

**TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

WATCH LIVE:

<https://transbaycenter.webex.com/transbaycenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=ece25e5fbcf866ea31215d0dafba6f171>

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN: 1-855-282-6330 — Access Code: 182 348 3212

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Room is closed. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely.

Please see additional information on the next page for remote meeting access.

In compliance with the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 (March 12, 2020) as superseded by Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), this meeting will be held *exclusively* via teleconference participation of a quorum of Committee members in locations not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 Orders of the Health Officer 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  
Richard Burnett  
Jackson Fahnestock  
Claire Kostohryz

Brian Larkin  
Gloria Li  
Pedro Mendez  
Mark O'Dell  
Bob Planthold

Andrew Robinson  
Owen Stephens  
Sally Stull  
Howard Wong

Interim Executive Director  
Nila Gonzales

Staff Liaison  
Lily Madjus Wu

CAC Secretary  
Donald Pollitt II

## REMOTE MEETING ACCESS

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### **Providing Public Comment**

Ensure you are in a quiet location – Speak Clearly – Turn off any TVs or radios around you

1. When prompted, “raise hand” to speak by pressing \*3 (star, 3) to be added to the queue.
2. Callers will hear silence when waiting for their turn to speak.
3. When prompted, callers will have two minutes to provide comment.

### AGENDA

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Members Present: Belal Aftab, Dan Bell, Richard Burnett, Jackson Fahnestock, Derrick Holt, Claire Kostohryz, Brian Larkin, Pedro Mendez, Mark O’Dell, Bob Planthold (*arrived during Item 2*), Owen Stephens, Sally Stull, and Howard Wong.

Members Absent: Gloria Li and Andrew Robinson

#### 2. Staff Report (5 minutes)

Lily Madjus Wu, TJPA Communications and Legislative Affairs Manager, presented the Staff Report. She thanked the eight CAC members that joined TJPA staff for a behind-the-scenes tour earlier in the week on two tours of the Salesforce Transit Center, which included the train box. She urged CAC members that could not attend, but are interested, to contact her for a future tour.

Regarding COVID-19, Ms. Madjus Wu reported the TJPA continues to move with the City, which is now in the yellow-tier, as it reopens, and the State is expected to fully open on June 15. The TJPA continues to increase free rooftop park activities for the public to participate in and noted there has been a steady increase of people at the park and in attendance at activities. Since April, TJPA has added fitness, photography, birding walks, and knitting classes. She also reported that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released updated guidance on mask wearing in April regarding vaccinated individuals’ use of masks in outdoor capacities, which the City and State are expected to adopt. She further reported that the Transportation Security Administration also extended its security directive, which continues to require mask wearing at and in transit facilities, which includes the Transit Center. Ms. Madjus Wu stated that masks are still required at the rooftop park when visitors are within six-feet of others not in their household.

Regarding the facility update, Ms. Madjus Wu reported that high winds damaged two trees on the park, which led to their removal, but noted they will be replaced. The TJPA continues to work with its tenants to facilitate tenant improvements prior to a late summer handoff to prepare

to open to the public. She also reported that the TJPA continues to monitor ridership data, in and adjacent to the Transit Center, and thanked TJPA Directors Shaw and Tumlin for their support in securing ridership data. The TJPA also continues to work with Salesforce by hosting virtual events, which allows the rooftop park to be showcased to the world, while securing critical revenues during this pandemic period.

Ms. Madjus Wu further reported that an overview of TJPA's Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget would be provided later in the meeting and noted the operating budget reflects a projected increase in activity based on recovery from the pandemic. She announced that the TJPA received \$3.3 million from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), which will support the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of the Transit Center and help reduce the annual contributions from AC Transit and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). The TJPA continues to seek funding for Wayfinding improvements from the Federal American Rescue Plan and others and plans to submit a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Transit Security grant by May 14, which would help fund planning, purchase, and installation of 100 replacement security cameras.

Ms. Madjus Wu concluded her report by noting that the Staff is seeking Board approval at the May 13 meeting for a Cisco Cybersecurity agreement, which will provide additional security measures.

Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun expressed concerned regarding his inability to see the presentations.

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 6, 2021

Mr. Wong inquired about a comment from a member of the public under Item 4 on the April 6 Minutes and Chair Holt noted that Staff would look into and resolve before finalizing the April 6 Minutes.

Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun again expressed concern regarding his inability to see the presentations. Mr. Lebrun also referenced Zoom's Closed Captioning feature and suggested the TJPA consider it as an option to capture public comment.

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

### 4. Presentation by California High Speed Rail Authority on Revised Business Plan 2020 and Project Updates (20 minutes)

Morgan Galli, California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Northern California Deputy Regional Director, presented the item.

Mr. Planthold asked if CHSRA plans to contribute any money towards changes to the two existing tunnels in San Francisco that would require a lowering of the railbed or would Caltrain be solely responsible. Ms. Galli stated that the railbed within the tunnels would not need to be lowered, just notched, and noted that this is being completed by Caltrain as part of its electrification process, but she would confirm with her engineering and design team. Mr. Fahnestock thanked Ms. Galli for the presentation and stated that he is an advocate for the project; however, he expressed concern regarding the amount of change orders the project has had and the slow acquisition of properties. Ms. Galli noted that the change orders have been accounted for, which has been made public. She noted CHSRA has implemented a new “Stage Gate process,” in the Revised Business Plan 2020, which addresses change orders as construction continues. She also noted that the Right of Way acquisition is part of the Stage Gate process and that CHSRA is fully transparent with the public regarding current and future challenges. Mr. Wong asked if there were any sample charts that show the original budget and cost estimate for the project and the current cost estimate to complete the project. Ms. Galli stated that the information is found in previous Business Plans, which are located on CHSRA’s website. Chair Holt stated that he understood the greatest number of expected riders would be from Merced to Bakersfield and asked if Ms. Galli could speak to those numbers, along with expected numbers for riders traveling from San Jose to Merced. Ms. Galli stated that she did not have that information but noted supplemental materials can be found in the Revised Business Plan and online through their website

#### Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun referenced PUC Section 185033 on slide 2 of the presentation and recommended CHSRA consider PUC Section 185032 as an option instead. He also referenced slide 3 of the presentation and stated that Brightline West has no interest in connecting to Palmdale, CA.

5. Presentation of draft budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (FY 21-22) Operating Budget in the amount of \$29,214,530 and FY 21-22 Capital Budget for Phase 1, Phase 2, and Tenant Improvements in an amount of \$72,340,666 and FY 21-22 Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$30,219,279 (20 minutes)

TJPA staff, which included Interim Executive Director (ED) Nila Gonzales, Financial Consultant Mary Pryor of NWC Partners, Facility Director John Updike, Senior Construction Manager Dennis Turchon, and Interim Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) Project Director Stephen Polechronis, collectively presented the item.

Mr. Larkin asked for clarification regarding what a Turbo Bond is, and Ms. Pryor stated that a Turbo Bond allows individuals to pay off debt faster with excess revenue received. Mr. Planthold referenced the reimbursements line item on page 5 of the presentation, noting a \$4 million dollar change, and asked for further clarification. Ms. Pryor noted that the \$4 million dollar change is due to the Federal Transit Administration’s new CRRSAA grant, which is a reimbursement grant that does not provide Federal funding until the money itself is spent. Chair Holt inquired about East Cut Community Benefit District’s (CBD) financial contributions towards Salesforce Park, and asked, would East Cut CBD increase contribution as the programming increases. Mr. Updike stated the East Cut CBD has accumulated funds available

to use to fund park programming and maintenance, which is an estimated 80 percent split with the TJPA. Ms. Stull asked whether TJPA or East Cut CBD directly receive the funds from Salesforce Tower and 181 Fremont that support the operations of the rooftop park and Transit Center. Mr. Updike stated that property owners pay through their property tax assessment into the CBD to support park costs. The City and County of San Francisco gets these funds directly from the owners who then provide it to the CBD, which determines how the funds are allocated. Ms. Stull also asked if Salesforce Tower and 181 Fremont paid for the pedestrian connector and if Federal funds are allocated to the DTX project, would that aid in the project being completed sooner. Interim ED Gonzales confirmed that both Salesforce Tower and 181 Fremont paid for the pedestrian connectors, as it benefits the public to have more connectivity to the park. Regarding the Federal funds, she stated the TJPA is optimistic that DTX will receive additional funds; however, it will not speed up the project, but will ensure that the project stays on schedule and is shovel-worthy.

No public comment.

#### 6. Phase 2/DTX Update (20 minutes)

Stephen Polechronis, Interim DTX Project Director, presented the DTX update, with Lily Madjus Wu, TJPA Communications and Legislative Affairs Manager, who provided an update on DTX outreach and engagement along with a legislative update.

Mr. Planthold asked if passengers accidentally fell on rails at the Transit Center, would the design of the platforms prevent passengers from being struck by trains. He also asked how sending the survey to residents in Contra Costa or Alameda benefited the project. Mr. Polechronis stated that the platforms have not yet been designed but noted that standard design does include a refuge area and is expected to be included in the design of the passenger platforms at the Transit Center. Ms. Madjus Wu noted that AC Transit, the largest tenant of the Transit Center, has a large population of residents that travel into San Francisco and noted that information from those residents would be beneficial to the DTX project. Mr. Bell asked if Caltrain plans on electrifying all the tracks located at the 4<sup>th</sup> and King Railyard. Mr. Polechronis stated he understands from Caltrain that the existing railyard will be electrified prior to the completion of the DTX, although which service, storage, and support tracks are electrified, may be modified as service requirements evolve.

#### Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun expressed concern regarding the current design of the tunnel and noted that the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) causes the tunnel to be built over it; whereas, the Pennsylvania Avenue Extension would be designed to go under the SSIP, and is the best option for the project.

#### 7. Public Comment

Roland Lebrun reiterated his earlier Closed Captioning comment and suggested the TJPA consider Zoom as an option to capture public comment moving forward.

## 8. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Mr. Stephens suggested the TJPA use the Transit Center rooftop park to hold pop-up events and offered Circus San Francisco, where he is a performer, as an option.

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; and 4) AC Transit update on reinstating the Bus Only Lane on the Bay Bridge.

Note that Item 6 above satisfies two previous future agenda requests that were on this list and are now removed.

## 9. Adjourn

Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 7:36 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 lobbying 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](http://www.sfethics.org).