



DRAFT MINUTES

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

1. Roll Call

Chair Peskin called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Present at Roll Call: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Tang and Yee (8)

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Cohen (entered during Item 4), Kim (entered during Item 8) and Safai (entered during Item 11) (3)

Commissioner Yee moved to excuse Commissioner Kim, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Commissioner Kim was excused without objection.

2. Citizens Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION

John Larson, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), reported that the CAC recommended adoption and amendments of the Prop K 5-Year Prioritization Programs (5YPPs) and noted there was a specific interest related to the Balboa Park station improvements. He said the CAC wanted to ensure that a comprehensive plan was shaped, both with regards to specific station area improvements and overall pedestrian and commuter safety in the area. He noted that the Muni M line had its terminus there and that the proposed Geneva Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project was in the planning stages, with general (land) development underway in the area. Mr. Larson said the CAC also inquired about longer-term funding and planning now that some funding streams in the Prop K Expenditure Plan appeared to be running out in the next five-year period.

Mr. Larson reported that the CAC recommended approval of the Final Freeway Corridor Management Study and U.S. 101/I-280 Managed Lanes Project and emphasized the importance of conducting a thorough equity study, given the preferred alternative of studying tolling as part of express or High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes. He said CAC members were interested in the cost-benefit analyses that would be conducted to see if higher vehicle occupancy would be achieved and whether the associated travel time benefits helped to justify the project. He added that the CAC raised the issue of commuter buses using the express lanes when they are often virtually empty in one direction of their round trips.

Mr. Larson reported that following the October Board resolution to authorize the Executive Director to suspend all further financial assistance to the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA), the CAC received an update on fissures found on steel girders at the Transbay Transit Center. He said the CAC asked if the TJPA was aware of other structures with a girder design similar to the Transbay Transit Center. TJPA stated that the design was not common, but neither was it unique or unusual. He said in response to public comment the TJPA explained that the

park on top of the building was not an unusual factor affecting the structural soundness of the building. He said the TJPA stated that once responsibility of the fissure was established the cost for closure and repair would be distributed out accordingly.

Mr. Larson reported that the CAC raised concerns about continued operational issues at the West Portal tunnel exit with Muni staff needing to manually adjust switches for light rail vehicles. He said the CAC requested a presentation from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) at a future meeting.

There was no public comment.

3. Approve the Minutes of the October 23, 2018 Meeting – ACTION

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Yee moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Ronen.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Tang and Yee (8)

Absent: Commissioners Cohen, Kim and Safai (3)

4. Appoint One Member to the Citizens Advisory Committee – ACTION

Aprile Smith, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Jerry Levine spoke to his interest and qualifications in being appointed to the CAC.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Stefani recommended the appointment of Mr. Levine to the CAC and said she was impressed with his passion for transportation, experience and ideas.

Commissioner Stefani moved to appoint Jerry Levine to the CAC, seconded by Commissioner Mandelman.

The motion to appoint Jerry Levine was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Tang and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Safai (2)

Chair Peskin called Item 5 after Item 11.

5. Allocate \$8,731,019 in Prop K Sales Tax Funds for Eleven Requests, with Conditions, and Appropriation of \$200,000 in Prop K Sales Tax Funds for One Request – INFORMATION

Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Cohen requested that the District 10 projects be highlighted.

Ms. LaForte referenced Attachment 1 to the memorandum which lists all of the projects and districts included in the funding requests. She noted all of the Caltrain state of good repair requests and the design phase funding request for New Traffic Signals Contract 65 with a location on Oakdale Avenue and Loomis Street.

Commissioner Cohen acknowledged that a significant number of the proposed allocations were located in District 10. She noted that there was still additional need for transportation projects and studies along the southeast corridor in Districts 6, 10 and 11.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Brown.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and (1)

6. Adopt 18 2019 Prop K 5-Year Prioritization Programs (5YPPs), with Conditions, Amend 16 2014 5YPPs, Approve a Fund Exchange and Amend the 2017 Prop AA Strategic Plan to Provide \$2,064,919 to the Bus Stop Enhancement Project, and Approve Two Prop K Fund Exchanges to Help Backfill the Regional Improvement Program Shortfall for the Central Subway – ACTION

Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Peskin asked if the Transportation Authority or the SFMTA could verify that the Central Subway project was still on budget.

Alberto Hoe, Acting Director of Central Subway Project at the SFMTA, said the project was behind schedule but was still on target for completion within the overall budget of \$1.587 billion.

Commissioner Yee shared the concerns of a senior public transit rider who remarked that the design of the bench seats on the new Muni Light Rail Vehicles (LRV) made it difficult for seniors to stand up and disembark because the seats did not include arm rests or grab bars. He asked if the SFMTA had developed solutions for this problem.

Dan Howard, Project Manager at SFMTA, said SFMTA was considering enhancements to the bench seats that would make it easier for elderly passengers to arise. He said they were working with the manufacturer to develop an action plan to address the issue but did not have a plan to report at that time.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Brown.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Tang and Yee (9)

Absent: Commissioners Kim and Safai (2)

7. Adopt the 2019 Prop K Strategic Plan – ACTION

Oscar Quintanilla, Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Ronen.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Tang and Yee (8)

Absent: Commissioners Kim, Mandelman and Safai (3)

8. Adopt the Final Freeway Corridor Management Study Phase 2 Report, Authorize the Executive Director to Amend Cooperative Agreement No. 04-2647 with the California Department of Transportation for the U.S. 101/I-280 Managed Lanes for an Additional \$152,000 in a Total Amount Not to Exceed \$227,000, and Approve a Prop K/Local Partnership Program Fund Exchange in Prop K Funds for the U.S. 101/I-280 Managed Lanes Project – ACTION

Andrew Heidel, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Fewer asked if staff had current data demonstrating how many people were in vehicles now. She asked how many cars had two people in them, how many were single rides and how many had three or more people.

Mr. Heidel replied that there was available data and that in the freeway corridors in San Francisco, about 20 - 25% of the vehicles today met the two person or more requirement including transit buses and vans. He said 3-5% of vehicles had three or more people and the remaining vehicles were single rides.

Commissioner Fewer asked if the data was collected on a weekday or weekend and if it was collected during commute hours.

Mr. Heidel said the data was collected on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during commute hours.

Commissioner Brown asked what besides the enhancement of bus services for the three lines serving communities of concern was being done to promote equity for residents who live near the proposed lanes.

Mr. Heidel said the Transportation Authority was coordinating with partner agencies on how to use managed lanes programs to promote equity. He said outreach discussions showed that one of the first things people asked for was improvement in transit service and that was what the Transportation Authority lead with. He noted that Los Angeles had done great work around other programs that included using the revenue that was collected from the pricing to either provide toll subsidies to low income travelers who were not able to use transit or to fund even more transit beyond what would otherwise be available in the lane.

Commissioner Brown asked if assisting with FasTrack was an example of an equity program.

Mr. Heidel answered in the affirmative and explained that FasTrack had a monthly maintenance fee that was a barrier to entry for a lot of people on limited income. He said Los Angeles had a program where if you were eligible for any state assistance program, you could get a Fastrack at no cost, preloaded with \$25 that had no monthly maintenance fee. Additionally, if someone rides transit frequently, they are rewarded by receiving toll credit for free onto their FasTrack.

Commissioner Yee asked if the analysis looked at the impact of whether any of the scenarios would increase or decrease the number of vehicles coming into San Francisco. He said it could be assumed that the recommended scenario could allow more vehicles into San Francisco because of the better traffic flow.

Mr. Heidel replied that an analysis was done and that the changes for all the scenarios were within half a percent overall for each one. He said the changes were small because a new lane was not being built, but rather all three of the proposals were planning to reallocate the existing capacity. He added that there was no additional room for more vehicles to come in and the proposed plan was trying to give priority to those vehicles that have more people in them. He said either way, across all three scenarios, there was not a significant difference in the total number of vehicles travelling in the corridor.

Commissioner Cohen thanked Transportation Authority staff for the presentation and said the topic needed to be delved into with some level of sensitivity. She said she was viewing the topic from an environmental justice, social justice and public health lens and reminded the Board that both U.S. 101 and I-280 run through District 10. She added she was particularly interested in the particulate matter and dust that was emitted by traffic. Commissioner Cohen said she was in favor of decreasing traffic but was also cautious about the cost of implementing a fee to travel through a neighborhood. She reiterated the sensitivity of the topic and said she was fortunate to go down and do a tour in Southern California to learn more about how Los Angeles' toll roads are working.

Commissioner Cohen stated she would be voting in favor of the item because she felt the city needed more equity studies. She said she was grateful that the Transportation Authority had demonstrated a level of commitment to not leave people behind and for paying careful attention to the people who are living in and around freeways. She asked other colleagues to be supportive of the item and said it was a contract to continue to oversee the continued study for equity.

During public comment Gloria Berry, District 10 resident, said she was very concerned about the project and felt it was catering to people who did not live in the city and wanted to bypass traffic. She said the project would affect low income residents who did not qualify for the proposed equity programs and were reliant on the freeways to get over to the main parts of the city. She requested that a focus be placed on the needs of residents near the freeways and in District 10.

Chris Lepe, Senior Community Planner at TransForm, said TransForm was a transportation and land use organization in the Bay Area and was in support of the item. He agreed with the presentation that traffic was getting worse and said TransForm believed that managed lanes could move more people with fewer cars and help alleviate congestion and promote equity if done well. He said the three plus HOT approach, as shown through the study, was going to produce the best results and noted the importance of equal access to the lanes. He mentioned that TransForm would soon be releasing a report on pricing and equity and looked forward to sharing that with the Board as soon as it is released.

Commissioner Cohen moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Kim.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Mandelman (1)

9. **Award a Two-Year Professional Services Contract with MSA Design & Consulting, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$420,000 for Planning and Technical Services for the ConnectSF Streets and Freeways Study – ACTION**

Linda Meckel, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Fewer moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Brown.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Mandelman (1)

10. Award a Two-Year Professional Services Contract, with Options to Extend for Three Additional One-Year Periods, to SPTJ Consulting in an Amount Not to Exceed \$480,000 for Computer Network and Maintenance Services – ACTION

Cynthia Fong, Deputy Director for Finance and Administration, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Fewer moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Yee.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Mandelman (1)

Chair Peskin called Item 11 after Item 4.

Items from the Vision Zero Committee

11. [Final Approval] Approve a Resolution of Support Committing the Transportation Authority and Encouraging the Board of Supervisors and the Media to Pledge to Use “Crash” and “Collision” and not “Accident” in Recognition of World Day of Remembrance 2018 – ACTION

Commissioner Yee and Amanda Lamb, Member of San Francisco Bay Area Families for Safe Streets, presented the item.

Commissioner Cohen thanked Ms. Lamb for her personal testimony and expressed that Ms. Lamb had articulated the significance of supporting the resolution in a very poignant and personal way. She said she was grateful Ms. Lamb found the strength to share her story and the stories of many others with the Board. She noted that these types of stories were often considered a number or a tally and not a name or a human being. She thanked Ms. Lamb for reminding the Board how important it was to remember and to recognize that they had the power to make some changes to high-traffic corridors and that the Transportation Authority should continue to strive to make sure streets were safe for everyone. Commissioner Cohen thanked Commissioner Yee for bringing the resolution before the Board and indicated her support.

Commissioner Yee thanked Ms. Lamb for articulating the importance of the resolution and recognized that it was difficult for members of Families for Safe Streets to talk about personal tragedies. He asked the Board to unanimously support the resolution. He noted that at the

previous Vision Zero Committee meeting he praised Channel 7's [ABC] 5 o'clock news for using "collision", rather than using the word "accident". He said it seemed the media was picking up on the importance of word choice and invited his colleagues to join him at the World Day of Remembrance.

Commissioner Fewer thanked both Commissioner Yee and Ms. Lamb and shared that her and her husband, a retired San Francisco police officer of 35 years, were both victims of separate collisions. She reflected on her husband's collision and said to call it an "accident" was minimizing the harm that really happened. She thanked Commissioner Mandelman for working with her and the San Francisco Police Chief to advocate for more enforcement on city streets and additional motorcyclists on the traffic unit to help change driving behavior. She indicated that she was giving her verbal commitment in support of the resolution.

Commissioner Brown thanked Ms. Lamb and said she had the unfortunate scenario where she had occasion to use "crash" for the first time about a month ago. She said it was after she signed on to the resolution and a constituent in District 5 was struck and killed by a car. She said she was with him and his family at the hospital just before they took him off life support and used the word "crash", but felt the word was not strong enough at the time. She said she appreciated Ms. Lamb for coming up and speaking for everyone that unfortunately did not survive a crash or collision.

Commissioner Stefani said as Vice Chair of the Vision Zero Committee, she was moved by the stories heard at the last meeting and thanked Ms. Lamb for sharing her story. She said she was happy to sign the pledge immediately when Ms. Lamb put it in front of the Vision Zero Committee. She stated that words mattered and when situations were preventable, "accident" was not the appropriate word. Commissioner Stefani said there was a similar change in the language around unintentional shootings. Commissioner Stefani thanked Commissioners Fewer and Mandelman for pressing Police Chief Scott to enforce city traffic laws.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Yee moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Cohen.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Cohen, Fewer, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Kim (1)

Other Items

12. Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION

There were no new items introduced.

13. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.