



TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

**TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011
Transbay Joint Powers Authority
201 Mission Street, Suite 2100
San Francisco, CA

Meeting #040

5:30 p.m.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim Lazarus, Chair
Andrew Brooks, Vice Chair
Anthony Dimas
BJ Dietz Epstein
Michael Freeman
Kelly Gregory
Steve Im
Marcus Krause
David Milton
Jane Morrison
D'Arcy Myjer
Ted Olsson
Nathan Rapp
Pascale Soumoy
Marla Wilson

Executive Director
Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan

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1. Staff Report – Robert Beck (TJPA Staff Liaison)

A quorum was not initially achieved. Item #1 “Call to Order” was moved to Item #2 and Item #2 “Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2011” was moved to Item #3. Item #3 “Staff Report” was moved to Item #1 and an unofficial Staff Report was given by Mr. Beck.

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Lazarus, Chair, at 5:45 pm when a quorum was formed with 8 of the 15 voting members present as follows: Jim Lazarus, Andrew Brooks, BJ Dietz Epstein, Steve Im, Marcus Krause, David Milton, Nathan Rapp, and Marla Wilson.

3. Approval of October 11, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Chair Lazarus asked if there were any comments or corrections to the October 11, 2011 Draft Meeting Minutes and there were none. A vote was called by voice and the October 11, 2011 Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Construction Update - Steve Rule (Turner Construction)

Mr. Rule provided an update on construction activities advising that the pre-trenching was substantially complete a little ahead of schedule. The CDSM shoring wall work progressed ahead of schedule and is effectively complete with the exception of the crossing on Fremont and First Streets which will be completed after Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) and Verizon utility work is finished on those streets. The buttress work continues. Current images of the work areas and an overview of the buttress progress were provided. Progress on the buttress has improved in recent weeks. The contractor has set up a drive aisle and washing station for trucks and is doing a good job of keeping mud off the streets. Chair Lazarus thanked Mr. Rule for his presentation and asked if there were questions. There were none.

5. Redevelopment Update on Block 6/7 Development Proposals - Courtney Pash (SF Redevelopment Agency)

Earlier this year a Request For Proposal (RFP) for Block 6 and 7 was issued with a minimum bid requirement of \$18 Million dollars. Four proposals were received. An independent selection team recommended the bid from Golub Real Estate Corporation and Mercy Housing California be accepted and the Redevelopment Agency approved. The Golub & Mercy bid of \$30 Million was 26% higher than the next highest bid. At this time, the Redevelopment Agency’s ability to enter into contracts is frozen pending resolution of a case in the California Supreme Court on the future of Redevelopment agencies statewide. When the Court rules the contract process will move forward. A question was asked if affordable housing is included and Ms. Pash replied that there has to be 35% affordable housing in the Redevelopment Area overall and that Block 7 will be 100% affordable housing.

6. Redevelopment Update on Streetscape Design - Courtney Pash (SF Redevelopment Agency)

Ms. Pash reported that the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is working with CMG and ARUP to jump start planning and design of streetscape improvements on Folsom Street and the Oscar Park area underneath the bus ramps. Last Thursday, December 8th, the Redevelopment Agency held a public workshop where three design concepts were presented. They would like the design to compliment the Transbay Transit Center Park. Ms. Pash reviewed the highlights of

each scheme and invited CAC members and the public to view the presentation on line at www.sfdevelopment.org . The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency will hold another public meeting in early 2012 and will continue to seek public comment.

Two member of the public had comments. Jamie Whitiker praised the CMG options as great and hopes that a children's playground is included in the option chosen. Jim Patrick hoped that pigeon control will be kept in mind.

Chair Lazarus asked if there were any further question or comments and there were none.

7. Funding Plan Update – Mary Pryor (Nancy Whelan Consulting)

Ms. Pryor provided a list of TJPA Funding Commitments. Phase 1 is fully funded, and the TJPA continues to pursue funding for Phase 2. Under Phase 1, the TJPA is pursuing additional funding opportunities. She plans to submit a request for \$4 Million from AC Transit for security elements; \$2 Million from the Federal Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program for geothermal system; and \$3 Million from Proposition 84 Statewide Park Program for the rooftop park. An application will also be submitted to the United States Department of Transportation in 2012 for \$20 Million TIGER IV funds. Another funding source may be the FTA New Starts program which would require Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) approval to enter the pipeline after Central Subway and BART to Berryessa. Projections of developer fees through the Transit Center District Plan are currently under development.

Chair Lazarus thanked Ms. Pryor for her presentation and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

8. Archeology Update – Paul Farnsworth (William Self Associates, Inc.)

Mr. Farnsworth provided an overview of the archaeological work. There is currently an exhibit of articles found on the site in the lobby of 201 Mission Street. He explained how the locations for archeological exploration were identified. He described how soils were laid down in the area over time; the nature and elevation of potential prehistoric sites; and how historic survey maps, photographs, fire insurance maps, newspaper drawings, census reports, City directories, and construction as-builts were of assistance. Back yards and privies were of special interest as these were the places that items would be discarded.

Areas that had been previously disturbed such as the old Transbay Terminal site and ramps or sites of other buildings with basements are not likely to have deposits that survived. These methods helped the team to focus on areas most likely to provide archaeological finds. Most of the items on display in the exhibit were found in the back yards on Minna and Natoma Streets. He also gave an overview of various methods used for testing including trenching, coring, and stripping away the 20th century layer in shallow cuts to expose the 19th century deposits. When materials are encountered, the item(s) will be recovered by hand excavation and the data recorded. Mr. Farnsworth showed examples of what was found and that is on exhibit. The exhibit at 201 Mission will be available through January 2012 and then may be exhibited at additional sites (none have been identified in the project site, but some outside of it).

Chair Lazarus asked if there were any pre gold-rush or native finds. Mr. Farnsworth replied nothing has been found at our site, but sites have been found by other projects near Yerba Buena Cove and Rincon Hill. Next week the contractor will start to excavate into the sand layers, and there may be more opportunities to find something. Marcus Krause asked how many days the archeologist would require if something was found, and Mr. Farnsworth replied up to 21 days.

Chair Lazarus thanked Mr. Farnsworth for his presentation and asked if there were any further questions or comments from CAC members or members of the public. There were none.

9. California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) Updated Business Plan – Dominic Spaethling (Parsons Brinkerhoff /California High Speed Rail Authority)

Mr. Spaethling's presentation focused on the 2011 updated business plan. There are many changes in the Updated Business Plan including schedule, funding, ridership and revenue projections using a phased implementation approach, coordinating initial High Speed Rail (HSR) operations with other regional rail services. Job creation projections were highlighted. Initial construction and operating sections were outlined including location, cost, and timeline. Construction will start in the central valley as it is estimated to cost \$6 billion and will maximize the ARRA funds.

Alternatives were discussed. The relationship between CHSRA's plans and Caltrain's electrification plans was discussed. It was questioned whether platform heights will be the same for CHSRA and Caltrain, and it was acknowledged that this remains unresolved, but common heights could be advantageous to both operators.

Location, cost, and timeline of the phasing plans were presented as well as a breakdown of the investment plan by phase. The advantages of High Speed Rail were listed. Mr. Spaethling explained that the timeline and funding assumptions in the updated plan are conservative, yet the plan still demonstrates that the system can be self-sustaining on an operating basis.

The period for public review & comment on the business plan has been extended through January 16, 2012, after which the legislature will consider the CHSRA's request for appropriation of \$2.7 billion of Proposition 1A bonds. If the legislature approves the appropriation, it would then be forwarded to the Governor for final approval.

Nathan Rapp asked if he had a feeling if Gov. Brown would approve the bonds. Mr. Spaethling replied that Gov. Brown has been supportive of the HSR project.

Chair Lazarus asked about private partners, and Mr. Spaethling advised that private investment would most likely come with an initial operating segment and would be concurrent with the purchase of equipment and start of operations. David Milton asked if there have been any positive indications from Japan. Mr. Spaethling replied yes as well as from others including Spain. Andrew Brooks commented that hopefully CHSRA will get through the environmental process in the spring of 2012 and have shovels in the ground in 2013. He asked if any right of way had been acquired and was told that the environmental process should be complete before parcels are acquired.

Bob Beck commented that the TJPA is encouraging CHSRA to build the north end first.

10. Public Comment

Chair Lazarus asked if any member of the public had any comments or questions and there was none.

11. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Chair Lazarus asked if there were any further questions, comments or agenda requests and there were none.

12. Adjourn

Chair Lazarus adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2012.

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.