



## **Memorandum**

### **AGENDA ITEM 3**

**DATE:** April 21, 2025

**TO:** Transportation Authority Board

**FROM:** Tilly Chang - Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** 04/22/2025 Board Meeting: Executive Director's Report - INFORMATION

### **REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES**

**International Rail Exchange.** We have been in coordination with California Transportation Secretary's office (CalSTA) and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) in Japan who are coordinating a forum on railway decarbonization and high-speed rail in Los Angeles next month. We look forward to welcoming Japanese Consul MLIT staff to San Francisco and these meetings will correspond with a delegation of the SF Chamber of Commerce and Bay Area Council that President/Commissioner Mandelman will join, that is heading to Tokyo and Osaka in May. The San Francisco delegation will visit Osaka's World's Fair to learn about the economic development impact of the fair, and innovative technologies (including transportation solutions). In connection with the trip, we have arranged two meetings for Commissioner Mandelman to meet with Japan Railways companies, who are leaders in innovative financing. The Transportation Authority will help sponsor the trip for Commissioner Mandelman - who also serves as the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) Vice Chair, and we look forward to his report back on his learnings in May.

**Federal Policy Summit - Transportation Technology Experts Convene in Washington.** On March 26 and 27, the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) convened its 2025 Policy Summit to discuss ways federal policy can leverage transportation technology to advance safety, enhance infrastructure efficiency and promote economic competitiveness. I spoke on a panel focused on reauthorization of the current surface transportation bill, while Senior Public Policy Manager Amber Crabbe reported out on a Mobility on Demand Committee that she



leads. We will continue to engage on key topics including a potential national AV framework.

## **LOCAL ISSUES**

**Earth Day, Climate Week, and 2025 SF Climate Action Plan Update.** I'd like to wish Happy Earth Day and Climate Week to everyone this week. As part of this month's climate-focused programs, we joined Mayor Lurie and SF Department of the Environment at the Climate Action Plan Update public launch last week. The Transportation Authority is a partner to this effort which is being coordinated with our update to the San Francisco countywide transportation plan known as the San Francisco Transportation Plan. As always, we are also proud to support many sustainable transportation plans, projects and programs across the city and region, from funding Caltrain electrification and electrification of Muni's fleet to myriad transit priority, bicycle and pedestrian initiatives, large and small.

**Summer 2025 Service Cuts and Parking Meter Rate/Fee Changes Approved by the SFMTA Board of Directors; SFMTA Board Workshop April 22nd.** On April 15, the SFMTA Board of Directors approved a number of measures to help the agency address its near-term deficit of \$50 million for the 2026 fiscal year. Service changes to the 5, 6, 9, 21, and 31 Muni lines will take effect on June 21. Under these route changes, each of the lines would turn around at Market Street, and the 6 Haight-Parnassus and 21 Hayes lines will be consolidated into a single line, saving the agency approximately \$7.2 million for the year. Additionally, several changes to parking meter rates and fees will be implemented citywide beginning May 15, including increasing all current rates by \$0.25 and raising the minimum rate from \$0.50 to \$1.00. These actions will complement other funding and program cuts identified by SFMTA to close the coming year's budget deficit. They also serve as a preview of more significant actions SFMTA may have to consider in future years to address its anticipated annual deficit of \$320 million.

To discuss the operating shortfalls in Fiscal Year 2026/27 and beyond, the SFMTA Board is holding a workshop today which will feature an economic update from the City's Chief Economist, a presentation focusing on the next 2-year budget cycle where the projected operating deficit is projected to be \$320 million per year, and a review of the recommendations from the Muni Funding Working Group which held its last meeting in March. We look forward to SFMTA staff attending our May 13 meeting to share updates on these topics.



**Geary / Fillmore Community Council - Applications Are Now Open.** The Geary Fillmore Underpass Community Planning Study is a federally funded project to reimagine transportation and land use along Geary and adjacent neighborhoods, between Laguna and Divisadero. We are building a Community Council that will work with the project team to give community input throughout the project and lead outreach within their communities. We will be selecting up to 12 representatives for our study working group and are now accepting applications through Monday, May 19th. More information is on our project website at: [sfcta.org/projects/geary-fillmore-underpass](https://sfcta.org/projects/geary-fillmore-underpass).

**Vision Zero Freeway Ramps Study Outreach Begins - Survey Open and Three Town Halls Planned for May.** The Vision Zero Freeway Ramps Study will identify near-term improvements to reduce speeds and improve transportation safety at 11 freeway ramp locations in the Mission, Potrero Hill, Glen Park, Bayview, and Visitacion Valley. This study advances the 2022 San Francisco Streets and Freeways Strategy, which identified these freeway ramps for improvement because they have a history of collisions, their locations on or near the Vision Zero High Injury Network, and/or in Equity Priority Communities. The study team is seeking feedback to develop safety improvements. The public can share feedback through a survey available in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Tagalog, by May 19 or attend a town hall meeting. Details can be found at [sfcta.org/vzramps](https://sfcta.org/vzramps).

**Waymo to Initiate Mapping at SFO and Market Street.** Last month and earlier this month, Mayor Lurie and Waymo announced that Waymo's robotaxis will initiate mapping at SFO and on the car-free stretch of Market Street, respectively, with driverless Waymo testing potentially commencing by summer. We have met with SFO staff to learn more about the initiative, share our experience and provide input on key provisions of the planning and permitting process to come, including taking an incremental approach to approvals informed by data, monitoring and reporting.

## **PROJECT DELIVERY**

**Daylighting Event at New Traditions Elementary School - SFMTA Prioritizing Implementation in School Zones and the High Injury Network.** Last week, we joined Chair Melgar, staff from Commissioner Mahmood's office, SFMTA, and Walk SF at New Traditions Elementary School in District 5 to participate in a student-led daylighting painting event. Signed into law in October 2023, Assembly Bill 413 restricts parking within 20 feet of the approach of any marked or unmarked crosswalk, even if the approach does not have any red curbs painted. Daylighting



prevents 1 in 3 crashes by ensuring clear sightlines at intersections and the SFMTA is working to daylight intersections across San Francisco by the end of 2026.

Transportation Authority is supporting SFMTA's daylighting program with \$1.2 million, including \$1.1 million in Prop D TNC Tax funds for the Vision Zero Quick-Build program and \$100,000 in Prop L sales tax funds for the School Engineering program.

**The Western Addition Celebrates the Buchanan Street Mall Groundbreaking.** On March 27, we joined San Francisco Recreation and Park staff, Mayor Lurie, Commissioner Mahmood and state and community leaders to celebrate the groundbreaking at Buchanan Street Mall, a five-block pedestrian walkway from Eddy to Grove streets. Neighbors and local organizations played a key role in the decade-long planning efforts to transform the city park into a safer, greener, and more connected space. The Transportation Authority supported planning and early project delivery efforts with about \$1 million in sales tax funds, including funding the Western Addition Community Based Transportation Plan and the design and construction of sidewalk bulbouts, new ADA curb ramps, and flashing beacons along the corridor. The full project is expected to be completed by 2026.

**Alemaný Boulevard Quick-Build Project - Bringing Safety Improvements Between Ellsworth and Congdon/Justin Street.** I'm also pleased to share that SFMTA has begun implementation of the Alemaný Boulevard Quick-Build Project, along Alemaný Boulevard from Ellsworth Street to Congdon/Justin Street. Over the past week, SFMTA crews restriped the roadway to create a road diet and enhanced turn lanes. Next, crews will install a new bus boarding island and K-rail bikeway protection. These improvements will slow driving speeds, supporting a safer and more comfortable citywide bicycle network. The Transportation Authority is supporting this project with \$460,000 in sales tax and Prop D TNC Tax funds.

## **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Meet the Buyers Procurement Forum.** On April 9, we joined ten other local and state agencies to participate in a Meet the Buyers forum. The event was hosted by the Business Outreach Committee, a consortium of Bay Area transit agencies, and suggestions on doing business with transit agencies were provided. Staff participated in a panel with representatives from the Small Business Administration and the California Department of Transportation to review the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise programs, along with how to create a successful proposal. There were 210 registered attendees.



**Northern California Owners' Night Event.** On Thursday, April 24th, we will join approximately two dozen public agencies at the 2025 Northern California Owners' Night. At the event, we and other participating agencies will share information regarding our capital projects and upcoming procurements with interested contractors and consultants, including local, small, and disadvantaged business enterprises. Owners' Night will be held at the Metropolitan Transportation Commissioner's offices in downtown San Francisco and is being jointly hosted by the Northern California Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America, the Bay Bridge Chapter of the American Council of Engineering Companies, and BuildIT. More information is available at [cmaanorcal.org](http://cmaanorcal.org).