



MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Administration, Projects & Planning
September 12, 2022
3:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council
Dan Hillmer, Larkspur City Council
Eric Lucan, Novato City Council
Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Marin County Board of Supervisors, Committee Chair

Members Absent: Damon Connolly, Marin County Board of Supervisors

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

Chair Moulton-Peters called the Administration, Projects & Planning (AP&P) Executive Committee Meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the Committee's virtual meeting and asked Jennifer Doucette, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board, to conduct a roll call and ensure a quorum. Ms. Doucette confirmed the quorum and described how the public could provide comment during the meeting.

1. Adopt TAM Resolution No. 2022-13 in Compliance with AB 361 (Action)

Chair Moulton-Peters stated that the adoption of TAM Resolution No. 2022-13 will allow the AP&P Executive Committee to continue meeting virtually while the emergency proclamation is in place.

Commissioner Fredericks moved to adopt TAM Resolution No. 2022-13, which Commissioner Lucan seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Chair's Report (Discussion)

None

3. Commissioners Comments (Discussion)

None.

4. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

Executive Director (ED) Anne Richman reported on the following items: the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarded MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) and partner agencies an Environmental Excellence Award for 2019 for the State Route (SR) 37 Resilient Corridor Program; Caltrans is inviting the public to participate in a virtual meeting for the SR 37 Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study on September 14; staff's participation in a construction site tour of the Marin Sonoma Narrows (MSN) B7 project; participation by police departments in safety campaigns during Pedestrian Safety Month in September; TAM's rollout of the new Street Smarts Program Campaign in October; September has also been declared Transit Month; service schedule changes for local transit operators; upcoming workshops hosted by Resilient Neighborhoods; and TAM's sponsorship of an electric vehicle (EV) and electric bike (e-bike) show on September 24 for National Drive Electric Week from September 23 to October 2.

ED Richman confirmed the date of the EV show and website details for the PEL Study in response to Chair Moulton-Peters.

5. Open time for public expression

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

6. Approval of the Minutes from July 11, 2022 Meeting (Action)

Commissioner Hillmer moved to approve the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes, which Chair Moulton-Peters seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

7. TAM Response to Grand Jury Report on Affordable Housing (Action)

Director of Planning Derek McGill presented the staff report, which asks that the AP&P Executive Committee reviews and refers the draft response to the Grand Jury report "Affordable Housing: Time for Collaboration in Marin" to the TAM Board for approval. Mr. McGill introduced Senior Planner Jillian Ziegler from the County of Marin.

Mr. McGill discussed the report, which proposes a new joint powers authority (JPA), or empowering an existing authority such as TAM, to coordinate and facilitate an affordable workforce housing policy in Marin County. He discussed a 2006 memo from Supervisor McGlashan that suggested a similar role could be fulfilled by TAM.

Mr. McGill discussed TAM's draft response. He confirmed that staff is not recommending the Grand Jury Report recommendations are implemented because the suggested timeframe is not feasible and TAM has inadequate staffing and funding resources. He discussed the agency's existing collaboration with other partners, including a countywide housing working group where staff from various jurisdictions coordinate on housing element needs including transportation impacts. Mr. McGill confirmed staff's willingness to continue supporting jurisdictions with planning issues that are transportation related, and he noted that the agency's ability to take on roles outside of transportation could be limited by legislation and further research would be needed.

In response to Commissioner Lucan, Mr. McGill stated that Solano Transportation Authority (STA) and the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) of San Mateo County provide a higher level of support for housing policy and planning. He noted that both STA and C/CAG are congestion management agencies only and do not administer a sales tax. Commissioner Lucan discussed his support for staff's recommendation.

In response to Commissioner Hillmer, Mr. McGill stated that Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants and other grants under Senate Bill (SB) 2 have been made available to jurisdictions that coordinate and develop affordable housing policies. Commissioner Hillmer and Mr. McGill discussed the role a regional authority might play in facilitating compliant housing elements.

Ms. Ziegler discussed the difficulty of coordinating different zoning and housing policies among jurisdictions, such as differences between or the lack of inclusionary programs, which can help attract housing grants in some jurisdictions. Ms. Ziegler confirmed that jurisdictions have been collaborating on housing policy issues, including standardizing the response to the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

In response to Chair Moulton-Peters, Ms. Ziegler discussed the housing working group, which comprises planning directors and senior staff from each jurisdiction, and she noted that they have developed Objective Design & Development Standards that have been customized and implemented by some jurisdictions. Ms. Ziegler also discussed funding that has been made available to jurisdictions to help with the development of housing elements.

In response to Commissioner Fredericks, who asked for elaboration on the benefits of a countywide JPA, Mr. McGill stated that additional state and regional funding would potentially be available for affordable housing via the countywide JPA. He confirmed jurisdictions are already coordinating funding opportunities.

In response to Chair Moulton-Peters, Mr. McGill stated that formalizing a JPA would require extensive additional research and resources to determine feasibility, and that jurisdictions, along with TAM, are already coordinating housing policies and preparing plans to meet Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) requirements. Chair Moulton-Peters stated that she did not believe a new JPA is necessary and that she supported coordination efforts on housing policy among jurisdictions.

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

Commissioner Hillmer moved to refer the draft response to the Grand Jury report “Affordable Housing: Time for Collaboration in Marin” to the TAM Board for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Fredericks. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Review of the Semi-Annual Project Status Report (Action)

Director of Project Delivery Dan Cherrier presented the staff report, which asks the AP&P Executive Committee to review the Semi-Annual Project Status Report and refer it to the TAM Board for review and acceptance.

Mr. Cherrier reported on the update of seven projects. He discussed the Marin MSN B7 project and noted that the ground-breaking ceremony on the last segment of the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes was held on July 21 and the work is progressing on schedule. He stated that TAM is collaborating with Marin County to repave portions of San Antonio Road and continues to work with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on the B8 project to relocate PG&E utility lines along MSN.

Mr. Cherrier provided an update on SR 37. He stated that Caltrans is preparing a draft environmental document for a flood reduction project, which should be completed by the middle of 2023; TAM received \$20 million in state funding towards completing the design for Segment A in Marin County; the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) issued a white paper regarding future rail service in the corridor; and the SR 37 Policy Committee has met several times to discuss the ultimate project.

Mr. Cherrier reported on the North/South Greenway Multi-Use Pathway project. He noted that the opening of the multi-use path over Corte Madera Creek completed a critical link in the path in Marin; that TAM is working with the City of Larkspur on the next segment along Old Redwood Highway and construction is expected to begin in the Spring of 2023.

Mr. Cherrier provided an update on the Highway 101 Interchange and Approaching Roadway Study. He stated that the TAM Board selected three interchange projects for Caltrans' project initiation development (PID) stage: East Blithedale Avenue/Tiburón Blvd., Manuel T. Freitas Parkway/Civic Center Drive, and Alameda del Prado/Nave Drive; and that TAM will develop the PID's after the Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans is in place.

Mr. Cherrier reported on the Northbound (NB) US 101 to Eastbound (EB) I-580 Connector project and local road access improvements. He discussed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between agencies and confirmed the completion of a feasibility study with Resilient Shores for a proposed interchange. Mr. Cherrier also reported that the design phase of the Bellam Blvd. offramp improvements project is near completion; that rights-of-way still need negotiating; that the project will necessitate the removal of several trees, and that a funding shortfall remains.

Commissioner Hillmer requested that all the alternatives for the NB US 101 to EB I-580 Connector project, including the cost analyses, are included in the final report. He expressed concern that the preferred design would not reduce trips on Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

In response to Chair Moulton-Peters, Mr. Cherrier provided a brief history of the NB 101 to EB I-580 project and stated that the design phase should begin in 2027 following completion of the environmental process.

Mr. Cherrier discussed the shortfall in funding for the Bellam Blvd. Offramp Improvements project. In response to Chair Moulton-Peters, Mr. Cherrier stated that an additional lane will be constructed from NB US 101 to Bellam Blvd. to ease traffic backed up on the highway.

The final project Mr. Cherrier discussed concerned flood mitigation in the area around Marin City and the Manzanita park and ride lot. He stated that a \$10 million state grant has been provided and staff is working with Caltrans and the County to define this project. Mr. Cherrier confirmed there would be an outreach process.

Commissioner Lucan asked staff how the boards and transportation commissions for the four counties were being updated on the SR 37 projects. In response, ED Richman stated that Caltrans has provided an update to the TAM Board and could be requested to provide future updates. She added that it was likely the Policy Committee members were providing feedback to board members in other jurisdictions.

Chair Moulton-Peters thanked staff for the project report and ED Richman for supporting the Marin City flooding mitigation project. In response to Chair Moulton-Peters, ED Richman stated that staff should be able to update the TAM Board on the remaining segments of the North/South Greenway Multi-Use Pathway project at a future meeting.

Chair Moulton-Peters asked if any members of the public wished to speak.

WTB-TAM representative Matthew Hartzell stated that, in addition to flooding issues, there is also a problem with a single access route to Marin City. He urged the TAM Board to explore a pedestrian crossing or other second access route to Marin City and suggested a grant application should be submitted to the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program (RCP) during the next cycle. Mr. Hartzell also stated that construction of the last segment of the North/South Greenway multi-use path should not be abandoned.

Warren Wells, Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC), confirmed his support for a grant application to the RCP, which he noted is specifically for low-income communities. He thanked ED Richman and staff for considering the remaining segment of the North/South Greenway Multi-Use Path project.

ED Richman stated that the current cycle for grant applications to the RCP closes on October 13 and that staff is discussing an application with the County. ED Richman confirmed that staff will continue to report on the remaining work on the North/South Greenway Multi-Use Path when new information is available.

Commissioner Lucan moved to refer the Semi-Annual Project Status Report to the TAM Board for review and acceptance, which was seconded by Commissioner Hillmer. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Approved October 10, 2022