



Memorandum

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2022

TO: TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD: COMMISSIONERS MANDELMAN (CHAIR), CHAN, DORSEY, MAR, MELGAR, PESKIN, PRESTON, RONEN, SAFAI, STEFANI, AND WALTON

FROM: TILLY CHANG - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: 11/15/2022 BOARD MEETING: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – INFORMATION

REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims - Global Event, November 20, 2022. This coming Sunday, many will gather at City Hall to remember the millions injured and killed on the world's roads, support their loved ones, and recommit ourselves to Vision Zero. San Francisco will hold its eighth annual World Day of Remembrance on November 20, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. outside of City Hall. I Sadly, sixteen people have been killed while walking in San Francisco this year and there have been 30 people killed in all traffic crashes this year in the city. Today's Board agenda includes is Vision Zero-themed, including a presentation on the 2022 High Injury Network and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's (SFMTA's) annual Safe Streets Evaluation Program report. We will continue to host these hearings, fund Vision Zero improvements, and monitor SFMTA's progress in implementing the necessary traffic safety improvements to help end these preventable tragedies.

Link21 and BART Metro Strategy - BART Outreach this month: Link 21, led by BART and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority, is an effort to develop a new vision for the 21-county Northern California Megaregion's rail system with a focus on identifying and advancing a new transbay rail crossing between San Francisco and Oakland. Link21 is holding a San Francisco-focused online outreach event tomorrow, Wednesday, November 16th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., as well as virtual 'office hours' the following day, Thursday November 17th, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. At these meetings staff will share information and answer questions about how the program will develop options for a new transbay rail crossing for consideration, evaluation, and refinement over the next year. Additional outreach, including details on the full list of potential options for the crossing after they are developed, is scheduled for Spring 2023. For more information, see <https://www.link21program.org/events>.

Additionally, BART is working to update its BART Metro strategy, first developed in 2014, to consider options for new and improved service patterns that may better serve pandemic and post-pandemic ridership needs. This effort, funded by a Caltrans Planning Grant, is nearing completion and is looking for input on potential new BART service maps for weekends and evenings that increase service to San



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Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley. More project information and a brief online feedback form can be found at <https://www.bart.gov/metro>.

Bay Skyway Phase 1 Project - Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Funding Application Submitted.

Last week, we submitted an application, jointly with Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Caltrans District 4, for \$60 million from the State's Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) for the Bay Skyway Phase 1 project. This project is a set of active transportation and ferry improvements in the Bay Bridge corridor including the Yerba Buena Island (YBI) Multi-Use Path from the touchdown of the east span of the Bay Bridge at YBI Vista Point to the new ferry terminal on Treasure Island, charging infrastructure for new electric ferry service to the Embarcadero, and the West Oakland Link in the East Bay. This project will promote active transportation, decrease emissions, and allow people to cross the Bay without adding to congestion on the Bay Bridge. Caltrans will formally nominate projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) on December 2 and recommendations will be announced in June 2023.

MTC Outreach on the Future of Bay Area Freeways - Webinars Scheduled for November 17th and 29th.

This month, staff from the MTC will host webinars on November 17th and November 29th to discuss the future of Bay Area freeways. The presentation focuses on some of the key challenges and opportunities facing the region as freeway congestion continues to surge. This is an opportunity to inform the development of innovative solutions to growing traffic delays and the lasting inequities of 20th century policy decisions. This work is a follow up action from Plan Bay Area 2050. For more information go to <https://blog.bayareametro.gov/posts/mtc-host-webinars-future-freeways>.

San Mateo 101 Express Lanes Project -Phased Opening Announced.

The San Mateo 101 Express Lanes Project seeks to reduce traffic congestion and encourage carpooling and transit use on U.S. 101 in San Mateo County. The project is creating 22 miles of express lanes on U.S. 101 from the San Mateo County/Santa Clara County line to I-380 in South San Francisco, and will be open southbound for carpool or HOV (high occupancy vehicle) and transit use this month. The San Mateo express lanes will seamlessly connect to the express lanes being constructed in Santa Clara County. When the express lanes are fully operational in early 2023, HOV 3+ and motorcycles can access the lanes for free, and all other vehicles (e.g., solo drivers, HOV 2+, and clean air vehicles) can pay to access the lanes. In addition, the new Community Transportation Benefits Program, sponsored by the San Mateo County Express Lanes, helps cover transportation costs for qualifying San Mateo residents. Participants can choose from one of two transportation benefits that meet their needs: a Clipper card with a value of \$100, or a FasTrak® toll tag/transponder with value of \$100. For more information, see the project website at 101express.com.

Michelle Bouchard Named Caltrain Executive Director.

The Caltrain Board of Directors has unanimously appointed Michelle Bouchard as the first permanent Director of the railroad. Bouchard has spent over 25 years in the transit industry, 20 of them with Caltrain where she started her career. She worked her way up the ranks of Caltrain to become Director of Rail Transportation before a short stint with the Bay Area Rapid Transit District. She then returned to Caltrain in 2015 as the Chief



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Operating Officer and has served as the Acting Executive Director since April 2021. As Acting Executive Director she has overseen the Electrification project and now in her permanent role will tackle many of the tough challenges before the agency, including increasing ridership, completing electrification of the system, and working collaboratively with partner agencies and the communities they serve to continue to grow their service. We want to congratulate Director Bouchard on the much-deserved appointment and look forward to our continued partnership.

LOCAL ISSUES

Proposition L Passes - Existing Half-cent Sales Tax Extended to Fund Transportation

Improvements Citywide. I am very happy to report that San Francisco voters have approved Proposition L, the Sales Tax for Transportation Projects measure that will direct \$2.6 billion in half-cent sales tax funds over 30 years to help deliver safer, smoother streets, more reliable transit, continue paratransit services for seniors and persons with disabilities, reduce congestion, and improve air quality. To develop the 30-year Expenditure Plan, the Transportation Authority led extensive outreach with the public and an Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee, composed of 27 members from neighborhoods, community groups, advocacy organizations, and business and civic groups, who met over the course of six months to discuss investment priorities and implementation policies. We are tremendously thankful to our Board, the advisory committee members, agency stakeholders, our staff, and others who helped develop the new Expenditure Plan, place it on the ballot and gain the 2/3 voter approval it needed to pass. Prop L will supersede the current Prop K measure on April 1, 2023. In the coming months, we will look forward to working with Board members and all the aforementioned stakeholders as we transition from the Prop K Expenditure Plan to Prop L.

School Access Plan - Outreach Extended Through November 20. Last night, we held a second citywide community meeting of the School Access Plan to share information and collect feedback on a set of strategies to improve school transportation for K-5 SFUSD students and their caregivers. For caregivers with young students who weren't able to attend, we encourage you to share your thoughts through our online survey which will be available through November 20 at sfcta.org/schoolsurvey.

Housing Element - SF Planning to Seek Adoption in December/ January. The San Francisco Planning Department (Planning) is currently leading fifth draft revisions to the Housing Element in response to state feedback on earlier drafts. The Housing Element must be adopted and certified by January 31, 2023. This month, the City Planning Commission (CPC) heard informational presentations on the revised draft and the Board of Supervisors (BoS) will hear an informational presentation today, November 15th. The Planning Department intends to initiate Housing Element adoption and EIR Certification this week, with an anticipated adoption hearing by the Planning Commission on December 15th and a BoS Hearing to consider adoption in January. Numerous State and Regional transportation grant programs require Housing Element compliance, including the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program, state Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program, Caltrans Sustainable



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Planning grants, and MTC's One Bay Area Grant Program. During the Housing Element development process, our staff provided transportation modeling services in support of the EIR transportation analysis. We also recently reviewed the Housing Element Implementation Plan for consistency with the San Francisco Transportation Plan and our congestion management program.

PROJECT DELIVERY

Potrero Yard Modernization Project - City Selects Development Team. SFMTA is preparing to replace the aging Potrero Yard bus yard with a new modern facility, developed with up to 575 affordable rental housing units. Earlier this month, the SFMTA Board authorized execution of the initial pre-development agreement with the Potrero Neighborhood Collective - a partnership of Plenary, Mission Economic Development Agency and others, which is the developer team selected to lead design and delivery of the project. This milestone is the culmination of the procurement process for the innovative project, which will support Muni's transition to a battery-electric fleet, enable service expansion, and deliver affordable housing. The developer team will now work with the City through the pre-development phase to advance the design and negotiate the final terms of the project, after which it is expected that this team will lead construction along with having long-term responsibility for certain operations and maintenance components of the project. We plan to bring an update to the Board on this project next month.

West Side Bridges - Final Steps Underway for a Full Funding Plan and Construction Contract Award in March 2023. On November 9th, the BATA Oversight Committee recommended \$5 million in Cycle 3 Local Partnership Program Formula Program funding for the Yerba Buena Island (YBI) West Side Bridges Seismic Retrofit Project. We are delivering the project on behalf of the Treasure Island Development Authority to support the 8,000 new housing units planned for construction by 2040 of which 26% will be affordable. We would like to thank MTC/BATA staff for their partnership in making this funding available, which was key to securing the additional \$4.3 million in state funding needed to close the funding gap and get the project ready to enter construction. We plan to bring final Transportation Authority funding actions for the project to the Board in December as part of a series of actions taken at MTC, Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission to fully fund the project. Once all the committed funding is secured, we intend to award the contract in March 2023 using the Construction Manager/General Contractor delivery method. Construction would begin in April 2023.

Muni Transit Stop Signage Enhancement Program - Funded by the Prop AA Vehicle Registration Fee. SFMTA continues to roll out updated signage for transit routes across the City with the T line next up and set to receive 80 new signs to coincide with the full opening of Central Subway. Though the pandemic slowed implementation of this program, SFMTA has now installed new signs with solar powered lights at approximately 140 stops on the 14/14R Mission and Mission Rapid, 25 Treasure Island, 78X/79X Chase Center, and Van Ness BRT lines. Over the next year, the priority is to install additional new signs on Muni's higher ridership lines, which will provide clearer information and make



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the Muni system easier to use. A photo of the new signage is included in Attachment 1. This project is funded by the Transportation Authority's Prop AA vehicle registration fee.

Prop K Neighborhood Program - SFMTA Completes New Safety Improvements at

Kearny/Jackson. Earlier this month, we joined Vice Chair Peskin, SF School Board president Jenny Lam and community leaders from Chinatown TRIP in celebrating SFMTA's completion of a pair of projects that will enhance pedestrian safety at the intersection of Kearny and Jackson streets. The completed work includes a pedestrian bulbout at the northwest corner of the intersection, which is part of the John Yehall Chin Safe Routes to School Project, as well as traffic signal upgrades to allow for installation of a pedestrian scramble at Kearny and Jackson. The signal improvements were funded by the Prop K Neighborhood Program at the request of Vice Chair Peskin and the bulbout was funded through a combination of Prop K and regional funds.

AND ADMINISTRATION

Self Help Counties Coalition - Executive Tilly Director Chang Helps Lead Annual Conference. The Transportation Authority has been a long-standing member of the Self Help Counties Coalition, which represents the 25 local county transportation agencies delivering voter-approved transportation sales tax measures throughout California. Every year members gather at the coalition's Focus on the Future conference to discuss important issues facing the state and our agencies and learn from one another's challenges and solutions. As Chair of the organization, I led a CEO Roundtable and joined others to establish the agenda, which included sessions on the distribution of federal transportation dollars, stakeholder outreach, climate change and resiliency, and freight technology. Our Deputy for Capital Projects Carl Holmes and Public Policy Manager Amber Crabbe presented a poster session on San Francisco's initiatives and we will host the event next year here in San Francisco.

Attachment 1: Muni Transit Stop Signage