



MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Programming & Projects
February 11, 2019
2:00 PM

TAM CONFERENCE ROOM
900 FIFTH AVENUE
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Mill Valley City Council, Committee Chair
Katie Rice, Marin County Board of Supervisors
Eric Lucan, Novato City Council
Kathrin Sears, Marin County Board of Supervisors

Members Absent: None

Commissioners Present: Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council
David Kunhardt, Corte Madera Town Council

Staff Members Present: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director
Bill Whitney, Principal Project Delivery Manager
Dan Cherrier, Deputy Executive Director
David Chan, Manager of Programming & Legislation
Derek McGill, Planning Manager
Helga Cotter, Accounting Manager
Li Zhang, Chief Financial Officer
Molly Graham, Public Outreach Coordinator
Nick Nguyen, Principal Project Delivery Manager
Scott McDonald, Senior Transportation Planner

Chair Moulton-Peters called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Chair's Report (Discussion)

Chair Moulton-Peters noted she did not have a report.

2. Commissioner Comments (Discussion)

There were none.

3. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

ED Steinhauser reported that TAM will participate in the Canal Bike Expo on Saturday, February 16, organized by the Marin School for Environmental Leadership to promote social equity in public transportation. She noted other

partners involved are the Canal Alliance, Safe Routes to School, Trips for Kids, Marin Transit, and San Rafael Police Department.

ED Steinhauser reported on a closure on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge due to falling concrete. She emphasized this was not a structural issue and was due to a concrete deck spalling issue on an expansion joint. The bridge has been re-opened, and a long-term fix will involve night-time closures of the bridge for ten nights beginning February 18. Caltrans will continue to monitor the bridge out of caution and staff will continue to assist with providing information to the public.

ED Steinhauser reported on an opportunity to acquire Level 2 EV chargers from Green Lots, a partner of Electrify America, at sites in Marin including the Marin County Office of Education. She also reported on the recent Route 37 Corridor Executive Steering Committee meeting, noting that a Regional Measure 3 hearing is upcoming in April. She also provided all present with a draft schedule and rough outline for the upcoming Measure AA Strategic Plan which will be updated annually.

Chair Moulton-Peters commented on the Larkspur-Corte Madera School District's plan to cut the crossing guard budget and asked if the District had crossing guard positions not funded by TAM. Deputy Executive Director Dan Cherrier stated the location was at Paradise and Seawolf Passage, and rated low on TAM's priority list. Commissioner Kunhardt noted that there had been inquiries about potential cuts to crossing guards at various locations within his jurisdiction and possible TAM funding that could alleviate the cuts. Chair Moulton-Peters indicated he should speak with Mr. Cherrier.

Commissioner Kunhardt also asked if there were additional EV chargers available and ED Steinhauser stated she would put him in touch with Green Lots.

4. Open Time for Public Expression

Cindy Winter thanked the TAM Chair and Vice Chair for the piece in *Marin Voice* on Marin Commutes. She stated it provided good information and provided the right helpful and friendly tone after recent election tensions. She reported on new articles on autonomous vehicles from the *Financial Times* and stated she would share an electronic link to the articles.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2019 (Action)

Commissioner Rice moved to approve the Consent Calendar, which Commissioner Lucan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Highway 101 Phase-One Ramp Metering Project Update (Discussion)

ED Steinhauser introduced Principal Project Delivery Manager Bill Whitney who presented this discussion item. Mr. Whitney gave an overview of the goals and elements of modern ramp metering. He explained that Caltrans controls and operates the ramp metering and TAM's role will be to provide public outreach on the benefits of ramp metering and facilitate discussions with local agencies. He noted modern ramp metering technology is able to detect and mitigate backups on surface roads caused by the metering. He reviewed the project timeline including phasing and the Caltrans outreach plans during the project to inform the public of the changes and planned closures.

Chair Moulton-Peters asked if there would be a more detailed construction schedule at the next meeting and where construction was planned to start. Mr. Whitney stated he did not have that information yet. He stated that the draft schedule is very complex, but he noted Caltrans is working on a more easily digestible version to distribute for each community. He stated that Caltrans will be collecting data during the construction phase and will model it to

determine metering rates. He finalized his report by noting that activation of the metering is anticipated by the spring of 2020.

Commissioner Lucan asked about the timeline for Phase 2 for the balance of ramps both north- and southbound in Marin. Mr. Whitney stated that the design is planned to be completed in FY 2026-2027. It is possible that could be moved up as it is a high priority project, but he noted it is a good sign that the project is in the works this early. Mr. Lucan suggested that ramp metering would be advantageous to a bus-on-shoulder program if that concept is implemented in the future. Mr. Whitney agreed that they would complement each other.

Commissioner Rice asked about the timing of the change to the HOV hours. ED Steinhauser stated TAM's effort to question the HOV timing changes was based on no other operational improvements to the corridor occurring with the change. She suggested this be brought back for further discussion by the TAM board after ramp metering is fully implemented. Chair Moulton-Peters stated she felt it was urgent to address the south bound metering lights with Caltrans before the Marin-Sonoma Narrows Gap Closure project is completed. Commissioner Lucan agreed. He also commented on the impact on local traffic patterns of commuters bypassing traffic by cutting through surface streets, and hoped that the ramp metering would help to mitigate that.

Chair Moulton-Peters thanked Mr. Whitney for the presentation. She noted ramp metering is used throughout California and looked forward to commuters adapting to it in Marin. She also noted she appreciated that TAM is moving forward and working well with Caltrans.

Chair Moulton-Peters opened and closed the Item for public comment with no speakers coming forward.

7. Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Cooperatively Determine and Implement Mutual Responsibilities in Delivering *Resilient State Route 37 Program* projects (Action)

ED Steinhauser introduced Principal Project Delivery Manager Nick Nguyen who presented this item which asked that the Committee recommend to the TAM Board to consider and refer to the full Board the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to cooperatively determine and implement mutual responsibilities in delivering the multi-agency *Resilient State Route 37 Program* projects, and to authorize the TAM Board Chairperson to execute the MOU.

Mr. Nguyen reviewed the background of the SR37 Policy Committee formed by TAM and the three other North Bay congestion management agencies (CMAs) of Napa, Solano, and Sonoma, Caltrans, and MTC/BATA. Over the last four years, the committee has been working to develop a cooperative strategy for improvements to SR37. Mr. Nguyen reported that MTC is preparing to begin environmental review for the interim Segment B project adding capacity with a reversible third lane. Mr. Nguyen also reviewed the \$100 million RM3 funding plan approved by the committee and outlined in the MOU. He noted \$58 million is allocated to future projects in Segments A and B, which will be developed and vetted through the Policy Committee. Mr. Nguyen reported that the MOU was reviewed at length through TAM and the other CMAs, and staff recommends approval.

ED Steinhauser referred everyone to the draft MOU and, in particular, Items 7 and 8 of the MOU, regarding BATA's attempt to seek legislation allowing the Sears Point-Mare Island Bridge segment to be a state-owned tolled bridge. She noted all four CMAs are concerned about the process by which this would occur and will be working to ensure there is a strong framework for the proposal before it is brought to the Policy Committee at a public meeting. Chair Moulton-Peters asked what the toll revenue could be used for. ED Steinhauser reported there are no direct restrictions or allowances in the MOU for how tolls are to be used, particularly no limitations yet on tolls being used to address sea-level rise in the corridor. She stated that TAM hopes the toll revenue would be eligible for use on sea-level rise and that further discussion will occur to seek agreement from all of the local transportation agencies involved

Commissioner Lucan asked about a potential roundabout at the intersection of SR37 and Highway 121. Mr. Nguyen stated that is one of the options. Commissioner Lucan asked if SMART is involved in the project. Mr. Nguyen stated SMART will be represented on the technical advisory team investigating levees in Segment A1, and added that there is also funding to study potential expansion of SMART service.

Chair Moulton-Peters asked for a visual defining the different segments and the funding allocated to each when the MOU is brought to the full board.

Commissioner Lucan moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Cooperatively Determine and Implement Mutual Responsibilities in Delivering *Resilient State Route 37* Program projects and bring it to the full TAM board for approval, which Commissioner Sears seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kunhardt asked if the Sears Point-Mare Island Bridge refers to a causeway bridge. ED Steinhauser stated the name referred to a structure for tolling purposes rather than a physical structure.

8. Allocate Measure A Interest Funds to Yellow School Bus Service in Marin County (Action)

ED Steinhauser introduced Manager of Programming and Legislation David Chan to present this item which recommended that the TAM Board authorize the allocation of Measure A Interest funds of \$1.1 million to Marin Transit for supporting Yellow School Bus Service. ED Steinhauser then introduced Nancy Whelan, General Manager for Marin Transit and Kelly Zalewski, School Operations Analyst, who were present to answer any questions related to this item.

Mr. Chan provided background on the Measure A Interest Funds and discussed the projects they have been used for in the past. He noted that Marin Transit plans to use the funds to either purchase or enter into a long-term lease on a bus maintenance and storage facility, including school buses. He stated the action tonight is to allocate \$1.1 million in interest funds, which had been approved pending the passage of Measure AA and approval by both the TAM board and Marin Transit. Marin Transit approved the project on January 7 and is requesting the TAM board approve the project scope and officially allocate the \$1.1 million funds that were previously programmed in June 2018.

Commissioner Fredericks asked if this is a one-time allocation and Mr. Chan responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Whelan commented on the importance of this project and stated Marin Transit felt it was the highest priority for the one-time interest funds to provide a permanent parking location for buses, which has historically been an obstacle to reliable service.

Commissioner Kunhardt asked about the funding allocated to each school district for school bus service. Chair Moulton-Peters clarified that this is a separate action from what he was referring to related to, and that some school districts will still have to contribute funds. Commissioner Rice noted that Measure AA does not represent a significant increase in the total funds for service. She added that the importance of Measure AA was the expansion in the types of projects that can potentially be funded through the expenditure categories.

Commissioner Kunhardt asked if there was a site selected for the school bus parking location. Chair Moulton-Peters stated no site had been located as of yet.

Commissioner Sears moved the allocation of Measure A Interest funds of \$1.1 million to Marin Transit for supporting Yellow School Bus Service., which Commissioner Lucan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.