



MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Administration, Projects & Planning
June 8, 2020
3:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81265608827?pwd=anQ0L1FXTWduMUZXU1RURWVNTVZiQT09>

Webinar: 812 6560 8827

Password: 796877

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
Derek McGill, Planning Manager
Li Zhang, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer
Denise Merleno, Executive Assistant

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 Board Clerk, to conduct a roll call to ensure a quorum. Chair Fredericks confirmed the quorum and described how the public could provide comment during the meeting.

1. Chair's Report (Discussion)

Chair Fredericks noted she did not have a report.

2. Commissioner Comments (Discussion)

There were none.

3. Executive Director's Report (Discussion)

Executive Director (ED) Anne Richman confirmed that TAM staff continue to work remotely, while plans are underway to ensure the agency reopens with the procurement of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and a required SPP (Site-Specific Protection Plan).

ED Richman reported that Zoom webinar meetings have been arranged for Monday, June 29, 2020 and Tuesday July 21, 2020 for the Highway 101/I-580 Direct Connector Project Stakeholder Working Group. ED Richman noted that interested parties could sign up at TAM's Website to receive project updates and information.

ED Richman reported on the Measure AA funded US-101 Interchange Study, which will collect data on eleven interchanges stipulated in the Measure AA Expenditure Plan. ED Richman stated that TAM's consultant has been instructed to undertake a high-level analysis of interchanges that were not included in the Expenditure Plan.

ED Richman also reported on a San Rafael Chamber of Commerce East San Rafael Working Group Meeting on June 4, 2020, where TAM staff provided an update on the agency's activities, and a "Weight-In-Motion" project by Caltrans on State Route (SR) 37, which will provide updated traffic monitoring data.

Finally, ED Richman reported on two online surveys by Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District (GGBHTD) to ascertain the needs of bus and ferry riders when services return to normal.

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 May 11, 2020 Meeting (Action)

Commissioner Sears moved to approve the Minutes of May 11, 2020, which Commissioner Colbert seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion was passed unanimously.

6. TAM Response to 2019-2020 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Follow-Up Report on Web Transparency of Agency Compensation Practices (Action)

Deputy Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer Li Zhang presented the staff report, which asked the Committee to review the recommended response to the Grand Jury Follow-Up Report on Web Transparency of Agency Compensation, provide comment and refer it to the TAM Board for review and acceptance.

Ms. Zhang stated that the commissioners were not compensated by the agency, but they were eligible for expense reimbursement, which she noted has been minimal. Ms. Zhang discussed the Grand Jury's seven recommendations and confirmed the agency would be able to comply with all the recommendations. She asked the commissioners to recommend the TAM Board approve the response to the Grand Jury.

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.

Commissioner Colbert moved to recommend the TAM Board review and accept the recommended response to the Grand Jury Follow-Up Report on Web Transparency of Agency Compensation, which Commissioner Sears seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion was passed unanimously.

7. Review and Acceptance of 2020 Measure A/AA 1/2-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Compliance Auditee Selection List (Action)

Ms. Zhang presented the staff report, which asked the Committee to review the 2020 Measure A/AA 1/2-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Compliance Auditee Selection List and refer it to the TAM Board for approval. She noted that the Board approved the amendments to the 1/2-Half Cent Compliance Audit Policy in April to include all projects/programs under the Measure AA Expenditure Plan, and that staff recommends the selection of 6 funding

recipients listed in the staff report for the 2020 audit cycle. Ms. Zhang stated that staff will present the audit report for review and acceptance in December 2020 or January 2021.

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.

Commissioner Phillips moved to recommend that the TAM Board approve the 2020 Measure A/AA 1/2-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Compliance Auditee Selection List, which Commissioner Sears seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion on COVID-19 Effects on the Transportation System and Recovery Planning (Discussion)

ED Richman explained that this discussion item will focus on the future of transportation and congestion and that the commissioners will be asked to consider whether the agency's projects and programs might need adjusting. ED Richman stated that Planning Manager Derek McGill would present the report.

Mr. McGill stated that staff requests feedback from the commissioners on planning and preparing for the recovery process. He discussed the data sources that show a drastic reduction in travel in Marin County and noted that significant changes are expected.

Mr. McGill discussed a framework for consideration to aid those who will be most impacted. Commissioner Sears noted that Marin Transit continues to operate transit for low-income riders and Mr. McGill stated that discussions include the need to consider how transportation options might change. Commissioner Sears and Mr. McGill also discussed unemployment levels, which Mr. McGill noted is still high but is less than in other counties in the Bay Area.

Mr. McGill discussed the issues of limited funding, changes to housing needs and supply, changes in employment, flexible work locations and commercial and retail space. He stated that indications are that transit recovery will be slower compared to other modes of transport, with less willingness to carpool, and increased local recreational travel. Mr. McGill explained some of the changes under consideration include new efforts to provide grants to local jurisdictions for street redesign projects, while current programs that will be affected include Crossing Guards, Safe Routes to School and Uber rideshare and bike share programs.

Mr. McGill summarized his presentation with a request for feedback on the agency's focus and whether additional topics should be considered.

Commissioner Sears discussed her support for participation in street improvement projects and more emphasis on alternative modes of travel, such as electric bikes, by supporting incentive programs and improving bicycle networks.

Commissioner Connolly also expressed his support for partnering with jurisdictions for street improvement projects. Commissioner Connolly additionally expressed a desire for TAM to support transit agencies with safety initiatives for transit operations. ED Richman stated that federal safety recommendations are in place and that TAM would be willing to support transit agencies. Mr. McGill stated that consideration will be given to a grant program using Local Streets and Roads (INNOVATION) funds under Measure AA to support local jurisdictions' street redesign projects, such as sidewalk extensions and bike lanes.

Commissioner Colbert discussed his full support for funding bike improvements, noting the increase in the amount of biking activities during Shelter in Place. He foresees a shift away from vehicles to transport kids to school.

Chair Fredericks discussed her concern that transit ridership will fall permanently if people continue to work from home and that remaining workers will increase vehicle usage if they are not comfortable with the transit options offered to them.

Commissioner Phillips discussed his belief that the changes might not be permanent and suggested that alterations to TAM's projects and programs are not considered at the present time. Commissioner Colbert discussed the reasons that a sector of the working population will continue working from home after the pandemic and the effect on traffic patterns.

Chair Fredericks thanked the commissioners and staff for participating in the discussions. Chair Fredericks asked the Ms. Merleno if comments had been received.

Ms. Merleno announced that Stephanie Moulton-Peters from Mill Valley submitted comments stating that telecommuting has been a silver lining during the COVID-19 Shelter in Place restrictions, and it is important for TAM to promote the continuation of telecommuting as businesses opens. Ms. Moulton-Peters noted that fewer cars result in less congestion, and that the promotion of telecommuting is a low-cost way for TAM to improve the transportation system in Marin County.

Ms. Merleno also summarized correspondence from Cindy Winter, which she stated would become part of the record. In her comments, Ms. Winter suggested further analysis of the discussion items through public seminars; the Agency's support for limiting a freeway lane to small vehicles, autonomous shuttle vehicles, and the promotion of electric bikes.

Commissioner Sears commented on the importance of density versus occupancy in future land use discussions.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Approved July 13, 2020