



Memorandum

Date: 10.21.14

RE: Authority Board
October 21, 2014

To: Transportation Authority Board: Commissioners Avalos (Chair), Wiener (Vice Chair), Breed, Campos, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang and Yee

From: Tilly Chang – Executive Director 

Subject: **INFORMATION** – Executive Director's Report

REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES

Cap and Trade - Ongoing Advocacy to Shape New Programs: We are continuing to work with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Bay Area Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs), San Francisco project sponsors and the Mayor's Office to provide input to the state agencies involved in developing and implementing guidelines for the various cap and trade-funded programs. Generally, our objectives have been to help shape an effective cap and trade program that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions while allowing the Bay Area and San Francisco to receive their fair share of revenues. This month, MTC produced an analysis comparing the state's cap and trade framework with MTC's cap and trade policy. We think MTC's approach is reasonable, but caution that much remains uncertain and is dependent on discretionary actions by state agencies. In particular, we note that MTC estimates its share of cap and trade revenue as its population share. This seems optimistic given that between 25% and 50% of the funds must benefit Disadvantaged Communities, which, while still being defined, are likely to be rare in the Bay Area. We welcome MTC and the Association of Bay Area Government's (ABAG's) ongoing advocacy and support in coordinating Bay Area applications for the Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC). The draft guidelines are quite restrictive and we are undertaking careful coordination within the City and with the region in this area to maximize San Francisco's chances for success.

Caltrain Electrification and High-Speed Rail (HSR) - Stakeholders Focused on Achieving Compatibility: San Francisco is a party to a regional agreement and vision for a blended system with HSR and Caltrain operations in the peninsula corridor. Ensuring compatibility is critical to the capacity and reliability of both systems. On October 9, the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) Board held a hearing on compatibility issues, which have become more urgently in need of resolution given upcoming decisions about Caltrain's planned electric vehicle procurement. At the TJPA meeting, Caltrain and California HSR Authority staff spoke to their support for compatibility, but also to why both entities are proposing different solutions, notably with the former favoring vehicles requiring a 25" platform height and the latter 51". TJPA Chair Kim asked the agencies to return in November to report on their efforts to find a solution and to report on the capital and operating benefits and costs of compatibility. She also asked TJPA Transbay staff to prepare a resolution with a policy in support of compatibility. Staff and I have been participating in numerous meetings with the Mayor's Office, SFMTA, the regional partners and others working to promote compatibility and advance both projects and we look forward to further discussions locally at the Board of Supervisors and other forums in the coming month.

San Francisco Transportation Plan and Plan Bay Area - 2017 Updates Are Underway: MTC and ABAG have kicked off the process to update Plan Bay Area, the region's first combined Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) adopted in mid-2013. MTC will issue a call for projects in mid-2015 and most of the policy and project prioritization decisions will be negotiated by mid-2016 for 2017 RTP/SCS adoption. To position San Francisco's desired policies objectives and project priorities for inclusion in the next RTP/SCS, over the next year we will be preparing an update to our own San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP). As with the regional effort, this will be a focused update, building off the SFTP's existing goals, policies, and investment framework. Just a year after the SFTP was adopted, I am pleased to report we are moving ahead with several key SFTP initiatives around transit core capacity planning, freeway management and neighborhood improvements planning. Coordinated quadrennial updates of the RTP/SCS and the SFTP are consistent with the intent of MTC's recently adopted countywide transportation plan guidelines and are one of our core functions as CMA.

LOCAL ISSUES

SFMTA Awarded \$9 Million Federal Grant - Muni Riders to Benefit from Expanded Bus Service: On September 25, I was honored to join SFMTA Directors and Mayor Lee as U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced that \$100 million in Federal Transit Administration Ladders of Opportunity Initiative competitive grants had been awarded to 24 recipients in 19 states to significantly improve bus service and bus facilities in communities where residents depend heavily on public transportation. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) was awarded \$9 million to expand Muni bus service by adding up to 12 60-foot motor coaches to targeted lines across San Francisco. The additional vehicles will help to support the added frequency and service capacity planned for the 8X-Bayshore Express, 14L-Mission, 9-San Bruno, 38x Geary, and 71-Haight/Noriega as part of the Muni Forward project. The vehicles are expected to help ease overcrowding and facilitate transit access in some of the San Francisco's highest need areas. A \$13.1 million Prop K grant is currently supporting the planning and design of Muni Forward improvements on all but one of the lines expected to receive additional vehicles.

Visit by Former Mayor of Bogota Enrique Peñalosa - Tours of San Francisco Sustainable Streets: Enrique Peñalosa, the former mayor of Bogota, Colombia and president of the board of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, brought an inspiring and insightful message to San Francisco yesterday and this past Sunday, urging us to continue to develop equitable and effective street designs that prioritize pedestrian safety and public spaces. On Sunday, we joined Mayor Peñalosa and Chair Avalos on a tour of bicycle projects with the SF Bicycle Coalition, and later attended the Livable City event at the last Sunday Streets of the season in the Mission with Commissioners Avalos and Campos and SFMTA Directors Brinkman and Ramos. Yesterday, Mayor Peñalosa spoke at SPUR, toured the Geary Boulevard BRT corridor with Commissioner Mar, and also saw the Van Ness BRT and Better Market Street project sites with SFMTA, SF Public Works and Transportation Authority staff. I want to thank Deputy Director for Planning David Uniman and Communications Officer Eric Young for working with multiple city agencies and organizations to coordinate Mayor Peñalosa's visit.

Geary Corridor and Van Ness Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) - Focus on Near-Term Improvements: SFMTA is making steady progress on design of the Van Ness BRT project, expecting to reach 65% design by the end of November and to begin construction near the end of next year. On the Geary BRT project, we are incorporating comments received by local agencies into the Administrative Draft Environmental Document in preparation for submittal to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In the meantime, we have been working with SFMTA on a phasing strategy to identify early improvements that could be implemented quickly, while the full project continues to advance through engineering design. For more

information, please visit the project websites at www.gearybrt.org and www.vannessbrt.org.

Geneva-Harney Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Feasibility Study - Community Workshops Being Held This Month: The study addresses the feasibility of proposed BRT service connecting residents and jobs along the Geneva-Harney corridor. The corridor extends from the Balboa Park BART/Muni Station, along Geneva Avenue in Daly City to the Bayshore Caltrain Station and across Highway 101 to the future Hunters Point Transit Center, connecting new developments in Candlestick Point and Hunters Point Shipyard. Over the past three months, the study team has worked closely with SFMTA and study partners to produce potential alignments and configurations that will be presented for public discussion and comment during the first round of community workshops. Three workshops will be held, starting on Thursday, October 23 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Bret Harte Elementary, 1035 Gilman Avenue, on Saturday, October 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Bayshore Community Center, 450 Martin Street, Daly City and a Cantonese meeting later that day at 2:00pm at the Visitacion Valley Elementary School, 55 Schwerin St. Feedback collected during these workshops and additional presentations to community organizations in the Visitacion Valley and Little Hollywood area will be incorporated into the Study's final recommendations. For more information, contact Sarah Fine at Sarah.Fine@sfcta.org or genevabrt@sfcta.org.

Vision Zero Committee Reviews City Progress - Staff and Committee Members to Attend NY Conference: Last month, the Vision Zero Committee heard reports recently from Task Force leaders and staff from the SFMTA, SF Department of Public Health and SF Police Department. Staff work in the coming months will focus on responding to the Committee's guidance and developing a 2-year workplan to address Vision Zero efforts in 5 areas: education, enforcement, capital projects, evaluation and policy. Thank you to Vision Zero Committee Chair Kim and Commissioner Yee for attending the first ever Vision Zero for Cities Symposium in New York City next month to meet with representatives from across the U.S. toward united in meeting the goal of eliminating traffic deaths.

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) - City Adopts NACTO standards, Hosts NACTO Conference: Earlier this month we were pleased to see the Board of Supervisors adopting Commissioner Wiener's legislation making NACTO's guides for Urban Streets and Urban Bikeways official city policy, to be used by multiple city agencies in their work to design city streets. San Francisco is a leader in innovative street designs and policies like this will be featured in this week's NACTO Designing Cities Conference, which takes place starting tomorrow the 22nd through Saturday the 25th. Transportation Authority staff will contribute to the program through panel talks on Innovative Transportation Funding and through a guided tour of the future Van Ness BRT project. Members of the public can still sign up to attend at <http://nacto.org/designingcities2014/>.

Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) - Call for San Francisco Projects to be Released Late October: The LTP is intended to improve mobility for low income residents with a focus on communities of concern. As CMA, the Transportation Authority prioritizes a portion of San Francisco's LTP funds. The LTP includes multiple fund sources with differing eligibility and requirements. For Cycle 4, we will program up to \$3.8 million in State Transit Assistance funds and \$1 million in Federal Job Access and Reverse Commute funds. SFMTA will receive about \$6.1 million in Cycle 4. If BART or other regional transit operators propose projects serving San Francisco, we will seek concurrence from the Board. We plan to release our LTP call for projects shortly after MTC adopts the guidelines on October 22. For more information, contact Senior Transportation Planner Seon Joo Kim, seonjoo.kim@sfcta.org, 415.522.4837, www.sfcta.org/lifeline.

Waterfront Transportation Assessment - SoMa/Mission Bay/Central Waterfront Analysis Re-Launched: The work we were completing in support of the SFMTA-led Waterfront Transportation Assessment (WTA) has been re-launched after being re-scoped in light of the Golden State Warriors Arena proposal change to

Mission Bay. The new scope calls for the Transportation Authority to focus on identifying transportation needs and solutions for the baseline growth in population and employment anticipated in this part of San Francisco and identifying representative investments and their effectiveness. A new website page for the effort with more information has been launched (URL is at end of this paragraph) and SFMTA will continue to lead public involvement activities for this effort that anticipates a public meeting in late fall/early winter to share draft findings after the initial analytical tasks have been completed. Contact Liz Brisson (liz@sfcta.org, 415.522.4838) or Erin Miller (erin.miller@sfmta.com, 415.701.5490) for more information. The new website is located at www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/soma-mission-bay-central-waterfront-transportation-needs-solutions.

Late Night Transportation Working Group - Existing Conditions and Needs Assessment Findings Well-Received at Meeting #2: On September 24, we presented draft findings from the Existing Conditions and Needs Assessment for this effort. The data presented included: information about the number and purpose of trips being made late at night, transit coverage and ridership data, as well as taxi, Lyft, and Uber data. The Working Group webpage (nightlifesf.org/working-group-formed-to-study-improving-late-night-transportation) includes the presentation, information on future meetings, and an email sign-up form. Contact Liz Brisson (liz@sfcta.org, 415.522.4838) or Ben Van Houten (ben.vanhouten@sfgov.org, 415.554.7038) for more information.

Quint Street Bridge and Connector Road - Workshop Held for Contractors and Workforce Training Organizations: In collaboration with Caltrain and SF Public Works, we held a community workshop on Tuesday, September 30 in the Bayview on Caltrain's Quint Street Bridge Replacement and the City's Quint-Jerrold Connector Road. The three agencies targeted local and disadvantaged construction contractors, as well as workforce training organizations, to provide information about potential opportunities associated with the projects. The Caltrain Bridge Replacement project is in the final design phase and is scheduled to begin construction in 2015. The Connector Road is in the conceptual design and environmental review phase, with construction planned to begin after completion of the Bridge Replacement project in 2016. For more information, visit the bridge replacement project website at www.caltrain.com/quint or the Connector Road project website at www.sfcta.org/quint, or contact Colin Dentel-Post, Transportation Planner, at colin.dentel-post@sfcta.org.

Treasure Island Mobility Management Study - Transportation Survey Wraps up This Month: This month, we presented on the project to the Treasure Island Development Authority Community Advisory Board and Board and continued to seek input directly from Treasure Island residents and stakeholders. We are also still surveying the travel needs of existing residents, and gain a sense of what transportation choices and policies residents may require in the future. Over 200 individuals have already completed the survey, including in Spanish and Chinese, available online at www.timma.org. For more information contact Rachel Hiatt, Principal Transportation Planner, at rachel.hiatt@sfcta.org.

THINK: Infrastructure Forum - Discussion on Urban Transportation in the Bay Area: Earlier this month, HNTB held one of its THINK: Infrastructure forums in San Francisco. THINK is national discussion series devoted to exploring the complex opportunities and challenges of developing the country's infrastructure. Along with Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director of Metropolitan Transportation Commission; Nuria Fernandez, General Manager & CEO of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, and Jim Wunderman, President & CEO of Bay Area Council, I served on a panel moderated by Randell Iwasaki, Executive Director of Contra Costa Transportation Authority. We had a lively and productive conversation among our panel and the 25 invited audience members on the topic of "Urban Transportation in the Bay Area: Maximizing current networks and meeting future needs."

PROJECT DELIVERY

Yerba Buena Island I-80 Interchange Improvement Project - Construction Activity Continues on Schedule:

Construction activities are approximately 36% complete. Work on concrete foundations and columns continue at an excellent pace and are approximately 50% complete. The Forest Road detour was opened for US Coast Guard vehicle use at the end of September, in coordination with Caltrans closure of Southgate Road. Clipper Cove work continued in preparation for Quarters 10 and Building 267 relocation. Work included excavation for foundations, placement of forms, reinforcing steel and concrete foundations. Building relocations are scheduled for early December. The project is on schedule for completion by mid-2016. For more information, please visit www.sfcta.org/delivering-transportation-projects/yerba-buena-island-i-80-interchange-improvement-project.

Western SoMa Transportation Plan - Groundbreaking for Development Project Includes Recommended Ringold Alley

Re-Design: On September 29, staff and I joined Commissioner Kim and Mayor Lee at the groundbreaking ceremony for 350 8th Street, a 410-unit residential complex that has been in the planning process for eight years. This event marks an exciting milestone for a recommendation from the Transportation Authority's 2012 Western SoMa Neighborhood Transportation Plan: the Ringold Alley shared street re-design. Last year, we worked with Commissioner Kim's office, the developer, the San Francisco Planning Department, the Eastern Neighborhood Citizens Advisory Committee, and other stakeholders to enable the Ringold alley re-design to be delivered through an in-kind agreement in lieu of transportation impact fees. This design could serve as a model for re-invigorating other alleys throughout the city, and will memorialize Ringold's role in San Francisco's 1980s-era LGBT community through public art treatments. The expected completion date of the project and Ringold Alley is mid-2016.

Prop K Creating Safer Streets - Safe Routes to School Projects Completed: Supported by Prop K funds, the SFMTA has completed construction of Safe Routes to School projects at Sunset Elementary (District 4), AP Giannini Middle School (District 4), and Jefferson Elementary (Districts 4 and 7). At Sunset and AP Giannini, the SFMTA constructed bulb-outs, pedestrian refuge islands, and buffered bike lanes. At Jefferson, the SFMTA constructed bulb-outs at the key intersections of 18th Avenue at Irving Street and 17th Avenue at Judah Street. Both projects are located adjacent to WalkFirst high injury corridors. These improvements will provide safer access for school children and help San Francisco reach its Vision Zero goals. For more information on these and other Transportation Authority-funded projects proposed in your neighborhood, visit www.MyStreetSF.com.

Haight Street Pedestrian and Transit Improvements Done - Prop K supports safer, more reliable travel: This month the SFMTA completed construction of the Market and Haight Street Transit and Pedestrian Improvements project. The project included converting Haight Street between Octavia and Market Streets to two-way circulation, and modifying the overhead contact system for trolley buses. This conversion allows inbound 6 Parnassus and 71/71L Haight/Noriega buses to travel straight on Haight Street instead of circuitously to reach Market Street, reducing travel time by 3 to 4 minutes. The SFMTA also installed a red transit-only lane eastbound between Laguna and Market Streets. Additionally, the project includes pedestrian improvements such as widened sidewalks; corner bulb-outs; pedestrian refuge islands; more direct, realigned crosswalks; and pedestrian signals to improve safety at the complex Market/Haight/Gough intersection. The Transportation Authority provided Prop K funds and Congestion Management Agency Block Grant funding for construction of this project. For more information, visit www.MyStreetSF.com.

Prop AA-Funded McAllister Streetscape - Groundbreaking this Thursday: On October 23, staff will join Commissioner Kim and the University of California Hastings College of the Law (UC Hastings) at the groundbreaking of the McAllister Streetscape project. The project will result in pedestrian safety

improvements and increased accessibility to the 5-Fulton Muni line on the northside of McAllister Street between Larkin and Leavenworth Streets. The project includes sidewalk widening, new pedestrian lighting, landscaping, and corner bulbouts to reduce crossing distances for pedestrians, and a new traffic island at Leavenworth and McAllister Streets to calm traffic and make the intersection safe for pedestrians. This Vision Zero-supportive project originated in the Tenderloin-Little Saigon Neighborhood Transportation Plan, which our staff led in collaboration with community groups and multiple agencies. The Transportation Authority (via Prop AA vehicle registration fee funds) and UC Hastings are jointly funding the project, which is anticipated to be completed in spring of 2015. For more information, contact Eric Young, Senior Communications Officer, at Eric.Young@sfcta.org.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ISSUES

Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) – Clean Program Manager Fund Audit Released: The Transportation Authority is designated as the county program manager for the local share of funds available through the Bay Area's TFCA program. Funds from this program come from an annual \$4 vehicle registration fee on automobiles registered in San Francisco and are for transportation projects that benefit air quality by reducing motor vehicle emissions. The audit, conducted by Gilbert Associates, covered the period between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2013, and reported the Transportation Authority spent program funds appropriately and complied with the funding agreements. Congratulations to the Programming and Policy Division for its ongoing efforts to run an effective TFCA program in San Francisco and to the Finance and Administration Division for yet another clean audit.

Attachment: Lifeline Transportation Program project list (prior cycles)

**Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP)
San Francisco Project List**

Project Sponsor¹	Project Name	LTP Funding (\$)	Total Project Cost (\$)
Cycle 1			
THC	Outreach Initiative for Lifeline Transit Access	\$137,741	\$227,870
SFMTA	Muni Route 109/Treasure Island	\$525,000	\$874,094
SFMTA	Muni Route 29 Service	\$946,222	\$1,182,778
BVHPF	Bayview Hunters Point Community Transport	\$924,879	\$1,156,879
SFMTA	Lifeline Fast Pass Distribution Expansion	\$219,334	\$274,166
<i>Cycle 1 Total</i>		<i>\$2,753,176</i>	<i>\$3,715,787</i>
Cycle 2			
SFMTA	Shopper Shuttle	\$1,560,000	\$1,872,000
SFMTA	Route 108 Treasure Island Enhanced Service	\$1,165,712	\$1,097,000
SFMTA	Route 29 Reliability Improvement Project	\$695,711	\$1,672,560
SFMTA	Persia Triangle Transit Access Improvements Project	\$802,734	\$1,003,418
SFMTA	Randolph/Farallones/ Orizaba Transit Access Project	\$480,000	\$599,600
BART	Balboa Park Station-Eastside Connections Project (BART)	\$1,906,050	\$2,801,050
SFMTA	Balboa Park Station-Eastside Connections Project (SFMTA)	\$1,083,277	\$1,354,096
SFMTA	Bus Service Restoration Project	\$1,698,272	\$2,309,000
MOH/SFMTA	Hunters View Revitalization Transit Stop Connection	\$510,160	\$708,176
<i>Cycle 2 Total</i>		<i>\$9,901,916</i>	<i>\$13,416,900</i>
Cycle 3			
SFMTA	Continuation of Bus Restoration	\$2,158,562	\$6,922,000
SFMTA	Route 108 Treasure Island Enhanced Service	\$800,000	\$1,075,677
SFMTA	Route 29 Reliability Improvement Project	\$800,000	\$4,058,492
SFMTA	Free Muni for Low Income Youth Pilot	\$400,000	\$9,900,000

**Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP)
San Francisco Project List**

Project Sponsor¹	Project Name	LTP Funding (\$)	Total Project Cost (\$)
SFMTA	Eddy and Ellis Traffic Calming Improvement	\$1,175,104	\$1,691,823
SFMTA	8X Customer First	\$5,285,000	\$11,637,000
SFMTA	Mission Customer First	\$5,056,891	\$10,440,000
SFMTA	Mission Bay Loop	\$1,381,539	\$6,100,000
<i>Cycle 3 Total</i>		<i>\$17,057,096</i>	<i>\$51,824,992</i>
Grand Total		\$29,712,188	\$68,957,679

¹Project sponsor acronyms include the Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), Bayview Hunters Point Foundation for Community Improvement (BVHPF), Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH), San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), and Tenderloin Housing Clinic (THC).