# Summary of San Mateo County Transit District's Committee and Board of Directors Meetings of February 5, 2014

## The Community Relations Committee and Board

Tina Dubost, Acting Manager, Accessible Transit Services, said last month was the quarterly meeting with the Eligibility Office. The Eligibility Office has made some improvements to their facility and to the set up and functional testing that will allow them to make better decisions. A staff member did travel training with a customer.

Mike Levinson, Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) Chair, said the appreciation party for MV Transportation will be on April 8. Nancy Keegan and he made a presentation on the PCC at the South San Francisco City Council.

Peter Ratto, Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair, said at their January 29 meeting, he was re-elected chair and Margaret Pye was elected vice chair. The CAC received a presentation on the Bus Rapid Transit study.

Committee Chair Deal announced the CAC recruitment opened to fill eight seats on the committee. Applications are available online and are due March 7, and the Board will appoint selected CAC members at the April 2 Board meeting.

Chester Patton, Director, Bus Transportation, presented the Mobility Management Report – Fixed-route Bus Service (attached).

Chuck Harvey, Deputy CEO, presented the Multimodal Ridership Report.

Average Weekday Ridership – December 2013 Compared to December 2012

Bus: 39,190, an increase of 2.5 percent.

All modes: 98,860, an increase of 6.8 percent.

### The Finance Committee and Board

- Approved the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for December 2013
- Approved the Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2013
- Authorized Award of Contract to Vintage Elevator Services, Inc. for Elevator Maintenance Services for an Estimated Amount of \$266,298 for a Five-year Term
- Received the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013

## The Legislative Committee and Board

Approved the 2014 Legislative Program

This program is to guide the San Mateo County Transit District's (District) policy advocacy efforts over the course of the 2014 calendar year. It is intended to be broad enough to cover the wide variety of issues that are likely to be considered during that time and flexible enough to allow the District to respond swiftly and effectively to unanticipated developments. Much of the program is carried over from last year.

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The State budget category has been updated to include a section on Cap and Trade revenues.

A section that covers other local financing options has been added. This was prompted because the Legislature is looking at ways to allow local government to enact local financing tools and to broaden the options available to local government. There is a proposal in the governor's budget for Infrastructure Financing Districts and expanding the availability of those, what they can be used to fund and how they are approved.

In the project delivery section new language has been added that states the District would seek to streamline the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process without weakening or jeopardizing the effectiveness of CEQA as an environmental protection.

## State Update

The governor's budget predicts a \$4 billion surplus. The governor's proposal would begin early repayment of \$351 million in Highway Users Tax Account funds to fund improvements and maintenance for State highways and local streets and roads in addition to active transportation projects and traffic management improvements. The budget also recommends full appropriation of \$1.1 billion in Proposition 1B infrastructure bond funds including \$793 million for transit agencies, \$160 million for intercity rail and \$113 million for state highways.

The budget would also appropriate \$850 million in Cap-and-Trade revenues including \$100 million for Senate Bill 375 implementation, \$100 million for the purchase of low-emission vehicles and \$300 million for rail modernization. Of the rail modernization funding, \$250 million would be reserved for high-speed rail (HSR) and \$50 million would be used for existing systems to enhance connectivity to the planned HSR system.

#### Federal Update

Congress approved an omnibus appropriations bill that funds Federal programs through September 30. The bill funds Federal transit programs at their fully authorized levels and also increases funding for the TIGER Multi-modal Grant Program to \$600 million, which is \$126 million more than last year's program. The bill did not include funding for HSR or the implementation of positive train control on the country's passenger rail corridors, but it also excluded language from the House-passed bill that would have prohibited Federal funding for the California HSR Project.

## Planning, Development and Sustainability Committee

## The Board:

 Received a presentation on the Next Generation of Clipper Fare Payment System. This is a Metropolitan Transportation Commission-led project to replace the system provider, Cubic Transportation Systems, when their contract expires in

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2019. The average weekday use of the Clipper Card on SamTrans is under 12,000. A vision and mission for the future system have been established. Executive, Steering, and Long-range Planning committees will be focusing on the future system. The path forward consists of peer agency reviews, fare coordination efforts, defining system performance, and establishing governance recommendations.

### **Board of Directors**

#### The Board:

Approved a Resolution of Appreciation to outgoing chair Carole Groom

## Michael Scanlon, General Manager/CEO, reported:

- Thanked Director Groom for her strong leadership as chair last year.
- Congratulated to Mr. Ratto and Ms. Pye on their elections to the CAC.
- Siddiqu Shaikh, President, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1574, was recognized.
- Commended Gigi Harrington, Deputy CEO, and her staff on the CAFR. The CAFRs are award-winning documents and are widely recognized for their format and content.
- Last Friday Caltrain had a fatality at Redwood City and a bus bridge was implemented. Staff was commended for their reaction to the situation.
- Corinne Goodrich, Manager, Strategic Development, has announced her retirement. She worked on the Grand Boulevard Initiative.
- The Grand Boulevard Initiative is the winner of the 2014 Sustainable San Mateo County Award.
- The SamTrans Open House is on Saturday, February 22. The public can begin their day at Central offices where they will be told about employment opportunities at the District, they can receive transit planning assistance, meet the Transit Police and K-9 unit, and then attendees will board a new hybrid buses to South Base where they will receive a tour.
- The Reading File contained the new system map, the Take One for the CAC recruitment, and the quarterly listing of bus exterior advertisements.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 2 p.m.