



## Memorandum

**RE:** Board, November 19, 2019  
**DATE:** November 19, 2019  
**TO:** Transportation Authority Board: Commissioners Peskin (Chair), Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee  
**FROM:** Tilly Chang - Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – **INFORMATION**

### REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

**Annual Self-Help Counties Coalition Focus on the Future Conference - Celebrating 30 years of Transportation Investment:** This year's annual gathering of the 25 self-help counties celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization, coinciding with our agency's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as we were among the inaugural 4 Transportation Authorities established by voters in 1989. We will be marking this milestone in 2020 as the agency began operations when the first sales tax dollars flowed in 1990. Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Plans and Programs, and I also spoke on panels discussing Vision Zero and Micromobility (scooter- and bike-share) respectively. The conference is a venue for sharing experience and lessons learned on transportation planning, funding and project delivery issues of the day.

**Potential Regional Transportation Measure - FASTER Bay Area:** At both the state and regional level, the conversation about a potential new regional transportation measure continues. The FASTER Bay Area Coalition, led by SPUR, the Bay Area Council and Silicon Valley Leadership Group, has convened a technical advisory group comprised of county transportation agencies and the region's transit operators. We are actively participating in this group and coordinating with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and regional transit operators in San Francisco, as well as with the Mayor's office. The proponents are working on legislative language to potentially be introduced in January, under Senator Beall's spot bill, Senate Bill 278. We anticipate bringing an update on a potential regional measure to our Board in the December/January timeframe.

**Priority Conservation Area Grant for McLaren Park - Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Recommends Award:** Last week, the MTC Programming and Allocations Committee recommended \$6 million in grants for 13 Priority Conservation Area or PCA projects across the region. This includes \$194,000 to the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department for the McLaren Park and Neighborhood Connections Plan. This plan will envision a safer and clearer pathway system for walkers, bikers and other park users to navigate to and through McLaren Park, including from the neighboring areas and adjacent



Communities of Concern. It will also plan for traffic calming and improved pedestrian crossings. PCAs are part of the regional growth framework, which is currently undergoing an update. Through the Planning Department, San Francisco submitted letters of interest for 7 new PCAs, which identifies important resources such as Ocean Beach, the Northern Waterfront, Treasure Island, and Golden Gate Park, that should be preserved as open/green spaces as the city develops. If approved, these new PCAs would be eligible to compete for the future PCA grant cycle.

## **LOCAL ISSUES**

**San Francisco Voters Pass Prop D** – Although we await certification of official election results, Prop D appears to have passed with 67.65% of the vote. The TNC per-trip fee measure providing dedicated revenues for improved Muni service and safe streets required 2/3 support to pass. We want to thank Chair Peskin and Assm. Phil Ting for their leadership in sponsoring this initiative, as well as Mayor Breed, Board of Supervisor and entire San Francisco legislative delegation, as well as TNC industry partners Uber and Lyft, for their collaboration. I'm also grateful to our policy and legislative staff led by Maria Lombardo and our TNC research team led by Joe Castiglione, who first shed light on the extent of TNC trips in San Francisco. We will plan to return in early 2020 to propose an approach to administering the Safe Streets component of the Prop D program.

**Vision Zero - World Day of Remembrance for Traffic Victims:** This past weekend WalkSF, President Yee and Supervisor Mandelman, together with Bay Area Families for Safe Streets, gathered for San Francisco's 5th annual commemoration of the World Day of Remembrance for Traffic Victims to honor the lives of victims and families of traffic collisions. The goal this year was to put a spotlight on need to reduce speeding. Thank you to the Board of Supervisors for passing a resolution declaring a state of emergency regarding pedestrian and cyclist fatalities in San Francisco, which urges the SFMTA and all city agencies to take emergency action to improve safety including immediately identifying solutions to lower speed limits. This step will help us reach Vision Zero and we look forward to continuing to work with our city partners and to advocate for legislative action to make the necessary changes to lower speed limits and reach zero.

**Welcoming new Caltrans Director Omishakin with TIDA:** I was delighted to join TIDA Director Bob Beck and Commissioner Linda Richardson to welcome newly appointed Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin on Treasure Island last week. We shared an overview of all the ways we are partnering with Caltrans to support sustainable development on the Islands, including developing the YBI and Treasure Island ramps and implementing robust transit options. We also thanked Caltrans for providing over \$200 million in Federal and State funds for infrastructure.

**ConnectSF Outreach Round Begins - Youth Workshop Scheduled for November 21:** We began our latest round of ConnectSF outreach on November 13 with a workshop focused on Southeast neighborhoods. About 3 dozen neighbors and merchants from across District 10 came to the Southeast Community Facility to give their input on long-term transportation improvements they would like to see in their neighborhoods, in the city and across the region. We will hold a similar workshop focused on youth on November 21 from 4-8 pm. at



Mission High School. Then in early 2020 we'll hold two separate citywide workshops for the general public. In the meantime, we're developing a survey for people to take online. In addition, ConnectSF staff will offer presentations to community groups or any other interested parties. Input from this round of outreach will inform underway Transit Corridors Study and Streets and Freeways Study. For more information please visit [connectsf.org](http://connectsf.org).

## **PROJECT DELIVERY**

**San Francisco Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 1 - BART Elevator Attendant Program:** I am happy to report that the program placing attendants in elevators at Civic Center and Powell Street stations has been so successful that BART has expanded it to Montgomery and Embarcadero stations. The Board programmed \$2.6 million in San Francisco Lifeline Transportation Program funds for two years (Fiscal Years 2019/20 - 2020/21) to the project in April, contributing 85% of the project. The attendants provide clean and functioning elevators for BART and Muni riders, particularly disabled passengers, seniors, and families with strollers, who cannot use the stairs within the station. Initial data from BART indicates that drug use and graffiti have decreased significantly with the attendants in place. We look forward to seeing additional results on the effectiveness of the project

## **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Transportation Authority's Finance and Administration Division - Recipient of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting:** The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to us for the second consecutive year by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for our comprehensive annual financial report for fiscal year 2017-2018 (the annual financial audit report). This is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. Congratulations to Deputy Director Cynthia Fong and her staff!

**Business Outreach Committee - Participation in Meet the Primes Networking Event:** As a member of the Business Outreach Committee (BOC), Transportation Authority staff joined with numerous local, regional, state and federal agencies to participate in the annual BOC 'Meet the Primes' networking event on November 5. The event was held at the Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter in Oakland and brought public agencies together with prime and subcontractors and consultants to showcase their companies' services while learning about upcoming contracting opportunities and other resources for Disadvantaged and/or Small Business Enterprises. The BOC meets on a monthly basis to discuss outreach practices and plan for regional networking events and contracting and certification workshops.

**Staff Participation in Caltrans/San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce (SFAACC) Certification Summit:** Transportation Authority staff joined with local and state agencies to participate in a certification summit co-hosted by the Caltrans District 4 Small



Business Program and the SFAACC, in association with the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce and the Silicon Valley Black Chamber of Commerce. The event was held at the SFAACC in the Bayview and brought together public agencies with companies seeking certification as a Disadvantaged, Small, Local, or Disadvantaged-Veteran Business Enterprise or to learn about upcoming contracting opportunities. Thank you to Caltrans and the SFAACC for organizing the event and finding new venues to engage with the business community.