



DRAFT MINUTES

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

1. Roll Call

Chair Peskin called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Present at Roll Call: Commissioners Brown, Haney, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani and Walton (7)

Absent at Roll Call: Commissioners Fewer (entered during Item 2), Mar (entered during Item 2), Yee (entered during Item 2) and Safai (entered during Item 9) (4)

2. Citizens Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION

John Larson, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), reported that the CAC requested an in-person presentation from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) in regard to the progress of the Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. He noted that Peter Tannen, member of the CAC, presented a bar graph, based upon the monthly progress reports requested by the CAC, that demonstrated the slow rate of progress, including at least one month-to-month decline in percent completion on the Van Ness BRT project between November 2017 and November 2018. Mr. Larson also commented that the CAC members wondered if lessons from Van Ness BRT could be applied to Geary BRT and Better Market Street projects going forward, specifically pointing out the need for better coordination across city agencies. He also stated that Van Ness BRT updates would be a standing discussion item on CAC agendas.

Mr. Larson commented on another presentation given by SFMTA that was about Muni operator issues which also addressed the need for internal coordination, specifically citing how the Muni operator shortages during the twin peaks tunnel shutdown could have been avoided.

Mr. Larson reported that the CAC supported the \$3.5 million the Prop K requests presented in the day's Board meeting agenda. The CAC also highly recommended support for the Valencia Bikeway Implementation report to be presented to the Board at the February 12, 2019, Board meeting which was of particular interest to CAC members, specifically in regard to student safety and curb management issues on the Valencia corridor.

3. Chair's Report – INFORMATION

Chair Peskin welcomed the newest members of the Board, Commissioners Mar, Haney, and Walton, to the Transportation Authority. He also thanked Commissioner Ronen for her upcoming service as representative to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and thanked former Commissioner Jane Kim for serving on the MTC through the selection process for MTC's new Executive Director, Therese McMillan, citing her as an excellent choice to lead MTC, having served for two and a half decades at the MTC including 8 years as its Deputy Executive Director

for Policy. Chair Peskin further listed Director McMillan's accomplishments and accolades, noting that the Board is looking forward to working her and her team at MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments starting in March.

Chair Peskin also expressed congratulations and appreciation for outgoing long-time MTC Executive Director Steve Heminger, retiring at the end of February, for being a strong partner to San Francisco for the past two decades and for his leadership on funding many major capital projects, such as Central Subway, and partnerships, such as Regional Bridge Toll Measures 2 and 3.

Chair Peskin also thanked Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Board Chair Bevan Dufty for his leadership over the past year and thanked Executive Director Tilly Chang for providing welcoming remarks at BART's annual board workshop and expressing the Transportation Authority's Board appreciation for BART's partnership with San Francisco. He further discussed BART's agenda for the coming year, which includes a focus on modernization and maintenance of the entire system and planning activities for a second Transbay crossing, which would hopefully extend BART to San Francisco's west side. Chair Peskin further thanked BART Board members, including Latifah Simon and Janice Li, as well as BART staff.

Chair Peskin recognized partnerships with two additional regional agencies: Caltrain, in regard to its progress on the electrification project and Business Plan that will act as a roadmap for projects like the Downtown Rail Extension, and the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA), in regards to its work with the Transportation Authority's Treasure Island team on ferry plans.

There was no public comment.

4. Executive Director's Report – INFORMATION

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, said she would forego the Executive Director's Report and instead present the Annual Report later on the agenda.

There was no public comment.

5. Approve the Minutes of the December 11, 2018 Meeting – ACTION

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Yee moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Fewer.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Walton and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

6. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2019 – ACTION

Commissioner Stefani moved to nominate Commissioner Peskin for Chair of the Transportation Authority, seconded by Commissioner Ronen.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Peskin was elected Chair by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Walton and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

Chair Peskin thanked his fellow board members for re-electing him as Chair and urged them to help get the TNC tax on the ballot and passed this year.

Commissioner Brown moved to nominate Commissioner Mandelman for Vice Chair of the Transportation Authority, seconded by Commissioner Yee.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Mandelman was elected Vice Chair by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Walton and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

7. Allocate \$3,526,007 in Prop K Sales Tax Funds, with Conditions, for Two Requests – ACTION

Anna LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Fewer moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Mandelman.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Walton and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

8. Approve a Three-Year Professional Services Contracts, with an Option to Extend for Two Additional One-Year Periods, to Civic Edge Consulting and Convey, Inc. in a Combined Amount Not to Exceed \$300,000 for On-Call Communications, Media and Community Relations – ACTION – ACTION

Eric Young, Senior Communications Officer, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Peskin asked for verification that that none of the winning contractors were lobbyists.

Mr. Young confirmed that none of the prime contractors, nor the subcontractors, were lobbyists.

During public comment, Paul Pendergast, a subcontractor of the winning company, praised the Transportation Authority for its continual outreach to the disadvantaged business community, the local business community, and LGBTQ businesses, and for setting the example for the region and nation.

Commissioner Mandelman moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Stefani.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Stefani, Walton and Yee (10)

Absent: Commissioner Safai (1)

9. Adopt the 2018 Annual Report – ACTION

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, presented the Annual Report.

Chair Peskin thanked Executive Director Chang for her report and commented that the new Commissioners should consider this presentation a good overview of the Transportation Authority's work program. He further commented on impacts to small businesses from major transportation projects, like Central Subway and Van Ness BRT, and stated that all the Commissioners would need to work with the SFMTA to mitigate the fiscal impacts to the businesses affected by these projects.

Commissioner Yee thanked Executive Director Chang for her report and echoed Chair Peskin's concerns about the small businesses. He also asked for clarification on the emerging mobility section of the Annual Report and whether it would align with the City's emerging technology task force.

Executive Director Chang acknowledged the commissioners' concerns about small businesses and offered that the agency could follow up on this topic with the SFMTA and perhaps prepare a strategic analysis report. To Commissioner Yee's question, Director Chang said that Transportation Authority staff were participating in the City's emerging technology task force which was drawing upon some of the work the Transportation Authority had completed on this topic. She praised City Administrator Naomi Kelly for unifying city agencies and information across multiple departments through her leadership of the task force.

Commissioner Fewer expressed concerns about impacts of construction work on small businesses and how District 1 would be affected with the implementation of the Geary BRT. She said she hoped that lessons learned from Van Ness BRT could be applied to the Geary BRT work.

Executive Director Chang said that the Transportation Authority staff was listening to all the concerns raised about small business impacts. She noted that city agencies would have a few years to plan for the more intensive construction work for Geary BRT and that the same thinking needed to apply to the Better Market Street, which was currently in its environmental approval period.

Chair Peskin stated that having observed small business impacts from the Central Subway and watching what is happening on Van Ness, the Board of Supervisors and the Transportation Authority Board might be reluctant to appropriate funds for projects if the city agencies don't come up with meaningful mitigation for small businesses in the impacted areas.

Commissioner Brown commented that her constituents had expressed to her that they could not afford to take out more loans, one of the mitigations offered by the City, to keep their businesses afloat when they were already struggling. She opined that the only way to move forward was by offering some form of compensation to affected businesses and to have it written within the project funding guidelines.

Commissioner Walton recalled a previous instance of displaced businesses during a Super Bowl event that received financial compensation and wondered if a similar larger strategy could be put into place for the businesses affected by construction.

Chair Peskin explained that with respect to the Super Bowl event, street vendors with Department of Public Works permits were given a small cash payment for their loss, and with respect to the Central Subway project, cash assistance was given to affected businesses on the 900 and 1000 block of Stockton. Chair Peskin noted that the latter were able to demonstrate a 50 percent decrease in business due to the construction.

Commissioner Safai said the Public Utilities Commission built a mitigation fund into their Visitacion Valley project and echoed Chair Peskin's comments that businesses that could demonstrate impacts based on their previous revenues and gross receipts and should be able to use this information as the basis for a compensation request. He further commented that future transportation projects should have the same kind of mitigation fund written into the scope of the project.

Chair Peskin commented that city agencies were hesitant to write mitigation into the project scope due to the increase in project budget and he reiterated his comment that if small businesses would not be taken care of, then projects should just not happen.

Commissioner Safai observed that if there's flexibility to allow for a change order for unforeseen construction scope, there should be flexibility to accommodate financial mitigation for businesses.

Chair Peskin commented that the Van Ness BRT and Central Subway projects were behind schedule and that businesses should not have to suffer way beyond the announced deadlines.

Executive Director Chang committed to work with her colleagues and the Chair's office to address the issues.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Safai moved to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Yee.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee (11)

10. Internal Accounting Report, Investment Report, and Debt Expenditure Report for the Six Months Ending December 31, 2018 – INFORMATION

Cynthia Fong, Deputy Director for Finance and Administration, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chair Peskin asked about the lack of expenditure of the revenue bonds.

Ms. Fong confirmed that more reimbursements were to be made and the agency would soon be closer to its target.

Chair Peskin asked for clarification on the pending amount.

Ms. Fong commented that the Transportation Authority was still waiting for invoices from sponsor agencies.

Chair Peskin asked what specific items were purchased by the SFMTA and not billed for.

Ms. Fong answered that vehicles were purchased. In response to a request for further clarification by the chair, Ms. Fong explained that the agency works on a reimbursement-basis and that sponsors must incur costs and then request reimbursement from the Transportation Authority before the agency can disburse the funds. She said the Transportation Authority was waiting for invoices from city agencies, especially the SFMTA.

Commissioner Walton asked if it was appropriate to ask the SFMTA if they had acquired vehicles that they mentioned.

Chair Peskin invited Joel Ramos of SFMTA to speak.

Joel Ramos, SFMTA liaison, answered that he did not have the information on hand, but would provide the answer by the end of the meeting.

Chair Peskin responded that the SFMTA had enough cash to purchase light rail vehicles, but its accounting team was short-staffed and had been slow in billing the Transportation Authority for the purchase.

Commissioner Walton commented that the information was helpful, but after a conversation with SFMTA leadership about the new fleet, he still wanted to know about whether the vehicles had been purchased or not.

Ms. LaForte, Deputy Director for Policy and Programming, referenced information in the Annual Report indicating that most of the vehicles, including motor coaches, trolley buses, and LRVs were already purchased and many were in revenue service. She reiterated that the SFMTA had not yet submitted invoices to the Transportation Authority to request reimbursement of Prop K funds.

There was no public comment.

Other Items

11. Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION

There were no new items introduced.

12. Public Comment

During public comment, Francisco DaCosta expressed concerns on multiple topics, including environmental, public health, and constituency representation.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.