



Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM 3

DATE: November 18, 2025
TO: Transportation Authority Board
FROM: Executive Director – Tilly Chang
SUBJECT: 11/18/2025 Board Meeting: Executive Director’s Report - INFORMATION

FEDERAL, STATE, AND REGIONAL ISSUES

Nancy Pelosi Retirement. After nearly four decades in Congress, Speaker Emeritus Nancy Pelosi announced that she will retire in January 2027. Throughout her career, Speaker Emerita Pelosi championed major transportation legislation and infrastructure projects, including helping to secure \$1.2 billion for BART's Transbay Core Capacity Program, \$1 billion to electrify Caltrain, and \$363 million to transform the structurally and seismically deficient Doyle Drive into the Presidio Parkway, and advocated for funding for Salesforce Transit Center, Third Street Light Rail, Central Subway and Van Ness BRT, among many, many other initiatives. We are grateful to Speaker Emeritus Pelosi for her years of commitment and service to improving transportation and equity across the region.

Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Advocacy for Local Control. A recent incident in which a Waymo robotaxi struck and killed a neighborhood cat in the Mission District prompted Commissioner Fielder in her role as Board of Supervisor, to introduce a resolution calling for greater local control over autonomous vehicle operations. The resolution urges the state to allow counties and cities, potentially through voter referenda, to decide whether and how AV passenger services may operate in their jurisdictions, rather than leaving all authority to state regulators.

Transportation Authority Staff Provide Comments on CPUC Rulemaking for AV Policies and Regulations. On October 31, Transportation Authority staff submitted comments to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regarding the opening of a new rulemaking on the CPUC’s continued regulation of AV passenger service. The comments urged the CPUC to prioritize a transparent evaluation of AV testing and deployment from the last three years of operations before adding additional layers of complexity to AV passenger service, such as the use of privately owned vehicles, transporting minors, or enabling shared rides among strangers. AV



data is not shared with the public, meaning that only CPUC staff currently have access to the reported data needed to conduct this type of evaluation.

Poll Results Show Support for November 2026 Regional Transit Measure. Last week, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) released results for a poll conducted in October which surveyed likely voters about their support for a potential November 2026 regional transportation revenue measure authorized by the passage of Senate Bill 63 earlier this year. The poll found that 56% of respondents in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara would support the regional measure (one-cent sales tax in San Francisco and one-half-cent sales tax in the other four counties). Additionally, a split sample was conducted in San Francisco where respondents were told that there would be a local parcel tax on the ballot as well. Results showed that 56% of San Francisco respondents would support a regional measure when told a local transit measure would be on the ballot as well. SB63 provides the option for a new regional transit district or citizens initiative to place the revenue measure on the November 2026 ballot. MTC, serving as the regional measure District's governing board, will make a formal decision about whether to place a measure on the ballot in early 2026.

MTC Transit Advisory Group Undergoes Revamp in 2026 - Application Open for Student/Youth Representation. The Regional Network Management (RNM) program aims to advance regional goals in equity, livability, climate and resiliency through a unified regional transit system that serves all Bay Area populations. RNM initiatives include projects that will make Bay Area transit more affordable, seamless, efficient and accessible for riders. Beginning in January 2026, the RNM Customer Advisory Group will see a new structure enabling a stronger connection and understanding between regional and local transit agencies' advisory bodies. The RNM Customer Advisory Group is made up of representatives from advocacy and policy organizations, transit agencies' local advisory bodies, and other stakeholders, providing diverse customer perspectives to the RNM Committee. There is one seat available for a student/youth representative. Applications are due by December 5. Learn more and apply: surveymonkey.com/r/YC5TKVV.

11th Annual World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. On Sunday, November 16, Chair Melgar, President Mandelman, Vice Chair Sauter, Commissioner Sherrill, Senator Scott Wiener, and I attended the 11th annual World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims gathering on the steps of City Hall, organized by WalkSF and Bay Area Families for Safe Streets. This global event honors the lives lost and those impacted by traffic crashes, while advocating for urgent changes to



prevent these avoidable tragedies. The evening's program included reading aloud the names of over 300 victims, a candlelight vigil, and stories from Bay Area Families for Safe Streets. This solemn event offered an opportunity for community members to stand together in solidarity with victims and their loved ones. Transportation Authority leadership reaffirmed our agency's commitment to safe streets and implementation of the Safe Streets Act.

MTC Grant Awards for San Francisco Community-Based Organizations. On November 12, the MTC Programming and Allocations Committee approved \$1.5 million in grant awards for community-based organizations (CBO) through their Community Action Resource and Empowerment, or CARE Program. These awards are intended to help CBOs build capacity and develop partnerships in the communities they serve. Awards in San Francisco include \$50k to Leah's Pantry for an Action Plan focused on walkability and older adults in Bayview, \$50k to the South of Market Community Action Network for capacity building work related to affordable housing and transit in SOMA, and \$110k to the Filipino-American Development Foundation for a streetscape and monument project on Russ Street. MTC staff expects to return in the next few months with an additional \$1 million in awards in response to the number of grant applications received and funding requested, which vastly exceeded the original amount available. We appreciate MTC's support for San Francisco's CBOs and look forward to working with them on these projects.

LOCAL ISSUES

Muni Parcel Tax Proposals - Roundtable Meeting #2. On November 6, SFMTA and the Mayor's Office held the second Parcel Tax Roundtable meeting with interested parties representing labor, advocacy, community and business to review potential frameworks for a local revenue measure that would support Muni operations. Chair Melgar and staff from Commissioner Fielder's office attended and provided input on two illustrative progressive parcel tax options generating around \$150 million per year for Muni operations. Notably, several attendees encouraged exploration of frameworks that generate more revenues to allow for service enhancements. SFMTA staff will provide a presentation on this topic to the SFMTA Board this afternoon and to the Transportation Board in December. The SFMTA Board agenda is available at www.sfmta.com/meetings-events

SFMTA's Bayview Shuttle Anniversary. The Bayview Shuttle (an on-demand service operated by SFMTA and Via in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood) recently celebrated its first anniversary, having launched on November 12, 2024. This was a



top recommendation from the Bayview Community-based Transportation Plan which the Transportation Authority helped fund. The service is funded by a \$10 million California Air Resources Board grant through their Sustainable Transportation Equity Project. Over its first year, the shuttle has built solid ridership and received high user satisfaction, improving local mobility and providing reliable connections to key hubs such as 24th Street Mission BART, Caltrain's 22nd Street station, and San Francisco General Hospital. Funding expires in March 2026, and SFMTA is seeking a grant extension and resources to continue operating the service beyond that point.

PROJECT DELIVERY

Clement Street and 6th Avenue Project Completed - Prop L Neighborhood Program Brings Colorful New Crosswalks. SF Public Works recently completed the Clement Street & 6th Avenue Intersection Improvements project featuring colorful new crosswalk markings at the intersection, which is close to many businesses, shops, cafes, restaurants, homes and schools. The crosswalk design aims to improve safety, visibility and walkability for pedestrians and drivers, as well as enhancing a sense of neighborhood identity. This project was funded by the Transportation Authority's Neighborhood Program at the request of Commissioner Connie Chan.

Ortega Street Improvements Completed - Neighborhood Program Implements Safety Improvements. We want to congratulate SFMTA on substantial completion of the Ortega Street Improvements project, which constructed 9 new speed cushions, four way stops at two intersections, a new raised crosswalk at 37th Avenue, and new crosswalk striping at intersections along Ortega Street between 19th and 47th avenues. Together these elements will improve safety and create more comfortable routes for people walking and biking to access schools, parks, businesses, and other local destinations. This project was funded through the Transportation Authority's Neighborhood Program at the request of former Commissioner Engardio.

27 New Paratransit Vehicles In Service, Providing Door-to-Door Service for Seniors and Persons With Disabilities. I'm happy to report the half-cent sales tax funds administered by the Transportation Authority provided matching funds to SFMTA to replace twenty-seven paratransit vans that were at the end of their useful life. The new vans are on the streets providing door-to-door service for seniors and people with disabilities who are unable to use Muni's regular fixed route bus and rail service. This procurement included 26 vans that accommodate up to 14 passengers and four wheelchairs, and one smaller van with better maneuverability for use in



narrow streets. Having this smaller model in the paratransit fleet will provide operational flexibility to help SFMTA better meet ridership demand on trickier routes.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Focus on the Future Conference Hosted by San Francisco. As the host city, last week we were excited to join the Self-Help Counties Focus on the Future Conference with a welcome by Chair Melgar and with Senior Public Policy Manager Amber Crabbe and myself speaking on panels. We also co-hosted two technical tours. Thank you to our colleagues at Golden Link Concessionaire, WSP and Flatiron Dragados for their partnership with Deputy Director for Capital Projects Carl Holmes on the Presidio Parkway tour where participants had a behind-the-scenes look at one of California's most significant public-private partnership infrastructure projects. And a big thank you to our partners at SFMTA, SF Recreation and Park Department, and Lyft/BayWheels for joining our Principal Transportation Planner Mike Pickford in co-hosting the bicycle tour through Golden Gate Park's JFK Promenade and the Sunset Dunes multiuse paths. We also greatly appreciate our colleagues at Caltrain for their tour of the Caltrain Electrification project, and at SFMTA for speaking about Speed Safety Cameras on the Vision Zero panel.