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## Memorandum

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

**DATE:** May 24, 2021

TO: Treasure Island Mobility Management Agency Board: Commissioners,

Chan, Dorsey, Mandelman (Vice Chair), Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston,

Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton

FROM: Tilly Chang - Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** 05/24/2022 Board Meeting: Executive Director's Report – **INFORMATION** 

## **REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES**

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Approvals - Caltrans Revalidates Categorical Exclusion (CE): In March April, Caltrans District 4 signed the Environmental Justice assessment memorandum (EJ Memo) and revalidated the NEPA CE for the Treasure Island Toll System and Program. We prepared the EJ memo in compliance with Caltrans' federal and District-based Environmental Justice guidance. This technical memorandum discusses potential effects to equity priority communities as a result of the project. It evaluates whether effects from the project would be borne disproportionately by people of color and low-income populations, factoring in offsetting benefits and strategies to avoid adverse effects. It also evaluates whether the project has ensured full and fair participation of all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process. The EJ memo concludes that the equity priority community has been involved in the development of the congestion pricing program which includes multimodal subsidies as well as fee discounts and exemptions. This step concludes the NEPA approvals for the congestion toll and affordability program. For more information, contact Suany Chough, Assistant Deputy Director for Planning at suany.chough@sfcta.org.

Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Shuttle Pilot - Additional Grant Funds Awarded: In February, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) awarded \$827,159 in Innovative Deployments to Enhance Arterials Shared Automated Vehicles (IDEA SAV) grant funds to the Treasure Island AV Shuttle Pilot project. Federal funds originally awarded in 2016 provide for a 3-month AV Shuttle Pilot on Treasure Island, to understand multi-modal road user experiences and perceptions of AVS operations; ability of AVS services to be accessible to all travelers; the cost and performance of AVS services to meet shuttle service requirements; and, institutional and other requirements to deploy and manage AV shuttle services. The pilot will also involve city agencies and community groups in workforce development activities. The IDEA SAV funds allow for an extension of the pilot operating period by 3 months as well as supplement the stakeholder involvement and workforce partnerships component of the demonstration. For more information, contact Aliza Paz at aliza.paz@sfcta.org.

## **LOCAL ISSUES**

Electric Ferry Vessel - Federal Funds Awarded: In February of this year, the U.S. Federal Transit Administration awarded a \$3.4 million grant to the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) to build an electric ferry. The grant was supported by House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and several Bay Area Congressional delegation members, as well as former Chair Matt Haney. This investment will support the growing Treasure Island neighborhood with a network of electric ferry services to provide a convenient, emission-free way to travel between San Francisco's eastern waterfront and Treasure Island. This sustainable form of transit will help address traffic congestion, reduce transportation emissions, and advance San Francisco toward its goal of net-zero emissions by 2040. The electric ferry service is anticipated to serve Treasure Island in 2024, along with a new on-island shuttle and East Bay bus service.

Interim Ferry service - Launched in March: Interim ferry service between the San Francisco Downtown Ferry Terminal and Treasure Island began on March 1, 2022. The interim service is operated by TICD, the master developer of Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island. TICD sets the fares and schedule of the interim ferry service. In 2024, ferry service between Treasure Island and downtown San Francisco will be operated through a collaboration of the Treasure Island Mobility Management Agency (TIMMA) and WETA. At that time, TIMMA and WETA will set fares and the operating schedule. The TIMMA Board has committed to a discounted ferry fare for low income households, and to a discounted monthly transit pass allowing unlimited rides on the ferry, Muni, and East Bay transit for Island residents and workers. For more information on current and future ferry services to Treasure Island, please contact <a href="mailto:eric.young@sfcta.org">eric.young@sfcta.org</a>.

TIMMA staff host tours for CalSTA and Representative John Garamendi: Earlier this month, we hosted Tours of Treasure Island mobility management projects for Lori Pepper, CA State Transportation (CalSTA) Deputy Secretary for Innovative Mobility Solutions and Congressman John Garmendi (D3) who represents Solano and Eastern Contra Costa areas and serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Deputy Secretary Pepper was interested in the clean ferry, driveless shuttle pilot and tolling projects we are working on, as well as their integration with transit and active modes. The tour for Representative Garamendi was organized by the Bay Area Council and we discussed the growing demand for ferry services and how Treasure Island's water transit infrastructure and services are a model for other sustainable development projects ringing the bay.