



MEETING OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 27, 2023  
6:00 PM

MARIN COUNTY CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 330  
3501 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

**MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: Brian Colbert, San Anselmo Town Council, TAM Chair  
Dennis Rodoni, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Eric Lucan, Marin County Board of Supervisors, TAM Vice-Chair  
Kate Colin, San Rafael City Council  
Katie Rice, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Kevin Carroll, Larkspur City Council  
Mary Sackett, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Nancy Kemnitzer, Belvedere City Council  
Pat Ravasio, Corte Madera Town Council  
Rachel Farac, Novato City Council  
Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Marin County Board of Supervisors  
Urban Carmel, Mill Valley City Council

Members Absent: Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council  
Beach Kuhl, Ross Town Council  
Chance Cutrano, Fairfax Town Council  
Melissa Blaustein, Sausalito City Council

Staff Members Present: Anne Richman, Executive Director  
Dan Cherrier, Director of Project Delivery  
David Chan, Director of Programming and Legislation  
Emily Tong, Senior Accountant  
Jennifer Doucette, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board  
Li Zhang, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer  
Mikaela Hiatt, Associate Transportation Planner  
Molly Graham, Public Outreach Coordinator  
Nick Nguyen, Principal Project Delivery Manager  
Scott McDonald, Principal Transportation Planner

*Chair Colbert called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.*

Chair Colbert welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that the meeting was being conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953, in that Commissioner Sackett was participating remotely from Sacramento; and in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, the teleconference location had been identified in the notice and agenda for the meeting.

Chair Colbert asked Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board Jennifer Doucette to conduct a roll call to ensure a quorum. A quorum of the Board was confirmed and detailed information about how the public may participate was provided.

**1. Chair's Report**

None.

**2. Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Marin Transit and Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit Reports & Commissioner Matters Not on the Agenda** (Discussion)

MTC Report – Commissioner Moulton-Peters

Commissioner Moulton-Peters reported that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) approved a Support position on Assembly Bill (AB) 1085, which requires the California Department of Health Care Services to apply for federal approval of a new Medi-Cal benefit called “housing support services” for enrollees experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

Marin Transit Report – Commissioner Rice

Commissioner Rice reported that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded a \$31.5 million grant to Marin Transit (MT) for an electric bus charging and maintenance facility. The grant will ensure that MT has a permanent, fully electric, yard and maintenance facility for its bus fleet; and that MT can achieve its goal to convert to a 100% zero emission fleet.

SMART Report – Commissioner Lucan

Commissioner Lucan reported that on June 30, the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) recorded its highest ridership since the start of service; and that in May 2023, SMART had 102% of its ridership compared to May 2019.

Commissioner Lucan also reported that for FY2022-2023, SMART had 640,099 riders representing the 2nd highest annual total since the beginning of service, which equates to 14 million passenger miles when calculating the average length of rides; and that SMART carried 92,741 bicycles on board, eclipsing the previous record of 69,000 bicycles in 2019.

Commissioner Matters Not on the Agenda

Commissioner Sackett reported that the County of Marin Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met on July 13 to continue discussions regarding a countywide e-bike safety ordinance.

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

**3. Executive Director's Report** (Discussion)

Executive Director (ED) Anne Richman reported on the \$31.5 million grant to MT for its clean bus program; temporary bicycle access on Redwood Blvd. in Novato; and the Electrification Experience Center at the Marin County Fair.

ED Richman also reported on MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050+ outreach and its Community Action Resource and Empowerment (CARE) Program; roadway safety improvements at Stinson Beach; and the release of an urban electric mobility toolkit.

Lastly, ED Richman highlighted recent and upcoming TAM public outreach meetings and community events; and called attention to this month's California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) report.

In response to Commissioner Carmel, ED Richman explained that the CARE Program is restricted by the eligibility of the fund sources.

Chair Colbert asked if any members of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail.

Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC) Policy and Planning Director Warren Wells commented that Caltrans has scheduled weekly closures of the bike path near San Antonio Road, which runs under U.S. 101 between Petaluma and Novato, to install scour protection along the bridge. The project is expected to be completed by the beginning of September.

#### **4. Open Time for Public Expression**

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

#### **5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Action)**

- a. Approve TAM Board Meeting Minutes June 22, 2023
- b. Allocate Measure AA and Measure A Reserve Funds for Local Infrastructure Projects
- c. Approval of Interagency Agreement with Ross School District for Crossing Guard Services
- d. Approval of Investment Policy Amendment

Commissioner Moulton-Peters made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar, which was seconded by Commissioner Colin. Chair Colbert opened the item to public comment and hearing none, a roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan**

##### **6a. Public Hearing on the Draft 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan**

Chair Colbert opened the Public Hearing on the Draft 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan. Hearing no public comments, Chair Colbert closed the Public Hearing.

##### **6b. Adoption of the Draft 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan (Action)**

Director of Programming and Legislation David Chan presented this item, which recommends that the TAM Board adopts the Draft 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan.

Mr. Chan provided an overview and background of Measure A/AA; outlined the purposes of the Strategic Plan; and provided an overview of the Measure A/AA funding strategies/categories. Mr. Chan also outlined the primary and/or notable changes to the Strategic Plan from the prior update(s), including revenue forecasts; proposed changes to allow the TAM Board to review and change the Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) membership structure; and public comment(s) received to date.

In response to Commissioner Colin, Mr. Chan explained that Measure A Reserve funds are released on a one-to-one ratio with the amount collected in Measure AA Reserve funds.

In response to Commissioner Carroll, Mr. Chan explained that the public comment letter received from the Marin Conservation League (MCL) requested that additional funding be allocated to electric vehicles (EV) and infrastructure in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs).

In response to Commissioner Rice, Mr. Chan explained that there will be an opportunity for the TAM Board to amend the Measure AA Expenditure Plan (EP), which informs the subsequent Measure A/AA Strategic Plan, during the Measure AA EP review process, the first one of which will commence in 2024. ED Richman explained that the funding category percentages are fixed within the Measure AA EP and may only be changed through the Measure AA EP review process, which is required every 6 years after the initial Measure AA EP was approved by voters in 2018; and that the EP Review is an extensive

process that must be approved by both the TAM Board and the local jurisdiction councils. ED Richman also explained that approximately three-quarters of the categories in the EP are focused on reducing single-occupant travel and support transit, Safe Routes to Schools programs, and bicycle/pedestrian-supported facilities.

In response to Commissioner Lucan, who commented that the MCL letter also addressed targeting barriers to wide-spread EV adoption and accelerating public charging infrastructure, ED Richman explained that in partnership with TAM, the County of Marin submitted an application to the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) program for a grant to fund extensive countywide planning to determine future locations for EV charging equipment, and identify barriers to EV use and solutions, particularly in underserved communities. ED Richman also explained that there are more funding sources available now for EV and transportation electrification through government agencies such as the Department of Energy (DOE) and MTC. Commissioner Lucan expressed support for the continued coordination among agencies to provide further progress and prevent duplicative efforts.

Chair Colbert asked if any members of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail.

MCL Board member Kate Powers commented that language addressing the reduction of GHG emissions should be more intentionally expressed in the Strategic Plan and that metrics should be implemented to determine if goals for reducing GHG emissions are being met at the county and state levels. Ms. Powers expressed support for using other funding sources, such as future reserve funds and/or accumulated interest, to implement programs that further reduce GHG emissions.

Commissioner Rice moved to adopt the 2023 Measure A/AA Transportation Sales Tax Strategic Plan and expressed support for TAM taking a leadership role in exploring and monitoring the transportation sector's contribution to GHG emissions, which was seconded by Commissioner Carmel. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **7. 2023 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee Strategic Plan**

### **7a. Public Hearing on the Draft 2023 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee Strategic Plan**

Chair Colbert opened the Public Hearing on the Draft 2023 Measure B Strategic Plan. Hearing no public comments, Chair Colbert closed the Public Hearing.

### **7b. Adoption of the Draft 2023 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee Strategic Plan (Action)**

Mr. Chan presented this item, which recommends that the TAM Board adopts the Draft 2023 Measure B Strategic Plan.

Mr. Chan provided an overview and background of Measure B, including an outline of the funding elements and the purpose and role of the Measure B Strategic Plan. Mr. Chan also outlined the notable changes to the Strategic Plan as a result of the Amended Measure B EP, which was adopted by the TAM Board in February 2023, including proposed changes to allow the TAM Board to review and change the COC membership structure and the inclusion of performance metrics. Lastly, Mr. Chan provided a summary of the public comment period timeline and public comment(s) received to date.

In response to Commissioner Colin, Mr. Chan explained that performance metrics data will be collected and analyzed in order to inform future Strategic Plan updates.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters expressed support for the changes to Element 1.1 to allow the funding to be dedicated to bike/pedestrian and safety improvement projects; and also expressed support for the introduction of performance metrics.

In response to Commissioner Rodoni, ED Richman explained that each of the Elements in Measure B has a provision that carryover funds remain within that Element; and that the proposed change to Element 1.2 allows the TAM Board the discretion to redirect Element 1.2 carryover funds to any countywide pathway planning, maintenance, or construction needs versus restricting the funds to maintenance only of the pathways as allowed by TAM's current policy.

In response to Commissioner Ravasio, ED Richman explained that the Crossing Guard Program is funded by both Measure AA and Element 3 of Measure B; and that the Board has the flexibility to change the distribution of funds within Element 3 during the Budget or Strategic Plan development process.

In response to Commissioner Lucan, Mr. Chan confirmed that TAM staff will return to the Board later with options for the Element 1.2 carryover funds; and ED Richman stated that TAM staff will clarify if the carryover funds may be used for pathways other than Class I facilities that were built in or after 2008. Commissioner Lucan commented that perhaps one of the contributing factors for the increased carryover funds is the original restriction to Class I pathways built in or after 2008 and that local jurisdictions may be more inclined to use the funds if any pathway is eligible regardless of classification and/or year built. Mr. Chan explained that TAM staff will research and follow up on whether other facility classifications would be eligible, as well as the possibility of a local funding match requirement.

In response to Commissioner Carroll, Mr. Chan explained that TAM has a master list of pathways that can be made available; and ED Richman explained that there is a bicycle facility map on the TAM website that indicates which jurisdictions are responsible for specific sections of the pathway(s); and that more detailed information may also be found in the North-South Greenway & Cross Marin Bikeway Status Report, which was presented to the TAM Board in June 2023. Commissioner Carroll commented that perhaps there is an opportunity for cost-savings by coordinating pathway maintenance on a countywide basis versus maintenance by each individual jurisdiction; and suggested that further cost-savings may be achieved by purchasing specific pathway cleaning equipment to be shared among jurisdictions. ED Richman explained that TAM has been in discussions with several jurisdictions regarding the pathway sweeper device; and that TAM would be interested in coordinating with other interested agencies.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters expressed support for establishing countywide standards for pathway maintenance; and indicated that the County was exploring pathway sweeping equipment and suggested that the information be shared with local public works directors.

Chair Colbert asked if any members of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail.

WTB-TAM Director of Planning Matthew Hartzell commented on the importance of pathway maintenance and expressed support of using carryover funds for the maintenance of pathways, including those built prior to 2008, such as several segments of the SMART pathway in Novato.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters moved to adopt the 2023 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee Strategic Plan, which was seconded by Commissioner Carmel. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **8. FY23-24 Marin Transit Funding Allocation**

### **8a. Marin Transit's Annual Presentation (Discussion)**

MT General Manager Nancy Whelan presented this item, which included FY2022-23 highlights and budget detail; operational overviews for fixed route, Marin Access, and school services; capital program and grant awards, including \$31.5 million for a new maintenance yard for MT's electric bus fleet; and Measure A/AA and Measure B allocation requests.

In response to Commissioner Farac, Ms. Whelan explained that the conversion to electric buses yields an approximately 20-23% reduction in fuel consumption. Ms. Whelan also explained that users of Marin Access and other paratransit services were contacted and consulted before, during and after the service changes occurred; and that multiple outreach strategies, including social media, were employed to inform the public of the service changes.

In response to Commissioner Carmel, Ms. Whelan explained that many school-aged riders are eligible for and participate in free and reduced fare programs throughout the year, including the current summer program in which all students ride for free. Ms. Whelan also explained that past fare studies and surveys have indicated that in general, fare prices are not a barrier to student ridership; and a new fare study, scheduled to begin this month, will be used to inform future fare programs.

In response to Commissioner Carroll, Ms. Whelan confirmed that an evaluation of the Muir Woods Shuttle program will be available for review in November 2023. Commissioner Carroll expressed concern that local funds might be used to subsidize the National Park Service. Commissioner Carroll also inquired about performance metrics for the paratransit and Catch-A-Ride programs to which Ms. Whelan explained that MT monitors and tracks rider feedback. Ms. Whelan also explained that MT has a mobility consortium that brings together and coordinates service providers, including paratransit and social services, as well as volunteer driver programs. Commissioner Carroll inquired about the possibility of tracking performance metrics for volunteer driver programs in order to coordinate services between clients and providers. Ms. Whelan explained that MT funds both STAR and TRIP, two volunteer driver programs whereby riders are responsible for finding their own volunteers and arranging their rides; and that MT uses toolkits to help standardize the programs and support the volunteer drivers. Ms. Whelan further explained that in addition to the MT website, information about the volunteer driver programs is available through MT's Travel Navigators and other public forums. Lastly, Ms. Whelan explained that inquiries regarding route service coordination along the U.S. 101 corridor between Sonoma and Larkspur should be directed to Golden Gate Transit (GGT) and/or SMART.

In response to Commissioner Ravasio, Ms. Whelan explained that in an effort to hire more drivers, the MT Board has approved wage increases through its third-party contracts and will continue to work with the contractors to improve driver recruitment and retention. Ms. Whelan also indicated that she would research whether U.S. citizenship was a requirement for employment.

Commissioner Carroll commented on the importance of communication and coordination between the Tamalpais Union High School District (THUSD) and MT during the construction of the Redwood High School (RHS) Solar project, which will result in the temporary closure of the rear (east) parking lot in the Fall.

Chair Colbert asked if any members of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail, and hearing none, asked for additional Commissioner comments.

Chair Colbert commended MT for its outstanding work and perseverance through the pandemic; and expressed support for the future maintenance facility.

**8b.** Allocate FY2023-24 Measure AA and Measure A Reserve Funds to Marin Transit (Action)

**8c.** Allocate FY2023-24 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee Funds to Marin Transit (Action)

Commissioner Lucan moved to allocate FY2023-24 Measure AA and Measure A Reserve funds and FY2023-24 Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee funds to MT, which was seconded by Commissioner Rodoni. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

**9. Allocate Measure B Element 1.1 Funds (Action)**

Principal Transportation Planner Scott McDonald presented this item, which recommends that the TAM Board allocates \$2,240,888 in Measure B Element 1.1 funds to the cities, towns, and County of Marin for bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvement projects and approves the reimbursement schedule.

Mr. McDonald provided an overview and background of Element 1.1 within the 2023 Measure B EP, including funding availability by jurisdiction; and provided a summary of the Call for Projects process, as well as the projects requested and highlighted project examples. Lastly, Mr. McDonald outlined the next steps and recommended actions.

Chair Colbert asked if any members of the public wished to speak or had submitted a comment by e-mail, and hearing none, asked for additional Commissioner comments.

Chair Colbert expressed support for this allocation and the continued support TAM provides to the local jurisdictions to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvement projects throughout the county.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters moved to approve the item, which was seconded by Commissioner Kemnitzer. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.*

Approved September 28, 2023