

MEETING OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN  
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

January 16, 2018

5:00 p.m.

TAM Conference Room  
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100  
San Rafael, CA 94901



**MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: V-Anne Chernock, Northern Marin Planning Area  
Peter Pelham, Major Marin Employers  
Joy Dahlgren, Central Marin Planning Area  
Paul Roye, Ross Valley Planning Area  
Scott Tye, West Marin Planning Area  
Vince O'Brien, Bicyclists & Pedestrians Groups  
Kevin Hagerty, League of Women Voters  
Allan Bortel, Marin County Paratransit Coordinating Council  
Paul Premo, Taxpayer Group

Alternates Present: Jeffrey Olson, Central Marin Planning Area  
Nancy Okada, Environmental Organizations  
Kay Noguchi, League of Women Voters

Staff Members Present: Dianne Steinhauser, TAM Executive Director  
Li Zhang, Chief Financial Officer  
Dan Cherrier, Principle Project Delivery Manager  
Molly Graham, Public Outreach Coordinator  
Grace Zhuang, Accounting and Administration Specialist

Chairperson V-Anne Chernock called the Citizens' Oversight Committee meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

**1. Introductions and Welcome**

No introductions were made.

**2. Review and Approval of November 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes (Action)**

Member Kevin Hagerty moved to approve the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, and Member Joy Dahlgren seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

**3. TAM Staff Report (Information)**

TAM Project Manager, Dan Cherrier, began the staff report with an update on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, and he discussed current issues with the wall on the east side coming off the bridge, the anticipated opening date that has been moved back to April 2018 due to some additional work, concerns about the signage on the Oakland side, awarding of the contract for the multi-use path on the upper deck, and cost increases.

Mr. Cherrier also responded to questions/comments from members of the Committee regarding the reason for the cost increase possible use of the multi-use path proposed on the upper deck for motor vehicles during rush hours, the standard for determining whether the new lane is a success, connection to the Bay Trail, type and use of the moveable barrier, additional anticipated costs, and concern about cars driving on the multi-use path and whether that had ever been done before.

TAM Executive Director (ED) Dianne Steinhauser continued the staff report, briefly discussing the issues raised regarding the multi-use lane on the upper deck, particularly whether it should be exclusively a bike path, noting that these issues were also raised by Supervisor Connolly at the BATA Oversight Committee Meeting. She then addressed the following two items.

- A. Update on Measure A Transportation Sales Tax Reauthorization
- B. Update on Regional Measure 3

ED Steinhauser discussed actions taken at the December 11, 2017 TAM Board meeting related to the renewal of Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax, authorization of another poll to determine the strength of the public support of the renewal, especially with other measures and tax reforms on the ballot. She thanked the committee's involvement of developing the expenditure plan in the past six months, of which the TAM Board reviewed. She also responded to questions/comments from the Committee regarding the reliability of the polls, presentations to the TAM member agencies regarding the options for TAM in pursuing a tax measure, next steps in the process, how/when the Committee will find out the polling results given that they aren't scheduled to meet again until March; the necessity of presenting the options clearly to the public in the polling process and especially in whatever measure is proposed for the elections, and consideration of input from constituents of the COC members. Member Kevin Hagerty confirmed support from the League of Women Voters and Chairperson Chernock asked about if TAM communicates with Strong Starts regarding its Measure.

Regarding the update on Regional Measure 3, ED Steinhauser discussed a recommendation to the BATA (Bay Area Toll Authority) Board to introduce a toll increase as part of Regional Measure 3 (RM 3) on the June 2018 ballot.; how toll increases included in RM3 could be used to fund TAM's four priority projects, including 101/580 Connector at Bellam, the Marin Sonoma Narrows, the Bettini Transit Center, and Hwy 37; the length of the toll increases (for perpetuity, including inflation), whether the increased toll will result in increased bus ridership, and whether there will be a discount for drivers who cross two bridges.

ED Steinhauser concluded the report with an update on the bike/pedestrian facility in TAM Valley, delayed opening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, status of the Marin side approaches to the bridge, improvements to the offramp from Highway 101 to 580 at Bellam, the new bridge as part of the Marin Sonoma Narrows project and widening the roads on each side through funding from RM 3 and SB 1.

Member Scott Tye discussed Caltrans funding that is now available as a result of the heavy rains last year and impacts on Highway 1. Member Allan Bortel asked about the potential repeal of SB 1, which ED Steinhauser noted would most likely be on the ballot. She said that the results of a successful repeal, including what would happen to funds already allocated, are unknown.

***The Committee recessed for ten minutes for a dinner break and reconvened with all members present as indicated.***

#### **4. Review and Acceptance of the TAM FY2016-17 COC Annual Report (Action)**

Li Zhang presented the staff report, beginning with an expression of appreciation for those who helped prepare the draft Annual Report, especially Member Kay Noguchi, who was not on the COC Annual

Report Subcommittee, but dedicated many hours to the review of the draft report. She indicated that any changes, especially corrections, should be turned in as soon as possible so they can be included in the draft report going to the Board on January 25, 2018 for acceptance. Chairperson Chernock will be presenting the report on behalf of the COC along with staff that day. Ms. Zhang then reviewed next steps in the process of distributing the reports to different agencies and informing the public electronically by social media.

Member Paul Premo moved to accept the TAM FY2016-17 COC Annual Report, pending minor editorial corrections. Member Joy Dahlgren seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**5. Review of the FY2017-18 Second Quarter Financial Report and Proposed Budget Amendments (Information)**

Ms. Zhang presented the staff report, reviewing the revenues and expenditures as of the end of the second quarter, noting that sales tax funds and vehicle registration fees are stronger than anticipated. Ms. Zhang noted that expenses are lower than expected at this time of the year for reasons due to the delay of invoicing for projects.

In response to a question from the Committee, Ms. Zhang discussed the amount of lead time necessary to receive sales tax increments, which she confirmed was two months, and explained that a budget amendment to the Crossing Guard Program was made because the contract was more expensive than anticipated. Mr. Cherrier confirmed that three proposals received were all significantly over the original budget and he discussed a change in the process for obtaining Board approval.

Staff also responded to comments/questions from the Committee regarding STP/SLIP Swap Projects, how "swap" projects are used to help small agencies to fund projects more efficiently. She confirmed that the swap process is rigorously adhered to and staff could provide more information on request. In further response to a Committee member, Ms. Zhang explained that Marin Transit has reserves from prior years of approximately \$12 million that it can access. She noted that some of these funds will be used for the new transit facility and that the remainder is likely already committed.

**6. Committee Member Hot Items Report (Information)**

Member Tye commented on electric car manufacturers and the need for more charging stations, particularly for community use, and better infrastructure. The Committee discussed market demands and future increases in the number of electric vehicles.

**7. Discussion of Next Meeting Date and Recommended Items for the Agenda**

The next COC meeting was tentatively set for March 19, 2018 for topics including Richmond-San Rafael Bridge update, the Crossing Guard program, and the sales tax polling results.

**8. Open Time for Public Input**

As no members of the public wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.