

# TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

#### **WATCH LIVE:**

https://transbaycenter.webex.com/transbaycenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=eda6d75769f9964769e4ab7372855aa0a

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN: 1-855-282-6330 — Access Code: 126 992 2434

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Room is closed. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely by calling the number above and entering the access code. Members of the public may access meeting materials at the following link:

<a href="https://tjpa.org/calendar-items/cac-meeting-august-11-2020">https://tjpa.org/calendar-items/cac-meeting-august-11-2020</a>

In compliance with the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 (March 12, 2020) as superseded by Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), this meeting will be held *exclusively* via teleconference participation of a quorum of Committee members in locations not open to the public. The purpose of the orders is to provide the safest environment for all persons consistent with San Francisco Department of Public Health Order of the Health Officer No. C19-07c and current public health recommendations, while allowing the public to observe and address the Committee.

## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Derrick Holt, Chair Belal Aftab, Vice Chair

Dan Bell Robert Feinbaum Mark O'Dell
Paul Bendix Patrick Henderson Andrew Robinson
Richard Burnett Gloria Li Owen Stephens
Jackson Fahnestock Charley Lavery Howard Wong
Sean McGarry

Executive Director Staff Liaison CAC Secretary
Mark Zabaneh Christine Falvey Julie Markus

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Belal Aftab, Dan Bell, Paul Bendix, Richard Burnett, Jackson Fahnestock, Robert Feinbaum, Derrick Holt, Gloria Li, Sean McGarry and Andrew Robinson

Members Absent: Patrick Henderson, Charley Lavery, Mark O'Dell, Owen Stephens, and Howard Wong

# 2. Staff Report

Christine Falvey, Director of Communications, provided the report. Ms. Falvey stated that the TJPA continued its efforts to support the Bay Area's Shelter in Place and phased reopening during the COVID-19 health crisis, to help reduce the community spread of the virus. Furthermore, she reported that the City of San Francisco paused its reopening in July based on a surge of cases, however, it did not impact operations at the transit center. TJPA continues to closely monitor the City's response to the pandemic and was following guidelines and guidance from the City's Health Officer. The agency will continue to update protocols and provide transit riders and other visitors to the transit center with the most up-to-date information. Additionally, the City continues to advise that properly wearing masks can make a significant difference in the spread of the virus. The agency has provided ample signage, is making regular announcements about wearing masks throughout the transit center and has trained staff to engage the public on the issue. Also, enhanced cleaning protocols remain in place. Ms. Falvey reported that Onsite Dental reopened last month and the TJPA continues to work with Philz Coffee to support their reopening plans. Furthermore, while gyms were not allowed to reopen under local and state guidelines, the TJPA has allowed their anchor tenant, Fitness SF, to provide one-on-one exercise classes on the amphitheater with proper and city-approved health and safety measures in place. Meanwhile, the park remains open, consistent with the Bay Area's Shelter in Place public health order. Ms. Falvey stated the TJPA was eager to begin programming again on the park, however, following the public health order, programming remains suspended. Ms. Falvey stated the TJPA has seen an increase in park usage from neighborhood families. Additionally, she was excited to report that the Urban Land Institute has interviewed the TJPA for their prestigious Urban Open Space Award for 2020 and the park was one of eight finalists. The winner will be announced in October 2020. Ms. Falvey also reported that tenant improvements began after approvals were received in June by the TJPA Board. More information will be provided during the Facility Operations update.

Regarding Phase 2/Downtown Rail Extension (DTX), the TJPA and partnering agencies held the first meeting of the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) that was established by the San Francisco Peninsula Rail Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) approved by the TJPA Board in April and executed by all partners in June. This re-launches the next phase of the DTX. Additionally, Tilly Chang, Executive Director with the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, was appointed Chair of the ESC and Andy Fremier, Deputy Executive Director with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, was appointed Vice Chair. Moreover, in the coming months, the group will analyze project phasing and cost-

reduction strategies, conduct planning and outreach, and update the project funding plan. Ms. Falvey welcomed and introduced Donald Pollitt, who joined the TJPA as a Management Assistant. He will be working on Phase 2 as well as other duties at the TJPA.

Ms. Falvey further reported that this was Executive Director Zabaneh's last CAC meeting, as he was leaving the TJPA at the end of the month for a new job opportunity. On behalf of the TJPA, she wished Executive Director Zabaneh well as he departed the agency for new opportunities and noted the TJPA Board was currently working out details that will ensure the agency has a smooth leadership transition.

## 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: May 12, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. McGarry and seconded by Mr. Bell. A unanimous voice vote approved the motion.

### 4. Facility Operations Update

John Updike, TJPA Facility Director, presented the update.

Mr. Feinbaum asked if there have been any leases terminated by any of the tenants and if any rent reductions have been made. Mr. Updike stated that none of the leases have been terminated and after discussions with tenants, there was still a high level of enthusiasm. Also, a lease strategy was adopted by the TJPA Board based on a discussion in June and negotiations continue with tenants based on that strategy.

#### 5. Phase 2/Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) Update

Executive Director Zabaneh presented the item and Stephen Polechronis, AECOM, contributed to the presentation.

Mr. Feinbaum asked if there would be a CAC formed for Phase 2/DTX and if public comment would be allowed at the ESC meetings. Executive Director Zabaneh stated that the current TJPA CAC was the advisory committee for the Transbay Program and therefore already in place. Further, the ESC would come and provide updates along with items for input, similar to the Phase 1 project, with full transparency. Additionally, Executive Director Zabaneh stated that the ESC meetings would be set up like the TJPA Board and CAC Meetings and public input would be welcomed and encouraged. Mr. Fahnestock asked if actual/versus forecasted could be shown on the bar chart. Mr. Polechronis stated that he will be able to show these two scenarios going forward. Mr. Feinbaum was pleased to know that the current CAC would be the advisory committee for Phase 2/DTX and asked if the agencies which make up the ESC will give similar project updates to their CAC members. Executive Director Zabaneh stated he would inquire about this and report back to the CAC. Mr. Feinbaum also stated that a sixmonth work schedule was not aggressive enough and should be accelerated. Mr. Polechronis stated that the six-month schedule was primarily driven by the culmination of the General Engineering Contract which could not be extended, so the ESC would need the engineering resources onboard to perform the technical analysis portion.

#### Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun stated that he was not notified of the first ESC meeting. Also, the six-month work schedule program targeted for Winter 2021 was not aggressive enough.

## 6. Status of the Temporary Terminal

John Updike, TJPA Facility Director, presented the update.

Ms. Li thanked the TJPA and the East Cut Community Benefit District (CBD) for putting together the survey and was pleased that the residents in the neighborhood were able to voice their concerns. Ms. Li also suggested an advisory committee like the TJPA CAC to oversee the long-term future use of the Temporary Terminal. Mr. Updike stated there was a great deal of citizen engagement between the East Cut CBD community outreach, Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII), TJPA CAC and the OCII Transbay Citizens Advisory Committee who should have a voice in the project.

#### 7. Public Comment

Roland Lebrun thanked Executive Director Zabaneh and TJPA staff for allowing the public to view the meeting. Mr. Lebrun suggested that the public have the option to log in to the meeting and use the computer audio to raise their hand and someone at TJPA could unmute for audible purposes. He thanked the TJPA for posting the presentations to the website and asked if they could be posted within 24 hours of the meeting in the future.

#### 8. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

On behalf of the CAC, Chair Holt recognized and acknowledged Executive Director Zabaneh's contributions to the TJPA and the Transbay Program, especially his work to deliver Phase 1 and advance Phase 2, his dedication to attending CAC meetings, as well as keeping the CAC and the public informed about the project.

Mr. Bendix thanked Executive Director Zabaneh for always being an excellent listener which is the most elusive quality in leadership.

Vice Chair Aftab thanked Executive Director Zabaneh for his patience and always knowing the answer to the tough questions.

Mr. Fahnestock wished Executive Director Zabaneh the best of luck and stated that working with him was enjoyable.

Ms. Li thanked Executive Director Zabaneh for his leadership and for all he has done for the CAC and the TJPA.

Mr. Feinbaum thanked Executive Director Zabaneh for his leadership and help with obtaining funding for the DTX.

Mr. McGarry stated that Executive Director Zabaneh taught him more over the last few years about the project and has learned more from him throughout his time on the CAC.

Executive Director Zabaneh thanked everyone for their support, especially during the last few years with all the challenges the TJPA had faced and felt the CAC was instrumental in advancing the project.

Future agenda requests include 1) train doors and platform heights for DTX; 2) review of bus and traffic circulation in the area surrounding the transit center; 3) update from Pearl Media on digital signage; 4) detailed presentation from Caltrain on the Railyard Study and Electrification and reduced ridership due to the COVID-19 pandemic; 5) AC Transit update on reinstating the Bus Only Lane on the Bay Bridge; and 6) presentation from East Cut CBD and SF Planning on the master plan of the two-way cycle track on Beale Street.

#### 9. Adjourn

Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

The Ethics Commission of the City and County of San Francisco has asked us to remind individuals that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance (Campaign and Gov't Conduct Code, Article II, Chapter 1, § 2.100, et seq.) to register and report lobbing activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94102, telephone (415) 252-3100, fax (415) 252-3124 and website: www.sfethics.org