

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (TA)
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CA 94070**

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: R. Foust (Chair), C. Groom, D. Horsley, J. Lee, K. Matsumoto, T. Nagel

MEMBERS ABSENT: J. Vreeland

STAFF PRESENT: J. Cassman, G. Harrington, C. Harvey, R. Haskin, A. Hughes, M. Martinez, N. McKenna, D. Miller, S. Murphy, M. Scanlon, M. Simon

Chair Rosanne Foust called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and Director John Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) REPORT

CAC Chair Barbara Arietta thanked Directors Karyl Matsumoto and Carole Groom and staff for attending the November 29, 2011 CAC meeting. Ms. Arietta reported the following:

- Thanked Directors Karyl Matsumoto and Carole Groom and staff for attending.
- Interim Executive Officer Planning and Development Aidan Hughes gave a presentation on the Dumbarton Rail Corridor Project.
- Members had a few questions on the Statement of Revenues and Expenses and staff replied to the committee via email today.
- The CAC extended their appreciation to outgoing Director Lee for his work and passion for transit and transit oriented development.
- Extended their appreciation to Christine Maley-Grubl for her work as the Executive Director of the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance.
- CAC member George Zimmerman thanked staff for the outstanding graphics on the SamTrans update.
- Government Affairs Officer Jayme Ackemann gave a legislative update.
- She updated the committee on the High Speed Rail (HSR) meeting she attended in Palo Alto under her report.
- Appointed Randy Hees and Jim Bigelow to the nominating committee for election of 2012 officers.
- Director Transportation Authority Joe Hurley informed the committee that former TA Board member Rosalie O'Mahony was honored by the Burlingame City Council at a ceremony on Monday, November 7 dedicating the pedestrian overcrossing in Burlingame after her. He said there was a ribbon cutting on the new Belmont bike and pedestrian overpass over Highway 101 on Saturday, November 19.
- Thanked Mr. Hurley for his work with the CAC.

Director Carole Groom arrived at 5:09 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- a) Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for October 2011

A motion (Horsley/Lee) to approve the consent calendar was unanimously approved.

- b) Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2011

Director Terry Nagel said on page two under public comment Pat Giorni was referred to as Mr. instead of Ms. and should be corrected.

A motion (Nagel/Horsley) to approve the November 3, 2011 amended minutes was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Bigelow, Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber, said Director Lee has been a stellar supporter of Redwood City and chambers prior to becoming an elected official. He is absolutely outstanding and says what he thinks. Mr. Bigelow said he appreciate all that Director Lee has done for the cities, chambers and the TA.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – ROSANNE FOUST

Resolution of Appreciation to Christine Maley-Grubl

A motion (Lee/Horsley) to approve the Resolution of Appreciation to Ms. Maley-Grubl was approved unanimously.

Chair Foust thanked the CAC members and Board members who attended the Belmont Bike/Pedestrian event.

SAMTRANS LIAISON REPORT – KARYL MATSUMOTO

The November 9, 2011 SamTrans report is included in the agenda packet. Director Matsumoto said staff is working on the SamTrans Service Plan (SSP) public meetings.

JOINT POWERS BOARD (JPB) REPORT

Mr. Scanlon reported on the meeting of December 1, 2011:

- There were seven speakers under public comment ranging from holiday wishes, Clipper, Dumbarton Rail, Warm Planet Bike facility, shortening of consist length and rail safety.
- The Chair appointed a nominating committee of Directors Liz Kniss, Tom Nolan and Art Lloyd for the 2012 election of chair and vice chair.
- Approved the appointment of Director Lloyd to the Transbay Joint Powers Authority and Director of Caltrain Modernization Program Marian Lee as the alternate.
- California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Director Jim Hartnett gave a presentation on the High Speed Rail (HSR) Business Plan.
- Ms. Lee gave an update on the Caltrain Modernization Program.
- Key Caltrain Performance Statistics
 - Monthly Performance Statistics – October 2011 compared to October 2010
 - Total Ridership was 1,151,883, an increase of 2.3 percent.
 - Average Weekday Ridership was 42,618, an increase of 0.4 percent.
 - Total Revenue was \$4,809,157, an increase of 15.3 percent.

- On-time Performance was 94.9 percent, an increase of 1.9 percent.
- Caltrain Shuttle Ridership was 7,671, an increase of 31.9 percent.
- Year-to-Date Performance Statistics – October 2011 compared to October 2010
 - Total Ridership was 4,760,978, an increase of 8.5 percent.
 - Average Weekday Ridership was 44,330, an increase of 7.2 percent.
 - Total Revenue was \$20,114,821, an increase of 23.9 percent.
 - On-time Performance was 93.2 percent, no change.
 - Caltrain Shuttle Ridership was 6,959, an increase of 28.8 percent.
- The Bicycle Advisory Committee met on November 17. Staff liaison Todd McIntyre will be relocating to Washington, D.C.
- Cautioned the Board of a possible freight strike which would affect Caltrain south of the Tamien Station. Staff will have a bus bridge in place if that happens.
- Deputy CEO Chuck Harvey provided an update on capital projects at Santa Clara and San Jose Diridon stations.
- The new rail operator transition is continuing but a little behind schedule.
- Special service ridership:
 - Sharks ridership is up 50 percent over last year.
 - Stanford football is up 88 percent over last year.
 - Cal Bears football at AT&T Park carried an additional 3,000 riders per game.
- A Sunday schedule will be operated on Christmas Day and a Saturday schedule on December 26.
- A Saturday schedule will operate on New Year's Eve, but additional service will be provided for the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl game at AT&T Park. Four extra trains will operate after the fireworks and Caltrain will be free after 11 p.m.
- Staff will be participating in the Redwood City Hometown Days on Saturday, December 3.
- The Board:
 - Approved the consent calendar.
 - Approved the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for October.
 - Called for public hearing on February 2, 2012 for changes to the Codified Tariff.
 - Authorized a contract with Field Paoli Architects for conceptual design and cost feasibility for the San Bruno archway in conjunction with the San Bruno Grade Separation Project.
 - Authorized a contract to Central Fence Company for ongoing fencing along the right of way.
 - Authorized amendment for providing armored car service with Garda CL West.
 - Received a legislative update.
 - Received quarterly capital progress report with no questions.
 - Met in closed session to hear a report on pending litigation with no action taken.

Director Don Horsley asked what the Clipper card looked like and can it be used on all transit systems.

Executive Officer Customer Service and Marketing Rita Haskin said the Clipper card can have e-cash or auto loaded with transit products.

Director Horsley asked about the HSR report. Mr. Scanlon said Mr. Hartnett did a fantastic job and said HSR's past was somewhat checkered and trying to reverse the field and we are now in this together.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Scanlon said:

- Attended the City of Burlingame event for Ms. O'Mahony and it was very special evening.
- Recognized Director Matsumoto for championing the SSP outreach.

PROGRAM

Program Report: Transit: Dumbarton Rail Corridor

Interim Executive Officer Planning and Development Aidan Hughes reported:

- The sponsor agency is the TA, the lead agency is the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and the lead regulatory agency is the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
- This is a rail project between Union City to Redwood City with stations at Union City, Centerville, Newark, Menlo Park and Redwood City.
- The Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) is being updated to incorporate new existing baseline conditions of the natural, built and social environments, revised statutes and regulations, and revised thresholds for impact assessment.
- The five alternatives being evaluated in the EIS/EIR are:
 1. No-build
 2. Rail commuter
 3. Rail shuttle
 4. Rail hybrid
 5. Enhanced bus transportation systems management.
- The rail commuter alternative has a train running once an hour from Union City to Redwood City then to San Francisco and another train running once an hour in the morning peak from Union City to San Jose and the reverse would operate in the evening.
- The rail shuttle alternative has an increased ridership over the commuter alternative running peak period bi-directional shuttles every 15 minutes between Union City and Redwood City. This alternative offers no connection to Caltrain.
- The rail hybrid alternative would take the rail commuter alternative and add a version of the shuttle alternative, but run at 30 minute intervals.
- Five public meetings were held in November and a series of meetings have been held with the regulatory authorities and staff of Redwood City and Menlo Park.
- The shuttle alternative has an impact that goes outside of the Caltrain right of way in Redwood City and has an impact on the proposals for downtown Redwood City that were recently adopted by the Redwood City Council.
- Menlo Park station is very popular because of the new Facebook campus close to the station.
- A total of \$320 million has been committed to the project from various sources of which \$97 million is from the old and new Measure A.
- Staff is currently working on the cost estimates for all the alternatives.
- The project is at risk unless a robust funding plan can be found.

- Staff is currently working on the draft EIS/EIR and will be made available to the FTA in January/February 2012 and available for public review in late spring 2012. Goal is to have a final EIS/EIR in fall 2012.

Director Matsumoto clarified that if this project were to move ahead, the projected costs would be \$700 to \$900 million. Mr. Hughes said it is \$700 to \$800 million.

Director Matsumoto asked if this project continues until fall 2012, how much will it cost. Mr. Hughes said it is approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000.

Director Matsumoto asked if the no-build alternative is selected does that mean the bridge will be torn down. Mr. Hughes said if the bridge isn't used for rail it would have to be removed per an agreement with the Coast Guard.

Mr. Scanlon said a few years ago the Coast Guard was pressing to have the rail bridge demolished and staff explained that there was a project in development. The \$700 to \$900 million cost is if it is done now and with time the cost will increase.

Director Matsumoto asked what the expected ridership is. Mr. Hughes said the ridership projections vary depending on the alternative, from 8,500 to 16,000 riders per day.

Director Carole Groom asked how many cars go over the Dumbarton Bridge. Mr. Harvey said staff can provide the information.

Director Groom asked who is pushing for this project. Mr. Scanlon said it is Union City. Mr. Hughes said Menlo Park is very supportive of this project and there is general support from Redwood City.

Director Lee thinks once this project is open, ridership numbers will increase drastically. He said there was considerable opposition voiced on the project and asked for the top three reasons. Mr. Hughes said there is concern of the environmental impact moving through the Don Edwards Refuge, there is concern regarding service where there is no service now and the noise level and the impact to downtown Redwood City.

Mr. Scanlon said currently 81,000 cars travel daily over the Dumbarton Bridge.

Director Nagel asked if this project does not go ahead can the Measure A money be reprogrammed to other projects. Mr. Hughes said yes.

Director Nagel asked what it would cost to demolish the bridge. Mr. Hughes said in 2009 dollars it was \$90 million.

Director Nagel asked how much has been spent to date on this project. Mr. Hughes said approximately \$14 million which includes the acquisition of the right of way.

Director Nagel asked if staff is optimistic about this project. Mr. Scanlon said in the short-term no.

Mr. Scanlon said there was a consensus to take this project to the final EIR/EIS and at that time make an assessment. The signals from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) are there are different ways to evaluate this project and this project was rated low.

Public Comment

Roland LeBrun, San Jose, said MTC rated this project close to the bottom. He suggested going back and looking at double tracks for this project and a rail line shouldn't be built above the bay. Also this project should be broken down in phases.

Jim Bigelow, Redwood City/San Mateo County/Menlo Park Chamber, said in 1988 the business community pushed very hard for this because of the commute from the East Bay to jobs in San Mateo County. This is the first time since 1988 the public will have a thorough look at this project. At the last Dumbarton Rail Policy Advisory Committee meeting it was agreed to petition MTC to take the \$5.5 million that is available every year for the Caltrain operating subsidy to provide service to Union City on this service extension. This project can be phased and this project is far more along than HSR.

Director Groom asked who is on the Dumbarton Policy Advisory Committee. Mr. Hughes said the San Mateo County Transportation Authority representatives are Barbara Pierce from Redwood City, Carlos Romero from East Palo Alto and Kelly Fergusson from Menlo Park.

Director Horsley said it wasn't that long ago there was concern about funding for Caltrain and is there a plan to ensure that it is fully operational. Mr. Scanlon said there is a framework for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2013 and 2014. Caltrain is on record that the Dumbarton service would be operated by Caltrain as long as there is funding to pay for it 100 percent.

Director Nagel asked what it would take for this project to go electric and two tracks. Mr. Hughes said the decision to be diesel versus electric is because of freight and passenger rail on the same tracks. He said the shuttle alternative would require double tracking in the East Bay.

Director Horsley asked what happens if Caltrain becomes electrified and Dumbarton is diesel. Mr. Scanlon said the Gilroy service will be diesel and the remaining line will be electrified.

Legislative Update

Government Affairs Manager Seamus Murphy reported:

State Update

The first State Transit Assistance payments were received and the amounts were less than expected. The reasons being are they are tied to the sale of diesel fuel and the controller's office made a payment for the baseline diesel fuel sales tax amount, but did not make the payment for the negotiated amount added for the sales tax on diesel fuel.

Federal Update

There was an Appropriations Bill signed by the president on November 19. This bill maintains current funding levels as long as Congress can agree on either an extension of the current authorization for the transportation programs or pass reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Bill. Staff did see some progress in the Senate on this issue with the passing of a

bill that would maintain current funding levels for two years. The House is delaying action on any reauthorization proposal until next year and that is good news because the Senate proposal maintains the current funding levels.

Quarterly Capital Projects Report – 1st Quarter

Deputy CEO Chuck Harvey said at a prior board meeting there were questions raised about the administrative expenses on the South San Francisco Caltrain Station Parking Lot project. He did an analysis as the project was closed out and it was not a six-month paving project, but a 22-month design and collaboration with the City of South San Francisco as an interim improvement before the entire station is rebuilt. There also was some added scope to resolve some safety issues on the Union Pacific freight tracks between the parking lot and the platform.

Mr. Harvey said he sent a letter to the mayor of Atherton regarding the quad gates at Watkins Avenue which explains the protocol and how projects are generated at Caltrain and then the TA is requested for the funds. He is meeting with the mayor and some of the interested parties in the near future.

REQUESTS FROM THE AUTHORITY

None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE AUTHORITY

None

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

No report

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO OUTGOING DIRECTOR JOHN LEE

Chair Foust said Director Lee has served on the TA since 2000 and was chair in 2006 and vice chair the last two years. Director Lee is direct, knowledgeable and pulls no punches. Chair Foust thanked him not only for his service on this Board, but for his 22 years of military service.

Director Horsley said he has known Director Lee for 20 years and he serves with integrity, respect and is very direct. He appreciates his service to this country as a Marine, to San Mateo County and the city of San Mateo.

Director Nagel said she is very privileged to have served with Director Lee on this Board. She sees him as a public servant and serves from the heart and does what is best for the community.

Director Matsumoto worked with Director Lee as a councilmember for many years and it was a learning experience for her.

Director Groom said she and Director Lee have been in the same rotary club for many years and served with him on the San Mateo City Council and will treasure his friendship. She said besides her dad, Director Lee is the man she admires the most.

Mr. Scanlon said on behalf of the staff it has been a pleasure and honor to work with Director Lee. He is an incredible human being and everyone has the highest of respect for him. Director Lee's sense of timing is incredible and people will get the truth whether they can handle it or not so "Semper Fi".

Public Comment

Rich Hedges, San Mateo, said Director Lee is a communitarian and would define that as a person who looks at the community to see what to do is right and does it even at the expense of their own self-interest.

Legal Counsel David Miller said Director Lee was on the Board during a very critical period for the TA, the reauthorization of Measure A and Strategic Plan. Director Lee comes to every meeting early, always prepared and when the meeting is taking place has the broadest perspective to make sure there is clearness and all the interests of the community have been covered and taken into account.

Director Lee thanked everyone for their well wishes. He said it has been a real honor to serve on the TA. It is a critical element to the county. Director Lee said Marines are not afraid to speak out and in public service, not being afraid is critical. The entire staff has been excellent and great to work with.

A motion (Groom/Nagel) to approve the Resolution of Appreciation to Director Lee was approved unanimously.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

January 5, 2012 at 5 p.m. in the San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.