



MEETING OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Programming & Projects  
March 11, 2019  
2:00 p.m.

TAM CONFERENCE ROOM  
900 FIFTH AVENUE  
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Members Absent: None

Commissioners Present: David Kunhardt

Staff Members Present: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director  
Bill Whitney, Principal Project Delivery Manager  
Dan Cherrier, Deputy Executive Director  
David Chan, Manager of Programming & Legislation  
Derek McGill, Planning Manager  
Helga Cotter, Senior Accountant  
Li Zhang, 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 2:05 p.m.*

**1. Chair's Report (Discussion)**

Chair Arnold welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on her attendance at the State Route (SR) 37 Policy Committee meeting last week. She discussed a less costly solution for the flooding problem in Segment A - Hwy 101 to Black Point - of which TAM is recommending and that more information on this will be forthcoming.

**2. Commissioner Comments (Discussion)**

There were none.

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

Executive Director (ED) Steinhauser reiterated an announcement she made, previously, of her impending retirement later this year. She reported, as well, on a finalized memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the SR 37 project which codified the structure of how the four north bay counties, the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) and Caltrans would relate to each other on the activity in the corridor. She added that there likely will be a tolling strategy introduced in association with this corridor but that this concept would require legislation which BATA will introduce. ED Steinhauser also reported that the Board of Supervisors will consider funding a \$148,000 study to identify potential solutions for the flooding problem in the area. This levee-oriented study will be compared with the TAM's study from 2017, in which raising the road was considered. Both study results will be analyzed further regarding how best to proceed. She stated that any levee improvements would likely occur in areas not in public ownership which would take time to coordinate, while raising the roadway is in public ownership and a project that Caltrans could do without having to deal with the private ownership complication.

On the topic of ramp metering, ED Steinhauser discussed that Caltrans is developing a website and fact sheet to provide information on the program slated to begin in southern Marin in April. This information will be shared with the affected jurisdictions as soon as it becomes available.

ED Steinhauser finalized her report by discussing a number of topics including the increase in TAM's portion of the state's local partnership funding from SB 1 due to the passage of the sales tax renewal, the changes to the structures, responsibilities and names of the two executive committees, expected to occur in April, "RSR (Richmond-San Rafael Bridge) Forward", a concept developed by MTC to promote carpooling and other travel modes, and operational improvements on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, the MTC workshop on Horizons- the Regional Transportation Plan update -which will occur prior to the April TAM Board meeting from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and the change in the start time of TAM Board meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., beginning in March..

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

Cindy Winter, Greenbrae, commented on ridesharing/carpooling and potential safety issues associated when strangers find themselves with others in small, enclosed spaces such as a car or van.

### **5. Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2019 (Action)**

Commissioner Lucan moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019. Commissioner Rice seconded the motion, which was approved with one abstention by Commissioner Kuhl since he was not a part of this committee in February.

### **6. Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) Cycle 5 Funding Exchange (Action)**

ED Steinhauser introduced David Chan, Programming and Legislation Manager who presented the report which asked the Committee to recommend that the full TAM Board approves a funding exchange from State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to Measure A Sales Tax fund for three projects from Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) Cycle 5. He provided a background on the two funding sources provided by LTP Cycle 5 and the restrictions on the use of both the Federal Section 5307 and STA funds that led to staff's recommendation for swapping the STA fund with Marin Transit (MT)'s Measure A Sales Tax fund. Commissioner Rice asked for clarification on Marin Transit's response to TAM's request. Mr. Chan stated that staff approached MT about the swap noting that this

would be the last time TAM would ask for its help. He added that MT agreed to it and added that without MT's concurrence, none of the transit improvements listed in the staff report could move forward.

Commissioner Rice, considering the process and timing, was pleased to hear that MT staff, in theory, had agreed and suggested that the Marin Transit Board should approve this either before or in concurrence with the TAM Board approval. ED Steinhauser responded that the MT Board approved the concept of this swap but have not approved the actual dollar amount and she noted that the TAM Executive Committee and Board actions could be made conditional on the approval by the MT Board.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters asked if this is the last time that TAM and MT would be asked to approve a fund swap of this nature, and ED Steinhauser responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters asked what it is that MT would be asked to give up, and ED Steinhauser replied that nothing is being lost, that MT would be "changing the color" of the money, i.e. TAM would give MT STA money and, in return MT would give TAM Measure A money. She added that STA funding is not reimbursement based, so it is easier to claim than Measure A money which is reimbursement based.

Commissioner Rice, wanting to ensure that MT has the ability to choose, formally, on agreeing to make this swap would like to see this on an MT agenda.

Commissioner Kunhardt pointed out an error on the first page of the staff report and asked staff to clarify that the "...with Lifeline funds that comprised of \$360,304..." should read, "...with Lifeline funds that comprised of \$386,041..." and staff agreed.

Commissioner Rice made a motion to approve a funding exchange from State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to Transportation Sales Tax funds for three projects for Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) Cycle 5 contingent on the approval of the TAM Board, as well by the Marin Transit's Board which was seconded by Commissioner Moulton-Peters. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **7. MTC's Horizon/Plan Bay Area 2050 Request for a Regional projects List (Discussion)**

ED Steinhauser introduced Planning Manager Derek McGill to present this discussion item.

Mr. McGill provided an overview of MTC's Regional Transportation Plan - Horizon and Plan Bay Area 2050, a federal- and state-mandated long-range transportation and land use planning process. He reviewed the Horizon outreach event schedule noting that the closest one to Marin will be held in Petaluma on Saturday March 16. He discussed the RTP's Call for Projects requirements, RTP project list development process, the transformative projects category, project list submittal requirements, and MTC's project list target budget process. He then reviewed TAM's process for developing a draft project list and the draft project list developed has been shared with the Marin Public Works Association and the Marin Planning Directors Association and that TAM staff will be meeting with the three transit operators as well to discuss their project needs as well. He finalized his presentation by stating that TAM will collate this information and develop a draft submittal list for review by its partner agencies and with the goal for a presentation to the TAM Board for discussion in April and final submittal to MTC in June.

ED Steinhauser referenced a slide in Mr. McGill's PowerPoint regarding the project list targeted budget per county, and stated that Marin is usually near the bottom of the funding table in the region Marin ranks a bit higher than Napa county due to our passage of the sales tax renewal and due to funding, we expect to receive from RM3 toll funds.

Chair Arnold asked how housing numbers may affect this process and ED Steinhauser stated that regional growth forecasts are an independent process.

Commissioner Lucan asked where a lower-cost operational program would fit into this list and Mr. McGill replied that it would fit into a programmatic category for consideration of regional, state, and federal funding. Commissioner Lucan referred to the high-cost projects shown in the Transformative Projects category, and said he was interested in creating, by tapping into Big Data, a Bay Area-wide list of ten worst traffic days of the year and conducting public service announcements as those days approaching. He was curious as to the way to advance such an idea. Mr. McGill suggested that it would fall into the category of transportation demand management projects but that the type of funding that the idea would qualify for would be a bigger issue. He said he would explore the idea and get back to the Commissioner. He added that, in the past, MTC explored a similar idea, "Columbus Day Initiative" in a previous RTP process which was folded into the Freeway Performance Initiative. ED Steinhauser added that the idea was folded into the "Bridge Forward" concepts.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters was surprised to see that the categorization of projects continues to be on increasing roadway capacity and asked if greenhouse gas assessments are conducted. Mr. McGill replied that the overall RTP has regional greenhouse gas (GHG) goals set by the state and approved by the Air Quality Board and MTC, and, for this plan, is 19 percent lower than the current level. So, while the GHG reduction goal is not measured by project, it is measure by the overall regional portfolio of investments.

Responding to Commissioner Moulton-Peters question about a scope of work for the sea-level rise resiliency project, Mr. McGill said that the project served as a catchall for a number of projects and that he would be happy to share that information with her. ED Steinhauser added that she has asked about a funding source identified specifically for sea-level rise but has yet to receive a response.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters asked about the nexus of sea-level rise with various items in the Larkspur Landing area including the ferry's parking garage and the connection to SMART, among others. ED Steinhauser said that she would follow up with staff at the City of Larkspur and the Town of Corte Madera on this topic.

ED Steinhauser advised that she will be making a presentation to the Marin Managers Association on this topic in the future.

Chair Arnold opened this item to public comment.

On the topic of the Larkspur Ferry parking garage, Cindy Winter of Larkspur stated that she would not oppose a garage but would like a design that is adaptable to innovation in transportation. She added that she was supportive of the bike/ped list included on page 31 of the staff report but would like to see additional bike paths alongside as well as overcrossings on Hwy 101.

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

*Commissioner Lucan left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.*

Commissioner Kunhardt asked for additional information regarding the list of highway interchanges included in the staff report. He noted that he would like to see the Paradise/Tamalpais Drive Interchange item linked with the bike/ped projects because it would be a great opportunity to link the two halves of Corte Madera that are split by Hwy 101 as well as improve bike connectivity. Commissioner Kunhardt suggested that there should be an awareness of the opportunity for private funding that might help with the solutions listed in the agency's Draft RTP Project list and he noted that the Larkspur Landing area is an example of where private funding might be of assistance.

Commissioner Rice asked Commissioner Kunhardt, who confirmed that he was suggesting a new category where, two or more projects could be linked together, while remaining in their respective categories as well. Mr. McGill indicated that while a separate category may be created, there is no prioritization of projects within a programmatic category as part of this process.

**8. Allocate CMA Planning Funds to San Rafael for an update to the Canal Neighborhood Community Based Transportation Plan (Action)**

Mr. Chan and Mr. McGill presented this item which asked the Committee to recommend that the full TAM Board Approve the allocation of \$75,000 in CMA Planning funds to the City of San Rafael to update the Canal Neighborhood Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) and amend TAM's FY 18/19 Budget accordingly. CMA Planning funds for an update to the CBTP were provided by MTC as an amendment to TAM's existing CMA planning funding agreement, and these CMA Planning funds are being passed through to the City of San Rafael.

Mr. McGill reviewed the history of funding for the CBTPs including the pause taken on allocating these funds due to the uncertainty of the TAM sales tax renewal efforts and the attempt to repeal SB1. With the successful sales tax renewal and the rejection of the SB1 repeal, TAM is prepared to move forward with allocation of these funds. Staff is working with the City of San Rafael to update its 2006 CBTP. Staff also reported that the City of Novato had limited interest in the funding for the CBTP plan update since its plan was last updated in 2015.

Chair Arnold opened the item to comments from the public and seeing none closed the item to public comment.

Commissioner Moulton-Peters moved to recommend that the full TAM Board Approve the allocation of \$75,000 in CMA Planning funds to the City of San Rafael to update the Canal Neighborhood Community Based Transportation Plan and amend TAM's FY 18/19 Budget accordingly which was seconded by Commissioner Rice. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Measure B, Vehicle Registration Fee – Element 3.3 Alternative Fuel Program FY 2018/2019 Public Outreach and Education Program Allocation For Coordinated EV Marketing (Action)**

Executive Director (ED) Steinhauser introduced Principal Project Delivery Manager Nick Nguyen, who, along with Mr. McGill, presented this item which asked the Committee to recommend that the full Board authorize \$10,000 as a contribution towards a Marin County-specific electric vehicle (EV) marketing and implementation plan to be managed by MCE, as part of TAM's Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Measure B – Alternative Fuel Program Public Outreach and Education component.

Chair Arnold noted that there was a request earlier in the day about reaching out to the TAM Alt Fuel / EV Committee for their feedback after which the item will be presented to this Committee. The committee agreed to the Chair's request by consensus to take no action but to hear the item at a future meeting

Commissioner Kunhardt asked if \$10,000 is enough money and what percentage of the MCE program does this funding represent? Commissioner Moulton-Peters stated that MCE is putting in much more which is the reason why she felt the EV Committee needed to review and discuss whether TAM should participate on a higher level.

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.*