



MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Funding, Programs & Legislation
July 13, 2020
2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82099907840?pwd=eDBkcDdKcERUUiYWMROc09EdGVGZz09>

Webinar ID: 820 9990 7840

Password: 844301

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Judy Arnold, County of Marin Board of Supervisors, Committee Chair
P. Beach Kuhl, Ross Town Council
Katie Rice, County of Marin Board of Supervisors
Eric Lucan, Novato City Council

Members Absent: Susan Cleveland-Knowles, Sausalito City Council

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

Chair Arnold called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Chair's Report (Discussion)

Chair Arnold welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting as allowed by the Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, asked Executive Assistant Denise Merleno to conduct a roll call, and reported that there was a quorum of the Committee.

2. Commissioner Comments (Discussion)

None.

3. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

Executive Director Anne Richman highlighted items in her report including her participation on a panel in the first of a series of webinars sponsored by CoMotion LIVE, the first stakeholder working group meeting for the Marin 580-101 Direct Connector Project held on June 29, and the second one scheduled for July 21. She noted that the Drawdown Marin Draft Strategic Plan was released with comments being accepted through July 31 and that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has released the Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint for public review and comment through August 10. She finalized her report by stating that Caltrans has initiated a public review period for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed State Route (SR) 37 Traffic Congestion Relief Project located in Sonoma, Napa, and Solano counties (Segment B) and will host a virtual open house on July 22 and accept comments from the public until August 24.

4. Open Time for Public Expression

Chair Arnold asked staff if any member of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail, and hearing none, she closed this item.

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

Commissioner Kuhl moved to approve the Minutes of June 8, 2020 which was seconded by Commissioner Rice. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Adopt Position on State Legislative Bill 288 (Action)

ED Richman introduced Gus Khouri, TAM's Legislative Consultant, who presented this item which asked the Committee to review and recommend that the TAM Board adopt a support position on Senate Bill 288 (Wiener).

Mr. Khouri provided an update on the State Legislature including its submission of the FY2020-21 budget to the Governor meant as a placeholder until actual revenue receipts are received in mid-July to address the \$54 billion deficit. He reported on the passage of AB 90, a farebox recovery bill, and he announced that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has two new commissioners, Lee Ann Eager, who replaced Paul Van Konyenburg, and Jon Rocco Davis, who filled the vacancy created by Tamika Butler's departure.

Mr. Khouri spoke on SB 288 (Weiner) which was amended on June 3 to allow for exemptions for a wide array of multi-modal transportation projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in an attempt to speed delivery of projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Commissioner Rice expressed surprise that the environmental community has not spoken out on the bill, particularly if the bill includes projects such as bridges over creeks.

ED Richman said it was her understanding that a review would still be needed but that a different process would be employed than what is required under CEQA in an effort to expedite a project.

Commissioner Rice asked for confirmation that this bill would not preclude an agency from conducting a more stringent review than what is required by law, which staff provided.

The Chair opened the item to public comment.

Ms. Cindy Winter of Larkspur read a letter from the ED of the California Bicycle Coalition, which was taking a support position on SB 288.

Seeing no others wishing to speak, Chair Arnold closed this item to public comment.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to recommend that the TAM Board adopt a support position on SB 288 which was seconded by Commissioner Rice. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion was unanimously approved.

7. Award Quick Build Funding from Innovation Program Funds (Action)

Derek McGill, Planning Manager, presented this item which asked the Committee to review and recommend to the TAM Board to approve the proposed award of Quick Build Grants.

Mr. McGill provided background on this funding available through the Measure AA Local Streets and Roads' Innovation Category, goals of the program, National Association of City Transportation Officials' (NACTO) Guidance for Streets for Pandemic Response and Recovery, the accelerated application process, scoring criteria for the 11 applications received, staff's recommendation to fully fund all grant requests which will create the need to amend the TAM Budget to reflect the full amount of \$208,776 of which funds are available, and staff's plan to monitor the projects to capture best practices.

The Chair opened the item to public comment.

Stephanie Moulton-Peters of Mill Valley complimented the Agency for the innovative use of funding and the speed with which the program was implemented.

Seeing no others wishing to speak, Chair Arnold closed this item to public comment.

Commissioner Rice made a motion to recommend that the TAM Board approve the proposed award of Quick Build Grants which was seconded by Commissioner Lucan. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion was unanimously approved.

8. Accept Safe Routes to Schools Evaluation Report and Program Update (Action)

Dan Cherrier, Principal Project Delivery Manager, introduced this item which asked the Committee to recommend that the TAM Board reviews and accepts the Tri-Annual Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Evaluation Report and the SR2S Program Update. He introduced David Parisi of Parisi Transportation Consulting, who presented the report.

Mr. Parisi provided a history of the program which began in the 2000-01 school year, the number of schools participating today, a summary of the travel mode shift that has occurred over the years including a significant increase in the percentage of green trips and then he highlighted various components of the program.

Commissioner Rice suggested that information on one of the slides was a bit misleading because it stated that approximately 1,200 one-way family trips were eliminated as a result of the program, when, in reality, that number is much greater due to students using transit. Mr. Parisi said that he will re-word that item when presenting to the Board.

Mr. Parisi continued his presentation by showing an example of a school's travel mode summary, noting that each school is evaluated similarly, and a sample school report card which each school receives at the end of the year. He spoke briefly about the schools' Task Forces who meet with Mr. Parisi's team to provide feedback for what is working and not working at their schools. He summarized the components of the program which include education, encouragement, engineering, enforcement, funding, and evaluation and provided examples of these components.

Commissioner Lucan suggested recognizing schools who receive good "report cards" in a similar fashion to the way the Crossing Guard of the Year award is presented each year by the TAM Board.

Mr. Parisi agreed this would be a good idea and that schools have been recognized in the past but not at the TAM Board level.

Commissioner Rice noted that COVID-19 is going to force a re-examination of processes, even at the most basic level like bike rack usage. She suggested that the team could assist schools in thinking of ways to enable the program to continue to operate in a modified way, if needed.

Mr. Parisi noted that each school faces different challenges relative to the coronavirus but that his team is part of a Marin Office of Education Committee to understand the best ways to re-open schools in the fall.

The Chair opened the item to public comment, and hearing that none had been received, she closed this item.

Commissioner Lucan moved to recommend that the TAM Board review and accept the Tri-Annual SR2S Evaluation Report and the SR2S Program Update which was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Approved September 14, 2020