

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

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

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** B. Arietta (Chair), D. Bautista, K. Chin, S. Green, R. Hedges, J. Londer, P. Ohtaki, D. Reed, M. Rendon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** A. Chen, J. Fox (Vice Chair), N. Hsu, K. Kuklin, O. O'Neill, D. Ross-Jones

**STAFF PRESENT:** A. Chan, J. Hurley, J. Slavitt, L. Low, J. Brook, C. Mobley-Ritter

Chair Barbara Arietta called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm and requested that Ken Chin lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE TA CAC MEETING OF JULY 30, 2019**

Motion/Second: Londer/Bautista

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed

Abstentions: Chin, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2019**

**11 State and Federal Legislative Update and Approval of Legislative Proposals**

Lori Low, Public Affairs Officer, briefly summarized highlights of recent federal and state legislation. She said that Toks Omishakin had been appointed as the new Caltrans director. She provided updates on SB 277, SB 664, and the High-Speed Rail (HSR)/Federal Railroad Administration computation of environmental approvals for the San Francisco-to-Anaheim corridor.

Rich Hedges said that HSR was going forward with Plan A, which does not include passing tracks.

Ms. Low said more information about HSR could be found on [www.caltrain2040.org](http://www.caltrain2040.org).

Motion/Second: Hedges/Ohtaki

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

### **10 (a) Award of Contracts for On-Call Financial Consulting Services**

Connie Mobley-Ritter, Director of Treasury, presented a staff report regarding renewal of contracts. She noted that they have added advisory services for Highway 101 express lanes but have reduced the value of contracts by half.

Jeff Londer asked why the value of contracts went down 50 percent. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said it was likely due to having new consultants and relying on in-house expertise.

Dave Reed asked how volatile the budget was. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that they have not used all of the contract capacity in recent years.

Peter Ohtaki asked about the difference between the performance audit and the financial audit.

Motion/Second: Bautista/Hedges

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

### **10 (b) Authorize the Execution of a Four-Party Agreement to Provide Toll System Design Services Associated with the San Mateo County 101 Express Lanes Project**

Joe Hurley, TA Director, presented a staff report. He outlined three components of the project: Santa Clara County line to Whipple Avenue, Whipple Avenue to I- 380, and the toll system infrastructure, which will be operated by Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA). He said that BAIFA brought \$95 million to the project through bridge toll revenue.

Motion/Second: Londer/Reed

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

### **10 (c) Authorize Loan of \$53 Million for the Construction of the San Mateo County 101 Express Lanes Project**

April Chan, Chief Officer, Planning, Grants/Transportation Authority, noted that some changes had been made to the Funding Sources table in the staff report.

Mr. Londer asked if there was interest involved. Ms. Chan said that there was and that the TA would seek payback with interest.

Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that the TA has a stellar credit rating, which gives it the ability to borrow funds at a very low rate. She said that the TA will lend the funds to the San Mateo County Express Lanes JPA (SMCEL JPA) and repay the creditors with interest from future toll revenues.

Mr. Hedges asked if this loan would encumber funds that the TA could use for other projects, and Ms. Mobley-Ritter said no.

Ms. Chan said that once the facility opens in 2022, revenue will go first towards maintenance and operations.

Chair Arietta wanted to confirm that the TA was looking for a loan, and Ms. Chan confirmed that they were doing so.

Mr. Reed asked if the loan would set a precedent for the TA. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that the TA is not in the business of lending money. She said that she would be able to present a more detailed picture of the loan structure in the future. She said the immediate intent of the proposed loan is to get the TA repaid as soon as possible. It was also pointed out that this is a revenue-generating project with a means of paying back the loan.

Ms. Chan said that other TA projects will not be negatively impacted by the loan.

Mr. Ohtaki asked about the loan structure. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that first, the TA would borrow from a lending institution, then in turn loan that money to SMCEL JPA.

Mr. Reed asked what would happen if the TA did not loan SMCEL JPA the money. Ms. Chan answered that the State would not make available the funds needed to proceed with the project.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Ohtaki

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

#### **5 (b) Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for July 2019**

Mr. Ohtaki noted that there was a considerable increase in expenditures since July 2018 based on the change from accruals to cash accounting. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that in July, the member agencies paid their annual insurance premiums.

Mr. Hedges asked about the percentage increase of sales tax revenue. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that she would get back to him.

Mr. Londer had questions about the sales tax figures on Page 10 of 11.

Chair Arietta asked how long was the TA accounting done on an accruals basis. Ms. Mobley-Ritter said that it was done on a cash basis until 2015 when it switched to accruals. She said that they are now returning to cash accounting because it is more efficient.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Londer

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

#### **5 (c) Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2019**

Mr. Hurley pointed out the Gray Whale Cove pedestrian access project and noted that they had adjusted the baseline of the project in April. He said that they are now on track to meet the November schedule.

Mr. Londer asked if meetings concerning the Peninsula Avenue/Highway 101 interchange were being set up with the City of Burlingame. Mr. Hurley said that a study was being done on traffic impacts resulting from the proposed project.

Mr. Hedges said that the new Facebook facility in San Mateo will have a major impact on the interchange.

Mr. Reed asked if the design for the Gray Whale Cove crosswalk was finalized, and Mr. Hurley said yes.

Motion/Second: Hedges/Reed

Ayes: Arietta, Bautista, Chin, Green, Hedges, Londer, Ohtaki, Reed, Rendon

Absent: Chen, Fox, Hsu, Kuklin, O'Neill, Ross-Jones

#### **5 (d) Information on Statement of Revenues and Expenses for June 2019**

No comments.

#### **5 (a) Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of August 1, 2019**

No comments.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Arietta said that Virgin Trains USA would be building a high-speed railroad from Victor Valley, CA to Las Vegas starting January 2020. She said another line was being planned in the Miami area.

She related that the Foster City Council announced they had approved funding for a transportation management association (TMA) to help with reducing traffic congestion. She said the funding would consist of dues paid by businesses that are members of the TMA. Mr. Chin commented that the City of San Mateo also has a TMA.

### **REPORT FROM STAFF**

Mr. Hurley announced that a ribbon-cutting ceremony was coming up to open the Highway 101/Willow Road Interchange on September 24 at 11:00 am in the northeast quadrant of the interchange.

He said that the Highway 101/Holly Street Interchange project was coming up and that the TA was trying to work with the City of San Carlos to avoid conflicts with the 101 Express Lanes Project.

He said that an update on the 2020-2024 TA Strategic Plan would be on the October meeting agenda.

Ms. Bautista asked if the TA was participating in the development of the Faster Bay Area mega-measure. Mr. Hurley said it was still in the planning phases.

Mr. Hedges pointed out that Los Angeles (LA) has gotten a lot of transportation funding.

Mr. Green said that LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) now has a people mover.

Mr. Hedges mentioned LA's light rail and express buses.

Mr. Reed talked about the TA's relationship with TMAs (transportation management associations).

### **MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS**

Mr. Green said that he had heard positive feedback about the new Foster City Express route.

**DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Arietta announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 4:30 pm, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, San Carlos, CA.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm.