



Agenda Item No. (6)(A)

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING OF JUNE 28, 2024**

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

Honorable Members:

UPDATE ON DISTRICT OPERATIONS POST-PANDEMIC

Overall travel in the Golden Gate Corridor - by Bridge, Bus and Ferry - remains well below pre-pandemic levels, especially commute travel. That having been said, travel in the Golden Gate Corridor continues to trend upward.

In May 2024, southbound Bridge traffic was 2 percent above May 2023 traffic, Bus ridership was 8 percent above May 2023, and Ferry ridership was 22 percent above May 2023 ridership. The District continues to add back bus and ferry service incrementally as we see a return of our customers travelling in the Golden Gate Corridor.

DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP WITH OAK HILL SCHOOL

Oak Hill School is a special education facility located in Marin County that is accredited by the California Department of Education with a stated mission of empowering students (ages 6-22) on the autism spectrum to realize their full potential. The District recently partnered with Oak Hill School for an unpaid student internship program.

Part of Oak Hill School's program includes a Transition Program that assists students in developing vocational skills for entering the workforce and cultivating daily living skills to maximize independence.

District staff collaborated with school leadership to develop internship programs for Oak Hill students at the District. After a review of District needs, it was determined that several tasks and functions that could successfully be performed by the students. Specifically, the Ferry Division, the Bus Division, Human Resources Department, the Marketing and Communications Department, and the District Secretary's Office have all developed work plans needing student intern assistance that can be performed.

Examples of work include review of transit time schedules, assistance with key and uniform inventory, review of bus stop data, collating materials and packets, filing, scanning and digitalizing materials, and restocking items.

DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP WITH OAK HILL SCHOOL (continued)

Some of the work can be done at the school while other work requires students to come on District property. When students are on District property, they are accompanied by a teacher. These experiences in an office environment are new for the students, making this internship opportunity extremely important for their professional growth and development.

We wish to extend sincere gratitude and appreciation to Kendra Messer, Vocational Coordinator, and Whitney O'Keefe, Executive Director at Oak Hill School in helping us make this internship program vision a reality!

UPDATE ON THE EMERGENCY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE GENERAL MANAGER RELATIVE TO THE REPAIRS TO THE SAUSALITO FERRY LANDING

On April 22, 2024, the General Manager approved two emergency procurements, Contract No. 2024-F-040, with Moffatt & Nichol, for design services, and Contract No. 2024-F-041, with Power Engineering Construction Co., for repairs to the Sausalito Ferry float pier guide pile.

On April 19, 2024, Ferry Division staff discovered a crack on one of the float guide piles at the Sausalito Ferry Float. There are four 24-inch diameter steel guide piles at the float, two at the bow and two at the stern, that allow the float to move up and down with the tide and keep the float in alignment with the adjacent access pier. Engineering staff reviewed the crack and determined that due to its size and location on the pile the facility should be taken out of operation until repairs could be made. On April 19, 2024, Ferry Division stopped ferry service at the facility and temporary bus service was implemented between the Sausalito Ferry Landing and the San Francisco Ferry Building to provide uninterrupted service to our customers.

In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 22050 and the District's Procurement Policy, the General Manager authorized an emergency procurement, Contract No. 2024-F-40, with Moffatt & Nichol to perform a site visit and assessment of the cracked pile and develop a repair. The General Manager also authorized an emergency procurement, Contract No. 2024-F-041, with Power Engineering Construction Co. (Power), to perform the repairs. Moffatt & Nichol performed an assessment of the damaged pile and developed a repair consisting of cleaning and welding the crack in the steel pile and fabricating and installing by welding four steel stiffeners to reinforce the pile at the location of the crack. Moffatt & Nichol also determined that a new strut should be installed between the two stern piles, since the original strut between the two piles was no longer present. Engineering concurred with the repair design and requested Power to perform the repairs.

Power mobilized to the site and completed all of the specified repairs. An independent testing and inspection firm performed non-destructive testing of the welds performed in the shop and on-site. Engineering staff inspected the work determined that the repairs had been satisfactorily completed. On May 1, 2024, ferry service at the Sausalito Ferry float resumed.

Moffatt & Nichol and Power were directed to perform the work and track their expenses on a time and material basis. Invoices for the design effort amounted to \$18,917, invoices for the repairs costs amounted to \$152,293 and District staff costs are approximately \$9,000, for a total cost of approximately \$180,210, which is within the General Manager's authority. This project is complete.

**UPDATE ON THE EMERGENCY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE GENERAL MANAGER
RELATIVE TO THE REPAIRS TO THE SAUSALITO FERRY LANDING (continued)**

Fiscal Impact

The cost for the repairs to the guide pile is approximately \$180,210.

DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	COSTS
Guide Pile Repair Design (Moffatt & Nichol)	\$18,917
Guide Pile Repairs (Power Engineering Construction Co.)	\$152,293
District Staff Costs	\$9,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$180,210

BRIDGE PATROL DEPARTMENT STAFFING

In May 2022, the Board of Directors approved a wage adjustment for the Bridge Patrol Officer classification. This was done to make the position more competitive in the market and attract applicants. As part of the action, the Board asked for periodic updates on recruitments and vacancies.

Since July 1, 2023, nine officers have been hired in this classification. In our current new training program, five new officers have been brought onboard. Currently there are no staffing vacancies in this work unit.

**UPDATE ON THE EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE
GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT AMALGAMATED RETIREMENT PLAN (GGTARP)**

District employees participate in one of four different pension plans based on their collective bargaining agreement. Current and retired District bus operators are participants in the Golden Gate Transit Amalgamated Retirement Plan (GGTARP). GGTARP is unique in many ways, including its current funding status and its governance.

Among other things, a fiscally sound approach to pensions necessitates that a retiree's ultimate pension payments are reasonably correlated to the contributions made on behalf of the participant taking into account the accompanying investment returns. Not surprisingly considering GGTARP's woefully underfunded status, GGTARP has not historically followed this approach. It has been and continues today to be an outlier among pension plans in its funding status, in its response to being woefully underfunded and in its governance.

For example, the trustees of other pension plans have established a strong correlation between the age at retirement and the monthly pension payment paid to a retiree. In other pension plans, a participant who retires early receives a lower monthly amount than they would receive with a regular pension. The monthly amount is reduced to account for the fact that the early retiree's payments begin earlier and are expected to be paid for a longer period. This is a fiscally sound approach. Please note, GGTARP does not do this.

UPDATE ON THE EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT AMALGAMATED RETIREMENT PLAN (GGTARP) (continued)

Fortunately, some progress has been made within the last five years, including: increased contributions, replacing the Plan professionals (e.g., the attorney and plan administrator) with firms with pension experience, replacing the investment advisor who consistently underperformed both rising and falling markets, and correlating a year of pension credit to contributions received on behalf of a participant. Then on February 15, 2024, the GGTARP Trustees voted to eliminate the spousal subsidy; however, at that meeting they did not adopt the requisite tables to implement the change. On May 16, 2024 the GGTARP met; the agenda included a draft Plan amendment that revises Table D-1 factors to finalize the elimination of the spousal subsidy.

Most significantly, the ATU and the District have agreed to prepare a “Rehabilitation Plan”. Below is the relevant language from the MOU regarding this vital task, including the underlining as it appears in the signed Tentative Agreement:

“A pension working group composed of equal number of District GGTARP Trustees, Union GGTARP Trustees and attorneys for both sides will begin meeting immediately to discuss a rehabilitation plan to address future underfunding, akin to those required of jointly-trusteed defined benefit pension plans in "endangered or critical funding status" under the Pension Protection Act. Experts will be brought in as needed for consultation and calculations of scenarios intended to bring longer term stability to the GGTARP. The District will cover the costs of any experts or consultants, and it will have the final authority to determine which expert/consultant is selected.”

The District hired an actuary, Buck, to assist the Working Group in the development of the Rehabilitation Plan. The Working Group and Buck, collectively, “the Team”, had its kick-off meeting on February 22nd. The Team discussed, among other ideas, the need to look at all possible strategies (funding AND benefit cuts) which would help the Plan get back to solvency. Working Group members and the GGTARP’s actuary have provided relevant documents and information to Buck, and the Team is meeting regularly.

PRESENTATIONS BY DISTRICT STAFF FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

District staff made the following speeches and/or presentations:

PRESENTATION TO:	DATE:	PRESENTED BY:
Caltrans District 4 Calmentor Program 17 th Anniversary	May 3, 2024	Deputy General Manager of Ferry Division Michael Hoffman
Women’s Transportation Seminar	May 10, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz, Director of Transportation Krystalyn O’Leary
Transit Workforce Center	May 10, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz, Director of Transportation Krystalyn O’Leary
President of Rotary International, Gordan McInally	May 15, 2024	Deputy General Manager of Bridge Division David Rivera and Director of Public Affairs Paolo Cosulich-Schwartz
North Bay Job Fair	May 15, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz, Human Resource Analyst Avninder Khaira
Petaluma Transit	May 15, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz, Grants Coordinator Monica Argenti
Department of Energy	May 23, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz, Director of Transportation Krystalyn O’Leary, Director of Data & Project Administration Hitham Hamdon, Operations Control Center Manager Jamos Yeager
San Francisco Veterans’ Services	May 28, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz
Office of Refugee Relocation Services	May 29, 2024	Apprenticeship Coordinator Richard Diaz

SPECIAL EVENT/EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY REQUESTS

Below are the dates and sponsoring agencies of special events and expressive activities for which permits have been sought. The following applications were received since last reported to the Board in the May 24, 2024, Report of the General Manager:

Event Date	Event Title	Location	Type*	Expected No. Participants
June 1, 2024	Violence Awareness Day	East Sidewalk	EX	300 - 400
June 8 – 9, 2024	Alcatraz Triathlon	Under GGB & Battery East/Coastal Trail	SE	1,800
June 9, 2024	Journey of Hope	East Lot, Welcome Center Plaza Area, and West Sidewalk	SE	70
June 23, 2024	The Guardsmen Presidio 10	East & West Sidewalk & Under Bridge @ Tunnel	SE	TBD
June 25, 2024	Law Enforcement Torch Run - Special Olympics of NorCal	East Sidewalk / Plaza	SE	50 runners, CHP motos

*Permit Types: EX – Expressive Activity and SE – Special Event

VEHICLE TRAFFIC INCIDENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

For the month of May, there were the following vehicle traffic incidents to report:

Vehicle Traffic Incident	Vehicles	Injuries	Fatalities	Location
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Bridge
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Plaza
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Bridge
RE – Rear Ender	2	1	0	Lateral
RE – Rear Ender	3	0	0	Waldo
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Plaza
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Plaza
SS – Side Swipe	2	0	0	Plaza
SS – Side Swipe	2	1	0	Bridge
HB – Hit Barrier	1	0	0	Plaza
TOTAL	15	2	0	

BICYCLE INCIDENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

For the month of May, there were the following bicycle incidents to report:

Bicycle Incidents	Bicycles	Injuries	Fatalities	Location
SO - Solo	1	1	0	Bridge
BB – Bicycle/Bicycle	2	1	0	Bridge
TOTAL	3	2	0	

FERRY BICYCLE COUNTS THROUGH THE MONTH OF MAY

Ferry Bicycle Counts through the month of May are as follows:

Larkspur Southbound Bicycle Counts	
2019 Annual Total	29,828
2020 Annual Total	7,422
2021 Annual Total	4,716
2022 Annual Total	13,312
2023 Annual Total	15,453
January - May	7,284

*The Larkspur May bicycle count was 2,014

Sausalito Southbound Bicycle Counts	
2019 Annual Total	95,590
2020 Annual Total	9,415
2021 Annual Total	8,845
2022 Annual Total	64,952
2023 Annual Total	64,852
January - May	15,007

*The Sausalito May bicycle count was 4,419

Tiburon Southbound Bicycle Counts	
2022 Annual Total	9,204
2023 Annual Total	9,481
January - May	3,312

*The Tiburon May bicycle count was 837

Angel Island Northbound Ferry Bicycle Counts	
2021 (December service start) Annual Total	39
2022 Annual Total	4,807
2023 Annual Total	4,556
January – May	1,290

*The Angel Island May bicycle count was 420

PRESENTATION OF THIRTY-YEAR SERVICE AWARD TO KELLEE J. HOPPER, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, DISTRICT DIVISION

We are pleased to announce that Deputy General Manager of Administration and Development Kellee Hopper celebrated thirty years of service with the District on June 6, 2024.

Ms. Hopper joined the District as an Office Specialist in the Bus Maintenance Department in May 1994, before being promoted to positions in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) unit and Marketing & Communications Department, and finally to her current position in August 2011. During her career with the District, Ms. Hopper was selected Employee of the Month for September 1995 and August 2003, and Employee of the Year in 2003.

Ms. Hopper graduated from San Francisco State University. She also completed the American Public Transportation Association and the Eno Institute's Leadership Programs. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, and being with family and friends.

PRESENTATION OF TWENTY-FIVE YEAR SERVICE AWARD TO SCOT A. CARISTI, BUS MECHANIC, BUS DIVISION

We are pleased to announce that Bus Mechanic, Scot Caristi, celebrated twenty-five years of service with the District on June 3, 2024.

Mr. Caristi joined the District as a bus mechanic on June 3, 1999. His hobbies are spending time with his family and investing.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH – JUNE 2024

After reviewing nominations submitted by District employees, the Employee of the Month Committee selected Dispatcher Lovely Quitlong and Bus Operator Robert Payne, both in the Bus Division, as the Employees of the Month for June 2024.

Ms. Quitlong and Mr. Payne are recognized for their professional handling of getting bus service out and re-routed as well as rapidly responding to customer needs on July 21, 2023, during the nearly 20-hour shutdown of the Richmond San Rafael Bridge. Ms. Quitlong and Mr. Payne coordinated these efforts with calm, expertise and a level-headed approach during a very stressful and fast paced time. From the start of Ms. Quitlong's shift there were complicated routing logistics decisions that needed to be made and Mr. Payne offered to assist with navigation and route options that could be implemented, in addition to handling his own bus route that was scheduled for the afternoon.

Of special note, Ms. Quitlong and Mr. Payne's colleagues comment that they both went above and beyond on July 21 and that their professional abilities really shined through!

Ms. Quitlong joined the District on October 19, 2017 as a Dispatcher. Prior to joining the District, Ms. Quitlong was in an Administrative role at Hertz Corporation, California, and prior to that an Executive Assistant and Senior Events Coordinator at Al Sharfa Holdings, Middle East & North

Africa, and before that an Human Resources Coordinator at Al Hamad Construction & Development Co., Middle East & North Africa. Ms. Quitlong was born in the Philippines and attended South City Homes Academy, Philippines and went on to attend La Consolacion College, Philippines and AMA Computer College, Philippines where she received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Major in Management Information System. She is Co-Shop Steward, Teamsters 856. Ms. Quitlong has been a resident of Suisun City, CA since 2019 where she lives with her spouse Vernon Quitlong. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, road trips, long drives, scrapbooking, organizing, and playing with their dogs Zeus and Zebb.

Mr. Payne joined the District on August 21, 2014 as a Bus Operator. Mr. Payne was born in Oakland, CA, and has been a resident of San Pablo, CA since 1984 where he lives with his wife Shaneeka, son RJ (Robert Jr.) and twins Nevaeh and Nathan. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, and serving as the ATU 1575 Vice President.

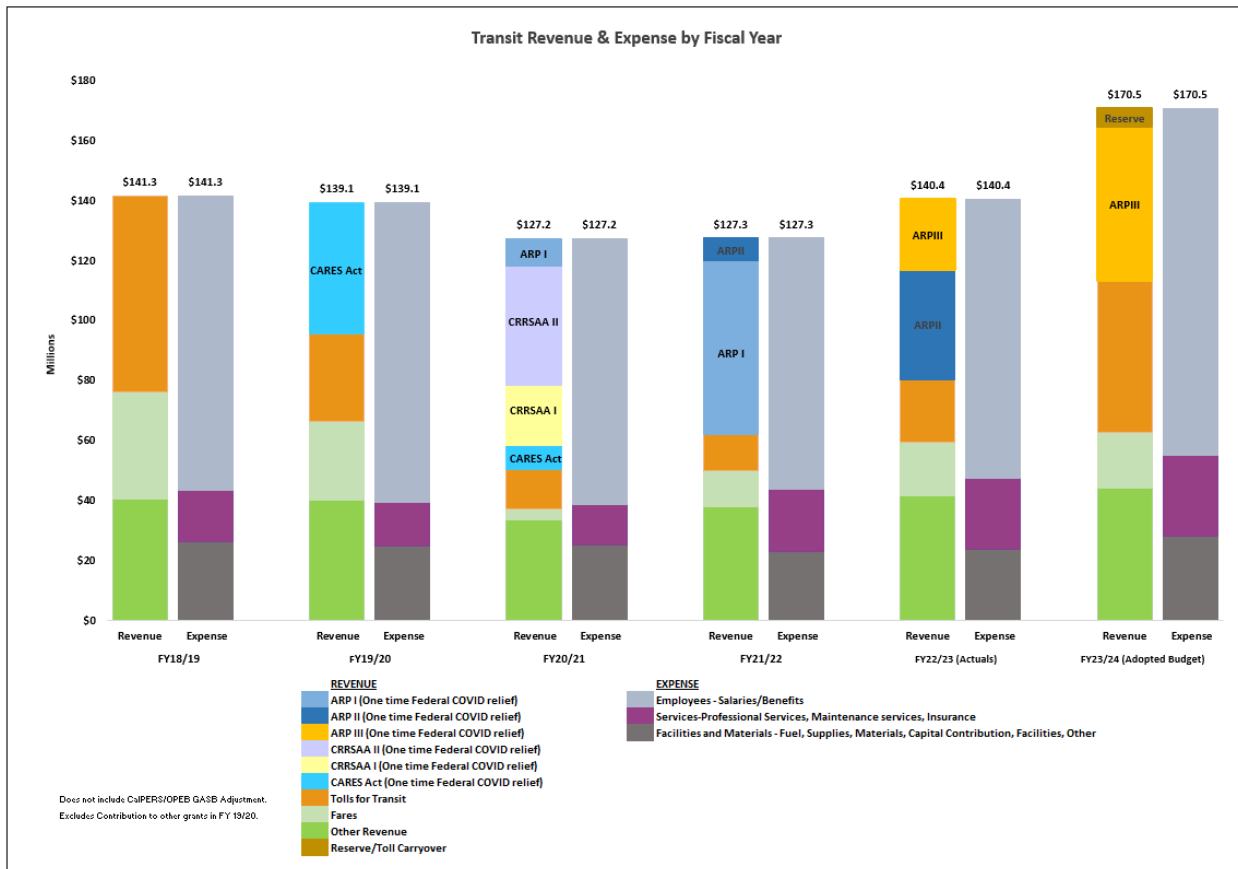
Denis J. Mulligan
General Manager

DJM:jb

Attachment: 2024-0627-FinanceComm-No8-Attachment C – Transit Funding & Expense Comparison

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Attachment C – Transit Funding & Expense Comparison



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