

San Mateo County Transportation Authority
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California
Minutes of October 6, 2022

Members Present: E. Beach

(In Person)

Members Present: D. Horsley, J. Mates, R. Medina (Chair), M. Nagales, C. Romero (Vice Chair)

(Via Teleconference)

Members Absent: C. Groom

Staff Present: C. Mau, A. Chan, J. Cassman, S. van Hoften, P. Gilster, P. Skinner,
C. Fromson, H. El-Guindy, G. Martinez, J. Epstein, J. Brook, D. Seamans

1. Call to Order

Chair Rico Medina called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Dora Seamans, Authority Secretary, confirmed that a quorum was present. Chair Medina requested that Director Mark Nagales lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments.

4. Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee

Chair Medina noted that the report was posted on the website.

5. Consent Calendar

5.a. Adoption of Resolution Making Findings that the Proclaimed State of Emergency for COVID-19 Continues to Impact the Board's and Committees' Ability to Meet Safely in Person, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Board and Committee Meetings to Continue – *Approved by Resolution No. 2022-33*

5.b. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of September 1, 2022

5.c. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

5.d. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Period Ending August 31, 2022

5.e. Update to Authority's Conflict of Interest Code – *Approved by Resolution No. 2022-34*

5.f. Proclaiming the Month of October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month – *Approved by Resolution No. 2022-35*

5.g. Acceptance of Measure A and Measure W Semiannual Program Status Report

5.h. Approval of the 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar

Regarding Items #5c and 5d, Vice Chair Carlos Romero asked about the possible returns on liquid funds. Connie Mobley-Ritter, Director of Treasury, said staff had set up sweep accounts with JPMorgan to take advantage of interest rate gains in the short end of the market for overnight bank balances.

Motion/Second: Beach/Romero

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

Noes: None

Absent: Groom

6. Nominating Committee Report for the Citizens Advisory Committee

6.a. Appointment of Citizens Advisory Committee Members

Director Don Horsley announced the following recommendations for CAC membership:

- Gus Mattammal
- Ethan Mizzi

Motion/Second: Horsley/Nagales

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

Noes: None

Absent: Groom

7. Report of the Chair

Chair Medina thanked staff for their assistance in working to respond to a reporter's questions about why the Express Lanes were not yet open.

8. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report

Chair Medina said that the report on the September 7 SamTrans Board meeting was posted on the website. He noted the next SamTrans Board meeting would be October 12.

9. Joint Powers Board Liaison Report

Carter Mau, Acting Executive Director, said that the report was posted on the website. He said there was a robust discussion on the need to develop a near-term and long-term capital improvement program.

10. Report of the Executive Director

Mr. Mau said the report was in the packet. He said he attended a listening session with former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, who was recently appointed by Governor Newsom as Infrastructure Advisor to the State of California, regarding maximizing and prioritizing infrastructure dollars from the federal and state government. Mr. Mau noted the need to fund grade separations as well as the retrofit of SamTrans facilities to support the transition to a zero-emission bus fleet.

11. State and Federal Legislative Update

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, and Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, introduced the TA's state lobbyist Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, who provided a summary of state legislation that the TA had taken positions on or were otherwise significant. He noted that recent redistricting would take effect for the next legislative cycle.

Director Emily Beach asked about big legislative wins regarding transportation. Mr. Khouri said that they had advocated for an augmentation to the Active Transportation Program, which resulted in the State providing \$1.5 billion to the program. Ms. Epstein said there had also been an increase in funding for grade separation projects. Mr. Khouri also informed the Board about how he actively works with bill authors to modify legislation to better align with the needs of the TA.

Ms. Epstein provided a summary of federal legislation, indicating that Congress had passed a continuing resolution to extend the budget and keep the government afloat through December. She said that under the current administration, they are continuing to see increased funding going towards the Department of Transportation.

12. Finance

12.a. US 101 Express Lanes: Quarterly Update on Variable Rate Bond and Phase 1 Operations

April Chan, Acting Deputy General Manager/CEO, introduced Matt Click, Vice President and Policy Program Manager, HNTB. She noted that the update would be provided on a quarterly basis going forward.

Ms. Mobley-Ritter provided the initial part of the presentation on the project financials. Vice Chair Romero and Director Beach had questions about basis points, all-in costs, and capitalized interest, which Ms. Mobley-Ritter clarified. Director Julia Mates asked when the northern portion of the lanes would open. Ms. Chan said that Leo Scott, Project Manager for the TA, would provide an update on the project at the November 3 Board meeting. Vice Chair Romero noted that the interest rate appeared to be lower than budgeted and that it appeared that there was a lot of interest savings between September and May. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said they were working closely with their investment bankers and financial advisors to ensure that they get better indicators on changes in the financial outlook.

Mr. Click provided the balance of the presentation regarding 101 Express Lanes operations. Vice Chair Romero asked if the Board would see a comparison between the actual revenue collection and the projected revenue. Ms. Chan said that staff could provide that information at a future update, but said that revenue had come in less than expected. Mr. Click noted that revenue would increase when the northern segment of the project opens. Vice Chair Romero said he would like to see the debt service on the bond aggregated to the cost of operation. Director Beach noted that the TA and C/CAG (City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County) is funding the overall operations and the TA contributed more than its share when C/CAG was not able to contribute their full share.

13. Requests from the Authority

There were no requests.

14. Written Communications to the Authority

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

15. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting

Chair Medina announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, November 3, 2022, 5:00 pm in person at the SamTrans Auditorium and via Zoom teleconference.

16. Report of Legal Counsel

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, said that there was nothing to report.

17. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at <https://www.smcta.com/about-us/board-directors/video-board-directors-cac-and-smcel-jpa>. Questions may be referred to the Authority Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to board@smcta.com.