

MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Administration, Projects & Planning
July 13, 2020
4:00 PM



Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83794699069?pwd=ZWFXMEFGN1VueEVVMFIVYU5oVU9SQTO9>

Webinar: 837 9469 9069
Password: 796877

Members Present: Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council, Committee Chairperson
Gary Phillips San Rafael City Council
Brian Colbert, San Anselmo Town Council
Kate Sears, Marin County Board of Supervisors
Damon Connolly, Marin County Board of Supervisors

Staff Members Present: Anne Richman, Executive Director
Bill Whitney, Principal Project Delivery Manager
Dan Cherrier, Principal Project Delivery Manager
Derek McGill, Planning Manager
Denise Merleno, Executive Assistant
Li Zhang, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer

Chair Alice Fredericks called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Chair Fredericks welcomed everyone to the Committee's virtual meeting and asked Denise Merleno, the Executive Assistant, to conduct a roll call to ensure a quorum. Chair Fredericks confirmed the quorum and described how the public could provide comment during the meeting.

1. Chair's Report (Discussion)

Chair Fredericks noted she did not have a report.

2. Commissioner Comments (Discussion)

There were none.

3. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

Executive Director (ED) Anne Richman discussed her forthcoming participation in the first of a webinar series called CoMotion Live with other mobility professionals. She stated that the discussions will focus on Uber and ridesharing in California and should provide an opportunity for her to discuss TAM's other mobility programs, such as the bikeshare program.

ED Richman confirmed the first stakeholder working group meeting for the Marin 580-101 Direct Connector Project was held via a Zoom Webinar on June 29, 2020, which was attended by 16 of the 20 representatives. She

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stated that the members provided a summary of their key interests and priorities related to the project and that the next meeting, scheduled on July 21, 2020, will include a more thorough discussion on each of the alternatives under consideration.

ED Richman reported that Drawdown Marin has released a Draft Strategic Plan that identifies local climate change solutions and that comments would be received through July 31, 2020. She stated that the Draft Plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in conjunction with the County's Climate Action Plan update.

ED Richman also reported that MTC has released the Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint for public review and comment. She stated that staff would provide more information to the Board at the July 23, 2020 Board Meeting on the status of the agency's projects in the draft plan.

Finally, ED Richman noted that Caltrans has initiated a public review period and released a Notice of Preparation for the proposed State Route (SR) 37 Traffic Congestion Relief Project located in Sonoma, Napa and Solano Counties. ED Richman provided website details where more information could be obtained.

4. Open time for public expression

Chair Fredericks asked Ms. Merleno if public comment had been received and hearing that there was none, she closed this item to public comment.

5. Approval of the Minutes from June 8, 2020 Meeting (Action)

Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the Minutes of June 8, 2020, which Commissioner Sears seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Highway 101 Interchange and Approaching Roadway Study – Concur with Program Goals and Objectives and Approve Adding an Additional Interchange to the Project List (Action)

Principal Project Delivery Manager Bill Whitney presented the staff report. Mr. Whitney stated that the Committee will be asked to recommend the TAM Board approve the high-level goals and objectives of the program and approve an additional interchange in the program. Mr. Whitney introduced Consultant Kim Franchi from HNTB to discuss the addition of a twelfth interchange.

Mr. Franchi confirmed that the study is included in the Measure AA ½-Cent Transportation Tax Expenditure Plan, which allocates 3% of funds towards Highway-101 interchange improvements. He stated that the study will focus primarily on access to and from the interchanges and with the goal of improving operations and safety for all users. Mr. Franchi noted that the funding amount is relatively small and that it would be used to identify improvements and attract other funding sources.

Mr. Franchi stated that the study will develop a series of improvements for each intersection for implementation. He discussed the draft goals and objectives that will be used to develop a framework of evaluation criteria to rank the improvements, and he noted that the evaluation criteria will need to be confirmed.

Commissioner Phillips asked Mr. Franchi for clarification of the goal to relieve local traffic congestion and the performance measures. Mr. Franchi discussed the difference between traffic congestion and VMT (vehicle miles travelled), and David Parisi of Parisi Transportation Consulting clarified methods of evaluating levels of service. He noted that the study will determine ways of relieving congestion and reducing VMT, which might include adding bicycle lanes or bus stop improvements.

In response to Commissioner Colbert, who asked if changes in traffic patterns due to the pandemic will be considered, Mr. Parisi stated that the study would use reliable transit data from the past 5 years. Mr. Franchi stated that traffic congestion is only one component of the study and that other deficiencies would be evaluated, which might identify improvements that are not necessarily traffic related.

Chairperson Fredericks and Mr. Parisi discussed the effects on traffic volumes relating to long-term unoccupied commercial space. Mr. Parisi stated that the study would include transportation demands related to the conversion of unoccupied commercial buildings to a different use.

Mr. Parisi discussed interchanges that are currently being studied as part of other projects and were not considered as candidates for the twelfth interchange in the study. He also discussed interchanges that were eliminated from the study that related to low traffic volumes and which did not meet the overall goals and objectives of the study.

Mr. Parisi discussed the 6 interchanges that were being considered for inclusion in the study. He discussed the criteria against which the interchanges were evaluated, including traffic volumes and multi-modal facilities, and noted that 2 of the interchanges, Shoreline Highway (Highway 1) and Alameda Del Prado/Nave Drive, stood out due to higher congestion levels. Mr. Parisi stated that, since Caltrans has future plans for major improvements to Shoreline Highway, it is recommended that Alameda Del Prado/Nave Drive be added to the study as the twelfth interchange.

In response to Commissioner Phillips, Mr. Parisi stated that the team has been in contact with the cities and the County with regard to the intersections.

Chair Fredericks asked if any public comment had been received and hearing none, she closed this item to public comment.

Commissioner Sears moved to recommend that the TAM Board concurs with the Program Goals and Objectives of the Highway 101 Interchange and Approaching Roadway Study and approves adding the Alameda Del Prado/Nave Drive Interchange to the project list, which Commissioner Connolly seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Review the July 2020 Project Status Report (Action)

Mr. Whitney began the review of the July 2020 Project Status Report. He provided an update on four projects on the active project list, including the North-South Greenway Project, which he stated would open construction bids in two weeks. He also addressed projects that are in the planning phase, including the Highway 101 Interchange Studies.

Principal Project Delivery Manager Dan Cherrier provided an update on the Marin 580-101 Direct Connector Project. He discussed the 7 alternative designs, noting that all would require an auxiliary lane to connect to an existing third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge and the replacement of the eastbound Bellam Boulevard overcrossing.

Mr. Cherrier discussed the committees that have been formed to oversee the project, including an Ad-Hoc Committee and an Executive Steering Committee whose members are from partner agencies, including Caltrans, MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) /BATA (Bay Area Toll Authority) and TAM. He also discussed the role of the TAC (Technical Advisory Committee), which will develop evaluation criteria for the alternatives, and the Stakeholder Working Group, which is composed of 20 members.

Mr. Cherrier discussed the timeline for the project, with the planning process envisioned to take one year. He stated that if the project is on schedule, the Connector could open as early as 2028 if a low-cost alternative option is

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chosen. He noted that two alternatives could be funded by RM3, while additional funding would be necessary for the other alternatives.

Planning Manager Derek McGill provided an update on the Marin County Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study.

Mr. McGill briefly discussed the \$308,000 Caltrans grant for the Study, which will develop an implementation plan for a part-time bus lane that utilizes the existing shoulder. He stated that TAM is working with transit operators, as well as MTC and the CHP (California Highway Patrol), and provided a timeline for the Study, which is estimated to conclude with a concept design and cost estimates in the summer of 2021.

Commissioner Sears excused herself to attend another meeting.

Chair Fredericks asked if any public comment had been received and hearing none, she closed this item to public comment.

Commissioner Phillips moved to recommend that the TAM Board reviews and accepts the July 2020 Project Status Report, which was seconded by Commissioner Colbert. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

DRAFT