

SAMTRANS LIAISON REPORT

Meeting of July 7, 2021

BOARD ACTIONS

- Approved the minutes for the Board of Directors regular meeting of June 2, 2021 and special meetings of June 2 and June 22, 2021
- Accepted the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the period ending May 31, 2021
- Awarded a Contract to Provide Third-party Administrator Services for Public Liability Claims
- Approved Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Financing Plan, Including Short-term Lines of Credit and Issuance of Measure RR Sales Tax Revenue Bonds to Fund Certain Capital Costs Associated with the Peninsula Corridor Electrification and to Refund 2019 Farebox Revenue Bonds
- Appointed Michelle Lewis, Meredith Park, and Bianca Randall, Representing Bus Riders, to the Citizens Advisory Committee
- Approved and Ratified the Insurance Program for Fiscal Year 2022
- Authorized Modification of Compensation Rates for Services Provided by General Counsel
- Rather than approving the Resolution Declaring the Uncertainty of Compensation of District Administrative Employees as shown on the meeting agenda, the Board determined to take an alternate but related action to amend the operating budget to facilitate the Deputy General Manager/CEO's desire to grant a 3 percent salary adjustment for the District's non-represented employees effective July 1, 2021.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- Chair Stone provided an update on the governance discussions, noting that the governance meeting scheduled for June 25 did not go forward as planned due to VTA (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority) declining to participate upon advice of their counsel and subsequent loss of a quorum.
- Carter Mau, Acting General Manager/CEO, in his monthly report provided details on the service that SamTrans provided for VTA following the tragic shooting at the light railyard. He noted that efforts continue to bring new bus operators onboard.
- Mr. Mau said that on June 22, SamTrans authorized him to send letters to VTA, the City and County of San Francisco, and MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) seeking information on what efforts they had made to date to reimburse SamTrans for the funding for the right-of-way purchases. He said that he has not yet received any responses from the member agencies nor from MTC.

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMITTEES

Community Relations Committee

Monthly Performance Report – May 2021 - Ana Rivas, Director of Bus Transportation, said that since June 15, social distancing on buses is no longer required so that they can operate at full capacity, but masks are still required for all riders and operators. Director Jeff Gee asked how the changing regulations will affect school service. David Olmeda, Chief Operating Officer/Bus, said that staff was trying to offer 100 percent of pre-pandemic service to schools. He said that masking on buses is currently required pending any future guidance from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and the TSA (Transportation Safety Administration).

Finance Committee

Approval and Ratification of the Fiscal Year 2022 District Insurance Program -Marshall Rush, Claims Administrator, confirmed that some vehicles were being insured at actual cash value rather than replacement value. Committee Member Jeff Gee asked how the implementation of electric vehicles would change the valuation. Mr. Rush said that the District's insurance broker received information about the new fleet, which gets factored into the valuation. Chair Charles Stone asked if the District was insured against cyber-attacks. Mr. Rush confirmed that the District, the TA, JPB, and the JPA (San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority) had cyber-security coverage, adding that it was advantageous to purchase a single policy for all four agencies rather than individual policies for each of them.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

Fare Program Changes: Way2Go Pass Program and Clipper START Extension – The directors was unanimously in favor of extending both programs, but questioned having a \$2,500 contract minimum for the Way2Go pass program. Committee Member Jeff Gee suggested waiving the contract minimum for at least the first year and making other changes such as including nonprofit organizations in their outreach efforts. The Board encouraged staff to do more outreach to nonprofit agencies about both programs, and to investigate ways to reduce administrative processing costs. Advocates for low-income housing also urged the continuation of the Way2Go program.

Legislative Committee

State and Federal Legislative Update - Jessica Epstein, Government and Community Affairs Officer, briefly summarized the highlights of recent federal legislation and said that President Biden and a bipartisan group of senators announced that they had reached a deal on a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure framework, but that the President had said he would only sign it in conjunction with a larger Democratic spending bill. At the state level, Ms. Epstein said that the Senate and Assembly approved a \$263 billion budget. She noted that it includes \$2.5 billion for transit and inner city rail capacity programs, which is subject to additional legislation specifying how the funding will be allocated, and \$2.7 billion for zero-emission vehicle and infrastructure. She added that the Governor signed Assembly Bill 149, which includes statutory relief measures for transit agencies that were enacted during the pandemic and extends them to 2022-23.

CLOSED SESSIONS

There were four closed sessions:

- (a) Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) and Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Title/Unrepresented Employee: Deputy General Manager/CEO Carter Mau (position of General Manager/CEO currently vacant)
- (b) Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) and Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Title/Unrepresented Employee: General Counsel Joan L. Cassman (Hanson Bridgett LLP),
- (c) Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
- (d) Salaries of Unrepresented Employees/Consideration of Resolution Declaring the Uncertainty of Compensation of District Administrative Employees as of July 1, 2021

Ms. Cassman said that no reportable action was taken for Items (a) and (c). Mr. Mau read the resolution for Item (b) into the record, which the Board approved. The Board also approved the action proposed in Item (d) to be included in a resolution following the meeting.