

MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Administration, Projects & Planning
September 14, 2020
3:30 PM



Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88406211994?pwd=ZnNGVkc5QkRYMINKOFION1Bsd0M3QT09>

Webinar: 884 0621 1994

Password: 468716

Members Present: Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council, Committee Chair
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
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

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. Ms. Merleno confirmed the quorum and described how the public could provide comment during the meeting. Chair Fredericks discussed the meeting protocol.

1. Chair's Report (Discussion)

Chair Fredericks noted she did not have a report.

2. Commissioners Comments (Discussion)

There were none.

3. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

Executive Director (ED) Anne Richman discussed TAM's sales tax revenue for FY2019-20, noting that based on most recent information, the agency closed the year with \$27.48 million, which was just \$0.02 million less than the budgeted amount of \$27.5 million. ED Richman noted that that the estimated budget for FY2020-21 is \$24.75 million and that the first FY2020-21 quarterly report will be presented to the Board at the October 22, 2020 meeting.

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ED Richman also discussed the installation of a barrier that has created a two-way bike path from the off ramp of westbound I-580 to Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. She confirmed the path has opened with construction continuing to connect the path to Francisco Boulevard East.

ED Richman provided an update on the Marin 580-101 Direct Connector Project. She noted that that TAM hosted the third stakeholder working group meeting on August 25, 2020, where an overview of the Bellam Boulevard bicycle and pedestrian improvement options was provided among other topics. A further meeting will be scheduled for the fall.

ED Richman also provided an update on Connect2Transit, the partnership program among TAM, Marin Transit and Uber. She discussed recent court proceedings that have allowed car share services to continue in California and she confirmed that staff will monitor Proposition 22 on the November 2020 ballot, which could result in changes to the first/last mile service. ED Richman confirmed that TAM continues to offer a \$5 discount voucher through the Connect2Transit Program.

ED Richman discussed changes adopted by Bay Area transit agencies to adapt to COVID-19, including the development of a health and safety plan called "Riding Together". ED Richman also reported that San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SCTA) is undertaking studies to determine how a fee to drive downtown could be used to help keep traffic moving and achieve goals relating to safety, clean air and equity.

Finally, ED Richman reported that the state's draft long-range transportation plan, California Transportation Plan (CTP) 2050, has been released for public comment until October 22, 2020.

4. Open time for public expression

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

5. Approval of the Minutes from July 13, 2020 Meeting (Action)

Commissioner Phillips moved to approve the Minutes of July 13, 2020, which Commissioner Sears seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Authorize Various Actions for the North/South Greenway Gap Closure Project (Action)

Principal Project Delivery Manager Bill Whitney presented this item, for which the committee was asked to recommend that the TAM Board authorize the ED to (1) request the California Transportation Commission (CTC) program up to \$1.75M in Local Partnership Program (LPP) funding (2) request the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to reallocate previously programmed Regional Measure 2 (RM2) funds (3) execute a revised Cooperative Agreement with California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and (4) execute a contract amendment with the consulting engineering firm Moffatt & Nichol to provide design services during construction and extend the contract term.

Mr. Whitney provided an update on the new Class 1 bike paths, including the segment between Rice and Second, which he noted is under construction by the City of San Rafael. He confirmed that staff's request concerns the Northern Segment, which will connect the path from the Larkspur Ferry Terminal to Old Redwood Highway in Larkspur. Mr. Whitney stated that the project received RM2 funding from MTC but that the lowest 3 bids were all higher than the funds available.

Mr. Whitney discussed staff's request to reallocate \$1M from RM2 and to request an allocation of up to \$1.75M in SB1 LPP funds to close the shortfall. He also confirmed the request to authorize the ED to enter into a contract amendment with the consultants, Moffat & Nichol, to provide design services during construction.

Chair Fredericks asked Ms. Merleno if any public comment had been received and hearing that Bjorn Gripenburg wished to speak, she opened this item to public comment.

Mr. Gripenburg suggested that TAM could ask SMART to return the \$850,000 of funding for the southern segment right-of-way to make up some of the shortfall in funding.

Commissioner Phillips moved to recommend that the TAM Board authorize the ED to (1) request the CTC program up to \$1.75M in LPP funding (2) request MTC reallocate previously programmed RM2 funds (3) execute a revised Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans, and (4) execute a contract amendment with the consulting engineering firm Moffatt & Nichol to provide design services during construction and extend the contract term, which Commissioner Connolly seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

7. MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050 Final Blueprint (Discussion)

Planning Manager Derek McGill presented this discussion item. Mr. McGill provided a summary of MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050 Final Blueprint, the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy (RTP/SCS). Mr. McGill stated that the RTP/SCS is required to meet California Air Resources Board's (CARB) mandated greenhouse gas emission reductions (GHG) primarily from a reduction in passenger vehicle miles travelled.

Mr. McGill discussed the aggressive target of a 19% reduction in GHG emissions and the four elements of the Plan, including transportation and housing elements, which address resiliency and equity throughout the region. Mr. McGill stated that the TAM Board adopted a list of projects in February, 2020 for inclusion in the transportation element and that TAM was notified in July that two of the projects relating to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge and Sate Route (SR) 37 might not be included in the Plan. Mr. McGill confirmed the projects have since been included after discussions between TAM and MTC staff.

Mr. McGill noted that MTC and CARB are discussing ways to align the cost of driving with other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to achieve the 19% GHG reduction required by the plan. Mr. McGill stated that the MTC Commission would be meeting on September 23, 2020 to review the Blueprint, which received unanimous approval from MTC's Planning Committee.

Mr. McGill concluded his presentation with a discussion of the documents included in the packet.

Commissioner Connolly noted that the North Bay delegation of MTC raised concerns about all-lane tolling for reasons primarily based on equity. He thanked ED Richman and the TAM team for their work to include all of TAM's projects in the Plan.

ED Richman stated that the purpose of the all-lane tolling strategy is to meet GHG targets and that MTC would be undertaking a tolling study in approximately 2 years.

In response to Commissioner Colbert, Commissioner Connolly stated that the North Bay considers equity to be important and that the North Bay does not generally support paid express lanes. He expressed a hope that tolling would result in car-pooling but noted that many North Bay drivers would be willing to pay a toll to use the tolled roadways.

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In response to Chair Fredericks, Mr. McGill stated that a means-based tolling system will continue to be discussed and he noted that corridors are proposed for tolling where there is parallel transit service, such as regional rail service including SMART or BART.

Chair Fredericks and Mr. McGill discussed how all-lane tolling in the North Bay could reduce GHGs.

Chair Fredericks asked Ms. Merleno if any public comment had been received and hearing that Cindy Winter wished to speak, she opened this item to public comment.

Ms. Winter commented on the omission of TAM's Interchange Study Project in the Final Blueprint.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10p.m.

DRAFT