

February 24, 2022

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE/ COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Assembly Bill 361, signed by the Governor of the State of California on September 16, 2021, amends the Ralph M. Brown Act to allow Board members, staff and the public to participate remotely in meetings, without complying with traditional teleconference meeting rules.

These minutes are supplemented by the audio recording that is posted online at: https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents.

Honorable Board of Directors Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District

Honorable Members:

A meeting of the Transportation Committee/Committee of the Whole (Committee) of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) was held via audio conferencing on Thursday, February 24, 2022, at 9:01 a.m., Chair Arnold presiding.

(1) <u>Call to Order</u>: 9:01 a.m.

(2) Roll Call: Secretary of the District Amorette M. Ko-Wong.

Committee Members Present (8): Chair Arnold; Vice Chair Hill; Directors Mastin, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Snyder and Thier; President Theriault.

Committee Members Absent (1): Director Melgar.

Other Directors Present (5): Directors Cochran, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández and Pahre.

Committee of the Whole Members Present (13): Directors Arnold, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Pahre, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Snyder and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President Cochran; President Theriault.

Committee of the Whole Members Absent (4): Directors Conroy, Giudice, Melgar and Stefani.

[Note: On this date, there were two vacancies on the Board of Directors.]

Staff Present: General Manager Denis Mulligan; Auditor-Controller Joseph Wire; District Engineer Ewa Bauer-Furbush; Secretary of the District Amorette Ko-Wong;

Attorney Madeline Chun; Deputy General Manager/Bridge Division David Rivera; Deputy General Manager/Bus Transit Division Mona Babauta; Deputy General Manager/Ferry Division James Swindler; Deputy General Manager/Administration and Development Kellee Hopper; Director of Planning Ron Downing; Principal Planner Barbara Vincent; Executive Administrator to the General Manager Justine Bock; Senior Board Analyst Elizabeth Eells.

Copies of all reports and presentations are available on the District's web site at https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents/ or upon request from the Office of the District Secretary.

[Director Rodoni arrived.]

(3) Report of District Advisory Committees [02:49 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

(a) Advisory Committee on Accessibility; (b) Bus Passengers Advisory Committee; and (c) Ferry Passengers Advisory Committee

The staff report was for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

[President Theriault arrived.]

(4) Adopt the District's 2021 Title VI Program [03:38 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Director of Planning Ron Downing introduced Principal Planner Barbara Vincent, who is the project manager for the Title VI Program, and presented the staff report.

[07:40 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Directors Thier, Grosboll, Pahre, and Hill, President Theriault and Chair Arnold commented and inquired about the presentation.

Director Thier expressed appreciation for staff's work on the staff report, the program, and the extensive outreach conducted for the program.

Director Grosboll asked if the District has any potential weakness in regards to reaching out to particular minority communities or areas. He also asked if the District has received any complaints from any particular groups of people.

Director Pahre expressed appreciation for the comprehensiveness of the program. She requested clarification about the definition of major changes and asked how staff determines whether there has been a disparate impact on Title VI (minority or low income) communities. She said she would follow up with staff about how the data was collected after the meeting.

Director Hill commented about the possibility of fare and schedule integration throughout the Bay Area and the likelihood this integration would require staff to do another Title VI analysis. He inquired about the schedule for the Title VI analysis, and whether fare and schedule integration could trigger this analysis. He expressed appreciation for the District's effort with the Title VI Program.

President Theriault offered several comments about the analysis, and inquired about the map legend and use of color and shading in the maps. He commented about the Advisory Committee membership and diversity, recruitment of new members, and the governance structure for admitting new members. He encouraged staff to be mindful about the diversity of the Advisory Committee membership as more people applied for membership.

Chair Arnold commented about the importance of the Title VI Program and expressed her view the importance of the Title VI Program would continue to grow. She encouraged staff to continue to refine the District's outreach related to this important program.

Mr. Downing, Ms. Vincent and Mr. Mulligan responded to the Directors' inquiries.

The following individual spoke under public comment:

• Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area

(a) Action by Committee

Staff recommended and the Committee concurred by motion made and seconded by **Directors HILL/THIER** to forward the following recommendation to the Board of Directors for its consideration:

RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Committee/Committee of the Whole recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's 2021 Title VI Program as presented by staff, which demonstrates the District's compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Action by the Board at its meeting of February 25, 2022 – Resolution

AYES (13): Directors Arnold, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Pahre, Rabbitt,

Rodoni, Snyder and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President

Cochran; President Theriault.

NOES (0): None.

ABSENT (4): Directors Conroy, Giudice, Melgar and Stefani.

(5) <u>Update on Regional Transit Coordination Efforts</u> [29:38 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Director of Planning Ron Downing presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. Mr. Mulligan acknowledged the strong interest in growing the coordination between the various transit agencies in the Bay Area.

Directors Rabbitt, Hill, Thier and Chair Arnold commented and inquired about the presentation.

[1:03:28 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

Director Rabbitt expressed appreciation to Mr. Mulligan for his participation in the Bay Area Regional Transit Coordination process. He spoke about the 27 transit agencies in the Bay Area and the amount of funding that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) had distributed to most of those agencies during the pandemic. He commented about the discussions regarding consolidation and coordination of transit agencies, and noted the difficulty of taking the final steps towards these goals. He also spoke about the benefits of wayfinding and fare integration. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Mulligan and other District staff for remaining engaged in looking out for the interests of commuters and public transit riders.

Director Hill commented about his dependence on transit and the value of the Regional Transit Coordination. He inquired about the sponsors of SB 917 (Becker), and the feasibility of having a transit line that operated along the corridor from San Francisco to Millbrae.

Director Thier expressed appreciation for Mr. Downing, Mr. Mulligan and the efforts of the Blue Ribbon Task Force. She noted that the MTC's Blue Ribbon Task Force reached agreement on 27 initiatives, and this agreement was a difficult task and an achievement. In addition, she expressed appreciation for the Task Force's speed and flexibility during the pandemic, and its commitment to customer experience. She expressed support for an all agency transit pass and commended those who participated in this effort.

Chair Arnold inquired about the Blue Ribbon Task Force's Transformation Action Plan and Vision Statement. She expressed appreciation for the staff report.

Mr. Mulligan responded to the inquiries.

The following individuals spoke under public comment: [1:12:51 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

- Sprague Terplan
- Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area
- Wendi Kallins, Safe Routes to School

(6) Monthly Report on Bridge Traffic, Transit Ridership Trends, and Transit Service Performance [1:21:14 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

General Manager Denis Mulligan presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. He stated that the report contained data through December 2021, and traffic and transit remains depressed especially during commute hours. He said that staff looks forward to the re-opening of San Francisco.

(7) <u>Monthly Report on Activities Related to Marin Transit</u> [1:23:08 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

General Manager Denis Mulligan presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. He said that the District is pleased to be a contractor for Marin Transit. He said that staff is actively negotiating with Marin Transit for a new contract to provide local bus service, and staff looks forward to concluding negotiations and bringing forth an item for the new contract in the next couple of months for Board approval.

(8) Public Comment

There were no public comments.

(9) Adjournment [1:24:30 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

All business having been concluded, <u>Directors PAHRE/RABBITT</u> moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Arnold, Chair

Transportation Committee

JA:AMK:EIE:tnm