



# DRAFT MINUTES

## **San Francisco County Transportation Authority**

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

### **1. Roll Call**

Chair Mandelman called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Present at Roll Call:** Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, and Walton (10)

**Absent at Roll Call:** Commissioner Safai (1)

### **2. Approve the Minutes of the September 26, 2023 Meeting - ACTION**

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Melgar moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Preston.

The Consent Agenda was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, and Walton (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

### **3. Community Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION**

Chair Ortiz reported that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) adopted motions of support for the Prop L 5 Year Prioritization Program and the Prop L allocations items on the agenda. He reported that they also heard a presentation about the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA's) paratransit fleet electrification plans. He highlighted that a CAC member questioned how San Francisco Public Works (SFPW) prioritized where they focused their tree planting, specifically why District 9 was not prioritized. He reported that SFPW provided an answer and offered to follow up. Finally, Chair Ortiz announced that the CAC had formed a subcommittee to investigate skateboarding infrastructure, where they would establish the existing conditions and discuss potential strategies to improve skateboarding in the city. He stated that the subcommittee would meet three times and that he would report their findings to the Transportation Authority Board.

There was no public comment.

### **4. Appoint Austin Milford-Rosales as the District 6 Representative to the Community Advisory Committee – ACTION**

Maria Lombardo, Chief Deputy Director, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Austin Milford-Rosales spoke to his interest and qualifications in being appointed to the CAC.



Commissioner Dorsey stated that he was excited to nominate Mr. Milford-Rosales and commented that he was a daily transit and frequent bike user; appreciated his dedication to pedestrian safety; and commented that he was happy to nominate someone of Mr. Milford-Rosales' character and caliber. He closed by thanking outgoing CAC member Eric Rozell.

Commissioner Preston welcomed Mr. Milford-Rosales to the CAC as the new District 6 member. He then thanked Eric Rozell noting he was redistricted from District 6 into District 5 and thanked Commissioner Dorsey for allowing Mr. Rozell to continue serving on the CAC for a period of time after that. Commissioner Preston thanked Mr. Rozell for being a leading advocate on pedestrian safety in Tenderloin, including fighting for the no right on red policy, ADA accessibility, and quick-build projects on high-injury streets. He stated that while he was sad to see him leave the CAC, he was pleased that he would be continuing his great work with the Tenderloin Community Benefits District as their Director of Safe Passage Programs and co-chair of the Tenderloin Safety Task Force.

During public comment, a commenter stated that transparency and declaring conflict of interest was important.

Eric Rozell thanked Commissioner Preston for his acknowledgment as well the CAC members and Transportation Authority staff for their work. He also thanked SFMTA, BART, Caltrain and other agencies for all their hard work. He wished Mr. Milford-Rosales the best of luck.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to appoint Austin Milford-Rosales to the CAC, seconded by Commissioner Preston.

The motion to appoint Austin Milford-Rosales was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, and Stefani (9)

Absent: Commissioners Safai and Walton (2)

**5. State and Federal Legislation Update - INFORMATION**

Mark Watts, Sacramento Advocate, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

During public comment, a commenter stated that nobody had enough time to focus on all the bills on the governor's desk and therefore it was his advisors who were telling him what to do.

**6. Adopt Eight 2023 Prop L 5-Year Prioritization Programs and Amend the Prop L Strategic Plan Baseline – ACTION**

Amelia Walley, Program Analyst, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

A member of the public commented that transportation should not be weaponized.

Vice Chair Melgar moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Ronen.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, and Stefani (9)



Absent: Commissioners Safai and Walton (2)

**7. Allocate \$13,724,000 and Appropriate \$651,000 in Prop L Funds, with Conditions for Five Requests – ACTION**

Mike Pickford, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

During public comment, a commenter commented that it was important to appreciate the sky and think about the future.

Commissioner Ronen moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Dorsey.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, and Stefani (9)

Absent: Commissioners Safai and Walton (2)

**8. Approve San Francisco's Program of Projects for the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program, with Conditions – ACTION**

Nick Smith, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Mandelman expressed concern regarding the fact that funds for SFMTA's Train Control Project Phase I & II had lapsed, that funds for Phase III were being reprogrammed, and impacts to the overall project schedule. He asked whether the project was still on track.

Dan Howard, SFMTA Project Manager, said that the project had experienced an 11-month delay, which pushed the Notice to Proceed (NTP) from February 2024 to January 2025. He stated that the SFMTA Board approved the Request for Proposals (RFP) in January 2023, and the RFP was released in late February 2023 after the City Attorney's Office review resulting in a one-month delay. He stated that there was great interest from suppliers, who requested three extensions resulting in another 4-months of delay. Mr. Howard stated that based on this experience, SFMTA extended the schedule for contract negotiations, anticipating a more complex contract than initially planned. He added that assuming the current NTP of January 2025, SFMTA expected the rest of the milestone dates to remain the same. He said that bids were received last week. Mr. Howard outlined the current timeline and stated that SFMTA anticipated an 18-month design period, three-year pilot period with the first section coming online in 2028, the subway replacement taking place between 2027 and 2030, and the whole project completed by mid-2032.

Chair Mandelman asked about the previous NTP schedules.

Dan Howard said that pre-COVID the NTP was planned for 2021, and, prior to these most recent delays, February 2024.

Chair Mandelman asked for an update on environmental review.

Mr. Howard indicated that categorical and statutory exemptions from federal and state environmental review were pending review with the Planning Department.



Chair Mandelman said this seemed like another large transit project with an extended schedule and requested an update for himself and Transportation Authority staff from SFMTA.

A member of the public commented that the project should be frozen and that transportation should not be weaponized.

Commissioner Dorsey moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Preston.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, and Stefani (9)

Absent: Commissioners Safai and Walton (2)

**9. Adopt a Resolution Directing The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency To Incorporate Safe Routes To All Schools in the San Francisco Unified School District In the Active Communities Plan - ACTION**

Vice Chair Melgar stated that she authored the resolution and that she had heard a positive response from SFMTA. She stated that she recently biked through her district with Director Jeff Tumlin and SFMTA Chair Amanda Eaken to show them the current conditions of school routes. She stated that while SFMTA was building a network for biking and walking, they needed to pay special attention to school routes, especially for middle and high schoolers as that was when kids start to get around on their own. She stated that there was a need for both programming and infrastructure as this would help kids build more sustainable transportation habits. She thanked SFMTA staff and asked her fellow commissioners for their support.

During public comment, a commenter stated that it was important to think positively.

Vice Chair Melgar moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Chan.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Preston, Peskin, Ronen, and Stefani (9)

Absent: Commissioners Safai and Walton (2)

## **Other Items**

**10. Introduction of New Items - INFORMATION**

There were no new items introduced.

**11. Public Comment**

During public comment, a commenter stated that the key to transportation is movement around the city.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.