



# MINUTES

## **San Francisco County Transportation Authority**

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

### **1. Roll Call**

Chair Mandelman called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**Present at Roll Call:** Commissioners Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Stefani, and Walton (8)

**Absent at Roll Call:** Commissioners Chan (entered during Item 4), Peskin, Safai (entered during Item 5) (3)

### **2. Approve the Minutes of the July 23, 2024 Meetings - ACTION**

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Preston.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Stefani, and Walton (8)

Absent: Commissioner(s) Chan, Peskin, Safai (3)

### **3. Community Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION**

Kat Siegal, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair, reported that the CAC had met twice since her last report to the Board in July. Ms. Siegal stated the CAC received updates from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA) about the Quick Build Program and What's Next for Vision Zero and an update on Severe Injury and Fatalities Trends Update from the Department of Public Health (SFDPH). She stated members wanted more information about trends in underlying causes of fatal and injury crashes and also wanted to know whether more data could be collected about more minor injury crashes and whether more reporting about injury crashes could be done by hospitals to decrease the reliance on police reports.

Chair Siegal reported that during the September 4th CAC meeting, members approved the resolution for the Bayview Street Safety and Truck Relief Study grant. She stated that the CAC Vice Chair and District 10 representative expressed strong support for that study. Ms. Siegal also said that members had a long discussion on the Prop L and TNC Tax Fund and Allocations item, particularly on the Great Highway Gateway study. She stated that several members were concerned the study was being considered prior to the election and Prop K would affect the scope of the project. She said that some



members thought it better to wait until after the election to conduct the Great Highway Gateway study. Ms. Siegal stated that the CAC voted separately on the allocation for the study, and it had passed six to three. She also stated that the CAC approved the remaining request for the 6th Avenue and Clement Street Intersection Improvements and the fiscal year 2025 Quick Build projects. Lastly, Ms. Siegal noted that the CAC unanimously approved the Prop K amendments for the two pavement renovation projects and the Ferry Terminal improvements.

Chair Mandelman thanked Chair Siegal and the CAC members for their work on the CAC.

There was no public comment.

#### **4. State and Federal Legislation Update – INFORMATION**

Mark Watts, Sacramento Advocate, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Mandelman asked what next steps for SFMTA would be assuming Senate Bill (SB) 532 (Wiener) was signed by the Governor.

Joel Ramos, Acting Director of Government Affairs for SFMTA, responded that the bill could be used to help address the financial challenges of the agency and would be discussed by the Muni Funding Working Group and that SFMTA is a supporter of the legislation. Mr. Ramos explained that nothing could be done immediately and that the first step would be for SFMTA to work with stakeholders representing low-income communities and others to develop an equitable and accessible parking cash payment plan before anything is implemented on San Francisco streets, adding that an initiative under SB 532 could help low-income drivers save money.

Chair Mandelman asked about the percentage of current parking fees that are being paid through mobile devices.

Mr. Ramos replied that he does not have the information on hand and went on to explain the differences between current parking fee payment operations and how payment would work under the pilot program if authorized by SB 532, noting that the current payment structure does not allow SFMTA to implement benefits for low-income drivers.

Vice Chair Melgar asked who currently opposes SB 532.

Mr. Ramos replied that there is no opposition but noted support from the cities of Long Beach and Santa Monica as well as various other groups.

There was no public comment.

#### **5. Appoint Sharon Ng as the District 3 Representative to the Community Advisory Committee – ACTION**

Amelia Walley, Senior Program Analyst, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Sharon Ng spoke to her interests and qualifications for serving on the CAC, stating that if she were appointed to the CAC, she would be committed to representing the transportation interest of District 3 and champion initiatives that make San Francisco's transportation system more equitable.

Calvin Yan, Legislative Aide, spoke on behalf of Commissioner Peskin and thanked



former District 3 CAC representative, Rose Chen. Mr. Yan said that District 3 had to balance transit needs along with the needs of families and seniors who live there. He also stated that Commissioner Peskin believed that Ms. Ng had the balance, expertise, and younger perspective to tackle a lot of the transit, transportation, public safety, bike connections in the city. He stated Ms. Ng was a community worker in the Chinatown Community Development and that her perspective on the community development as part of the transportation network was crucial to the position. He continued by saying that Ms. Ng was also a member of the Chinatown Transportation Research Improvement Project. Mr. Yan concluded by stating Commissioner Peskin urged and requested the Board appoint Sharon Ng as the CAC District 3 representative.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Walton.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Peskin (1)

**6. [Final Approval on First Appearance] Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Master Agreements, Program Supplemental Agreements, Cooperative Agreements, Fund Transfer Agreements and Any Amendments Thereto with the California Department of Transportation for Receipt of State Funds for the Bayview Street Safety and Truck Relief Study in the Amount of \$525,110; and State Funds for Planning, Programming, and Monitoring in the Amount of \$199,000– ACTION**

Aliza Paz, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Walton moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Melgar.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Peskin (1)

**7. Allocate \$284,145 in Prop L Funds, with Conditions, and Allocate \$3,493,000 in Traffic Congestion Mitigation Tax Funds for Three Requests – ACTION**

Mike Pickford, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Safai said that with regard to the Vision Zero Quick Build request that there would be a number of speed limit reductions on high injury corridors in District 11. He stated that District 11 is bounded by two freeways and that many drivers use neighborhoods as cut-throughs which caused a significant amount of speeding. He said that the SFMTA had done a tremendous amount of work on traffic calming, including speed cushions and raised crosswalks, and thanked staff. He said that speed limit reductions would be a third element to help calm traffic. He asked what the magnitude



of the speed limit reduction would be.

Jen Wong, Transportation Planner with SFMTA, replied that the request would fund installation of new speed limit signs reflecting a 5 mile per hour reduction in the speed limit at eligible locations. She said that the final locations had not been determined, but that potential locations were included in the meeting materials.

During public comment, Eileen Boken stated that she represented Sunset-Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK). She stated the Great Highway Gateway Study was misguided and that agendizing it could be seen as an implied endorsement of Proposition K. She said that SPEAK strongly urged the Board to table the request.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Ronen.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Peskin (1)

**8. Amend Two Prop K Grants to Allow Cost Savings from the San Francisco Ferry Terminal Security Improvements (Design) (\$132,405) and Potrero Avenue Pavement Renovation (\$737,181) Projects to Fund, Respectively, San Francisco Ferry Terminal Security Improvements (Construction) (\$132,405) and De Long Street Pavement Renovation (\$350,000) and Sunset Boulevard Pavement Renovation (\$387,181) – ACTION**

Amelia Walley, Senior Program Analyst, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Safai thanked Executive Director Tilly Chang and Transportation Authority staff for their work on the De Long Street request and expressed his appreciation that the block was being addressed.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Safai moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Preston.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Peskin (1)

**9. Adopt I-280 Northbound Geneva Off-Ramp Study – ACTION**

Carl Holmes, Deputy Director for Capital Projects, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Safai commented that this area often experienced significant traffic congestion as cars exit the northbound I-280 off-ramp and said there was a need for clearer pedestrian safety measures and traffic flow management. Commissioner Safai stated he appreciated all three recommendations and was in full support of the study. He also said that he thought extending the exit lane would be helpful because of how dangerous the backup was coming off the freeway and commented that the curve



made it hard for drivers to predict the traffic slow down ahead. He appreciated the hard work of Director Chang and the Transportation Authority team.

Vice Chair Melgar stated she saw there was collaboration with Caltrans as part of the study, but not with BART. She said due to the BART drop offs on both sides, both northbound and southbound directions were dangerous. She continued by saying that one of the most dangerous things about the intersection was the northbound ramp because the elevator to the BART station was on the north side of the street. She recounted seeing pedestrians, cyclists, and people crossing in wheelchairs at that intersection in order to reach the elevator and having to contend with drivers turning right. She asked whether there was collaboration with BART in regard to signage.

Carl Holmes, Deputy Director for Capital Projects, responded that scope described by Vice Chair Melgar would be included in the recommended traffic signal upgrade work.

Commissioner Safai moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Melgar.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Peskin (1)

#### **10. SFMTA Quick Build Program Update – INFORMATION**

Jen Wong, Quick-Build Program Manager at SFMTA presented the item.

There was no public comment.

#### **11. SFMTA What's Next for Vision Zero – INFORMATION**

Shannon Hake, Speed Safety Camera Program Manager at SFMTA presented the item.

Chair Mandelman asked about the status of the speed safety camera program.

Ms. Hake responded that it was on track and SFMTA would implement the cameras in 2025.

Chair Mandelman asked about the Vision Zero program name and the potential branding update.

Ms. Hake responded that, based upon public feedback, SFMTA planned to make the Vision Zero topic more relatable and move towards a positive vision rather than avoiding negative consequences.

Chair Mandelman commented that work had been completed, which had prevented injuries and fatalities. However, he noted that the Vision Zero goal did not seem to have been reached.

During public comment, Malena Mackey Cabada from WalkSF said they represented a coalition of more than 30 community organizations in San Francisco and that they had provided the Commissioners a copy of recommendations from the Vision Zero Coalition.



**12. San Francisco Department of Public Health Vision Zero SF: Severe Injury and Fatalities Trends Update – INFORMATION**

Seth Pardo, Director at Center for Data Science, San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) presented the item.

Chair Mandelman commented that the identification of trends was challenging, and the data for the current year had negative statistics. He asked if there were conclusions to be drawn from the data in 2022 and 2023.

Seth Pardo stated that the City Controller had created a dashboard that compared San Francisco to other comparable cities which showed that San Francisco was leading the way towards Vision Zero but, similar to other cities, had a long way to go to achieve this.

During public comment, a commenter stated that Waymo was not included in the presentation and that Vision Zero implied zero vision.

**Other Items**

**13. Introduction of New Items - INFORMATION**

There were no new items introduced.

**14. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**15. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.