



DRAFT MINUTES

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

1. **Roll Call**

Chair Avalos called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. The following members were:

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

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Farrell (entered during Item 7), Mar (entered during Item 3), and Wiener (entered during Item 2) (3)

2. **Approval of Minutes for December 14, 2013 Meeting – ACTION**

There was no public comment.

The minutes were adopted by the following vote:

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

Absent: Commissioners Farrell and Mar (2)

3. **Chair's Report – INFORMATION**

Chair Avalos reported that this month, the Transportation Authority continued its focus on pedestrian safety and project delivery. He said that on the latter, he was pleased to see the Cesar Chavez project celebrate its opening in late January. He said that this project was a great example of community involvement and interagency cooperation, resulting in a complete streets project that served as a model for urban design and project coordination. He recognized Commissioner Campos for his leadership on this project. He stated that based on recommendations from a two-year community-approved design process that included a series of public meetings and workshops, the project improved safety and infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists, enhanced greening and landscaping, included traffic calming and repaving, and improved stormwater management. He noted that the Transportation Authority contributed \$3.4 million in Congestion Management Agency Block Grant funding to the \$13.4 million project.

Chair Avalos announced that on March 4, he and Commissioner Farrell would attend the opening of the Arguello Pedestrian Gap Closure Project, one of the Transportation Authority's first Prop AA Vehicle Registration Fee projects, and on March 7, he and Commissioner Kim and would attend the commencement ceremony of the Transportation Authority's Interstate-80/Yerba Buena Island Ramps Project on Treasure Island.

Chair Avalos highlighted that earlier this month, the Transportation Authority joined family and community members, advocates, and City agency staff from multiple departments on the day before Valentine's to remember the victims of traffic collisions in 2013. He noted that the group, which was led by Walk San Francisco and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, and included Commissioners Kim, Yee and himself, called for the City to step up efforts to drive pedestrian, bicycle and traffic-related fatalities to zero in the next ten years. He explained that this ambitious goal was set by the Vision Zero resolutions introduced by Commissioners Kim and Yee in January, and the Transportation Authority was gratified that supporting resolutions had been adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) since then as well. Chair Avalos said that the Transportation Authority wanted to not only make staff resources and funding available but to also create the capability for the Board to provide regular input, oversight and support to this multi-pronged effort. He said that was why, a proposal to create a Vision Zero Committee of the Transportation Authority Board was on that day's agenda. He explained that this would be an ad hoc committee with a 24-month term. He said that he had asked Commissioner Kim to lead it as chair and Commissioner Yee to serve as vice-chair. He said that Commissioners Wiener and Mar, as Vice-Chair and Plans and Programs Committee Chair, respectively, would round out the roster. He noted that as chair, he would serve as an ex-officio member. He said that the hope was that by sustained and focused leadership, the committee would help the city take near-term steps to get safer street designs in the ground and to facilitate more effective citywide education and enforcement efforts.

Chair Avalos reported that meanwhile, in parallel, individual commissioners were taking proactive steps to increase safety in their own districts, in collaboration with SFMTA and SFPD, including an innovative road diet pilot that Commissioner Wiener was coordinating on San Jose Avenue and Guerrero Street at the I-280 off-ramp, and including Commissioner Yee's District 7 Participatory Budget Community Meeting this past weekend where neighbors gave their suggestions for top pedestrian project ideas.

Chair Avalos stated that Transportation Authority staff were also busy working and meeting with counterparts at the SFMTA, Department of Public Health and Police Department to prepare for upcoming hearings at the Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee and other venues. He congratulated staff for obtaining a grant that would allow Senior Planner Ryan Greene-Roesel, a pedestrian safety expert, to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in a Pedestrian Injury Prevention Action Team Training Program as part of a five-member team representing the state of California. He added that the team included representatives from the California Department of Health and Caltrans, as well as the San Francisco Department of Health. He said that this allowed San Francisco to publicize its Vision Zero strategy at the state and national level, as well as provide a valuable training opportunity for staff.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Wiener commented that it was great to get Cesar Chavez Street officially reopened and he congratulated everyone involved, including Commissioner Campos and his staff. He underscored that it was challenging to get these projects through, and he was proud to be able to celebrate the opening of the redesign of a street that had been a blight with a pseudo-freeway running through. He said this redesign not only beautified the street, but also improved pedestrian and bicycle access. He acknowledged that there had previously

been neighborhood concerns that the redesign was going to result in permanent gridlock for the area. However, Commissioner Wiener noted that he had driven on the street during rush hour and that had not been the case. He said that traffic seemed no different than prior to the redesign, but the street was now safer and better for this neighborhood. He said it was terrific to have that kind of example for other improvement projects, such as Masonic, moving forward. He said that his current aide, Andres Power, had been the project manager with the Planning Department and his former aide, Gillian Gillett, had played a key role on the community side.

Commissioner Campos concurred with Commissioner Wiener's comments. He highlighted that that on this project, many residents in the neighborhood felt that City Hall was finally investing in that part of town. He said that Cesar Chavez Street had needed improvements for so many years. He credited Si Se Puede and other organizations that had been mobilizing for a decade to move this project forward, and the success of this project demonstrated that the community could actually get City Hall to act. Commissioner Campos emphasized the need to engage communities, especially on the southeastern part of the city, which had felt at times neglected. He said that the Transportation Authority, in particular, could play a role in engaging those communities.

Chair Avalos remarked that the project was a great example of real infrastructure improvements for the residents of other districts as well.

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

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

During public comment, Andrew Yip commented that one must engage in earthly affairs before one could detach from them.

Items from the Finance Committee

5. **Adopt the 2014 State and Federal Legislative Program – ACTION**

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Farrell (1)

6. **Adopt Positions on State Legislation – ACTION**

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Farrell (1)

7. **Authorize the Executive Director to Execute an Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit Project Environmental Review Phase, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$529,203, and to Modify the Non-Material Agreement 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, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

8. **Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Treasure Island Development Authority, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000, for the Fiscal Year 2013/14 Operating Budget and Work Plan to Implement the Treasure Island Transportation Implementation Plan, and to Negotiate the Agreement Payment Terms and Non-Material Agreement 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, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

9. **Award Three-Year Consultant Contracts, with an Option to Extend for Two Additional One-Year Periods, to Barbary Coast Consulting and Davis & Associates Communications, Inc. in a Combined Total Not to Exceed \$525,000 for On-Call Strategic Communications, Media, and Community Relations Professional Services 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, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

Items from the Plans and Programs Committee

10. **Reappoint Peter Tannen to the Citizens Advisory Committee for a Two-Year Term – ACTION**

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

11. **Adopt the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Local Expenditure Criteria – ACTION**

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

12. **Allocate \$1,468,550 in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, and \$392,450 in Prop AA Funds, with Conditions, for Four Requests, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedules and Amend the Prop AA Strategic Plan and Relevant Prop K 5-Year Prioritization Programs – ACTION**

Commissioner Mar thanked staff for their work on this item. He said that he was pleased that the projects were moving forward. He noted that with all of the challenges regarding pedestrian safety and street safety in general, it was imperative that these projects moved quickly. He underscored that he wanted to install the traffic lights like the one at Sunset Boulevard and Yorba Street before people were hurt or killed, not after. He said that projects needed to be identified, designed, funded and delivered faster and many residents in San Francisco's communities were insisting and demanding that. He said that two of the projects for this item were in the heart of the Richmond District or were on the edges like improvements for Masonic Avenue. He said that the stop lights on Geary Boulevard at 22nd Avenue and at 26th Avenue were near schools, senior centers and churches, with the latter being close to Presidio Middle School, where many of the pedestrians were young students. He urged the Board to support this item.

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

Items for Direct Board Consideration

13. **Establish a Vision Zero Committee of the Transportation Authority to Serve for a Two-Year Period – ACTION**

Commissioner Yee thanked Chair Avalos for requesting the creation of this committee, as well as for asking him to serve on it. He said he was looking forward to move the Vision Zero effort forward as quickly as possible. He stated that on Monday, District 7 would be kicking off its student crossing guard program, which was the beginning of educating young people about safety and what role they played when it came to pedestrian safety.

Commissioner Kim also thanked Chair Avalos for the formation of this committee. She said that meeting several times during the year would allow the commissioners to help push forward the Board of Supervisors resolution for Vision Zero. She said that she was looking forward to make sure that San Francisco would be able to implement and fund this effort to get to zero fatalities in ten years.

Commissioner Cohen said that she was in a neighborhood meeting the night before with residents around Rhode Island Street at 23rd and 25th Streets. She said that there were significant problems in the areas in the southeast part of the city, though there had not been many fatalities. She continued to state that she hoped to prevent potential future fatalities, in areas such as Third Street around Evans Street, Bayshore Boulevard from Augusta Street to 20th and 25th Streets. She acknowledged that the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency had made a significant concerted effort to prioritize pedestrian safety. She thanked Chair Avalos for his leadership on establishing this body.

Chair Avalos thanked Commissioner Mar and his office for the idea behind the Vision Zero Committee. He underscored the importance of having a committee level discussion about

Vision Zero projects. He said that having a committee that was not just for oversight but really for collaboration and cooperation between agencies to ensure milestones were met for enforcement, education and engineering. He said that it also provided a public venue to report on the progress. He thanked the commissioners for supporting the formation of this committee.

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

The item was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Wiener and Yee (11)

Other Items

14. Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION

There were no new items or public comment.

15. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.