



**TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

TJPA Office
201 Mission Street, Suite 2100
San Francisco, CA

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Derrick Holt, Chair
Belal Aftab, Vice Chair

Dan Bell
Paul Bendix
Don Dickerson
Robert Feinbaum

Amy Jalili
Charley Lavery
Gloria Li
Sean McGarry
Nathan Morales

Andrew Robinson
Patty-Jo Rutland
Owen Stephens
Howard Wong

Executive Director
Mark Zabaneh

Staff Liaison
Christine Falvey

CAC Secretary
Julie Markus

1. Call to Order

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

2. Staff Report

Christine Falvey, TJPA Director of Communications, provided the update. As previously reported, the TJPA officially reopened the transit center to the public on July 1, 2019 and resumed full bus operations by August 12, 2019. Ms. Falvey reported that close coordination and partnership with transit operators has resulted in a positive experience for transit riders. Additionally, peak commute hours are being managed well and the TJPA is continuing to work closely with partners to improve the experience for transit riders, including enhanced wayfinding signage. Ms. Falvey further reported that security personnel and ambassadors have reported only minor issues at the facility and that they continue to be a welcoming and reassuring presence for transit riders and the general public. She reported that Greyhound will resume operations on the bus deck this month, another milestone for transit operations. Ms. Falvey also reported that the TJPA continues to see steady and growing use of pop-up retail, especially the food trucks on Natoma Street and the bar on the rooftop park with an increase in attendance primarily during lunch hour weekdays. As anticipated, the TJPA saw slight dips

in attendance when the school year began and on unseasonably cold days. Additionally, a wide variety of programming is attracting a diverse crowd to the park with tailored activities and events for everyone from toddlers to senior citizens. Ms. Falvey stated that the TJPA has also greatly increased the number of free tours throughout the transit center which is attracting people from all over the Bay Area. The TJPA is coordinating with the travel industry in San Francisco to continue efforts to make the transit center a world class tourist destination. Further, the TJPA would like to see increased usage of the park, especially during the weekends.

Ms. Falvey further provided an update on the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX)/Phase 2 project and reported that recently, Executive Director Zabaneh visited the State delegation to provide an update on the DTX/Phase 2 project and the TJPA's plans to be shovel ready in the next three years. Executive Director Zabaneh visited Senator Scott Wiener, Assemblyman David Chiu, Assemblyman Phil Ting's office, California State Transportation Agency and others. The update included the TJPA's efforts to complete the 30 percent design, cost estimating strategy, risk assessment, value engineering, delivery method, budgeting, funding plan, and right-of-way issues. Ms. Falvey reported that all of the audiences were supportive and a follow up will be provided on efforts to secure state and federal funding. Ms. Falvey provided an update on the move to the transit center. She reported that the operations team from Lincoln Property Company moved in several weeks ago and TJPA staff will move into their new office space late Friday afternoon on September 20, 2019, with full operations back up and running on Monday morning, September 23, 2019. There will be no impact to the public. She concluded the update by stating that California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) will be invited to provide an update at the next CAC meeting, which will take place at the TJPA's new offices within the transit center.

Chair Holt stated that he was excited about the TJPA move into the transit center.

Public Comment:

Jim Patrick noticed the excessive noise and air pollution spewing into the air from the food trucks and said this goes against the environmental policy promoted at the transit center and suggested running a power cord from the food truck to an outlet at the side of the transit center.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: August 6, 2019

There were minor suggested edits to the meeting minutes. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Ms. Rutland and seconded by Mr. Lavery. There was no member of the public wishing to comment. A unanimous voice vote approved the motion.

4. California High Speed Rail Authority Preferred Alternative Presentation

It was noted that item 4 will be continued at the next CAC meeting due to a schedule change.

5. Construction Closeout Update

Ron Alameida of San Francisco Public Works, Director of Design & Construction for the Transit Center, presented the update. Mr. Feinbaum asked if funds have been set aside in

the case of an adverse decision in the dispute resolution process. Mr. Alameida stated that funds held in program reserves would cover any adverse claims.

6. Facility Operations Update

Martha Velez, TJPA Facility Manager, presented the update and Sidonie Sansom contributed to the update. Mr. Morales asked if there has been interest in clothing retail stores at the transit center. Ms. Velez stated that the transit center's leasing agent, Colliers International, is not limited on what they present to TJPA, but so far interest for a clothing retailer has been minimal. Mr. Bell asked about a possible pop up florist in the transit center. Ms. Velez stated that the TJPA previously held discussions with a potential florist for the Grand Hall, but so far no florist has expressed interest and the TJPA continues their search. Mr. Dickerson congratulated the TJPA on securing a tenant for the restaurant in the park. Mr. Wong asked if the TJPA was going to start tracking the number of residents, passengers and tourists traveling into the transit center. Ms. Velez stated a similar question was brought up recently at the East Cut Community Benefit District meeting and the TJPA is looking into ways of tracking all types of visitors to the center. Mr. Stephens stated that he is a daily rider at the transit center and the escalators on the east side have stopped working several times. Mr. Stephens also requested some type of report be posted on a monthly basis on the transit center website tracking which escalators go out of service. Ms. Velez stated that these issues are logged daily and that there are sensors on the escalators where they will shut off if there is sudden shaking for safety reasons, however, the turnaround to reinstate the escalator is typically resolved quickly. Ms. Li suggested talking to the escalator company about the sensitivity issues. Mr. Stephens also mentioned that the Muni 25 bus is not displaying arrival times along with other discrepancies on the four-panel screen at the bottom of the east side elevator. Ms. Velez stated that information is transmitted directly from the transit agencies and said she would follow up. Mr. Feinbaum requested displaying the DTX/Phase 2 project animation on the large screen in the Grand Hall. Mr. Wong suggested looking into two recent projects in the City: the Embarcadero Center and Crocker Galleria, which, he said, are two retail projects with major challenges due to split levels, but currently, they are being renovated to increase the square footage for additional retail space on the ground level. He stated that the TJPA can avoid these same failures and analyze how people move around the transit center.

Public Comment:

Mr. Patrick stated that the TJPA should put pressure on the escalator vendor for the transit center and address the inconsistencies with them not working as their contract was quite expensive. Mr. Patrick mentioned also that there is a tripping hazard with the bollards, especially when they are raised or lowered. He suggested installing a flashing light and audible sound when they are put back to their intended position.

7. San Francisco County Transportation Authority Peer Review Update

Luis Zurinaga with the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA), presented the update. Executive Director Zabaneh thanked Mr. Zurinaga for providing updates on the peer review study. Mr. Zurinaga reported that the peer review panel has been meeting with stakeholders to discuss the recommendations and possible interpretation of the recommendations. Mr. Zurinaga stated that there would be an all stakeholders meeting later this month without the peer review panel on executing the recommendations effectively.

Mr. Zurinaga stated that this will be taken to the SFCTA Board on October 8, 2019 with hopes of bringing in a funding request to restart the engineering as soon as possible for the DTX/Phase 2. He stated that one of the recommendations was to do an assessment of the entire facility and how it can be phased with a modified scope with less funding. Chair Holt asked if the SFCTA would be requesting funding for the DTX/Phase 2 project. Mr. Zurinaga stated that the SFCTA would be working with the TJPA staff to come up with a budget on the modified scope. Mr. Morales asked about the final recommendations of the peer review study and also if a champion had been designated for the project since numerous peer review sessions and meetings have taken place. Mr. Zurinaga stated that, to date, a champion has not been determined and the recommendations are being finalized and will be presented at the next SFCTA Board Meeting. Mr. Feinbaum appreciated that the peer review panel was recommending phasing the project while trying to keep overall costs down. Chair Holt stated that there was funding approved last year and set aside for the initial phase of the project until it was put on hold by the SFCTA. He suggested funding the approved engineering while other aspects of the project could be worked on simultaneously. Mr. Zurinaga stated this was a possibility, however, since the critical path for the project is funding, one of the recommendations is to modify the scope to position the project to make it easier to obtain funding. Ms. Li stated that many were looking forward to having High-Speed Rail come into the City and that although there are current budget constraints, that should not limit potential growth. Mr. Zurinaga stated that the CHSRA is a major stakeholder in the project and they will be providing funding too. Ms. Li stated being an employee of the State Treasurer office, they are looking at issuing bonds for the High-Speed Rail project in Southern California. Mr. Wong suggested the TJPA publish a chart of DTX/Phase 2 milestones reached and next steps which would be helpful for the general public. Mr. Bendix stated that it is hard to imagine there was a need for an additional peer review study after the voters approved this project 20 years ago and identifying any type of milestones reached would be helpful. Mr. Aftab thanked the TJPA and the SFCTA for continuing to move the project forward as there is no hope for improving the experience of Bay Area commuters when they arrive at 4th and King Street without the DTX/Phase 2 and reiterated the urgent need for the project.

Public Comment:

Jim Patrick stated that he believes the peer review study is a boondoggle and that the project needs leadership behind it and suggested talking to Mayor London Breed.

8. Public Comment

Jim Patrick felt that the decision to settle the Millennium Tower litigation lawsuit without public participation was a poor one. He also believes the TJPA has a strong position and should consider taking the case to trial on the Millennium Tower litigation.

9. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Mr. Feinbaum requested the TJPA ask a project manager from Caltrain who can provide an update on electrification.

The CAC requested an update on when the Temporary Terminal site will be turned over for redevelopment.

Future agenda requests include 1) update on the schedule and funding of DTX and the Pennsylvania Avenue Extension; 2) train doors and platform heights for DTX; 3) review of bus and traffic circulation in the area surrounding the transit center; 4) follow-up presentation by the City's Vision Zero Task Force; 5) update from Pearl Media on digital signage; 6) detailed presentation from Caltrain on the Railyard Study and Electrification; and, 7) update on the redevelopment of the Temporary Terminal site.

10. Adjourn

Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 6:55 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 web site: www.sfethics.org