borrowed during the current fiscal year.

Director Rico Medina left the meeting at 5:17 pm

9. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Hartnett said that the report was provided in the packet. He added that SamTrans and the TA are in relatively good shape despite experiencing the worst public transit crisis in history. He credited the passage of Measure W for mitigating a structural deficit for the agencies. He thanked the Board for their continued support during 2020.

10. FINANCE

a) Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Derek Hansel, Chief Financial Officer, thanked Grace Martinez, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, and her team, and the team at auditor Eide Bailly for producing the report in a timely way.

Ms. Martinez introduced Ahmad Gharaibeh, Partner, Eide Bailly LLP. They both provided the presentation.

Director Carole Groom joined the meeting at 5:24 pm

Vice Chair Medina rejoined the meeting at 5:25 pm

Director Romero said that it appeared that the TA had more money in LAIF (Local Agency Investment Fund) than in the previous fiscal year. Mr. Hansel responded that they would work with Public Trust to set up TA's portfolio in conjunction with the County pool investments and LAIF investments to provide a mixture of appropriate liquidity and diversification.

Motion/Second: Mates/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Horsley, Mates, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero

Absent: None

b) Programming and Allocation of \$7,714,729 in Measure A and Measure W Funds from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Category for 12 Projects

Patrick Gilster, Manager, Programming and Monitoring, provided the presentation. He noted that City of San Mateo staff and joined with various community groups, including the Bay Meadows Neighborhood Alliance, in November to listen to community concerns.

Director Romero said he had recently biked around the 28th Avenue area and was looking forward to the improvements. He said he was pleased that the community and the City of San Mateo are working together on a solution.

Approved by Resolution No. 2020-28:

Motion/Second: Matsumoto/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Horsley, Mates, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero

Absent: None

11. PROGRAM

a) Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition Update

April Chan, Chief Officer, Planning, Grants/Transportation Authority, noted that Emma Shlaes, Deputy Director, Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC), was part of the SAG (stakeholder advisory group) that supported the development of the TA's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan. Mr. Gilster said that SVBC's objectives would help the TA shape program priorities.

Ms. Shlaes provided the presentation that included results of a recent survey showing the demographic differences about how people use various modes of transportation, such as driving car, taking transit, biking, and walking.

Director Matsumoto said that it has been difficult to provide bus services to the various colleges due to scheduling issues. She said she thought it was important to recruit younger people to start riding bikes, with the idea of college students being provided with bikes to ride to campus. Ms. Shlaes said that people are more likely to change during a major life change, such as starting college. She noted however that the County colleges were located in the hills, which makes biking difficult. She mentioned that SVBC would be working with Peninsula Clean Energy to initiate an electric bike program in 2021.

Director Don Horsley said that safety is a major concern for older people. He advocated separating bike lanes from cars and said the biggest complaint he hears about is speeding.

Director Julia Mates said that the City of Belmont recently approved rebates for low-income residents. She asked how the survey results will be applied. Ms. Shlaes said that there are more white males biking today compared to other demographics and that they want to remove barriers to biking for the other groups. Director Mates said that the solution for many is more protected bike lanes.

Director Romero asked for confirmation that the survey respondents were chosen randomly, and Ms. Shlaes concurred. She added that there was not a statistically significant sample for the black population. Director Romero noted that the question regarding the type of voter would not apply to undocumented respondents. Ms. Shlaes

said that she could direct him to the Mneta Transportation Institute, which had developed the survey questions.

Chair Beach noted that 84 percent of respondents said they did not feel safe biking next to traffic. Ms. Shlaes said that the City of San Jose has parking-protected bike lanes.

12. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Casey Fromson, Director, Government and Community Affairs, summarized highlights of recent federal and state legislation. She noted that President-Elect Biden, who has historically been an avid transit rider, has included the Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on his transition team. She said there is a package with \$15 billion for transit being considered. She said that a federal shutdown is unlikely. She said that the state would start introducing new bills starting December 7.

Chair Beach asked about policies at the Governor's level that might impact transit. Ms. Fromson said there is a strengthened focus on projects that reduce greenhouse gases.

13. 2021 DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Ms. Fromson said the TA CAC had seen and commented on the legislative program. She said the program was broad enough to encompass expected legislation in 2021 yet would be flexible enough for the Board to respond when needed.

She highlighted the key proposed changes to the program for both federal and state categories, noting that there was a lot of new legislation relating to COVID-19 and that references to Senate Bill (SB) 797 had been removed.

Chair Beach asked if language regarding the TA's equity framework could be added to the 101 Express Lanes project.

Director Romero said he supported the emphasis on public transit funding.

14. REQUESTS FROM THE AUTHORITY

There were no requests.

15. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE AUTHORITY

Chair Beach noted that the correspondence was available on the website.

16. DATE/TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Chair Beach announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, January 7, 2021 5:00 pm, via Zoom teleconference.

17. REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Ms. Cassman said that there was nothing to report.

18. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at www.smcta.com. Questions may be referred to the Authority Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to board@smcta.com.