



# DRAFT MINUTES

## SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tuesday, December 17, 2013

### 1. **Roll Call**

Chair Avalos called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m. The following members were:

Present at Roll Call: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Tang, Wiener and Yee (8)

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Campos (entered during Item 11), Chiu (entered during Item 3) and Mar (entered during Item 2) (3)

### 2. **Approval of Minutes for November 26, 2013 Meeting – ACTION**

There was no public comment.

The minutes were adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Tang, Wiener and Yee (8)

Absent: Commissioners Campos, Chiu and Mar (3)

### 3. **Chair's Report – INFORMATION**

Chair Avalos reported that it had been another busy and productive year at the Transportation Authority. He thanked Vice Chair Scott Wiener for his partnership and leadership on transportation issues, and the Committee Chairs – Commissioner Eric Mar for Plans and Programs and Commissioner Malia Cohen for Finance – for their great work. On behalf of his colleagues, Chair Avalos thanked staff and the aides for helping with the large work program at the Transportation Authority. Chair Avalos highlighted that the Board undertook a major effort to select a new leader for the agency after the retirement of former Executive Director José Luis Moscovich. He stated that after a thorough and inclusive vetting process, the Board appointed Tilly Chang as Executive Director.

Chair Avalos stated that 2013 was also a big year for local and regional transportation planning with the adoption of Plan Bay Area. He said that this was the first regional plan to respond to statewide climate policy with a Sustainable Communities Strategy and investment policies that tied transportation funds to housing goals. He stated that Plan Bay Area included all of San Francisco's investment priorities.

Chair Avalos announced that last month brought the conclusion of the Mayor's 2030 Transportation Task Force work and final report, which discussed much needed new revenues for transportation and which we would continue to discuss and shape into the new year.

Chair Avalos noted that on today's agenda was the adoption of the San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP), the city's strategic transportation blueprint, which set San Francisco's investment priorities and guided its planning initiatives for upcoming revenue

and policy discussions for years to come.

Chair Avalos thanked the SFTP Community Advisory Committee for working closely with partner agencies and a wide range of stakeholders and the public in this complex and important work. He recognized staff for its work on innovative tools like the Budget Czar survey and MyStreetSF.com, both of which were great, easy to use tools to find out what transportation improvements were happening in every neighborhood and weigh in on priorities.

Chair Avalos thanked the commissioners for their leadership on a range of issues, including transit state of good repair, local streets maintenance, pedestrian safety, bicycle sharing, congestion management, neighborhood access, affordability, safety, efficiency and equity of the transportation system.

Chair Avalos highlighted that the agency also kept the funds flowing this year, helping with economic recovery and addressing pressing needs in every neighborhood across the city. He stated that this year, the Transportation Authority passed the \$1 billion mark for its Prop K transportation sales tax program, allocating funds for projects to improve the safety, accessibility and capacity of the transportation system – from major projects to neighborhood improvements citywide.

Chair Avalos stated that the Transportation Authority had moved a strong group of projects forward through the Prop AA and One Bay Area Grant programs, the bus rapid transit (BRT) program had moved ahead with the approval of the Van Ness Avenue BRT Environmental Impact Report, and the major capital projects of the Prop K plan were all under construction. He commented that from the award-winning Presidio Parkway to the transformative Central Subway and Transbay Transit Center projects, the Transportation Authority's investments were having an impact. He added that its impact extended beyond the investments on the ground. He explained that the Transportation Authority was involving greater numbers of small, local and disadvantaged businesses in its transportation projects, and engaging community-based organizations in its outreach to Communities of Concern and increasing the involvement of neighborhood groups in the decision-making process. He said that he was excited about the work underway to incorporate a Neighborhood Transportation Improvement Program within the SFTP Early Action Plan and Prop K prioritization process.

Chair Avalos concluded that it had been a very productive and meaningful year. He said that he looked forward to working with the Board and the agency on strengthening the transportation sector, and seeing more accomplishments in 2014, including the conclusion of some important revenue discussions at the regional and local level and enhanced project delivery across the city.

There was no public comment.

#### 4. **Executive Director's Report – INFORMATION**

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, presented the Executive Director's Report.

Chair Avalos asked if a ballot initiative was the only option to move the statewide Vehicle License Fee (VLF) forward for the November 2014 election. He asked whether the state legislature had the authority to place the measure on the ballot.

Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, responded that supporters of

the statewide VLF ballot initiative would be polling in January to test the level of support for the initiative. She said that Transportation California and California Alliance for Jobs would consider the results of the polling and decide whether or not to pursue getting the more than 800,000 signatures needed to place the measure on the ballot.

Commissioner Wiener commented that it wasn't a question of the legislature's authority. He stated that it was unlikely that the legislature would place the measure on the ballot. He said that not knowing the timing made decision-making complicated. He expressed concern that the proposal for the ballot initiative would only provide 10% of the new revenues for transit capital maintenance.

Commissioner Wiener stated that if the VLF revenue was distributed as follows: 50% to cities and counties for local streets and roads maintenance, 40% for maintaining the State highway system, and 10% for transit capital maintenance, San Francisco would be eligible primarily for the local streets and roads maintenance and transit capital maintenance categories. He said that local jurisdictions could potentially be granted flexibility in determining how to use the allocations.

Commissioner Mar thanked staff for the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit project updates and for the outreach efforts. He said that he appreciated the transparency of the project.

There was no public comment.

#### Items from the Finance Committee

5. **Award Construction Contract No. 04-3A6404 to the Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder, Golden State Bridge, Inc., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$49,305,345.50, Authorize the Executive Director to Negotiate Contract Payment Terms and Non-Material Contract Terms and Conditions for the Construction Contract, Authorize the Executive Director to Execute All Other Supporting Agreements, and Authorize an Additional Construction Allotment of \$14,569,340.50 for the I-80/Yerba Buena Island Ramps Improvement Project – ACTION**

There was no public comment. This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Campos and Kim (2)

6. **Accept the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013 – ACTION**

There was no public comment. This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Campos and Kim (2)

7. **Award an 18-Month Consultant Contract to Tyler Technologies, Inc., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$415,000, for Implementation, Licensing, Support and Maintenance**

**Services for Microsoft Dynamics AX 2012, and Authorize the Executive Director to Negotiate Contract Payment Terms and Non-Material Contract Terms and Conditions – ACTION**

There was no public comment. This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Campos and Kim (2)

**Items from the Plans and Programs Committee**

8. **Allocate \$4,563,090 in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, for Three Requests, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedules and Amend the Relevant 5-Year Prioritization Programs – ACTION**

Commissioner Mar said that the Plans and Programs Committee had an extended discussion on the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's (SFMTA's) request for the Escalator Rehabilitation - Phase 2 project. He thanked Jonathan Rewers, SFMTA's Manager for Capital Financial Planning and Analysis, for providing the maintenance plan for the escalators. Commissioner Mar stated that it appeared the Plans and Programs Committee's requested deliverables and special conditions had been or would be met.

Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, responded that the Plans and Programs Committee's requests were reflected in the resolution language. She said that the maintenance plan would be provided in electronic format to the Board. Ms. LaForte stated that the SFMTA would like to move forward with the Prop K funding request and its staff was present to answer questions. Ms. LaForte said that the Board could choose to take action today or defer until January.

Commissioner Mar spoke in support of moving the item forward today.

During public comment, Citizens Advisory Committee member Jackie Sachs commented that the funding for the Escalator Rehabilitation - Phase 2 project should be provided by the SFMTA and not through Prop K.

This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Campos and Kim (2)

9. **Adopt the San Francisco Transportation Plan – ACTION**

During public comment, Citizens Advisory Committee member Jackie Sachs commented that Board should review the previous five-year plan, to see what had been done and what hadn't, as a way to prioritize the requests. Kit Hodge, Deputy Director for the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, commended the Transportation Authority and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) for its hard work on the San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP). She expressed concern that the numbers for the bicycle

elements were based on a five-year plan (2013 to 2018) developed by the SFMTA. She said that this had now been turned into a 25-year plan within the SFTP, which seemed to turn San Francisco's goal from 20% of trips by bicycle by 2020 into 20% of trips by bicycle by 2040.

Commissioner Wiener asked Transportation Authority staff to comment on Ms. Hodge's concerns.

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, responded that Transportation Authority supported the bicycle strategy implementation, which would require a lot of funding and increased project delivery strategies and partnerships. She said that the process could be accelerated with a concerted effort by the community and the agencies, but currently, projects were being delivered at \$5 million per year historically. She added the new investment levels of \$191 million represented a large multiple of that, approximately \$38 million per year, if the plan was to be implemented by 2018. She said that issues needed to be addressed, with all hands on deck, at the policy level and some of these discussions were already underway.

Commissioner Wiener said that in terms of project delivery for complete streets, pedestrian safety, and bicycle upgrades projects, there were issues beyond traditional challenges. He said that there seemed to be a lack of political will to push projects forward. He cited as an example the San Francisco Fire Department's objection to pedestrian safety improvements, which didn't have any impact on fire safety and had tangible benefits for pedestrians. He added that the Fire Department had provided statistics that stating that 55% of pedestrian accidents were caused by pedestrians. He said that intuitively, many felt that statistic was incorrect. Commissioner Wiener stated that the Fire Department had since informed the Board of Supervisors that its consultant had miscalculated the data and the statistic for pedestrians as the primary cause of accidents was actually 33%. Commissioner Wiener asked how the Board could build the support needed to deliver these prioritized projects.

Ms. Chang responded that at the staff level, it was clear that when outreach was done thoroughly and in coordination all parts of any organization that were involved, along with strong public participation, the results had been promising.

Commissioner Wiener said that for large projects, such as improvements on Polk Street or Second Street, there were usually some concerns about how extensive outreach efforts were. He stated that smaller projects that weren't controversial often were the projects that get stalled. He said that the SFMTA Board had legislative authority to get the projects approved and he would like to see the SFMTA, consistent with its mandate, be more proactive in considering the views of various departments and making decisions based on that process.

This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Tang, Wiener and Yee (8)

Absent: Commissioners Campos, Kim and Mar (3)

#### 10. **Approve the 2013 San Francisco Congestion Management Program – ACTION**

During public comment, Madeleine Savit, founder of Folks for Polk, concurred with Commissioner Wiener's comments during Item 9 regarding outreach and a lack of political will. She commented that the loud voices of the minority sometimes obstructed progress on projects, and various agencies, stakeholders and the public needed to work closely together.

This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Tang, Wiener and Yee (8)

Absent: Commissioners Campos, Kim and Mar (3)

### **Items from the Personnel Committee**

11. **Approve the Executive Director's Performance Goals for Fiscal Year 2013/14 – ACTION**

At the call of the chair, closed session was not held, without objection.

Chair Avalos introduced the item. Tilly Chang, Executive Director, presented this item.

Commissioner Yee asked whether staffing and organizational structure had been considered.

Ms. Chang responded that one of the objectives was Agency/Staff Development. She said she would examine whether staff were being utilized in the most efficient way and how to rebalance partnering with agencies, assigning consultants to tasks, or creating new in-house positions, into the work program. She said that Agency/Staff Development considerations would come before the Board earlier in process than in the past. She said that there might be proposals based on where additional growth of staff or other initiatives might be warranted in order to keep the work program effective and sustainable. She expressed concern regarding staff burnout.

Chair Avalos asked when the budget approval was typically brought before the Board.

Ms. Chang responded that it was expected to go before the Board in May.

Chair Avalos suggested bringing any staffing proposals in February or March to support the budget discussion.

During public comment, Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Jackie Sachs commented that she had known Ms. Chang since she had been on the CAC and spoke in support of Ms. Chang's recent appointment.

This item was approved without objection.

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Tang, Wiener and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Mar (2)

### **Other Items**

12. **Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION**

There were no new items or public comment.

13. **Public Comment**

During public comment, Citizens Advisory Committee member Jackie Sachs commented that the Board should review the previous five-year plan, to see what had been done and what hadn't, as a way to prioritize the requests. She reminded the Board that Prop K would

need to be reauthorized in the future by voters. She said that there were Prop B funds and projects that were grandfathered into Prop K, such as the bus rapid transit project (BRT) on Geary Corridor. She said that the Geary Corridor BRT project was required to be light rail-ready and there was no funding for light rail on the corridor.

14. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.