



# Memorandum

**Date:** 05.22.18 **RE:** Board  
May 22, 2018

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

**From:** Tilly Chang – Executive Director *TTC*

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

## REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

### **Senate Bill (SB) 1 Gas Tax Revenues Competitive Grants Awarded – San Francisco Transit Passengers, Pedestrians, Local Streets Benefit:**

Last week the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved funding for several SB1-funded competitive grant programs. San Francisco transit passengers will see the benefits of SB1 funds through three key rail improvement projects, including: new BART cars and a new train control system (\$318.6 million) new electrified Caltrain rail cars and station capacity improvements (\$164.5 million) and 8 new MUNI light rail vehicles (\$26.9 million). The state also awarded \$6.8 million from the Local Partnership Program competitive pot to San Francisco Public Works for the construction of Jefferson Street Improvements. The Board will consider allocating a portion of the required fifty percent local match through a Prop K sales tax allocation in June, with the remaining local match to be sought from the General Fund and Prop A General Obligation Bond. In addition, other Bay Area SB 1 grants benefiting San Francisco include \$14 million for AC Transit to purchase buses for its Transbay service, \$15 million for Samtrans to purchase vehicles for new express bus routes to and from San Francisco, and \$200 million for San Mateo County to construct express lanes along US 101. For additional information please visit the state's SB1 website ([rebuildingca.ca.gov](http://rebuildingca.ca.gov)) or our website at ([www.sfcta.org/revenue/SB1](http://www.sfcta.org/revenue/SB1)).

### **Regional Agencies' Horizon Initiatives Update – Development of Future Scenarios Underway:**

Last month I introduced you to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) Horizon initiative, a regional planning effort designed to explore challenges that will face the Bay Area from now through 2050. Earlier in May, the regional agencies held a stakeholder workshop to help design a set of future scenarios that will guide this process. At the workshop, small groups with representatives from public agencies, nonprofits and business interests put together alternative plausible "futures" using 24 different external variables. These include things such as varied levels of sea level rise, potential national and international geopolitical influences, and different degrees of autonomous vehicle adoption. With input from the public, MTC and ABAG planners will cull these futures into three or four different scenarios showing what the Bay Area might look like and will use these to test policies and investments that will respond to those unique opportunities and challenges. MTC is expected to issue a call for 'transformative' projects and programs costing over \$1 billion to test against the different futures, along with large projects from Plan Bay Area that still have uncommitted funds. The regional agencies expect to recommend policies and investments that perform well under multiple different future scenarios in Horizon for inclusion in the preferred scenario for the next Plan Bay Area update. We continue to work with our local and regional partners on the Horizon effort and will bring the Board regular updates as the Horizon initiative progresses.

### **Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 4 – June 4 Workshop in San Francisco for Interested Applicants:**

At its meeting last week, the CTC approved guidelines for Cycle 4 of the Active Transportation Program or ATP, which can fund a variety of projects that increase walking and biking and improve safety. For Cycle 4, there is a statewide competitive call for projects with \$217 million available, and an MTC-run Regional ATP with \$37 million available for the Bay Area region. From what we've heard, the SFMTA and SFPW are preparing to submit a number of multimodal project applications this year. In the most recent cycle, which was the first to be augmented by the SB1 gas tax, San Francisco was awarded \$8.8 million for three projects. To help applicants prepare competitive proposals for submission by the July 31 deadline, MTC is hosting application workshops, including one in San Francisco on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

See the attached flyer here: [https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/Preparing\\_for\\_ATP\\_Cycle\\_4.pdf](https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/Preparing_for_ATP_Cycle_4.pdf). For more information, please contact Mike Pickford, [Mike.Pickford@sfcta.org](mailto:Mike.Pickford@sfcta.org) or 415-522-4822.

**Congratulations to Caltrans District 4 Chief Bijan Sartipi on Retirement after 37 Years:** Last week I was pleased to join with many colleagues at the Federal, state and local levels to honor Caltrans Director Bijan Sartipi on his retirement from the Department after over 3 decades of service. Director Sartipi had served as District 4 (Bay Area) Director since 2002, overseeing some of the largest projects in the region such as the Caldecott Tunnel, Bay Bridge West Span Retrofit and SF-Oakland Bay Bridge project. Within San Francisco, Director Sartipi served on the Transbay Joint Powers Authority helping to guide the Transbay Terminal and Downtown Caltrain Extension projects and partnered with the Transportation Authority on the Presidio Parkway and Van Ness BRT projects. We are grateful for his leadership on these and many other projects within the City and region, and we wish him all the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

### **LOCAL ISSUES**

**Prop K Survey Underway - How do you want to invest Prop K sales tax funds over the next five years?:** As we've previously presented, Transportation Authority staff are working on the 2019 Prop K Strategic Plan and 5-Year Prioritization Programs update. This process is the opportunity to weigh in on which projects will be funded by San Francisco's transportation sales tax over the next five years. We have kicked off public outreach for the update, and we're asking residents, workers, and community stakeholders to share how they want their sales tax dollars spent. We have launched a multilingual survey to gather input, which is available online at [sfcta.org/prop-k-outreach](http://sfcta.org/prop-k-outreach) and also available in hard copy form for stakeholder groups to distribute. Our thanks to your staff for distributing the surveys online, we already have 400 completed responses. Please do get in touch with Paige Miller ([paige.miller@sfcta.org](mailto:paige.miller@sfcta.org)) if you would like to distribute paper surveys at your office. We will provide you and the public with the results of the survey and will pass them along to sponsor agencies to incorporate into their Prop K project lists, as appropriate. The survey closes June 1.

**Another Successful Bike to Work Day – Sponsored in Part, with Prop K Sales Tax:** We were pleased to again sponsor San Francisco's annual Bike to Work Day on May 10, hosted by the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition. We know that lots of people try out bike commuting for the first time because of Bike to Work Day, and this was one of the most exciting years yet, with thousands of people biking to work from all 11 districts. Commuter convoys guided bicyclists to work with their neighbors, and 26 Energizer Stations greeted riders with snacks, beverages, and reusable tote bags at locations across the city. Bike to Work Day culminated with a lively program at City Hall where we heard from the Mayor, Supervisors/Commissioners, agency heads, as well as advocates.

**Congestion Management Workshops and Exchanges Held:** Transportation Authority staff have been involved in two recent workshops on downtown congestion management, both of which have considered

a range of strategies to smooth traffic flow and reduce congestion. In April, the Transit Center Foundation sponsored a workshop for staff from the Transportation Authority and the SFMTA to explore demand management ideas including many that were recommended in our Emerging Mobility Services and Technology report. In May, Deputy Director for Planning Jeff Hobson participated in a congestion management workshop sponsored by the National Association of City Transportation Officials and the Natural Resources Defense Council. Held in Vancouver, the workshop included officials from seven U.S. cities/regions (Los Angeles/Santa Monica, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Chicago, and Washington DC) and representatives from two European cities (London and Stockholm).

## **PROJECT DELIVERY**

**Interstate 80 / Yerba Buena Island (YBI) Westbound Ramps Improvement Project - Recipient of Outstanding Construction Project Award:** Each year, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Region 9 presents Project and Individual Awards at the Annual ASCE Region 9 California Infrastructure Symposium and Awards Dinner. This year's recipient for "Outstanding Construction Project" was the I-80/Yerba Buena Island (YBI) Westbound Ramps Improvement Project. The award recognizes projects which utilized exceptional or innovative construction methods and/or outstanding project management, design and construction methods to overcome challenges and successfully complete a construction project. Golden State Bridge Inc. was the construction contractor. AECOM/Moffatt & Nichol were the designers of record and WSP provided construction management services. The YBI Westbound Ramps Improvement Project provides increased safety for those traveling to and from YBI and Treasure Island. As the first major capital project delivered by the Transportation Authority, the ramps provide vital infrastructure for San Francisco's newest emerging neighborhood. I wanted to appreciate Eric Cordoba, Deputy Director for Capital Projects, and the excellent team of contractors who worked on the project.

**BART Daly City Pedestrian Ramp and Bus Circulation Improvement – Construction Anticipated to Finish in June:** BART continues to upgrade the bus area of its Daly City station and is expected to finish construction next month on a Prop K funded project to upgrade an existing pedestrian pathway to meet ADA standards. The ramp connects bus stops in the upper parking lot with bus stops on the lower level of the station. The new ramp will not only provide a better way to navigate the station for people with disabilities, but will improve Muni operations by eliminating the need for the 28 19th Avenue bus to stop in two places at Daly City Station. This operational improvement will save time on every bus trip and save an estimated \$150,000 per year in operating costs.

## **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Improving Efficiency and Customer Service - Web-based Funding Requests Enabled:** I am pleased to announce that the Transportation Authority's online Allocation Request Form is now in use. After a successful pilot of the new Prop K/Prop AA form in April, we are now accepting all new Prop K/AA allocation requests via our online grant management system also known as the Portal. This change will improve communication between SFCTA and sponsor agencies, increase the efficiency and speed of grant administration, and reduce data errors. As we make this transition, both the old and new allocation requests formats will be included in the June Board agenda packets. We expect the transition to be complete by the July Board agenda packets. We would like to thank SFMTA and SFPW staff, who worked with us closely as we refined and tested the online allocation request form. And, I would like to recognize Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, for leading this effort along with Eric Reeves and Steve Rehn.