



DRAFT MINUTES

San Francisco County Transportation Authority

1. Roll Call

Chair Peskin called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Present on Roll Call: Commissioners Fewer, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Stefani, Walton, Yee

Absent on Roll Call: Commissioners Haney (entered during item 2), Mandelman (entered during item 3), Safai (entered during item 6)

Chair Peskin made a motion to excuse Commissioner Mandelman for the first 30 minutes, which was approved without objection.

2. Chair's Report - INFORMATION

Chair Peskin expressed his gratitude towards the Commissioners and their efforts put forth on the Caltrain sales tax item, and President Yee for convening a special Board of Supervisors' meeting during recess to vote on the Caltrain sales tax item. Additionally, he thanked leaders in Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco counties and added that all regions should collaborate to educate the public about the measure.

Chair Peskin also acknowledged the milestone and joint advocacy between the Transportation Authority and Transbay Joint Powers Authority on the decision made by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to include the Caltrain Downtown Rail Extension in the early period of Plan Bay Area (PBA) 2050. He added that PBA 2050 in the draft blueprint stage and approval of plan is slated for next year.

Chair Peskin recognized Executive Director Tilly Chang who was elected Chair of the Executive Steering Committee for the Downtown Rail Extension project at the committee's inaugural meeting in July and Cynthia Fong, Deputy Director for Finance and Administration, and her team for obtaining a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for the third year in a row.

Lastly, Chair Peskin expressed his disappointment about the splice issue that happened after 5 months of closure of the Muni subway resulted in an abrupt end to the planned resumption of rail service. He added he would like Director of Transportation, Mr. Tumlin to come and speak on the matter at an upcoming Board meeting.

There was no public comment.

3. Executive Director's Report - INFORMATION

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, presented the item.



There was no public comment.

4. Approve the Minutes of the July 28, 2020 Meeting - ACTION

There was no public comment on the minutes.

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

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Stefani, Walton, and Yee (10)
Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

5. COVID-Era Congestion Tracker and COVID-19 Recovery Scenario Analysis - INFORMATION

Joe Castiglione, Deputy Director for Technology, Data, and Analysis presented the item.

During the presentation, Chair Peskin asked if on slide 5 of the presentation, it was showing a.m. or p.m. peak data. Mr. Castiglione replied that it showed p.m. peak data.

Chair Peskin said he has previously conveyed this to the Executive Director, noting he spends a lot of time in the Columbus Avenue corridor during the a.m. peak and p.m. peak periods and does not see the level of service that the data seems to be showing in the maps, which he said he understood were based on cell phone data.

Mr. Castiglione clarified that the INRIX data sources include cell phone data and large fleets like UPS or Fed Ex. According to INRIX, about 25% of all the vehicles driving around the country are feeding into their data set. He explained that the colors on the map show the relative change in speed compared to pre-COVID and are assigned on the Institute of Transportation Engineers level of service standards based on the type of roadway and its location in an urban context, acknowledging that the standards may not be as good at capturing San Francisco conditions as we might like, but the maps do show a direct representation of speed. He also offered to follow up after the meeting with the Chair on the Columbus Avenue data.

During public comment Aleta Dupree agreed tracking down congestion is important and added that analysis and data should be looked at a broader range.

6. Preliminary Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget and Work Program - INFORMATION

Chair Peskin called this item before Item #5. Cynthia Fong, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, and Executive Director Tilly Chang, presented this item.

Chair Peskin asked Mrs. Fong to expand on how staff developed the revenue estimate. She responded that staff was working with Beacon Economics, as well as the Controller's Office. She elaborated that there are many factors that are considered when developing the estimate such as unemployment rates, hotel occupancy rates, percentage of workforce working from home, the opening of restaurants, etc. She said



staff was also monitoring on-line sales that impact sales tax revenues in San Francisco, noted that Wayfair collections on on-line sales began in December. Ms. Fong concluded by saying that staff was seeking to remain conservative while constantly monitoring the various factors and tracking the Mayor's plans for reopening the city.

Commissioner Safai asked what the impact will be after the line of credit is drawn down and how much of the credit will be remaining. Deputy Director Fong responded that the funds would be used to fund upcoming expenditures for the delivery of [sales tax-funded] projects in San Francisco. She said that staff anticipated drawing down up to \$100 million for the fiscal year leaving \$40 million of available credit. She explained that the agency would have multiple years to pay back the funds based on the useful life of the assets funded, and added that in the past the agency had issued long-term debt to refund the short-term debt.

Commissioner Safai asked about the interest rate. Deputy Director Fong replied that the interest rate would be set at the rate of the market for short-term debt. She further explained that the debt would be repaid with future sales tax revenue or long-term in the form of a sales tax revenue bond.

Commissioner Safai asked if this was the normal practice for the Transportation Authority. Ms. Fong replied that this is normal course of practice for the Transportation Authority and for many other sales tax authorities in the Bay Area. Chair Peskin commented that on the city side it is not uncommon to take out short term revolving debt with longer term debt like bonds.

During public comment, caller Aleta Dupree reiterated the importance of making the Caltrain 22nd Street Station Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible. She also urged the agency to be cautious with issuing debt and said the budget should keep accessibility and equity in mind.

Other Items

7. Introduction of New Items - INFORMATION

There were no new items introduced.

8. Public Comment

There was no general public comment.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am.