



**TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 9, 2021
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

WATCH LIVE:

<https://transbaycenter.webex.com/transbaycenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb48c02b2f265941bb203dba9acf114d0>

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN: 1-855-282-6330 — Access Code: 182 819 7595

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Room is closed. Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely.

Please see additional information on the next page for remote meeting access.

In compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20 (March 12, 2020) as superseded by Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), this meeting will be held *exclusively* via teleconference participation of a quorum of Committee members in locations not open to the public. The purpose of the orders is to provide the safest environment for all persons consistent with San Francisco Department of Public Health Orders of the Health Officer and current public health recommendations, while allowing the public to observe and address the Committee.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Derrick Holt, Chair
Belal Aftab, Vice Chair

Dan Bell
Paul Bendix
Richard Burnett
Jackson Fahnestock

Robert Feinbaum
Gloria Li
Charley Lavery
Sean McGarry

Mark O’Dell
Andrew Robinson
Owen Stephens
Howard Wong

Interim Executive Director
Nila Gonzales

Staff Liaison
Lily Madjus Wu

CAC Secretary
Donald Pollitt II

REMOTE MEETING ACCESS
WATCH LIVE:

<https://transbaycenter.webex.com/transbaycenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb48c02b2f265941bb203dba9acf114d0>

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Providing Public Comment

Ensure you are in a quiet location – Speak Clearly – Turn off any TVs or radios around you

1. When prompted, “raise hand” to speak by pressing *3 (star, 3) to be added to the queue.
2. Callers will hear silence when waiting for their turn to speak.
3. When prompted, callers will have the standard three minutes to provide comment.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Members Present: Belal Aftab, Dan Bell, Paul Bendix, Richard Burnett, Jackson Fahnestock, Bob Feinbaum, Derrick Holt, Charley Lavery, Sean McGarry, Mark O’Dell, Andrew Robinson, Owen Stephens, and Howard Wong.

Members Absent: Gloria Li

2. Staff Report (5 minutes)

Lily Madjus Wu, TJPA Communications and Legislative Affairs Manager, presented the Staff Report. She announced that Board Supervisor Rafael Mandelman is expected to join the TJPA Board of Directors as the San Francisco Board of Supervisors’ second representative, replacing Supervisor Matt Haney, who resigned on February 18. She stated the TJPA looks forward to working collectively with Supervisor Mandelman once confirmed.

Ms. Madjus Wu shared the news regarding the passage of the American Rescue Plan package, which promises to provide over \$1 billion for transit operators, agencies, and projects. She stated the TJPA continues to work with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to ensure the TJPA also receives funding for revenue losses incurred during the pandemic.

Regarding COVID-19 and the City’s red-tier status, Ms. Madjus Wu reported that the TJPA is optimistic about the reopening of the City, which now allows certain indoor and outdoor services to operate, and noted the TJPA continues to work with Biederman Redevelopment Ventures on park programming. She also reported the TJPA continues to monitor the local and regional Stay Safer at Home Order to ensure the Transit Center fully supports the collective efforts to reduce the community spread of COVID-19. The TJPA continues to monitor and adhere to all guidance from the City’s Health Officer and continues working with transit agencies and tenants.

Additionally, the TJPA continues to provide commuters and visitors of the Transit Center the most-up-to-date information about mask wearing and social distancing, while ensuring enhanced

cleaning protocols remain in place. She also noted that TJPA issued a Request for Proposals in February for Unarmed Contract Security Services as the current contract is set to expire on June 30, 2021.

Ms. Madjus Wu stated the TJPA continues to advance the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) project through multiple efforts with its Executive Steering Committee (ESC) partners. Interim Executive Director Gonzales and staff have been providing briefings to local Supervisors, regional MTC Commissioners, and state Senators to introduce them to the DTX project and noted TJPA plans to engage its federal congressional delegation later this month.

Ms. Madjus Wu stated the TJPA joins its partners in supporting the California High-Speed Rail Authority's Revised Draft 2020 Business plan and noted the TJPA's effort and commitment to deliver rail service to the State. She also stated the plan will prioritize receiving environmental clearance of all Phase 1 segments between San Francisco and the Los Angeles Basin. The TJPA is also closely monitoring the plan as it makes its way to the legislature in April as the California High-Speed Rail Authority hopes to secure \$4 billion in State bond funds through Proposition 1A.

Regarding CAC recruitment, Ms. Madjus Wu stated the TJPA received nine applications for seven of the eight open categories and announced that three current CAC members and four new members are being recommended to the TJPA Board on March 11. She also stated that the TJPA did not receive an application for the Daily AC Transit Transbay Rider into San Francisco seat but confirmed that additional outreach is being conducted to encourage qualifying individuals to apply.

She concluded her report by recognizing the outgoing four CAC members Paul Bendix, Bob Feinbaum, Sean McGarry, and Charley Lavery for their support over the years in helping shape the Transit Center, ongoing TJPA initiatives, and the DTX project.

Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun expressed his appreciation towards the outgoing CAC members and welcomed them to the members of the public group. He also noted the High-Speed Rail Authority's Revised Draft 2020 Business plan was presented in Sacramento and expressed concern that there was not a DTX representative in attendance to advocate on behalf of the project.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 9, 2021

There was no member of the public wishing to comment. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. McGarry. A unanimous voice vote approved the motion.

4. San Francisco Planning Department presentation on 4th & King Street Railyard (20 minutes)

Doug Johnson, Transportation Planning Manager, and Anna Harvey, Rail Program Manager, representing San Francisco Planning Department presented the item.

Mr. Fahnestock suggested there be joint development on the proposed site referenced in the presentation and expressed concern about the site potentially being used as a local terminal or maintenance facility.

Mr. Wong referenced three design build options: underground, surface and raised, and for which he asked if there were any preliminary designs for members to review at this time. Ms. Harvey stated there were none to share and noted the two reports conducted in 2018 and 2012 referenced during the presentation examined those options. Mr. Feinbaum referenced the Westside Railyard project in New York and how it can provide a model on what we can do here in the Bay Area. He asked if the San Francisco Planning Department studied the project for potential similarities. Ms. Harvey replied that San Francisco Planning Department is familiar with the NY project, as well as other places where rail has been developed. Mr. Feinbaum also asked would a new environmental impact report be required if some tracks were built underground and Ms. Harvey stated that it would solely depend on the footprint and what it exactly covered. Mr. Johnson noted that even though the DTX project is environmentally cleared, the vertical development would still require clearance. Mr. Bell and Mr. Fahnestock asked if the 2012 and 2018 reports mentioned in the presentation could be found on San Francisco Planning Departments website and Ms. Harvey confirmed, and noted she would provide the link.

Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun stated that the San Francisco Planning Department's 2012 report was the basis of the 7th Street Alignment. He referenced the twelve tracks at 4th and King Street station and suggested if the platform at the Transit Center was doubled in length, it would have the same storage capacity as the 4th and King Street station with only six tracks.

Jim Patrick referenced Mission Creek as a potential development opportunity for the project and expressed concern for it not being considered as a possible option.

5. Phase 2/Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) Update (20 minutes)

Stephen Polechronis, Interim DTX Project Director, presented the item.

Chair Holt thanked Mr. Polechronis for the presentation and noted how imperative it will be to provide new CAC members with an overview of the DTX project in addition to providing an overview of the Legislative Affairs strategy.

Mr. Feinbaum asked if the Operation Analysis was complete and ready for public review. Mr. Polechronis stated that the initial results are complete, however, the final report has not yet been written, and noted he would share with CAC members once finalized. Mr. Feinbaum also asked when the Phasing Study would be available for public review and Mr. Polechronis replied noting that it would be presented to the ESC prior to presenting to the TJPA Board for approval and will be available for public input during those presentations. Once it is approved by the TJPA Board, the final can be shared with the public. Mr. Feinbaum also expressed concern regarding the 2032 operation date and Mr. Polechronis stated that with the two-year pause of work on the DTX project and the June 2020 restart, there have been impacts to the Master Schedule, but noted that the project team is working to accelerate the 2032 operation date. Mr. Wong asked how the risks

identified in the Critical Path are scored and Mr. Polechronis stated that the Risk Register is a key component in identifying, monitoring, and scoring potential risks.

Public Comment:

Roland Lebrun referenced an email he sent to the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) Board in January 2021. He stated that he received a copy of the TJPA response to the SFCTA and that he plans to respond. He also suggested that the responsibility of the DTX project should be transferred to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Capital Project team.

Bob Planthold stated he is set to be appointed as a new CAC member pending approval of the TJPA Board and asked if a virtual tour of the facility would be possible after the new CAC members briefing. Mr. Planthold expressed concern regarding buildings located near the Transit Center that are requesting reduction in value and asked if the TJPA is monitoring. Additionally, Mr. Planthold asked for a better understanding of the TJPA's jurisdiction regarding the Transit Center.

6. Facility Operations Update (15 minutes)

John Updike, Facility Director, provided the update.

Mr. McGarry asked which tenants have pulled out from negotiations and Mr. Updike noted certain contacts are still under negotiation and that he is unable to discuss in detail at this time but plans to share when information is ready to be shared publicly. Mr. Feinbaum asked what the percentage of floor space for the largest unleased space at the Transit Center is and Mr. Updike stated that it is less than five percent, with six spaces at play and an interest in them potentially being leased.

Public Comment:

Jim Patrick referenced Mr. Lebrun's comments on the previous item and suggested CAC members and TJPA staff review the email he sent to the SFCTA.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Future agenda requests include 1) train doors and platform heights for DTX; 2) review of bus and traffic circulation in the area surrounding the Transit Center; 3) update from Pearl Media on digital signage; 4) AC Transit update on reinstating the Bus Only Lane on the Bay Bridge; 5) Presentation on the rebranding and outreach plans for Phase 2/DTX; and 6) overview of DTX for new CAC members.

Note that agenda Item 4 above satisfies the previous future agenda request that was on this list and is now removed.

9. Adjourn

Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

ACCESSIBLE MEETING POLICY

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 website: www.sfethics.org.