



Memorandum

Date: May 22, 2023

To: Transportation Authority Board: Commissioners Mandelman (Chair), Melgar (Vice Chair), Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, and Walton

From: Tilly Chang - Executive Director

Subject: 5/26/2023 Board Meeting: Executive Director's Report – INFORMATION

REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

California Public Utilities Commission Draft Decision on Autonomous Vehicles. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) released Draft Resolutions authorizing Cruise to expand its autonomous vehicles (AV) commercial passenger services to all parts of the city, at all times of day, at speeds up to 35mph, and authorizing Waymo to introduce new AV commercial passenger services to all parts of the city, at all times of day, at speeds up to 65mph. In coordination with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), we previously petitioned to CPUC to pursue a more incremental approach to AV passenger service expansion which would avoid the most congested parts of the city and congested times of day, limit AV fleet sizes, and provide transparent data disclosure, reporting and monitoring. The rate of documented incidents involving Cruise and Waymo on San Francisco streets has doubled in the past six months, including daily disruptions to first responders and SFMTA services. We will review the proposed resolutions carefully, will continue to advocate for controlled, incremental growth based on demonstrated performance, and our door remains open to the AV industry for collaboration in the public interest.

Speed Safety Cameras - Authorizing Legislation Advances in the State Legislature. On May 18, the state's Assembly Appropriations Committee passed Assembly Bill 645 (Friedman), which would authorize a speed safety camera pilot program in San Francisco. It passed on partisan lines and will next go to the Assembly Floor for a vote. Last year's bill to authorize speed safety cameras died in the Appropriations Committee, so this passage is a huge success. We thank Chair Friedman and WalkSF, Bay Area Families for Safe Streets and the coalition of advocates that have worked to advance this bill. We will work closely with SFMTA and Mark Watts, our state legislative advocate, to advocate on behalf of AB 645 in the Senate and raise awareness about the importance of speed safety cameras as a key Vision Zero strategy.

State Budget - Governor's May Revise Fails to Address Transit Fiscal Cliff Crisis: We have been working with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and SFMTA to



advocate for transit operating funding in the state budget to help address the pending fiscal crisis that transit operators across the state are facing post-pandemic. Despite support from the Senate Democratic caucus, Governor Newsom made no commitment in his May Revise to funding public transit operations and maintained about \$2 billion in cuts to public transit capital funding – money that pays for infrastructure work like rail repairs and bus purchases – that were included in his initial proposal in January. In his comments on the budget he indicated willingness to work with the legislature and transit community to discuss ways to address the transit operating funding needs. The May Revise also maintains his proposed cuts to active transportation funding. We will continue to coordinate closely with SFMTA, MTC, and our elected officials including Senator Wiener and Assemblymember and Budget Chair Phil Ting as the budget and transit fiscal cliff discussions continue.

BART Unveils New Schedule Aimed at Increasing Ridership Starting In September.

Starting September 11, 2023, BART will unveil a new schedule that is responsive to post-pandemic commute patterns and aimed at increasing ridership. The highlight of the schedule is that no BART rider will have to wait more than 20 minutes for a scheduled train, no matter the time or which day of the week, with the yellow line (Pittsburg/BayPoint to SFO/Millbrae) seeing the biggest increase in service. In order to increase service on nights and weekends, some weekday service will be scaled back. The new schedule will improve on-time performance and improve reliability during peak commute hours as well as improve service to both San Francisco and Oakland International airports. For more information, visit: <https://www.bart.gov/news/articles/2023/news20230427>. In addition, BART has expanded the number of BART police officers that patrol the system by up to 18 sworn officers per shift (a doubling of personnel). They are being deployed across the system in conjunction with crisis prevention staff and transit ambassadors, community service officers and fare inspectors. As of April 16, after a full month of deployment, BART saw a 38% decrease in calls for service and 40% increase in arrests.

State Highway 37 - California Transportation Commission Authorizes Toll and High Occupancy Vehicle Only Lanes.

Last week, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) voted unanimously to authorize MTC to begin tolling Highway 37, a 21-mile route linking Marin County to Vallejo in the North Bay. The revenues will fund rebuilding of the highway on an elevated causeway to adapt to sea-level rise. The Commission's vote requires MTC to provide bus service on the corridor and establish a discount program for low-income drivers. With this authorization, San Francisco is the only remaining Bay Area county without mainline freeway tolling authority, though we are studying express lanes in the US101/I-280 corridor through our Managed Lanes Study. Also this month, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the New York MTA's Final Environmental Assessment and draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Central Business District (CBD) Tolling Program. New York's CBD Tolling Program would be the first cordon congestion pricing program in the United



States. Revenues are dedicated to improve and modernize New York City Transit and other rail services. Operations are expected to launch in 2024.

LOCAL ISSUES

District 1 Multimodal Transportation Study Town Hall. The District 1 Multimodal Transportation Study will develop near- to long-term strategies to improve transit reliability and safety and shift trips to transit, walking, biking, or other non-driving options for trips within District 1. The project team is conducting outreach through June to identify transportation challenges and understand transportation priorities. A survey is available on the project website. The survey is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Russian. There will be pop-up events and a town hall taking place through June as well, and these will be posted to the project website. For more information, visit: <https://www.sfcta.org/D1-study>.

Prop L Implementation - Still Time to Weigh In on What Projects to Fund in the Next Five Years. We have been working with sponsor agencies to implement Prop L, and will be presenting the Strategic Plan Baseline and the guidance for developing the 5-Year Prioritization Programs (5YPPs) to our Community Advisory Committee tomorrow and to the Board in June. Simultaneously, we've been reaching out to the public to get feedback about specific projects that they would like to see funded in the next five years. We've presented at community and business roundtables, met with Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee members and representatives of Equity Priority Communities, and been collecting feedback via an online multilingual survey. The survey will also be open until June 30. We are planning to hosting a virtual Town Hall in mid-June, date TBD would welcome city residents and business owners to attend. We will summarize the findings from all of our outreach and share with sponsor agencies to inform the 5YPPs. For public outreach opportunities, including the survey, see sfcta.org/ExpenditurePlan.

Celebrating Bike and Roll to School Week and Bike to Anywhere Day. On April 28, I joined Mayor Breed, SFMTA Director Tumlin, SF Bicycle Coalition and other Safe Routes to School partners to celebrate Bike and Roll to School Week at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School. Last Thursday we celebrated another Bike to Wherever Day, formerly known as Bike to Work Day, with folks making traditional commutes, participating in organized neighborhood rides, or just enjoying the outdoors. The San Francisco Bicycle Coalition spearheaded the event, including organizing 18 energizer stations across the City where riders could grab the always coveted Bike to Wherever Day tote bag.

PROJECT DELIVERY

Yerba Buena Island/I-80 Southgate Rd. and Interchange Project Opens for Use. We gathered May 6 with Vice Chair Melgar and Commissioner Dorsey and state and regional



officials to celebrate the completion of the Yerba Buena Island/I-80 Southgate Rd. and Interchange. The project, which links eastbound I-80 to Yerba Buena Island, improves safety and Bay Bridge connections for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. Funding for the \$61 million project comes from the Federal Highway Bridge program and State Prop 1B program, along with funding from the Treasure Island Development Authority and Bay Area Toll Authority. Thank you to Federal Highways Administration, CTC, Caltrans, TIDA, US Coast Guard and MTC for their funding support and partnership. The project is part of a larger transportation and infrastructure renewal program that the Transportation Authority is leading to support the redevelopment of Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island. Next month, we will gather to break ground on the YBI West Side Bridges project, the left-side exit on eastbound Bay Bridge/I-80 to Treasure Island. More information can be found at sfcta.org/southgate and <https://www.sfcta.org/westsidebridges>.

Quick-Build Update - Safety Improvements Funds by Sales Tax and TNC Tax Funds. We are happy to see SFMTA continue to make progress on implementing quick-build safety projects. The Sloat quick-build project from Skyline to Great Highway held a virtual open house at the end of April and the Lincoln quick-build project from Arguello to Great Highway held a virtual open house in mid-May. The Lincoln project includes daylighting, painted safety zones, crosswalk upgrades, and more. The Sloat project considers proposals for a new two-way protected bikeway, painted safety zones, and bus boarding islands. All projects will incorporate feedback from the community on areas of focus. The mid-Valencia pilot project was approved last month and construction is now underway to install a center-running two-way bikeway, which will be the first of its kind in San Francisco. This project is funded by Prop K and TNC Tax funds.

Upgraded Life and Fire Safety Systems Project - Prop K-Funded Improvements at Muni Facilities Completed. I am pleased to report that SFMTA has completed the upgrades and replacements of the fire alarm systems at five Muni maintenance facilities - the Muni Metro Green Division (including both main and annex buildings of the facility), the Scott Division, the Potrero Division, the Flynn Division and the Kirkland Division. The existing systems had reached the end of their useful lives and became difficult and costly to maintain. The upgraded systems are meeting current building codes and improve the safety of the employees and the public at each of the active facilities. This project is funded by Prop K.

Speed Radar Sign Installation - Vision Zero Supportive Improvements. I am happy to report that SFMTA has completed construction at the following three locations: Woodside Ave (between Balceeta Ave and Vasquez Ave), Fulton St (between 16th and 17th avenues) and Fulton St (between 38th and 39th avenues). One of the benefits of these installations is to improve safety by reducing vehicle speeds. This project is funded by Prop K.



The Portal - FTA Risk Review, Governance Milestones, Site Visits. The Portal / Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) project continues to gain momentum as it advances through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) project development process. Earlier this month, we joined TJPA, Caltrain, and the FTA for a four-day risk workshop and site visit. FTA's risk review is an important step ahead of the project's planned request later this year for a multibillion dollar federal Capital Investment Grant. As The Portal moves closer to construction, MTC and the Transportation Authority are working to develop the governance approach for delivery of the project, and last week the Executive Steering Committee reviewed draft governance recommendations. In the meantime, the project will continue to advance under the current six-agency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which earlier this month the TJPA approved extending through December 2023. We have also approved the MOU extension, and all MOU partners are expected to do so by the start of June. Finally, last week we were pleased to join TJPA staff in hosting two tours of the Salesforce Transit Center and its underground trainbox, with Commissioner Dorsey and staff, as well as a site visit by the CTC.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Bay Area Transportation Project Owners' Night. On May 16, we participated in Owners' Night, one of the industry's premier networking events for industry professionals to meet with local, public, and private owners to learn about their projects and staffing needs. Registrants totaled 195 for this in-person event held at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. The event was sponsored by the American Council of Engineering Companies, the Construction Management Association of America, and BuildOUT California. We highlighted upcoming contracting opportunities to interested parties including Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, Small Business Enterprise, and Local Business Enterprise firms.