



Memorandum

Date: 05.23.17 **RE:** Transportation Authority Board
May 23, 2017

To: Transportation Authority Board: Commissioners Peskin (Chair), Tang (Vice Chair), Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy and Yee (11)

From: Tilly Chang – Executive Director *TTC*

Subject: **INFORMATION** – Executive Director’s Report

REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

Caltrain Electrification Project – FTA Signs Full Funding Grant Agreement for \$647 Million: After months of intensive advocacy, including by three members of our Board of Supervisors in late April, I am so delighted to report the good news that U.S. DOT Secretary Elaine Chao has signed the full funding grant agreement for Caltrain we have been seeking. A hearty congratulations goes to Joint Powers Board General Manager Jim Hartnett and his team, and the expansive coalition that banded together to advocate for the project, from Governor Brown to our U.S. Senators Feinstein and Harris, Leader Pelosi and Rep. Speier, our state delegation, Mayor Lee and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). Thank you also to Caltrain passengers and transit advocates at Friends of Caltrain, TransForm and SF Transit Riders as well as the Bay Area Council, Chamber of Commerce, and Silicon Valley Leadership Group. The funding comes just ahead of the looming June 30th deadline to retain the two construction contractors or renegotiating with them at a significant cost. As it is, the delay will cost an estimated \$20 million (to be confirmed) and we remain united over the next several years to ensure that annual federal appropriations continue as needed to enable the project to be completed. In the meantime, this is tremendous news and I wish to express our appreciation to Secretary Chao and the Trump Administration for enabling this critical transit project to be constructed. I look forward to bringing you a project construction update in the next few months.

Plan Bay Area 2040 – Open House Held in San Francisco: On May 17th, MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) hosted an open house in San Francisco for the draft Plan Bay Area 2040. Our staff attended along with staff from the Planning Department and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). At the open house we discussed our One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) 2 call for projects, for which we are currently reviewing applications, and the progress of Regional Measure 3 (RM3) and potential candidate projects from San Francisco. The comment period for the draft Plan Bay Area 2040 closes on June 1st, and we are currently working with the Planning Department and the SFMTA on a joint letter to MTC and ABAG.

LOCAL ISSUES

Transportation Task Force 2045 (TTF 2045) – First Meeting Set for June 5: I am pleased to report that we are convening the first meeting of the TTF 2045 on June 5th from 4-5:00 p.m. at City Hall in Room 201. Chair Peskin, representing the Transportation Authority and Board of Supervisors, and Steve Kawa, representing Mayor Lee, will lead the Task Force. This group is comprised of over 80 members from city and regional agencies, local community groups, the business community and other stakeholder

organizations. They will be meeting regularly to reach a shared understanding of transportation needs and of potential revenue options to help ensure a safe, reliable, and affordable transportation system. We are working closely with the Mayor's Office, the SFMTA, and the Controller's Office to staff this effort, which will focus on potential measures for the June or November 2018 elections. We will work with Chair Peskin to ensure that regular updates are brought to the Board and our Citizens Advisory Committee.

Connect SF – Upcoming Futures Task Force Workshop: Connect SF is a multi-part transportation planning effort between the Planning Department, Transportation Authority, SFMTA and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development. To undertake the initial Visioning phase, the project is gathering a broad group of residents, advocates, neighborhood and business groups across the city to discuss alternative future scenarios that can either help or hinder the realization of our city's goals. This Futures Task Force will use scenario planning techniques to examine potential paths for San Francisco's transportation future and draft a preferred scenario (vision) this fall. Thereafter, the city team will use the vision to inform follow-on modal studies and development of the next countywide transportation plan, the San Francisco Transportation Plan 2050. A final component of Connect SF is the Planning Department's update of the Transportation Element of the San Francisco General Plan, one of the guiding policy documents for San Francisco's transportation system.

Vision Zero Ramp Intersection Study – Outreach for Phase 1 Recommendations: Through this District 6 Neighborhood Transportation Improvement Program (NTIP) Planning study, we have evaluated safety challenges at five freeway ramp intersections within the SOMA Youth and Family Zone and developed draft recommendations for near-term improvements to improve safety. The draft recommendations include signal upgrades; opening, shortening, and re-striping crosswalks; lane reconfigurations; new wayfinding signage; improved lighting; and pedestrian curb bulb-outs. We are currently meeting with community and advocacy groups to share these recommendations and gather their feedback, and plan to return to the Board with an information item to share additional details. More information is available on the project website (<http://www.sfcta.org/NTIP-vision-zero-ramp-intersection-study>) and anyone interested in scheduling a meeting with their stakeholder group may contact project manager Colin Dentel-Post at colin.dentel-post@sfcta.org.

NTIP UPDATE – Districts 3, 4, 7, and 10: At its meeting tomorrow night, our Citizens Advisory Committee will consider taking an action to adopt the Balboa Area Transportation Demand Management Framework [NTIP Planning] Final Report for District 7, as well as receive an update on the District 3 Planning study, with a presentation from the SFMTA on the updated scope for that project. Both of these items will come before the Board in June. We also are continuing our work to scope new NTIP planning projects, including working with Commissioner Cohen's office on a District 10 Areawide Mobility Management Study, and with Commissioner Tang's office and the SFMTA on Lower Great Highway improvements.

PROJECT DELIVERY

Balboa Streetscape Improvement Project Complete – Smoother, Safer Streets: On May 20th we joined with Commissioner Fewer, merchants and neighbors to celebrate the completion of the Balboa Streetscape Improvement Project. This complete streets effort, focused on the commercial blocks between 34th and 39th Avenues, resulted in new traffic calming infrastructure and beautification elements. We are proud to have supported the project with more than \$840,000 in Prop K sales tax funds for street resurfacing along Balboa and the construction of transit bulbs for MUNI's 18 and 31 routes.

Yerba Buena Island Vista Point – Opened to the Public: On May 2nd, we were joined by approximately 80 local lawmakers, transportation officials, cycling advocates and members of the public to open officially the Vista Point visitor area on Yerba Buena Island. The celebration kicked off with Oakland Mayor Libby

Schaaf leading a cycling entourage across the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge bicycle and pedestrian path to join Commissioner Kim, Transportation Policy Director Gillian Gillett, and Treasure Island Development Authority Board member Linda Fadeke Richardson at the Vista Point site. As many of the speakers noted, Vista Point was the result of multi-agency collaboration and is a great example of the type of infrastructure the Transportation Authority is delivering to support the coming growth on Yerba Buena Island and Treasure Island.

Yerba Buena Island (YBI) Projects – Focus Shifts to Southgate Road Realignment and Westside

Bridges: Over the last year we have been working with Caltrans and BATA/MTC staff to secure funding approvals for the YBI Ramps - Southgate Road Realignment project and are pleased to report that all \$38.4 million is now secured. Funding consists of \$29.5 million of Federal Highway Bridge Program, \$2.5 million of State Prop 1B, and \$6.4 million of BATA Toll Bridge Seismic funds. We will advertise, award, and administer the construction of these improvements and anticipate starting construction in the Spring of 2018. Towards that end, on May 12th, we released an RFP for Construction Management Services for the YBI Westside Bridges and YBI Southgate Road Realignment Improvements. We will be using the Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method for the YBI Westside Bridges project and the more traditional Design-Bid-Build project delivery method for YBI Southgate Road Realignment Improvements. We intend to retain two qualified construction management firms to provide construction management services, one for each project. The expected duration of the contract is four years for the YBI Westside Bridges projects and two years for the Southgate Road project, and there is a Disadvantaged-Business Enterprise (DBE) requirement of 10.2%. Proposals are due by Monday, June 12th at 2:00 p.m. More information can be found at www.sfcta.org/contracting.

Caltrain Bridge Project in District 10 – Nearing Completion: Caltrain is wrapping up construction on its San Francisco Roadway Bridges project, which replaced structurally deficient bridges on 22nd Street, 23rd Street, and Paul Avenue that cross over the Caltrain tracks in District 10. Two of the new bridges are already complete and Caltrain will be paving the 22nd Street bridge this week with the expectation of opening it to traffic on Thursday, May 25th. This \$20 million project included about \$840,000 from Prop K and has resulted in new bridges that meet current seismic standards, improving safety for Caltrain passengers and the surrounding communities.

Second Street Streetscape Improvement Project – SFPW Working to Address High Contract Bids: In 2013 the Board approved \$10.5 million in OBAG Cycle 1 funds and \$1.7 million in Prop K funds for the Second Street Streetscape Improvement project to design and construct pedestrian and bicycle safety elements as well as other streetscape amenities. San Francisco Public Works' (SFPW's) request for proposals for the construction contract was released earlier this year and the two bidders exceeded the \$13 million engineer's estimate by approximately \$8 million. SFPW attributes a large part of the higher bid to the project location in the heart of SOMA, which is a challenging construction environment and to the busy construction climate where a lot of the usual bidders are already working on other construction projects. To prepare the project to rebid, SFPW eliminated some sewer scope and conducted outreach to potential bidders. After re-advertising the contract, SFPW received four bids, with a lower low bid of \$19 million, but still exceeding the \$14 million engineer's estimate. SFPW is evaluating the low bidder's proposal and will identify additional funding (e.g. IPIC funds) to ensure the project can move forward.

SFMTA Fleet Replacement and Expansion – 39 New Buses Placed in Service 3rd Quarter: During the 3rd quarter of Fiscal Year 2016/17 the SFMTA placed into service 39 of the 424 hybrid diesel motor coaches ordered to date under the current contract with New Flyer Industries. Since the contract was approved in 2014, the SFMTA has placed in service 131 60-foot articulated hybrid diesel motor coaches and 75 40-foot hybrid motor coaches. The SFMTA expects that all 424 motor coaches will be in service by July 2018. Prop K sales tax has provided about 26% of the funding for the new motor coaches. Also

in the same quarter the SFMTA took delivery of 4 of 24 light rail vehicles (LRVs), partially funded by Prop K, that will be used to expand the light-rail fleet once the Central Subway opens for service.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

YBI Ramps Project Wins Award – Outstanding Achievement in Construction Management: We're proud to report that the Northern California chapter of the Construction Management Association of America bestowed the Project Achievement Award to the YBI Ramps project. The award, in the category for projects exceeding \$50 million, recognizes "outstanding achievement in the practice of construction management." The new westbound I-80 on- and off-ramps were opened to the public October 22, 2016. They connect YBI and Treasure Island to the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and were the first major capital project delivered by the Transportation Authority. Construction workers overcame several challenges when completing the job, including relocating an historic building, making sure pile driving for the ramp supports did not damage nearby historic buildings and ensure a smooth tie-in with the exiting Bay Bridge. On behalf on the Transportation Authority, I'd like to congratulate and thank WSP/PB construction management team members Michael Scott (Resident Engineer), Bart Littell (Construction Manager) and Jacob Jones (Structures Engineer) along with our own Deputy Director for Capital Projects, Eric Cordoba.

Independent Analysis and Oversight Services - Request for Proposals (RFP) Released: Following on Board approval of the scope of work last month, on May 9th we released an RFP for Independent Analysis and Oversight Services to be administered on an as-needed task order basis. Tasks are divided into three categories: capital program, policy/legislative, and management/budget. We have budgeted \$100,000 for the initial contract year. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded for a one-year term, with options to renew for two additional one-year terms, and there is a DBE requirement of 10%. Proposals are due by Thursday, June 8th at 2:00 p.m. More information can be found at www.sfcta.org/contracting.