TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

Thursday, March 14, 2019

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416
San Francisco, CA

REGULAR MEETING
9:30 a.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mohammed Nuru, Chair
Jeff Gee, Vice Chair
Matt Haney
Michael Hursh
Boris Lipkin
Edward Reiskin
Nadia Sesay
Tony Tavares

Executive Director
Mark Zabaneh

Secretary
Nila Gonzales

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Nuru called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Secretary Gonzales announced that Director Brinkman was attending as the alternate for Director Reiskin and Director Lipkin was expected shortly.

Present: Cheryl Brinkman
Matt Haney
Michael Hursh
Boris Lipkin (arrived during Item 5)
Nadia Sesay
Jeff Gee
Mohammed Nuru

Absent: Ed Reiskin
Tony Tavares

3. Communications

None.

4. Board of Director’s New and Old Business

None.

5. Executive Director’s Report
   • Retail Leasing Update
   • Quarterly Financial Reports

Executive Director Zabaneh reported on the status of the temporary closure of the Salesforce Transit Center and stated the repair of the girders at Fremont Street and reinforcement at First Street is expected to be completed by June. He reported that several parallel tracks are underway including the repair and reinforcement of the girders, an exhaustive review of the facility, and collaborating with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Peer Review Panel (PRP) while completing a facility-wide life and safety reinspection program with City oversight. He also stated that while the MTC PRP’s review is not yet complete, he was pleased to report that since the incident in September, the facility has been continually monitored and, to date, no other fissures or issues have been found; however, the MTC PRP must complete their work before a reopening date can be scheduled. Executive Director Zabaneh also reported on the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX)/Phase 2 project and stated, in regard to the Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/EIR), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process has concluded and TJPA continues to work with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to issue the amended Record of Decision (ROD), which will conclude the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process that was delayed due to the partial shutdown of the Federal government earlier this year; however, FTA recently requested that TJPA reformat the ROD to emulate a recently issued ROD for another Bay Area project. Executive Director Zabaneh also provided an update on the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) suspension of Proposition K funding for the design effort of DTX/Phase 2 pending an evaluation of the management and delivery of Phase 1 and a review of alternative oversight and governance models for the management and delivery of Phase 2. He indicated that the TJPA continues to work closely with SFCTA so that funding can be reinstated and work on DTX/Phase 2 can resume as soon as possible to be able to compete for funding at both the State and Federal levels. Executive Director Zabaneh also reported on the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) peer review for Phase 2 that was requested at the December Board meeting; he stated the review began on March 11, 2019 and was led by APTA’s Technical Services and Innovation Department. He specified that the APTA peer review is being conducted by a team of mostly public sector industry leaders having experience with large, complex, public, infrastructure projects and it is intended to complement the effort by the SFCTA. APTA’s draft report is expected in April 2019 with a final report in May and a presentation to the TJPA Board.

Martha Velez, TJPA Facility Manager, presented the Retail Leasing Update.

Executive Director Zabaneh also stated that the TJPA Board was provided with the Quarterly Financial Reports and staff was available to answer questions.

6. Update on Construction and Temporary Closure of the Salesforce Transit Center

Dennis Turchon, TJPA Senior Construction Manager, Ron Alameida of SF Public Works Director of Design and Construction for the Transit Center, and Steve Rule of Turner Construction, Construction Management Oversight, presented the item.

Director Haney inquired about a communication plan to rebuild community confidence. Christine Falvey of SF Public Works, TJPA Communications Director, replied that the team is developing a comprehensive approach which will be presented to stakeholders and the TJPA Board.

7. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Update

Bruce Agid, TJPA CAC Chair, stated that the CAC looks forward to the ROD being issued by FTA in a timely manner. The CAC was pleased with the update received by the SFCTA and the approach being taken on the review being conducted; however, the CAC was disappointed that SFCTA’s completion date has slipped to mid-June from the original date of early May. The CAC requested SFCTA provide periodic updates to the TJPA Board as well as at SFCTA Commission meetings and advance their review with a sense of urgency. The CAC has also requested SFCTA provide a status update on the review being conducted by the Controller’s office and hopes it can be completed at the same time as the SFCTA review. The CAC was pleased to hear that the APTA review has been initiated and the target date for completion is
May. The CAC was glad to hear that there is interest in the remaining retail spaces, and they look forward to updated plans and refinements to the Operations and Maintenance costs and revised revenue projections. The CAC appreciated the update on the scheduled repairs of the girders and offered suggestions to provide clarity on the schedule. The CAC was impressed with the presentation by Steve Rule of Turner Construction on the Quality Assurance and Quality Control measures performed during construction of the transit center. The CAC suggested reopening as much of the transit center as soon as safely possible, primarily the park and the food trucks, as it will begin the process of rebuilding the public’s trust. Chair Agid concluded by stating it was his last update as the CAC Chair and he thanked the project team, TJPA Board, and fellow CAC members which were an outstanding and dedicated group to work with during his six years as a CAC Member.

Chair Nuru, Vice Chair Gee, and Directors Brinkman, Haney, Hursh, Sesay, and Lipkin expressed their gratitude to Mr. Agid for his leadership and commitment. Additionally, Executive Director Zabaneh stated Mr. Agid has been an invaluable member of the CAC and his contribution has been immensely appreciated.

8. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Authority on matters that are within the Authority's jurisdiction and are not on today's calendar.

Jim Patrick, Patrick & Company, stated he serves on a homeless committee, and wanted to commend Sidonie Sansom, TJPA Chief Security Officer, on the excellent job by the security team for management of the transit center which has not been affected by the homeless.

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS BEFORE THE TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION AS STATED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR THE CHAIR.

REGULAR CALENDAR

9. Presentation by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission Peer Review Panel and LPI on the Temporary Closure of the Salesforce Transit Center.

Ron Alameida of SF Public Works, Director of Design and Construction for the Transit Center, introduced Dr. Robert Vecchio of LPI and Dr. Michael Engelhardt, Chair of MTC PRP, to present the item.

Director Sesay asked what caused the fissures in the steel beams and Mr. Alameida stated that, from a scientific and mechanical standpoint, the cause of the fissures was the microcrack propagating from the fabrication of the girder which ultimately failed.

Director Hursh stated the weld access holes seem to be the root cause of the fissures and asked if the team knows if these weld access holes are depicted in the drawings and Mr. Alameida confirmed that the access holes would be shown on either design or shop drawings which are being reviewed facility-wide.
Director Brinkman thanked the team for presenting the information in layman’s terms which was easily understood and asked if the team has a communication plan to relay this information to the public and Executive Director Zabaneh responded affirmatively.

Director Lipkin asked how the decision was made regarding the difference in order of the way the access holes were put in on First Street versus Fremont Street. Mr. Alameida said the sequence on First Street was to address a noncompliance on how the weld was initially done and that corrective work, which changed the sequence, was actually what saved First Street.

Vice Chair Gee thanked the team for the presentation and asked Dr. Vecchio, if given the same circumstances, could the failure be replicated and Dr. Vecchio responded affirmatively. Vice Chair Gee also inquired on the noncompliance document that was issued to correct the weld access hole made at First Street and Mr. Alameida responded that the noncompliance issued for First Street was unrelated and the two situations were independent in that sense.

Chair Nuru thanked the team for the presentation and asked if the team was fully confident that the fabrication of the girders was the root cause of the fissures and if additional testing should be done. Mr. Alameida affirmed the root cause of the fissures was a fabrication issue and additional testing is not needed.

10. Approving the recommended applicants to the TJPA Citizens Advisory Committee.

Christine Falvey of SF Public Works, TJPA Communications Director, presented the item.

No public comment.

RESOLUTION 19-006

On motion to approve:

ADOPTEO: AYES – Brinkman, Hursh, Lipkin, Sesay, Gee, and Nuru
ABSENT – Haney

11. Approving the Minutes of the February 14, 2019 meeting.

No public comment.

On motion to approve:

ADOPTEO: AYES – Brinkman, Hursh, Lipkin, Sesay, Gee, and Nuru
ABSENT – Haney

12. Election of Chair and Vice Chair pursuant to the TJPA Joint Powers Agreement.

Director Sesay nominated Director Nuru as Chair of the TJPA. Director Gee seconded the nomination.

No public comment.
On motion to elect Director Nuru as Chair:

    AYES – Brinkman, Hursh, Lipkin, Sesay, Gee, and Nuru
    ABSENT – Haney

The motion to elect Director Nuru as Chair passed.

Director Sesay nominated Director Gee as Vice Chair of the TJPA. Director Hursh seconded the nomination.

No public comment.

On motion to elect Director Gee as Vice Chair:

    AYES – Brinkman, Hursh, Lipkin, Sesay, Gee, and Nuru
    ABSENT – Haney

The motion to elect Director Gee as Vice Chair passed.

ADJOURN – Chair Nuru adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

A recording of the meeting is on file in the office of the Secretary to the Transbay Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors.

Nila Gonzales
Board Secretary

The Ethics Commission of the City and County of San Francisco has asked us to remind individuals that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [Campaign and Gov't Conduct Code, Article II, Chapter 1, § 2.100, et seq.] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94102, telephone (415) 252-3100, fax (415) 252-3124 and web site: www.sfethics.org.