



Memorandum

Date: 05.24.16 **RE:** Transportation Authority Board
May 24, 2016

To: Transportation Authority Board: Commissioners Wiener (Chair), Mar (Vice Chair), Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Peskin, Tang and Yee

From: Tilly Chang – Executive Director *TC*

Subject: INFORMATION – Executive Director’s Report

REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

Fiscal Year 2016/17 State Budget – Governor Brown Releases May Revise: The Governor’s May revision to his proposed state budget showed an additional decrease in funding levels for transportation due to ongoing low gas prices. Other than that, there were no changes to his transportation proposal since the January draft. There had been hope that the Governor would direct some discretionary cap and trade funding to transportation (which can be done through the budget process) since the other revenue components of his larger transportation funding proposal are unlikely to move forward due to the necessary two-thirds supermajority approval. The Governor has indicated that he would like any allocation of cap and trade funds to transportation to be part of a larger funding package rather than committed on an ad hoc basis.

2016 City State Trip to Sacramento: Last week, Anna LaForte of my staff joined the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce for the 2016 City State trip to Sacramento. The trip included a number of meetings with transportation policymakers, including staff from the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA), Caltrans, and the California Transportation Commission. Our messages ranged from thanking the CHSRA for adopting the 2016 Business Plan that sets a clear and shared goal, to bringing High-Speed Rail service to San Francisco’s Transbay Terminal by 2025, to urging the state to allow access to the \$1.5-3 billion in state cap and trade funds that are subject to appropriation by the Legislature (funds which are not in the Governor’s budget). We also had the opportunity to describe some of the state/local partnership opportunities to advance future recommendations from our Vision Zero ramps intersection study and U.S. 101/I-280 Freeway Corridor Management Study to bring managed lanes from downtown San Francisco to San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

CHSRA Scoping Meeting Held in San Francisco: As part of its environmental process, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) conducted a Scoping Meeting in San Francisco to provide the public with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions and submit feedback. The meeting’s focus was the San Francisco to San Jose project section, which is part of the first phase of the California high-speed rail system. The approximately 51-mile project section is planned as a blended system which will support a modernized Caltrain service together with HSR service primarily in shared tracks. Some of the additional work will include passing tracks, strategic grade separations, and stations in San Jose, Millbrae, and San Francisco. The San Francisco Station is planned as a temporary station at the 4th and King Caltrain railyard, which will be used until the Downtown Extension to the Transbay Transit Center is completed. We are working with SFMTA, the Planning Department and the Mayor’s office in developing comments for submittal to the CHSRA by the June 10 deadline.

Treasure Island Intermodal Transit Hub Application Advances to Round Two of State Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Grant Program: Earlier this month, Treasure Island Community Development (TICD) was notified by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) that its \$12 million AHSC application was approved to submit additional detail in round two of the grant award process. The Intermodal Transit Hub project will include new bus stops and a public plaza to serve transit riders, vehicles for new bus service to Oakland, and new bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure on the Island. TICD will submit the round two application in June and should hear whether the SGC awards the grant in September.

Smart Cities Challenge Grant – Final Application Due: Over the last month, we supported the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and the Mayor’s Office in their final application for the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT’s) \$50 million Smart Cities challenge grant program. The program’s goals are to showcase innovative ways that cities can apply new technology to address mobility and environmental challenges such as congestion reduction and traffic safety through partnerships with the Federal government and private sector. Last week, Chair Wiener and I participated in a briefing hosted by Mayor Lee and SFMTA officials for Transportation Secretary Foxx and a delegation of DOT officials to present an overview of San Francisco’s application and discuss potential demonstration projects with participating agencies, institutions, and private industry partners. The winning city will be announced in June.

LOCAL ISSUES

Bay Area Metro Center Regional Agency Headquarters opens at 375 Beale Street: Located on Rincon Hill in San Francisco’s South of Market area, the new Bay Area Metro Center opens this week as the home of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. We believe the co-location of these regional organizations will foster greater collaboration on planning, investment and coordination issues. The building’s address – 375 Beale Street – pays tribute to Senate Bill 375, pioneering state legislation enacted in 2008 that calls for greater regional cooperation to combat climate change and promote sustainability. Welcome to San Francisco MTC, ABAG and Air District!

Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan Under Development: At its May 17 meeting, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (BOS) passed a resolution calling for the Transportation Authority, in partnership with the Mayor’s Office and the SFMTA, to lead development of a San Francisco Transportation Expenditure Plan to specify the use of revenues from a potential new half-cent sales tax for transportation for potential consideration for the November 2016 ballot. The Expenditure Plan would build and expand on the recommendations of the San Francisco Transportation Plan and Transportation 2030 Report (which recommended an additional half-cent sales tax as one of a suite of new revenue measures). We will be seeking input from city and regional transit agencies serving San Francisco, members of the public, and other key stakeholders over the next eight weeks before the BOS and Mayor would need to act to place the measure on the ballot. Drawing upon the resolution and in close collaboration with the SFMTA, we have developed draft principles to guide development of the Expenditure Plan, which will be presented at today’s Board meeting.

Child Transportation Study – Survey Released: We are working with the Mayor’s Office to conduct a San Francisco-wide survey of families whose kids are in kindergarten through fifth grade in public, private, or parochial schools located in San Francisco. Initiated at the request of Commissioner Tang, the survey will help us understand how parents currently get their young children to school and afterschool activities, and whether they are looking for alternative options. To learn more, or to take the survey, please visit <http://www.sfcta.org/child-transportation-study>, or contact Ryan Greene-Roesel, Senior Transportation Planner, ryan@sfcta.org, 415-522-4808.

Alemaný Interchange Improvement Project (D9 NTIP) – Outreach Continues in June: We led a series of outreach events throughout May to obtain input on preliminary improvement concepts to increase pedestrian and bicycle safety and accessibility at the junction of U.S. 101, I-280 and Alemaný Boulevard and other local arterials. We will continue outreach in June in partnership with the Portola Neighborhood Association. Outreach is being conducted in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Tagalog. For outreach event information, contact Rachel Hiatt, Principal Transportation Planner, at 415-522-5809, or visit www.sfcta.org/alemany-interchange-improvement-study.

Treasure Island Mobility Management Program – Community Outreach Continues in June: This summer, we will release the draft final report on the Treasure Island Mobility Management Program policy recommendations. The recommendations have been revised in response to input provided by stakeholders and through community outreach over the past six months. We presented the revisions at a suite of community events in May, including at the May 18 Treasure Island Community Meeting and May 19 Open House. We will continue outreach through June, including at the June 7 Treasure Island Development Authority Citizen Advisory Board monthly meeting. Information on the time and location of these and other outreach events is posted to www.timma.org. For more information, please contact Rachel Hiatt at rachel.hiatt@sfcta.org or 415-522-4809.

PROJECT DELIVERY

Lifeline Transportation Program - Randolph/Farallones/Orizaba Project Completed, Mission Bay Loop Underway: In December 2015, the SFMTA completed the Randolph/Farallones/Orizaba Transit Access Pedestrian Safety project, including a plaza at Randolph/Orizaba and ten bulb-outs at six intersections, funded with Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) funds programmed by the Transportation Authority. The project was completed under budget, and the SFMTA is in the process of obtaining necessary approvals from the MTC to reprogram \$100,510 in cost to the Mission Bay Loop, which is a LTP project that has experienced a cost increase due to the required relocation of a sewer line. The SFMTA has confirmed that a legal appeal contesting the validity of the project's environmental document has been denied, and construction was restarted in April 2016. We are working with SFMTA and MTC to obtain approval of reprogramming in June 2016.

One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) – Masonic Streetscape Improvements Pre-Construction Open House on May 25: In anticipation of the Masonic Streetscape project groundbreaking in June, the SFMTA is hosting an open house on Wednesday, May 25, from 5:30–7:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Day School at 350 Masonic Avenue. This is an opportunity to learn more about the corridor and construction. This community-initiated project, supported by OBAG funds programmed by the Transportation Authority and by SFMTA revenue bond funds, will bring a variety of new safety and streetscape features, including a landscaped median, better lighting, an improved sewer system, raised bikeways, bus stop enhancements, and a new public plaza at Geary Boulevard.

Glen Park Streetscape Improvements – Pedestrian and Transit Access Improved Near Glen Park BART: Last month, SFMTA completed several pedestrian, traffic calming, and transit access improvements at the intersection of Diamond and Bosworth Streets, including pedestrian bulb-outs, sidewalk widening, intersection repaving and restriping, signalized left-turn pockets, a transit shelter, pedestrian seating, and landscaping, using Prop K sales tax and federal funds. This project was envisioned by the Glen Park Community Plan to increase overall pedestrian space and improve the neighborhood's walkability.

WalkFirst Continental Crosswalks – Quick, Low-Cost, and Effective Safety Improvements: The SFMTA used Prop K sales tax funds to install high-visibility crosswalks at 109 strategic locations along high-injury corridors, which constitute 12 percent of San Francisco's Streets that account for 70 percent of severe and fatal traffic

collisions. High-visibility crosswalks are a proven, cost effective safety measure identified through WalkFirst.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ISSUES

Recognizing Peter Albert for Over Twenty Years of Service to the City and County of San Francisco: Peter Albert, the Director of Planning at the SFMTA, will be retiring this month after 30 years of public service. Throughout his distinguished career, Peter worked at the SFMTA in coordination with the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, the San Francisco Planning Department, Bay Area Rapid Transit, and our very own Transportation Authority. We thank him for his extraordinary service and dedication to the City and County of San Francisco. Peter's leadership was instrumental in coordinating transportation plans for the Parkmerced development project, America's Cup races, and Waterfront Transportation Assessment among other important contributions.