

SAMTRANS LIAISON REPORT
Meeting of September 2, 2020

BOARD ACTIONS:

- Authorized a settlement (in August 5 closed session) in the amount of \$925,000 regarding Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Claim of Marie Goulis-Nijessen
- Approved minutes for Board of Directors meeting of August 5, 2020
- Accepted Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending July 31, 2020
- Accepted Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2020
- Authorized Filing of Claims and Receiving Lifeline Transportation Program Funding
- Approved the "Riding Together: Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan" as a Baseline Set of Measures to Ensure the Health of Transit Riders and Workers During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget in the Amount of \$209,396,751 and Fiscal Year 2021 Amended Capital Budget in the Amount of \$11,898,522
- Awarded a Contract to Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. for Public-Private Partnership Consulting Services for a Total Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$3,099,425 for a Seven-year Term
- Approved the Dumbarton Rail Corridor Project – Project Status Update and Board Approval of Project Commitment Letter to MTC
- Approved the Continuation of Special Counsel Services from the law firm of Wagstaffe, Loewenfeldt, Busch & Radwick, LLP

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMITTEES

Community Relations Committee

Mobility Management Report–Annual Summary

Chair Matsumoto asked if any operators had contracted COVID-19. David Olmeda, Chief Operating Officer/Bus, said some operators have been sick, but there is no indication that they were sick while on the job.

Director Charles Stone asked if the District could use lobbyists to emphasize to the state government that SamTrans would need adequate lead time to reinstitute school bus service. Jim Hartnett, General Manager/CEO, acknowledged that this was something that needed to be taken into consideration.

Director Stone asked how SamTrans had worked with union partners regarding implementing safety protocols. Mr. Olmeda said that they had implemented a specific MOU (memorandum of understanding) in April that outlines practices surrounding COVID-19.

Director Stone asked about what the District does if an employee tests positive for the coronavirus. Robert Sebez, Chief Safety Officer, said it was crucial to have a policy in place. He explained that the policy contains a strict contact tracing and quarantining protocol.

Director Ron Collins asked if the District logged complaints for rail and bus over the past few months. Mr. Olmeda said he could provide him with the data per 100,000 trips.

Director Collins asked how much revenue the current ridership might generate. Mr. Hartnett said it was too early to tell since the resumption of fare collection on August 16.

Resolution Endorsing the “Riding Together: Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan”

Director Peter Ratto said he was in support of having a standardized set of safety protocols for the region.

Director Rose Guilbault noted that the passengers have been complying with social distancing on SamTrans buses. She said that the WHO (World Health Organization) protocol was implementing a three-foot requirement for persons wearing masks. Mr. Murphy said at SamTrans that they are able to accommodate a six-foot distance.

Director Stone asked if the safety standards were evolving, and Mr. Murphy said yes, that the plan was a living document. Mr. Hartnett noted that the regional transit general managers were communicating multiple times per week, working with consultants.

Finance Committee

Award of Contract for Public-Private Partnership (P3) Consultant Services

Director Ron Collins asked what type of structure was being considered for the new building. Brian Fitzpatrick, Director of Real Estate and Property Development, said they wanted the consultant JLL to do some relevant market research. He said the market would dictate that and he said they were also planning on talking to the City of San Carlos. He said they would explore creative ways of developing new office space.

Mr. Hartnett said it was too early to yet know the number of buildings and offices for the space. He said that the property should be developed to meet community needs and supports the growth of SamTrans.

Director Dave Pine asked if the options were complete demolition versus gutting the entire building. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the current building has many retrofitting needs that would still leave an inefficient office space.

Director Rose Guilbault said she thought the timing was good for moving forward.

Director Josh Powell asked what is the next step after Step 1. Mr. Fitzpatrick said they would come back to the Board and let them know the economic picture. He said the objective of Step 2 is to have prepared a solicitation document for a development partner. Director Powell asked when it was projected that retrofitting would begin. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the development conditions need to be right beforehand. Director Powell asked how long the building process would take. Mr. Fitzpatrick said 12 to 18 months. Director Powell concluded that it would be five to six years before occupancy in the new building.