

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

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

AUGUST 31, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Arietta (Chair)*, D. Bautista, K. Chin, J. Fox (Vice Chair)*,
(Via Teleconference) R. Hedges, N. Hsu, K. Kuklin, S. Lang, J. Londer, P. Ohtaki (joined at
4:37 pm), M. Rendon

MEMBERS ABSENT: A. Chen, O. O'Neill, D. Reed

STAFF PRESENT: P. Skinner, A. Chan, J. Hurley, R. McCauley, P. Gilster, J. Williams,
J. Brook

* Vice Chair John Fox chaired the meeting in place of Chair Barbara Arietta due to the technical considerations of conducting the meeting via teleconference.

1) CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair John Fox called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) ROLL CALL

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

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE TA CAC MEETING OF AUGUST 3, 2021

Peter Ohtaki joined the meeting at 4:37 pm.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Lang

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Abstention: Chin

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

4) PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments.

5) TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

a) TA Board Item 10 (a) Alternative Congestion Relief and Traffic Demand Management (ACR/TDM) Plan

Patrick Gilster, Manager, Programming and Monitoring, provided the presentation.

Vice Chair Fox commended having input from stakeholders in the form of peer review.

Sandra Lang asked if the TA would need to form a new agency. Mr. Gilster said no, but that the TAG (technical advisory group) would be discussing ways the different agency partners could encourage congestion relief activities potentially using the TA funding through this program.

Ken Chin asked if the TA had thought about if there was some differentiation between TDM plans for the various parts of San Mateo County. Mr. Gilster said they have built in the flexibility to address congestion in different parts of the County such as the Coastsides on the weekends and the Bayside during the weekday commute.

b) TA Board Item 10 (b) Alternative Congestion Relief Program Update

Jennifer Williams, Administrative Analyst II, provided the staff report and introduced John Ford, Chair Commute.org, who provided the presentation.

Joe Hurley, TA Director, asked what the planned communications would be to facilitate an increase in carpooling with the opening of the 101 Express Lanes. Mr. Ford said for marketing, you cannot rely on a single stream or message, adding that you need to target many different areas with multiple messages.

Vice Chair Fox said that as more people start driving again, congestion will increase. He said that marketing was a lot easier prior to COVID.

c) TA Board Item 11 (a) Program and Allocate \$572,535 in Measure A Alternative Congestion Relief Funds to the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org) to Support the Countywide Congestion Relief Program for Fiscal Year 2022

Ms. Williams provided the staff report.

Vice Chair Fox asked how the amount compares to past years. Ms. Williams said funding is based on the Consumer Price Index and some of it funds Commute.org's administration. She said they work with Mr. Ford to come up with a number based on previous years' allocations.

Motion/Second: Arietta/Hedges

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

d) TA Board Item 12 State and Federal Legislative Update

Ryan McCauley, Government and Community Affairs Specialist, provided a summary of federal and state legislation. He said the Senate passed a \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package on August 11, known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

He said on the state side, Senate Bill (SB) 129 was passed, which includes \$2.7 billion in zero-emission vehicle infrastructure and \$500 million for grade separations.

Ms. Lang asked if the connecting communities program would help disadvantaged communities if grade separations are funded. Mr. McCauley confirmed that the bill is looking at the impact of the grade separations on historically disadvantaged communities with the intention of connecting such communities. Vice Chair Fox said that it was important to look at the impact of past transportation projects on these neighborhoods.

e) TA Board Item 5 (b) Program and Allocate \$3,859,822 in Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for the SamTrans Paratransit Program

Peter Skinner, Director, Grants and Fund Programming , presented the staff report.

Rich Hedges said that MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) was looking at having point to point transit without transferring at the County line.

Vice Chair Fox said it would be interesting to have a peer review by agencies in other counties.

Chair Barbara Arietta asked how long the paratransit program has been using taxis. She said riders must be eligible for paratransit services and need to arrange 24 hours ahead. Mr. Skinner said he would relay questions to confirmed with Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Services, prior to her presentation to the CAC in the coming months. Mr. Hedges explained the ride acquisition process.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Lang

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

f) TA Board Item 5 (c) Program and Allocate \$301,000 of Measure A Grade Separation Program Funding for Whipple Avenue Grade Separation Project

Mr. Skinner presented the staff report.

Mr. Hedges said that he supported the project and hoped that all the grade separations could be completed.

Vice Chair Fox asked how many at-grade crossings remain in Redwood City. Jessica Manzi, Transportation Manager, Redwood City, said there were six.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Ohtaki

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

g) TA Board Item 5 (d) Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending July 31, 2021

Mr. Hurley noted that for the first month of the current fiscal year, there was an increase for Measures A and W of \$3.8 million over the first month of last fiscal year, or a 40 percent increase in sales tax revenue for just the one month.

Motion/Second: Londer/Ohtaki

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

h) TA Board Item 5 (e) Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2021

Mr. Hurley noted that they were pursuing the request of the Board for an enhanced quarterly report that will provide a more comprehensive picture of the Caltrain capital projects that have TA funding. He said the next quarterly report would show more significant changes.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Bautista

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Fox, Hedges, Hsu, Kuklin, Lang, Londer, Ohtaki, Rendon

Absent: Chen, O'Neill, Reed

i) TA Board Item 5 (a) Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of August 5, 2021

There were no comments.

6) REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Arietta provided a summary of the August 20 JPB (Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board) special meeting on Caltrain governance, which was a follow-up to the cancelled governance meeting of June 25. She said the next governance meeting would be on September 30.

7) REPORT FROM STAFF

Mr. Hurley provided a brief summary of ongoing projects. He shared deadlines on some of the highway projects and Call for Projects.

Mr. Skinner responded to an earlier question about the role of taxi service in the paratransit program, saying that Ms. Dubost had clarified that the District began subcontracting with a taxi service in 2002 and that the paratransit subcontractor determines when to place a trip on taxi. Regarding a question about peer review, he said that Ms. Dubost participates in the Bay Area Accessibility Managers Working Group and attends a number of industry conferences and webinars to keep up to date on best industry practices.

8) MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

Ms. Lang said there is a need for an increase for potential funding for grade separations. She noted the Broadway crossing has been identified as one of the most dangerous in the state.

Mr. Hedges noted the success of the Amtrak route from Milwaukee to Chicago.

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

Vice Chair Fox announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 4:30 pm, with teleconference or location details to be provided prior to the meeting.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.