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### Message from Interim Executive Director, Nila Gonzales

I hope you are all having a great holiday season. 2021 has been an eventful, but challenging year for everyone. With the pandemic continuing, we are buoyed by the progress being made through the availability of vaccines to the community.

I've been honored to serve as the Interim Executive Director of the TJPA since September 2020 and proud of our work this past year, which included providing stability at the Salesforce Transit Center during this challenging time for our community, retail tenants, transit agencies and their riders, and building momentum to advance the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) project, the final element of the Transbay Program. During this time, we continued providing transit services through our Transit Center partners; worked with our retail tenants to ensure their longevity; and the Rooftop Park remained open to the public.

2022 brings some new exciting opportunities; including potential grant funding on the federal and state levels for DTX as the project is now in the Project Development phase of the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grants New Starts program. Also, I am pleased to share that at the December TJPA Board meeting, the Board appointed Adam Van de Water as our new incoming Executive Director. He brings a wealth of expertise in innovative financial and project development strategies for government land-use projects, which will be an asset to the TJPA.

I look forward to working with Adam when he starts in January as I continue in my role as Chief of Staff to help ensure the continued delivery of the Transbay Program. Thank you again for your continued support.

May you have a prosperous new year in 2022!

Respectfully,

Nila Gonzales, Interim Executive Director

### Highlights of 2021 Efforts

#### Connecting to the Bay Area Through Transit

The TJPA is committed to providing riders their important transit connections within San Francisco, to the North and East Bays along with the Peninsula; and also, helping the economic recovery of the City's downtown and the Bay Area. We continue to work with our transit operators, including AC Transit and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, in ensuring riders get to their connections. For more information, visit [salesforcetransitcenter.com/transportation](https://salesforcetransitcenter.com/transportation).

The Rooftop Park continued as an open space resource for the community. In April 2021, we restarted free public programming with three to four activities (i.e. fitness, photography and garden classes) and now total over 10 activities (which include live music, crafts and toddler classes) in the last few months. We have offered over 280 activities and served nearly 7,000 attendees. We continue to offer exciting and fun free activities to the community year-round. Visit [salesforcetransitcenter.com/events](https://salesforcetransitcenter.com/events) for more information.

### Bringing in Retail Services

We have been working to fill the 100,000 square feet of retail space, 92% of which are leased. TJPA has been working with its current retail tenants, including Fitness SF and Onsite Dental to remain open; securing new leases (i.e. Barebottle Brewing Company); helping tenants prepare spaces for public opening, which included Spring Fertility and Happy Lemon; and, we continue to work with existing tenants for their opening in 2022. Visit [salesforcetransitcenter.com/directory](https://salesforcetransitcenter.com/directory) for more information.

### Delivering the Downtown Rail Extension Project

We continue to advance the DTX project and are leading the delivery in coordination with our partners. We are tracking funding opportunities on the federal, state, regional and local levels and preparing to apply when these opportunities become available.



On December 11, we were honored to host Speaker Nancy Pelosi on celebrating the historic signing of the Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law in the already built trainbox at the Salesforce Transit Center. We were joined by Congresswoman Jackie Speier and House Representative Mark DeSaulnier and our future rail operators Caltrain and California High-Speed Rail Authority. You can watch the event video [here](#).

For more information, please visit: [www.tjpa.org](http://www.tjpa.org)

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