

# TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

## WATCH LIVE:

https://transbaycenter.webex.com/transbaycenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=e942b27748298b9f2f5314f6180d1f990

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN: 1-855-282-6330 — Access Code: 2555 615 4563

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 Assembly Bill ("AB") 361 (Rivas, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021) and its amendments to California Public Resources Code Section 54953(e), this meeting will be held exclusively via teleconference participation of a quorum of Committee members in locations not open to the public. This meeting is being held during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state and local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing. The TJPA Board of Directors made the appropriate findings related thereto on behalf of its legislative bodies, including the Citizens Advisory Committee on January 13, 2022.

#### CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Derrick Holt, Chair Belal Aftab, Vice Chair

Richard Burnett Gabriel Chan Jackson Fahnestock Claire Kostohryz Brian Larkin Gloria Li Pedro Mendez Mark O'Dell Hunter Oatman-Stanford Andrew Robinson Sally Stull Howard Wong

Executive Director Adam Van de Water Staff Liaison Lily Madjus Wu CAC Secretary Herschell Larrick

## 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

Before asking Secretary Larrick to call the Roll, Chair Holt asked attendees to take a moment of silence for Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) member, Bob Planthold, who served as the disabled advocate but recently passed away.

Members Present: Belal Aftab, Richard Burnett, Gabriel Chan, Derrick Holt, Claire Kostohryz, Brain Larkin, Gloria Li, Pedro Mendez, Mark O'Dell, Hunter Oatman-Stanford, Andrew Robinson, Sally Stull and Howard Wong.

Member Absent: Jackson Fahnestock.

# 2. Staff Report (10 minutes)

Lily Madjus Wu, TJPA Communications and Legislative Affairs Manager, presented the Staff Report. She praised Member Planthold for being a steadfast and vocal supporter, who could be counted on to advocate on TJPA's behalf for the Transbay Program. She extended the TJPA's condolences to Member Planthold's family and friends.

Ms. Madjus Wu reported that the TJPA continues to track the City's response to COVID-19, noting masks are still required throughout the Salesforce Transit Center (Center) except when on the rooftop park. She reported that TJPA released a new Request for Qualifications for Park Programming as it seeks to expand the list of qualified providers at the Park. She explained that programming falls into one or more of the following categories: Arts and Culture, Children and Families, Hobbies and Interests, Fitness and Wellness and Live Entertainment. She asked that interested parties visit the TJPA website for more information. Ms. Madjus Wu reported that a new public tour program in partnership with San Francisco City Guides is planned to launch by the end of February, noting, tours will be about 60 minutes long and available a few times a month.

Ms. Madjus Wu reported on funding efforts, beginning with the \$200,000 Wayfinding allocation from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). She explained that TJPA staff are working with MTC to bring a contractor on-board to develop a phased plan for the Wayfinding Improvement Plan per the Gap Analysis. She stated that it is expected the item will be before the

TJPA March Board meeting. Ms. Madjus Wu reported on funding efforts for DTX, stating that TJPA continues to work with the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) as their Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee prepares a draft plan for the Prop K Sales Tax reauthorization measure expected to go before the SFCTA, MTC and San Francisco Board of Supervisors before it is added to the November ballot. She reported that TJPA staff are also working on the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) application due to the State by early March. She explained that TJPA is planning to request \$800 million over multiple fiscal years through this grant process. She reported that MTC has endorsed TJPA's TIRCP application for \$25 million and TJPA staff and stakeholders are advocating for MTC to increase their endorsement to meet TJPA's planned application request. She further explained that by applying to TIRCP in this cycle, TJPA hopes to ensure that DTX remains in the pipeline for funding under the augmented surplus budget, which the Governor announced is \$2 billion for transportation in his January budget. She reported that TJPA conducted a Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis for the TIRCP application and found that the DTX cost/metric ton of carbon dioxide reduced at \$81 is better than every 2020 TIRCP funded project except BART Core Capacity of \$42. Ms. Madjus Wu reported that on the Federal level, TJPA is awaiting the release of the notice of funding opportunity for projects of national significance, known as MEGA, which is expected later in February.

Ms. Madjus Wu reported that at TJPA's January Board meeting Executive Director (ED) Van de Water shared his goals for the next 18 months, which focus on positioning DTX to a good funding state. She stated that the TJPA team is working with ESC members and stakeholders to ensure that TJPA meets the funding milestone goals in the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program, and that this is a critical time for TJPA to leverage and capitalize on the different funding opportunities on the State and Federal levels.

Ms. Madjus Wu concluded by reporting that TJPA has commenced the annual CAC recruitment process and announced that TJPA is accepting applications until the end of February, or until all seats are filled.

Chair Holt asked how much of a funding gap there is for the DTX project. Ms. Madjus Wu replied that the funding plan is estimating \$5 billion, but there is a \$.5-1 billion gap. She emphasized the importance of going after all funding opportunities at all levels: local, regional, State and Federal; and that it is very important to have all partners and stakeholders supporting the different advocacy efforts.

Member Wong asked Ms. Madjus Wu to describe the cooperation among Bay Area agencies and whether they have a united front. Ms. Madjus Wu replied that local and regional agencies want an integrated transit system and great customer service and these goals help focus collaboration and cooperation to create a united front among the Bay Area agencies. Member Wong also inquired about the national level of competition for the grant funds. Ms. Madjus Wu replied that competition is intense, and TJPA relies on its partners and stakeholders for their support to help promote TJPA's funding advocacy.

Member Chan asked if DTX qualifies for Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds or if TJPA is pursuing any of those funds. ED Van de Water replied that one of the problems associated with this transformative DTX project is the large cost and the need to focus on large

grants to cover the construction of the project, hence TJPA's focus on FTA's CIG New Starts grant and TIRCP. He stated that TJPA would keep the ATP funds in mind.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 11, 2022

There was no member of the public wishing to comment. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Member Larkin and seconded by Member Kostohryz. A majority voice vote approved the motion. Member Li, Member O'Dell and Member Oatman-Stanford abstained.

4. Presentation by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority on the Downtown Rail Extension Ridership Forecasting and Benefits Analysis (25 minutes)

DTX Project Director Alfonso Rodriguez introduced the item which was presented by SFCTA Rail Program Manager Jesse Koehler.

Member Wong noted that there are a lot of cars entering San Francisco, and he asked if the SFCTA would include the use of any tools or strategies for dissuading car use and focus more people on mass transit systems in the analysis. Mr. Koehler replied that for the FTA process they are constrained by the requirements that FTA specifies for the baseline condition. He stated that under the San Francisco County Transportation plan, which is the county's long-range plan, they are looking at some of the strategies for dissuading car use that other cities are using. Member Wong also asked how they will compare different cities' strategies for dissuading car use as they are all so different. Mr. Koehler replied that the FTA has developed its own tool called Simplified Trips-on-Project Software (STOPS) for analyzing potential ridership, he explained that the FTA will work with the SFCTA modeling team to make sure STOPS is properly calibrated to the DTX corridor and then they will use it to analyze different service scenarios.

Member Larkin asked if SFCTA has delivered other projects that used the San Francisco Chained Activity Modeling Process (SF CHAMP) tool and if that will help calibrate it to the DTX project. Mr. Koehler replied that there are many large projects over a 20-year span that they have used the SF CHAMP tool. He stated that he didn't have the data to answer Member Larkin with him but could send it to the CAC.

Member Chan asked for more detailed statistics of riders and how they reach the Transit Center i.e., Muni, bicycling, or walking. Mr. Koehler replied that he did not have the data on hand to answer Member Chan but could send it to the CAC.

Member Mendez asked how the speed of the trains correlates with ridership. Mr. Koehler replied that they have complex methods of predicting ridership, and that the frequency of the trains significantly impacts the number of riders.

#### **Public Comment:**

Roland Lebrun wondered whether a scenario that includes Link21 could be analyzed using STOPS and included in the New Starts program. He also stated that he believes the speed and capacity of the system could be enhanced with the use of dedicated passing tracks in intermediate stations.

# 5. Facility Operations Update (15 minutes)

Jen Norris, TJPA Facility Director, presented the item.

Member Wong stated that he has observed people holding business meetings in the Park and asked if TJPA will promote that use of the Park for that purpose. Ms. Norris replied that the TJPA is not currently promoting business meetings in the Park, however noted that with the opening of Barebottle, which will provide food and beverage, there will be increased opportunities for people to meet and socialize. Ms. Norris stated that TJPA is happy to work with companies hosting large gathering events through its current permitting process for 25 people or more.

Member Stull stated that she is concerned that self-organizing worker groups could easily overwhelm the normal usage of the Park and does not believe the Park should focus on promoting the Park for that use. Member Stull also asked how the search for a new tenant is going in the space formerly being rented to Eddie Rickenbacker's. Ms. Norris replied that they have not yet found a new tenant, but they are proactively seeking tenants.

Member Oatman-Stanford asked if the interface on kiosks will be revamped as part of the Wayfinding improvement which he found to be difficult and non-intuitive. Ms. Norris replied that TJPA will be re-doing the interface and currently has funds to redesign the kiosks and potentially replace approximately ten Wayfinding kiosks which will be used as prototypes to test and fine tune the system.

Member Li also expressed concerns about the Park capacity when employees come back. She noted that there used to be food trucks at street level that helped spread people out across the levels and asked if there are plans to bring the food trucks back. She also asked about fixing the statics for first-floor buttons in the Beale Street elevators as it is reversed. Ms. Norris acknowledged Member Li's point and informed her that TJPA has been trying to address the issue. She also shared that there may be some food trucks in the future, but it is important to balance them in a way that does not create competition for the vendors in the building.

Member Wong asked if a Salesforce commercial with Mathew McConaughey flying over San Francisco was filmed at the Center. Ms. Norris stated that she was unaware of which commercial Member Wong was referencing nor did she know of such a commercial being filmed at the Center.

## 6. Security Operations Update (15 minutes)

Rodney Harris, Chief Security Officer, presented the item.

Member Stull commended Mr. Harris and his staff for doing a good job at the Park and Center. She stated that she has noticed an increase in the presence of dogs, bicycles, and skateboards and asked what was being done to address these situations. Mr. Harris reported that security personnel actively enforce park rules regarding these items and noted that service animals are allowed, and the security team has had training through the Mayor's Office on Disability to learn about service dogs. He reported that the security team has a non-confrontational approach and are working towards changing the behaviors of the park users regarding bicycles and

skateboards. Member Stull expressed concern about dogs urinating on the park path and staining it; Mr. Harris said that he will consult TJPA staff for ideas on dealing with this issue.

Member Mendez referenced Slide 9 and asked if Mr. Harris could report on staffing levels of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD). Mr. Harris replied that while he used data received from the SFPD to create his slides, he could not directly speak on their staffing levels. He stated that because of the SFPD presence in the Center, deployment times are very rapid.

Member Wong noted that there are a lot of surveillance cameras in the Center, he asked if Mr. Harris could discuss how that surveillance information is used. Mr. Harris replied that the Security Operations Center monitors all the cameras in the Center 24 hours a day and mobilizes security staff when needed.

## 7. Public Comment

None.

## 8. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Member Oatman-Stanford asked for an update on the development of parcel F adjacent to the bus ramp and whether it will have an impact on retail tenants.

Member Li asked for an update on SFMTA's strategy or plan regarding buses, traffic signals, congestion around the Center, which staff notes is already on the future agenda list as item #2.

Member Stull added to Member Li's suggestion, asking about pedestrian safety measures in the Bus Plaza between Beale and Fremont.

Member Stull also asked for an update on the former Temporary Terminal space now managed by the East Cut Community Benefit District.

Member Oatman-Stanford asked for a presentation on MTC's Bay Bridge Forward project, which staff notes is already on the future agenda list as item #4.

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 and update on SFMTA service changes; 3) update on digital signage; 4) AC Transit update on reinstating the Bus Only Lane on the Bay Bridge; 5) SF Planning update on Southeast Railyard Station Study and Pennsylvania Avenue Extension (PAX); and 6) update on the development of parcel F.

# 9. Adjourn

Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 7:19 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.