

**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Transcript**



February 10, 2021

1                                   **METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
2                                   **BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**  
3                                   **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021, 9:45 AM**  
4

5   **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** GOOD MORNING. THIS IS AMY WORTH IT'S MY  
6 PLEASURE TO CALL TO ORDER THE BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY  
7 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR FEBRUARY 10TH, 2021. KIMBERLY MAY WE  
8 PLEASE HAVE THE COVID ANNOUNCEMENT.

9  
10 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YES. [RECORDED MEETING PROCEDURES  
11 ANNOUNCEMENT] DUE TO COVID-19, THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED  
12 AS A ZOOM WEBINAR, PURSUANT TO THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER  
13 N-29-20 WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT.  
14 THIS MEETING IS BEING WEBCAST ON THE MTC WEB SITE. THE CHAIR  
15 WILL CALL UPON COMMISSIONERS, PRESENTERS, STAFF, AND OTHER  
16 SPEAKERS BY NAME, AND ASK THAT THEY SPEAK CLEARLY AND STATE  
17 THEIR NAMES BEFORE GIVING COMMENTS OR REMARKS. PERSONS  
18 PARTICIPATING VIA WEBCAST AND ZOOM, WITH THEIR CAMERAS  
19 ENABLED, ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE VISIBLE TO  
20 VIEWERS. COMMISSIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING  
21 VIA ZOOM WISHING TO SPEAK SHOULD USE THE RAISED HAND FEATURE  
22 OR DIAL STAR NINE, AND THE CHAIR WILL CALL UPON THEM AT THE  
23 APPROPRIATE TIME. TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES WILL BE CALLED UPON  
24 BY THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THEIR PHONE NUMBER. IT IS REQUESTED  
25 THAT PUBLIC SPEAKERS STATE THEIR NAMES AND ORGANIZATION, BUT



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1 PROVIDING SUCH INFORMATION IS VOLUNTARY. WRITTEN PUBLIC  
2 COMMENTS RECEIVED AT INFO@BAYAREAMETRO.GOV BY 5:00 P.M.  
3 YESTERDAY WILL BE POSTED TO THE ONLINE AGENDA AND ENTERED INTO  
4 THE RECORD, BUT WILL NOT BE READ OUT LOUD. IF AUTHORS OF THE  
5 WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK, THEY ARE FREE TO  
6 DO SO, AND SHOULD RAISE THEIR HAND AND THE CHAIR WILL CALL  
7 UPON THEM ON THE APPROPRIATE TIME. A ROLL CALL VOTE WILL BE  
8 TAKEN FOR ALL ACTION ITEMS. PANELISTS SHOULD NOTE THAT THE  
9 CHAT FEATURE IS NOT ACTIVE TO ATTENDEES. IN ORDER TO GET THE  
10 FULL ZOOM EXPERIENCE, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR APPLICATION IS UP  
11 TO DATE.

12

13 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YOU ARE MUTED CHAIR WORTH. WE CAN'T HEAR  
14 YOU.

15

16 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU KIMBERLY. ALL OF A SUDDEN THE ZOOM  
17 SCREEN VANISHED. I'M LIKE, OH GREAT I'M GOING TO RETURN AS A  
18 CAT. NEXT ITEM, KIMBERLY CAN YOU CALL THE ROLL FOR THE QUORUM.

19

20 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** ABE-KOGA?

21

22 **DIR. MARGARET ABE-KOGA:** HERE.

23

24 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** DUTRA-VERNACI?

25



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1 **CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI:** HERE.

2

3 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** [INDISCERNIBLE].

4

5 **SPEAKER:** HERE.

6

7 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** GLOVER?

8

9 **FEDERAL D. GLOVER:** HERE.

10

11 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** JOSEFOWITZ?

12

13 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** HERE.

14

15 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** PAPAN?

16

17 **GINA PAPAN:** HERE.

18

19 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** RONEN?

20

21 **DIR. HILLARY RONEN:** HERE.

22

23 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** SCHAFF IS ABSENT. WORTH?

24

25 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** HERE.



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1

2 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** THANK YOU. QUORUM IS PRESENT.

3

4 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. I WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO JOIN  
5 TOGETHER IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. I HAVE A FLAG HERE FROM  
6 NEXT TO THE RICHMOND SAN RAFAEL BRIDGE. IF EVERYONE WOULD LIKE  
7 TO JOIN TOGETHER. [ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ] "I PLEDGE  
8 ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO  
9 THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD,  
10 INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

11

12 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. NOW, KIMBERLY, MAY WE  
13 PLEASE HAVE THE COMPENSATION ANNOUNCEMENT?

14

15 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YES. AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE LAW I AM  
16 MAKING THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT. EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD  
17 HERE TODAY WILL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE \$100 PER MEETING  
18 ATTENDED UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$500 PER MONTH PER AGENCY. THIS  
19 AMOUNT IS A PROVIDED AS A RESULT OF CONVENING A MEETING FOR  
20 WHICH EACH MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO COLLECT SUCH AMOUNT.

21

22 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** GREAT. THANK YOU SO MUCH. BEFORE WE GO TO  
23 THE CONSENT CALENDAR, HAVE WE RECEIVED ADDITIONAL  
24 CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE 5:00 POSTING LAST NIGHT?

25



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1 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** I HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY ADDITIONAL PUBLIC  
2 COMMENT.

3

4 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** FOR CONSENT CALENDAR, IS THERE ANYONE FROM  
5 COMMITTEE OR STAFF THAT WOULD LIKE TO REMOVE ANY ITEM FROM THE  
6 CONSENT CALENDAR? I DON'T SEE ANYONE. SO THEREFORE, I WOULD  
7 ENTERTAIN A MOTION AND A SECOND.

8

9 **GINA PAPAN:** MOVE APPROVAL.

10

11 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** MOVED. OKAY.

12

13 **FEDERAL D. GLOVER:** SECOND.

14

15 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** SECOND BY COMMISSIONER GLOVER. KIMBERLY MAY  
16 WE HAVE THE ROLL FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR?

17

18 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** [ROLL CALL VOTE].

19

20 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** THANK YOU. THE MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

21

22 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH. NEXT ITEM FIVE TRANSITION  
23 TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING AT BATA BRIDGES. STAFF WILL GIVE A  
24 STATUS REPORT ON THE TRANSITION TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING  
25 INCLUDING INTRODUCTION INVOICES ON THE SEVEN STATE OWNED



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1 BRIDGES. THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM. SO I WOULD LIKE TO TURN  
2 NOW TO STAFF, WHO WILL BE PRESENTING THIS.

3

4 **LYNN VALDIVIA:** GREAT. THANK YOU. THIS IS LYNN VALDIVIA WITH  
5 BATA STAFF. CAN WE GET THE SLIDES? EXCELLENT. THANK YOU SO  
6 MUCH. SO I'M PLEASED TO BE HERE TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE  
7 ONGOING TRANSITION OF BATA BRIDGES TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING.  
8 YOU HAVE BEEN HEARING FREQUENTLY FROM US ON THIS TOPIC,  
9 ESPECIALLY SINCE LAST SPRING, WHEN COVID FORCED THE REMOVAL OF  
10 CASH TOLL COLLECTION FROM OUR BRIDGES. I KNOW THAT LAST MONTH  
11 COMMISSIONER WORTH PROVIDED YOU AN UPDATE ON OUR RECENT  
12 DEPLOYMENT OF INVOICES AND WHILE WE'RE STILL IN THE EARLY  
13 STAGES, I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT EVERYTHING IS ON TRACK, AND  
14 I'LL WALK THROUGH SOME OF THE SPECIFICS FROM THE PAST SEVERAL  
15 MONTHS ACTIVITIES. THEN JEFF GERBRACHT WILL PROVIDE DETAILS ON  
16 THE NEXT PHASE OF THE TRANSITION TO OPEN ROAD TOLLING. OKAY.  
17 SO CAN YOU MOVE TO THE NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE? OKAY. SO THIS IS A  
18 QUICK REMINDER OF WHERE WE HAVE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE HEADING.  
19 AS YOU ALL KNOW, BATA BRIDGES WERE ALL CASH COLLECTION UNTIL  
20 1996 WHEN FASTRAK WAS ROLLED OUT AT THE CARQUINEZ BRIDGE.  
21 CONVERTING TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING, IT HAS BEEN UNDER  
22 CONSIDERATION FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND IN LATE 2018, THIS  
23 COMMITTEE APPROVED THE TRANSITION WITH THE FIRST BRIDGE  
24 CONVERTING IN LATE 2022. SO WHILE STAFF WAS WORKING ON ALL THE  
25 PLANNING, ON GETTING TO THIS CONVERSION, ALONG CAME COVID,



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1 LAST MARCH. AND CALTRANS REMOVED THE TOLL COLLECTORS TO  
2 PROTECT THEIR SAFETY AS WELL AS THE SAFETY OF THE TRAVELING  
3 PUBLIC. SO BATA CONVERTED TO CASHLESS TOLLING PRETTY MUCH  
4 OVERNIGHT WITH DRIVERS NO LONGER STOPPING TO PAY CASH BUT  
5 INSTEAD RECEIVING A NOTICE FOR TOLL ONLY, IN THE MAIL. SINCE  
6 THAT TIME STAFF HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH CONDUENT THE  
7 CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER CONTRACTOR TO DEPLOY A MORE ROBUST ALL  
8 ELECTRONIC TOLLING SYSTEM USING INVOICES, BASICALLY THE SAME  
9 AS HAS BEEN AT THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE SINCE 2013. SO THAT IS A  
10 STEP THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED LAST MONTH, AND THE NEXT STEP THAT  
11 WE ARE ALL WORKING TOWARD IS OPEN ROAD TOLLING, WHICH UNDERWAY  
12 AND WILL BE COVERED LATER IN THIS PRESENTATION BY JEFF. CAN I  
13 HAVE THE NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE? OKAY. SO WHAT CHANGED IN JANUARY?  
14 THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER CONTRACTOR ROLLED OUT SYSTEM  
15 CHANGES TO REPLACE THE CASHLESS NOTICES WITH INVOICES. THE  
16 INVOICE PROCESS IS MORE STREAMLINED AND WILL REDUCE OUTGOING  
17 MAIL VOLUMES BY ACCUMULATING A MONTH'S WORTH OF TRANSACTIONS  
18 ON TO EACH INVOICE. WE ALSO BEGAN PROMOTING MORE TOLL PAYMENT  
19 OPTIONS, WHICH I'LL TALK ABOUT IN JUST A MOMENT, AND BATA  
20 RETURNED TO THE PRECOVID PRACTICE OF ASSESSING PENALTIES FOR  
21 UNPAID TOLLS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE  
22 JANUARY DEPLOYMENT, IN ADDITION TO THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER  
23 CHANGES THE TOLL SYSTEM AT THE BRIDGES WAS ALSO MODIFIED  
24 INCLUDING REPORTS TO INCLUDE INVOICE PAYMENT METHOD, TOLL  
25 PLAZA SIGNAGE AT THE APPROACHES, AND AT THE TOLL PLAZAS WAS





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1 CHANGED TO REMOVE MESSAGING ABOUT CASH PAYMENTS AND FASTRAK  
2 ONLY LANES. WE STILL PLAN TO INSTALL NEW PERMANENT SIGNAGE  
3 SOMETIME IN THE SPRING, MARCH/APRIL TIME FRAME. AS FOR TOLL  
4 COLLECTORS, CALTRANS IS MANAGING THEIR TRANSITION AND IS  
5 LOOKING FOR OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEM WITHIN THE  
6 DEPARTMENT. WORK IS UNDERWAY TO SECURE THE TOLL PLAZA AS.  
7 THESE BUILDINGS WERE BUSTLING WITH ACTIVITY WITH THE TOLL  
8 COLLECTION ACTIVITIES BUT WILL SOON BE VACATED COMPLETELY SO  
9 WE'RE WORKING WITH CALTRANS TO SECURE THE BUILDING AND OUR  
10 TOLL COLLECTION EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE BUILDINGS SO THAT WE'RE  
11 ABLE TO PROVIDE NECESSARY ACCESS TO THE RIGHT FOLKS WHENEVER  
12 NEEDED. AND THEN WE LAUNCHED AN OUTREACH CAMPAIGN PROMOTING  
13 MORE WAYS TO PAY TOLLS, IF YOU HAVE BEEN NEAR A BRIDGE,  
14 LATELY, SINCE MID-JANUARY, YOU MOST LIKELY HAVE SEEN THE  
15 BILLBOARDS THAT HAVE BEEN PLACED OUT AT THE APPROACHES OR YOU  
16 MIGHT HAVE HEARD THE RADIO SPOTS THAT WILL BE AIRING THROUGH  
17 MID-APRIL. WE ALSO HAVE NEWSPAPER ADS, AND THE RADIO SPOTS AND  
18 NEWSPAPER ADS ARE ALSO IN SPANISH AND CHINESE. NEXT SLIDE  
19 PLEASE. SO A LITTLE BIT MORE ON THE WAYS TO PAY TOLLS AT OUR  
20 BRIDGES. THERE ARE FOUR WAYS, NOW, TO PAY TOLLS AT OUR  
21 BRIDGES. WE MATCH NOW WITH GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE. WE HAVE THE  
22 FASTRAK, WHICH IS THE TAGGED ACCOUNTS, THESE ARE FAR AND AWAY  
23 THE MOST POPULAR WAY OF PAYING WITH 75 PERCENT OF TOLLS BEING  
24 PAID THIS WAY. THESE TAG ACCOUNTS ARE ALSO THE PAYMENT METHOD  
25 NEEDED FOR THE REGIONAL EXPRESS LANES. WE ALSO HAVE A LICENSE



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1 PLATE ACCOUNTS THAT ARE PAY AS YOU GO, AS WELL AS ONE TIME  
2 PAYMENT ACCOUNTS, WHICH ARE BASICALLY SHORT-TERM LICENSE PLATE  
3 ACCOUNTS TARGETED AT VISITORS AND INFREQUENT BRIDGE USERS.  
4 BOTH OF THESE WERE INTRODUCED BACK WHEN GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE  
5 TRANSITIONS TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING IN 2013, AND WE ARE NOW  
6 PROMOTING THESE PAYMENT METHODS AT OUR BRIDGES AS WELL. AND  
7 FOR ANY DRIVERS WHO DON'T HAVE A FASTRAK ACCOUNT OR A LICENSE  
8 PLATE ACCOUNT, OR A ONE TIME PAYMENT ACCOUNT, THEY WILL  
9 RECEIVE AN INVOICE IN THE MAIL FOR TOLL ONLY, AND AGAIN THESE  
10 INVOICES WILL ACCUMULATE TRANSACTIONS AND BE SENT OUT ON A  
11 MONTHLY BASIS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. SO THE CUSTOMER SERVICE  
12 CENTER, DURING COVID. WORKING IN THE COVID ENVIRONMENT HAS  
13 BEEN A CHALLENGE FOR OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER CONTRACT. ON  
14 TOP OF MANAGING THE REGULAR WORK SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAM, THE  
15 LEADERSHIP TEAMS ALSO HAD THE ADD RESPONSIBILITY OF CONSTANTLY  
16 MONITORING FOR COMPLIANCE AND DEALING WITH NEW  
17 RESPONSIBILITIES SUCH AS CONTRACT TRACING AND ENSURING THAT  
18 THEY'RE KEEPING EMPLOYEE MORAL AND IMPLEMENTING A SET OF  
19 SAFETY PROCEDURES TO KEEP STAFF SAFE INCLUDING SOCIAL  
20 DISTANCING HEALTH SCREENINGS AND CLEANING UP THE FACILITIES  
21 THEY WERE IMMEDIATELY ABLE TO SHIFT SOME SUPPORT STAFF BACK IN  
22 MARCH TO REMOTE WORK. THESE WERE PRIMARILY IN QUALITY  
23 ASSURANCE AND FINANCE TEAMS. CUSTOMER-FACING ROLES LIKE CALL  
24 CENTER AGENTS TOOK A BIT LONG TORE ROLL OUT TO WORK-FROM-HOME,  
25 DUE TO PRIVACY CONCERNS. CURRENTLY, OUR CONTRACTOR HAS ABOUT



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1 100 STAFF OR ABOUT A QUARTER TO 30 PERCENT OF THEIR STAFF  
2 WORKING FROM HOME, WHICH HAS BEEN VERY, VERY HELPFUL IN  
3 ALLOWING FOR THE EXTRA SPACE FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING AT THE  
4 LOCATIONS WHERE STAFF NEED TO WORK ON-SITE. AND LIKE MANY  
5 OTHER BUSINESSES, THE CONTRACTOR HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY SEVERAL  
6 THINGS, PRIMARILY HIGH ABSENTEEISM, AS WELL AS DIFFICULTIES  
7 HIRING AND TRAINING NEW STAFF. THESE CHALLENGES ARE REFLECTED  
8 IN SOME OF THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES, WHICH I WILL SHOW ON THE  
9 NEXT SLIDE. PLEASE. THANK YOU. OKAY. SO AS YOU CAN SEE IN THIS  
10 FIRST CHART IMPACTS FROM COVID SHOW UP IN LONGER WAIT TIMES  
11 FOR CALLERS IN THE SUMMER AND IN THE FALL AS BRIDGE TRAFFIC  
12 INCREASES, AND AT THE SAME TIME UNFORTUNATELY ABSENTEEISM  
13 INCREASED. AVERAGE WAIT TIMES SHOT UP FROM 16 TO 20 MINUTES  
14 WITH SOME OF THE BUSIEST TIMES OF DAY REACHING 40 MINUTE WAIT  
15 TIMES. THE GOOD NEWS THOUGH IS THAT THROUGH INCREASES IN  
16 STAFFING LEVELS, ESPECIALLY THE ADDITION OF EXPERIENCED CALL  
17 CENTER STAFF COMING OFF OF ANOTHER TOLLING PROGRAM, THE CALL  
18 WAIT TIMES HAVE DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY TO ABOUT AVERAGE OF  
19 SEVEN AND A HALF MINUTE IN DECEMBER, AND SIX MINUTES IN  
20 JANUARY. SO WE STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO, BUT THE TREND IS  
21 DEFINITELY MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. I ALSO WANT TO NOTE  
22 THAT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTERS IS ALSO LOOKING AT WAYS TO  
23 REDUCE SOME OF THE CALL VOLUME WITH THINGS LIKE PROMOTING THE  
24 BENEFITS OF SIGNING UP FOR A FASTRAK ACCOUNT OR A LICENSE  
25 PLATE ACCOUNT AND WE HAVE CALLERS ON THE PHONE, AND ALSO



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1 EDUCATING CALLERS ON THE SELF-SERVICE FEATURES OF THE WEB  
2 SITE. SECOND CHART ON THIS SLIDE IT SHOWS INCOMING MAIL  
3 VOLUMES WHICH HAVE DOUBLED SINCE PRECOVID. THIS IS DUE TO  
4 REMOVAL OF THE CASH COLLECTORS AND NOW SENDING ALL OF THE  
5 CASHLESS NOTICES AND ALSO INVOICES. THE CONTRACTOR HAS BEEN  
6 ADDRESSING THIS SURGE IN MAIL VOLUMES BY ADDING MORE MAIL  
7 PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, AND A SECOND EVENING SHIFT SINCE SPACE  
8 IS LIMITED IN THE BUILDINGS DUE TO THE SOCIAL DISTANCING, AND  
9 THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE PROCESSING OF THE  
10 MAIL. THIS IS AN AREA THAT WE MONITOR VERY CLOSELY BECAUSE WE  
11 WANT TO BE SURE THAT PAYMENTS ARE PROCESSED IN A TIMELY  
12 MANNER. SO ALTHOUGH THIS TRANSITION TO ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING  
13 WAS UNEXPECTEDLY ACCELERATED, IT'S GENERALLY GONE VERY WELL,  
14 AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE SECOND MAJOR PHASE OF THE  
15 TRANSITION TO OPEN ROAD TOLLING. SO, AT THIS POINT, I WILL  
16 TURN IT OVER TO JEFF GERBRACHT WHO WILL GO MORE INTO MORE  
17 DETAIL ABOUT THE OPEN ROAD TOLLING.

18

19 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** THANK YOU LYNNE. AND GOOD MORNING  
20 COMMISSIONERS, JEFF GERBRACHT, BATA STAFF. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE.  
21 SO, AS LYNNE SAID NOW THAT AT IS IMPLEMENTED I'LL GIVE YOU AN  
22 UPDATE ON WHAT COULD BE NEXT FOR BATA OPEN ROAD TOLLING OR  
23 SIMPLY ORT I'M GOING TO USE THAT ACRONYM QUITE A LOT IN THE  
24 NEXT FEW MINUTES THIS PRESENTATION WAS DESIGNED TO EXPLAIN  
25 WHAT IS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ORT THE WORK THAT'S ALREADY



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1 UNDERWAY AND THE TOLL OPERATIONS CHANGES AT THE SEVEN TOLL  
2 BRIDGES. TO GO FROM AT TO ORT IS TOLLING INFRASTRUCTURE SO  
3 TOLL BRIDGES UNDERNEATH WOULD BE NO LONGER NEEDED INSTEAD  
4 OVERHEAD GANTRY SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU SEE REPRESENTED ON THE  
5 SLIDE DIAGRAM. ALL TOLL BOOTHS WOULD BE REMOVED AND FOR THE  
6 SEVEN ARE CANOPIES THEMSELVES ARE BUDGETED FOR DEMOLITION THE  
7 SECOND CHANGE WOULD BE TO PROCURE AN OPEN ROAD TOLLING SYSTEM  
8 WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT HIGH RESOLUTION CAMERAS WILL  
9 BE PURCHASED TO CAPTURE QUALITY IMAGES EVEN IN HIGHER SPEED  
10 AND LOWER LIGHT. ONE ADVERSE IS VEHICLE DETECTION WITH WIDE  
11 OPEN ORT LANES SMART LOOPS AND OVERHEAD LASERS WOULD BE  
12 NECESSARY TO DETECT VEHICLES COUNT AXLE AND TO CREATE  
13 TRANSACTIONS. AND ALL OF THIS DATA WOULD BE SENT TO THE  
14 ROADSIDE TOLL EQUIPMENT BUILDINGS AND THEN ON TO THE CSC. AND  
15 THE LAST POINT OF THE TOLL SYSTEM IS THE EXISTING SYSTEM IS  
16 REACHING END-OF-LIFE SO WE'RE UPGRADING OUR NINE-YEAR-OLD TOLL  
17 SYSTEM. HOW DO THESE IMPROVEMENTS CHANGE THE OPERATION OF EACH  
18 TOLLING POINT? ORT ALLOWS VEHICLES TO SPEED, TO SAFELY TRAVEL  
19 TOLLING POINTS AT FREEWAY SPEEDS AND SINCE FREEWAY TIMES ARE  
20 FASTER THAN SLOWING FOR TOLLING BOOTHS, TRAVEL TIMES WOULD BE  
21 REDUCED. PRECOVID TRAFFIC STUDIES HAVE ESTIMATED BETWEEN 3 TO  
22 7 MINUTES TIME SAVINGS. OF COURSE THIS VARIES BY PLAZA AND  
23 ALSO VARIES BY TIME OF DAY. BECAUSE ORT HAS HIGHER THROUGHPUT  
24 OF TRAFFIC LESS TRAVEL LANES WILL BE NEEDED. AND ALSO,  
25 REMOVING PLAZAS AND OPENING THE ROADWAY EXPANDS THE



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1 FLEXIBILITY TO MANAGE CONGESTION. THE ORT PROGRAM TEAM IS  
2 COORDINATING WITH THE RICHMOND AND DUMBARTON TEAMS. LASTLY ORT  
3 MAY ENABLE FUTURE PROJECTS LIKE SMART METERING LIGHTS OR  
4 BIDIRECTIONAL TOLLING. NEVERTHELESS ORT DOESN'T SOLVE ALL  
5 TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AT THE TOLLING POINTS, FOR INSTANCE, THE BAY  
6 BRIDGE WITH ACTIVE METERING LIGHTS THERE WILL STILL BE PERIODS  
7 OF THE DAY WITH TRAFFIC BACKUPS AND AT RICHMOND WE STILL HAVE  
8 CAPACITY ISSUES WITH ONLY TWO LANES ON THE BRIDGE. THE EFFECTS  
9 OF DOWNSTREAM IMPACTS OF ORT WOULD ALSO BE ANALYZED AT ALL  
10 PLAZAS. AND LASTLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT OF ORT  
11 FIRST MENTIONED BY ANDY PREMIER AT THE NOVEMBER 2018 OVERSIGHT  
12 MEETING IS SAFETY. TOLL PLAZAS ARE PHYSICAL BARRIERS TO  
13 TRAFFIC THEY CAN IMPAIR SIGHT DISTANCES; THEY ARE ROADWAY  
14 OBSTACLES. WE DO SEE HIGHER SPEEDS TO THE TOLL PLAZAS UNDER  
15 AET, SIMILAR TO WHAT GOLDEN GATE HAS EXPERIENCED SINCE THEY  
16 CONVERTED TO AET BACK IN 2013. REMOVING THE TOLL BOOTHS IS THE  
17 NUMBER ONE SAFETY CONSIDERATION AND WE ARE CERTAINLY AWARE  
18 THAT BOOTH REMOVAL IS AN IDEA WHICH HAS BEEN CHAMPIONED BY  
19 COMMISSIONER SPERING FOR SOMETIME. ANOTHER SAFETY BENEFIT OF  
20 ORT IS IT ELIMINATING SLOWING DOWN STOPPING WAVING AND MERGING  
21 THAT TYPICALLY OCCURS AS DRIVERS WHO ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH HOW  
22 TO PAY APPROACH A TOLL PLAZA. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. SO LISTED ON  
23 THIS SLIDE ARE FIVE NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN  
24 2020. BATA FIRST BEGAN THINKING OF CONVERTING TOLL PLAZA TO  
25 ORT BACK IN 2013 AND WITH THE PROGRESS THIS YEAR WE CLOSER



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1 THAN EVER TO MAKING ORT A REALITY. AS YOU LIKELY COULD SUSPECT  
2 THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IS THE BAY BRIDGE AND THE CURRENT PLAZA  
3 CONFIGURATION IS SHOWN ON THE IMAGE TO THE RIGHT /DRIVERS  
4 APPROACH THE PLAZA FROM ONE OF THE DOZEN TRAVEL LANES AND THE  
5 PLAZA FANS OUT INTO 19 OPERATING LANES BEFORE REDUCING TO 16  
6 LANES AT THE METERING LIGHTS AND DOWN TO FIVE ON THE BRIDGE.  
7 AS PART OF THE ORT TOLL SYSTEM RFP WE DRAFTED CONCEPT PLANS  
8 WHICH WERE DEVELOPED FOR EACH TOLL PLAZA TO DETERMINE THE BEST  
9 SITE FOR A NEW GANTRY, THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF TRAVEL LANES  
10 ALL WHILE ADHERING TO CALTRANS DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS. WE JUST  
11 MARK THE IMAGE IN YOUR BRAIN FOR A MOMENT AND THEN WE'LL GO TO  
12 THE NEXT SLIDE. THANK YOU. SO WE TURNED THE CONCEPT PLANS THAT  
13 WERE DEVELOPED FOR THE BAY BRIDGE INTO THIS VISUALIZATION TO  
14 GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT OPEN ROAD TOLLING AT THE BAY BRIDGE  
15 COULD LOOK LIKE. NOW PLEASE NOTE THIS VISUALIZATION IS AN  
16 EARLY MOCK-UP AND FINAL DESIGN DRAWINGS ARE YEARS AWAY TO BE  
17 PROVIDED BY A CONSULTING FIRM WE HAVEN'T HIRED YET. SECOND  
18 NOTE IS THAT CHANGES REPRESENTED ARE NOT ACTUALLY INCLUDED IN  
19 THE CURRENT BUDGET BUT WE WANT TO SHOW THEM TO YOU ANYWAYS.  
20 FIRST, THE RECLAMATION OF FORMER ROADWAY INTO THE ATTRACTIVE  
21 LANDSCAPING AS SHOWN ADJACENT TO THE ROADWAY ON THE NORTH AND  
22 SOUTH IS NOT INCLUDED WITHIN THIS PHASE OF THE PROGRAM. AND  
23 SECONDLY, WE DID DEMOLISH THE CANOPY FOR THIS VISUALIZATION  
24 THAT IS SHOWN WHERE THE BANK OF ARROWS IS ADJACENT TO THE TOLL  
25 OPERATIONS BUILDING THAT IS ALSO NOT INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET.



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1 SO THE FIRST THING I NOTICED WHEN I SEE THIS IMAGE IS SAFETY.  
2 WIDE OPEN ROADWAYS, GREAT SIGHT LINES, NO OBSTACLES. SECOND IS  
3 20th INDUSTRY TOLLING AGENCIES AROUND THE COUNTRY HAVE ALREADY  
4 CONVERTED TO THIS TYPE OF FACILITY AND AGENCIES THAT HAVEN'T  
5 ARE CONSIDERING WHETHER THEY SHOULD. LAST ON THE SLIDE IS  
6 INSET OF PROPOSED GANTRY LOCATION THIS WALKABLE GANTRY  
7 LOCATION WAS CHOSEN TO MAXIMIZE ACCURACY OF OPEN ROAD TOLLING  
8 FOR POSITIONING OF METERING LIGHTS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. WE GET  
9 A CLOSER LOOK OF THE GANTRY AND FROM THIS PROPER WOULD BE WHAT  
10 THE DRIVERS SEE AS THEY PAY THEIR TOLL THERE IS NO OBSTACLES  
11 NO INDECISION BY INFREQUENT DRIVERS OR TOURISTS CAUSING THEM  
12 TO WEAVE OR STOP. TRAFFIC EQUIPMENT IS ACCESSED FROM OVERHEAD  
13 GANTRY NO LOAN CLOSER TECHNICIANS EXPOSED TO TRAFFIC AND  
14 UNLESS THERE IS AN INCIDENT ON THE BRIDGE VEHICLES WOULD  
15 ALWAYS BE MOVING UNDER THE GANTRY AT THIS POINT AND OUTSIDE OF  
16 PEAK PERIODS VEHICLES WOULD LIKELY BE TRAVELING AT FREEWAY  
17 SPEEDS. NOW A LOT OF TECHNICAL THINKS HAS GONE INTO WHAT YOU  
18 HAVE SEEN AND THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLY MORE IN THE COMING  
19 YEARS BUT THIS IMAGE GIVES YOU AN IDEA OF HOW ORT CAN  
20 MODERNIZE TOLL COLLECTION WHILE ENHANCING THE SAFETY OF BRIDGE  
21 USERS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. LISTED ON THIS MAP ARE THE TARGETED  
22 DATES WE COULD COMPLETE ORT IF A FUNDING PLAN IS APPROVED. THE  
23 HIGH LEVEL MILESTONE WE WOULD NEED TO HIT OVER THE NEXT COUPLE  
24 OF YEARS INCLUDING IN 2021 AND 2021 ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL  
25 CIVIL DESIGN AND TOLL SYSTEM PROCUREMENT DESIGN, 2023 AND 2024





February 10, 2021

1 CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION ALONG WITH THE TOLL SYSTEM  
2 INSTALLATION WOULD OCCUR THOSE SAME YEARS '23 AND '24 BRIDGES  
3 GOING LIVE AND 2024 LAST BRIDGE IS BAY BRIDGE IN 2026 AND  
4 WE'RE LOOKING TO CURRENTLY BRING THAT SCHEDULE IN. NEXT SLIDE  
5 PLEASE. FUNDING NECESSARY TO MAKE ORT HAPPEN BREAKS DOWN INTO  
6 THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES CASHLESS IS NEARING COMPLETION AND  
7 YOU SEE THE SPLIT BETWEEN THE DESIGN COST AND THE CIVIL  
8 CONSTRUCTION COST. THIS PROGRAM IS NOT FULLY FUNDED BY  
9 DISCUSSING HOW TO FUND ORT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION AT THE  
10 UPCOMING MARCH 5TH BATA RECOVERY AD-HOC WORKING GROUP MEETING.  
11 AND TO WRAP UP I WANT TO CONCLUDE BY SUMMARIZING WHY ORT IS  
12 SIGNIFICANT FIRST AND FOREMOST SAFETY REMOVING OBSTACLES FROM  
13 THE ROADWAY MAKES DRIVING SAFER. REDUCED TRAVEL TIMES AT MOST  
14 BRIDGES AS TRAFFIC VOLUMES RETURN TO PRECOVID LEVELS WE DO  
15 EXPECT THE TIME SAVINGS TO EVEN INCREASE. THE TOLL COLLECTION  
16 SYSTEM WILL BE MODERNIZED, IMPROVES BATA'S ABILITY TO COLLECT  
17 TOLLS, JUST AS THE EXISTING TOLL SYSTEM IS REACHING ITS END OF  
18 LIFE. THERE WILL BE SYNERGY WITH THE FORWARD PROJECTS AND THE  
19 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT RELIEF THAT COMES WITH THEM AND LASTLY  
20 REMINDER MOVING FORWARD WITH THIS WORK IS PREDICATED ON THE  
21 APPROVAL OF [INDISCERNIBLE] AND THAT CONCLUDES MY  
22 PRESENTATION. AND I WOULD BE TAKE ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE.  
23  
24 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU JEFF. IT'S SO HELPFUL TO SEE THE  
25 GRAPHIC REPRESENTATIONS, AND I ALSO JUST WANT TO THANK STAFF



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1 WHO HAS WORKED SO HARD ON THIS AND ALSO CALTRANS WHO HAVE BEEN  
2 WORKING SO HARD WITH OUR BATA TEAM TO BRING FORWARD THESE  
3 CHANGES AND THESE IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY  
4 CONTEMPLATED FOR TAKING FIVE PLUS YEARS TO DO AND YOU HAVE  
5 PIVOTED AND MOVED SO QUICKLY TO DO THIS. THAT'S ONE OF THE  
6 REASONS OF THE FINANCE SIDE OF IT HAS NOT KEPT UP WITH THE  
7 DESIGN AND THE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, BECAUSE THIS IS MUCH  
8 FASTER THAN WE HAVE BEEN CONTEMPLATING IN THE LAST NUMBER OF  
9 YEARS. SO, I REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU SO MUCH, AND FIRST OF  
10 ALL, START WITH QUESTIONS. COMMISSIONER PAPAN.

11

12 **GINA PAPAN:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AMAZING PROPOSAL, AND FASTER  
13 IS SOMETIMES GOOD. I HAD A COUPLE OF QUICK QUESTIONS HERE. SO  
14 WE WOULD STILL HAVE MEETING LIGHTS? IS THAT CORRECT?

15

16 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** ABSOLUTELY.

17

18 **GINA PAPAN:** OKAY. AND SECONDLY, HOW DO YOU DETERMINE  
19 CARPOOLING OR SPECIAL PRICING? WOULD WE STILL HAVE THAT? HOW  
20 WOULD THAT WORK?

21

22 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** WE WOULD STILL HAVE CARPOOLING. I THINK THE  
23 PRICING IS STILL AN OPEN QUESTION. I DON'T -- I THINK THAT  
24 IT'S ALREADY BAKED INTO OUR TOLL SCHEDULE THAT WE WOULD HAVE  
25 THE INCREASE IN '22 AND '25, THAT'S IN THE SAME TIME FRAME AS



February 10, 2021

1 THE ORT SCHEDULE SO THE CARPOOLING WOULD BE THE SAME AS WHAT'S  
2 ALREADY BEEN VOTED UPON.

3

4 **GINA PAPAN:** OKAY. AND MY VERY FINAL QUESTION HERE, DO YOU HAVE  
5 TO WORRY ABOUT BIRDS, WHEN YOU SET THIS UP? IS THERE.

6 [LAUGHTER] -- THEY ALWAYS SEEM TO BE A PROBLEM. I DON'T NEED  
7 AN ANSWER BUT MAYBE THAT'S A FUTURE PROBLEM YOU HAVE TO THINK  
8 ABOUT.

9

10 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** ONLY PELICANS.

11

12 **GINA PAPAN:** THAT ALWAYS COMES INTO PLAY. THANKS.

13

14 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** OKAY. COMMISSIONER DUTRA-VERNACI?

15

16 **CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI:** YES, THANK YOU CHAIR. SO MY QUESTION IS,  
17 ON THE TIMELINE. THE -- A COUPLE OF SLIDES BACK WHEN IT WAS  
18 TALK BY THE TIME CONVERSION SCHEDULE, IS PART OF THAT BECAUSE  
19 WE'RE STILL TRYING TO FIND FUNDING FOR THIS? OR, I'M JUST  
20 WONDERING, BECAUSE I THINK THAT IT'S GREAT THAT WE'RE ALREADY  
21 MOVING FAST BECAUSE OF OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THEN WHEN I LOOK  
22 AT THE BALANCE OF IT, I WAS CURIOUS AS TO WHY THAT TIMELINE IS  
23 WHAT IT IS.

24



February 10, 2021

1 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** SO WHEN WE STARTED THE ORT PROGRAM, AND  
2 BROUGHT ON A PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMPANY, WE HAVEN'T SLOWED DOWN  
3 OUR WORK ON ORT, THE ONLY SLOW DOWN WOULD OCCUR IF WE DON'T  
4 GET AN APPROVED FUNDING PLAN COMING UP IN THIS NEXT FUNDING  
5 CYCLE. AND SO THE TIMING OF THE ACTUAL GO-LIVES, IN 2023, AND  
6 2024, ARE JUST A FUNCTION OF HOW LONG IT TAKES TO DO THE  
7 ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS, AND THE CIVIL DESIGN AND WORKING WITH  
8 CALTRANS TO GET EVERYTHING SQUARED AWAY, AND THEN TO ACTUALLY  
9 BUILD WHAT WAS DESIGNED.

10

11 **CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI:** EXCELLENT. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

12

13 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** OKAY. GREAT. THANK YOU. COMMISSIONER  
14 JOSEFOWITZ?

15

16 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** THANK YOU, YEAH, I'M ALSO REALLY EXCITED  
17 ABOUT OPEN ROAD TOLLING. AND I'M EXCITED THAT WE KIND OF --  
18 THAT STAFF HAS PUT TOGETHER A PLAN. I WANT TO BE COMPLETELY  
19 PREDICTABLE HERE, BECAUSE I ALWAYS TALK ABOUT THE SAME THING  
20 WHENEVER WE TALK ABOUT THIS. AND THE FIRST THING IS OCCUPANCY  
21 DETECTION. YOU KNOW, HOW ARE WE GOING TO TELL, YOU KNOW, A KEY  
22 PART OF ALL OF OUR FORWARD PROJECTS, AND HOW WE MANAGE OUR  
23 HIGHWAYS ACROSS THIS REGION, IS AROUND ENCOURAGING CARPOOLING  
24 OF VARIOUS CAPACITIES. THE ONE PILOT PROJECT THAT WE HAVE, TO  
25 HAVE ANY DEGREE OF KIND OF CERTAINTY OF HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE IN



February 10, 2021

1 A VEHICLE IS ON THE BAY BRIDGE, IS MY UNDERSTANDING, WITH  
2 CAMERAS THAT KIND OF ARE PLACED IN A TOLL BOOTH OR CLOSE TO  
3 IT, LOOKING IN A CAR. I WOULD REALLY LIKE THAT NOT JUST TO BE  
4 AN ADD-ON OF OCCUPANCY DETECTION THAT WE STICK ON AT THE END  
5 BUT SOMETHING THAT IS BAKED INTO THE VERY KIND OF CORE OF THIS  
6 PROGRAM.

7

8 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** RIGHT. AND SO THE NEW TOLL SYSTEM RFP THAT WE  
9 HAVE, DOES NOT INCLUDE VEHICLE OCCUPANCY DETECTION, BUT IT  
10 DOES ALLOW FOR IT TO BE INCLUDED AT A FUTURE DATE. SO IF THIS  
11 COMMITTEE DECIDES THAT IT'S IMPORTANT, AND THE PROTOTYPE  
12 THAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BAY BRIDGE IS SUCCESSFUL, WE CAN  
13 ABSOLUTELY INCLUDE IT INTO THE, AS AN ADD ON TO THE EXISTING  
14 TOLL SYSTEM, THAT IS NOT A PROBLEM. AND THE SECOND THING IS,  
15 WE HAVE INCLUDED, TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS SPACE IN THE  
16 OVERHEAD GANTRY FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANCY DETECTION EQUIPMENT,  
17 THAT IS SOMETHING THAT IS IN OUR NOTES, AND WE'RE GOING TO  
18 MAKE SURE THAT WHEN THAT IS DESIGNED, THAT ABSOLUTELY DOES  
19 HAPPEN.

20

21 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** YOU KNOW, I THINK IT NEEDS TO BE BAKED  
22 IN EVEN EARLIER THAN THAT. BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, THERE IS GOING  
23 TO BE ABSOLUTELY NO ENFORCEMENT OF VEHICLE OCCUPANCY ON OUR  
24 BRIDGES. YOU KNOW, YOU CAN'T HAVE COPS SITTING ON THE SIDE --  
25 CHP SITTING ON THE SIDE OF A BRIDGE LOOKING INTO PEOPLE'S CARS



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1 WHICH IS AN ABSURD THING TO ASK THEM TO DO IN MANY SITUATIONS  
2 JUST NOT GOING TO HAPPEN ON THE BAY BRIDGE I DON'T SEE WHY  
3 ANYBODY WOULD HAVE VEHICLE OCCUPANCY RULES WHEN THEY CAN GET A  
4 DISCOUNT AND CUT TO THE HEAD OF THE LINE. SO, YOU KNOW, I  
5 WOULD REALLY KIND OF LIKE TO HAVE STAFF COME BACK WITH BETTER  
6 OPTIONS THAN THE ONES BEING PROPOSED. I HOPE -- THE SECOND  
7 THING THAT I WANTED TO BRING UP IS, I THINK, I WOULD REALLY  
8 LIKE TO UNDERSTAND, BETTER, HOW THE FREEING UP OF ROADWAY  
9 SPACE, IN -- ON THE PLAZAS, CAN BE -- CAN REALLY BENEFIT HIGH-  
10 OCCUPANCY VEHICLES AND BUSES, ESPECIALLY. I DON'T HAVE, LIKE -  
11 - I'M NOT THE TRAFFIC ENGINEER, I DON'T KIND OF HAVE THAT SORT  
12 OF ON MY FINGER TIPS, BUT IT WOULD CERTAINLY SEEM IF THERE WAS  
13 SOMETHING WE COULD REALLY BENEFIT, AND I SAW IN YOUR  
14 RENDERING, THOSE KIND OF -- THERE SEEMS TO BE AN EXISTING  
15 AMOUNT OF HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE BUS LANES-TYPE THINGS ON  
16 EITHER SIDE, BUT I THINK IT DESERVES A LOT MORE STUDY. BECAUSE  
17 THIS IS A ONCE IN A GENERATIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO KIND OF  
18 RETHINK HOW VEHICLES AND BUSES GET ON THE BRIDGE. IS THAT PART  
19 OF, KIND OF THE -- WHAT -- HOW IS THAT GOING TO BE ADDRESSED,  
20 SPECIFICALLY?

21

22 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** WELL IT COMES DOWN TO WHAT THIS COMMITTEE  
23 WANTS, AND SO WHEN THAT PROCESS STARTS, WE WILL WORK WITH  
24 STAKEHOLDERS TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER COMES FROM BAY BRIDGE



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1 FORWARD OR ANY OTHER PROGRAMS IS IN THE FINAL DESIGN AND IS  
2 BUILT THE WAY THAT THIS COMMITTEE DESIRES.

3

4 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** OKAY. THE COMMITTEE DOESN'T HAVE A  
5 PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENS TO LANE, 1, 7, OR  
6 12, BUT AT LEAST THIS COMMITTEE MEMBER WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT  
7 PRIORITIZED IN A WAY WHERE WE HAVE IT COME BACK TO US.

8

9 **ANDREW FREMIER:** COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ, THIS IS DEPUTY  
10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS ANNE DEGREE F WE'RE LOOKING  
11 AT ALTERNATIVE DESIGN ASSESSMENT FOR THE ENTIRE I80 CORRIDOR  
12 INCLUDING THE BRIDGE IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. THAT WORK IS UNDERWAY  
13 NOW AND WILL DEFINITELY INFLUENCE THE GEOMETRIC ALIGNMENT JEFF  
14 IS TALKING ABOUT.

15

16 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** WE DON'T HAVE OPEN ROAD TOLLING ON  
17 BRIDGES SO I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT OTHER BRIDGES AREN'T BEING  
18 LEFT BEHIND DUE TO LACK OF BEING FORWARDED.

19

20 **ANDREW FREMIER:** WE CERTAINLY RECOGNIZE THAT AND I THINK THE  
21 CONCEPT OF METERING LIGHTS WILL CONTINUE TO POP-UP ON SOME OF  
22 THESE BRIDGES THEY CURRENTLY EXIST PHYSICALLY ON THREE OF THEM  
23 WITH ONLY OPERATIONAL ON THE BAY BRIDGE BUT WE DO HAVE TO  
24 STILL METER TRAFFIC AS JEFF MENTIONED, MANY OF THE BRIDGES,



February 10, 2021

1 YOU KNOW, THE CAPACITY THAT'S INCREASED BY FREEING UP THE  
2 MOVEMENT CREATES ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS FOR US OPERATIONALLY.

3

4 **COM. NICK JOSEFOWITZ:** YEAH. AND THEN THE LAST THING IS, YOU  
5 KNOW, SOMETHING I BANG ON ABOUT EVERY SINGLE TIME WHEN WE  
6 BRING THIS ISSUE TO THE -- WHICH IS, FINES AND FEES FOR LOW  
7 INCOME DRIVERS. AND, YOU KNOW, I NOTICED THAT WE'RE -- WE'RE  
8 STARTING TO ISSUE FINES AGAIN, AND, YOU KNOW, WHEN WE SPOKE  
9 ABOUT THIS, ANDY, YOU MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE -- WHAT WAS  
10 IT? 3 MILLION UNPAID FINES, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT OR 300 -- I  
11 CAN'T REMEMBER THE EXACT NUMBER. AND THIS IS A MAJOR ISSUE FOR  
12 LOW INCOME DRIVERS WHERE, YOU KNOW, A LOT OF THEM ARE KIND OF,  
13 YOU KNOW, WRACKING UP DEBT, TO BATA AND THEY'RE NEVER GOING TO  
14 BE ABLE TO PAY IT BACK AND THEY'RE THEN GOING TO PUT THEIR  
15 DRIVER'S LICENSE ON HOLD AND STILL GOING TO NEED TO DRIVE TO  
16 GET TO WORK AND THEY'RE GOING TO GET PULLED OVER BY A COP AND  
17 HAVE MORE FINES ADDED TO THEM AND THEY'RE STILL NOT GOING TO  
18 ABLE TO PAY IT. AND I THINK WE NEED TO BE REALLY AGGRESSIVE  
19 ABOUT BEING AN AGENCY THAT IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THAT CYCLE  
20 WHERE WE ARE FINING PEOPLE AMOUNTS THAT THEY HAVE NO ABILITY  
21 TO PAY, AND SORT OF JUST SENDING THEM INTO THIS KIND OF  
22 DOWNWARD CYCLE. AND I HAVE BROUGHT UP THIS, LIKE, TEN TIMES,  
23 AND I'M GOING TO KEEP BRINGING IT UP AND KEEP WORKING ON IT  
24 UNTIL WE CAN FIND A SOLUTION HERE.

25





February 10, 2021

1 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** SO I KNOW STAFF IS WORKING ON THAT. ANDY,  
2 WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROVIDE COMMENT TOO? THANK YOU.

3

4 **ANDREW FREMIER:** THANK YOU CHAIR WORTH AND COMMISSIONER  
5 JOSEFOWITZ, YEAH, WE DO ANTICIPATE OVER THE SPRING AND INTO  
6 THE SUMMER BRINGING FORWARD SOME IDEAS THAT, HOPEFULLY, THAT  
7 REALLY ADDRESS THE ITEMS THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. WE HAVE  
8 CERTAINLY HEARD EVERY TIME IT'S COME UP AND WE ARE CONTINUING  
9 TO WORK ON THE KINDS OF OPTIONS THAT WOULD SUPPORT PROGRAMS  
10 LIKE YOU DESCRIBED. SO I DO LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING SOME OF  
11 THOSE ITEMS FORWARD AS WE MOVE INTO THIS CALENDAR YEAR.

12

13 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** GREAT. THANK YOU. THANK YOU NICK. MOVING NOW  
14 TO VICE CHAIR PEDROZA?

15

16 **ALFREDO PEDROZA:** THANK YOU, CHAIR WORTH. AND I SHARE THE  
17 ENTHUSIASM ABOUT THIS ITEM. TWO QUESTIONS FOR JEFF. I  
18 APPRECIATE THE COST OF THIS TRANSITION, HAVE WE IDENTIFIED  
19 WHAT THE COST SAVINGS WOULD BE? IN TERMS OF THE BENEFITS OF  
20 GOING TO OPEN -- WHETHER ELECTRIC, AND THEN OPEN ROAD TOLLING.

21

22 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** WE DID BACK FOR THE NOVEMBER 2018 PRESENTATION  
23 ANDY GAVE, AND WE THOUGHT THERE MAY BE SOME COST SAVINGS BUT  
24 IT WAS SO CLOSE WE JUST CALLED IT A WASH THIS IS ON OPERATING  
25 SO WE DON'T EXPECT THERE TO BE A SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS.



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1

2 **ALFREDO PEDROZA:** OKAY. AND THEN ON THE OTHER PART, SO, I  
3 APPRECIATE THAT STAFF SHARED THAT 75 PERCENT OF USERS ARE ON  
4 FASTRAK AND THERE IS A LOT OF BENEFITS TO US, AS WE TRANSITION  
5 TO OPEN ROAD TOLLING WHAT INITIATIVES CAN WE TAKE? THE MORE  
6 USERS ON FASTRAK THAT BENEFITS THE SYSTEM. HAVE WE GIVEN  
7 THOUGHTS ABOUT WHAT INCENTIVES CAN WE EMBRACE TO HAVE A MORE  
8 BAY AREA THAT'S EMBRACING TRAFFIC? BECAUSE THE LOGISTICS OF  
9 HAVING TO SEND THE INVOICE AND SO FORTH THAT'S HOW WE  
10 ACCUMULATE FEES, TO NICK'S POINT, IF THERE'S A WAY TO NOT HAVE  
11 THAT I THINK IT'S WITH A COMMUNITY EMBRACED FASTRAK. HAVE WE  
12 GIVEN THAT THOUGHT?

13

14 **LYNN VALDIVIA:** WE ARE LOOKING AT OUR CURRENT FASTRAK POLICIES  
15 TO SEE WHERE WE COULD REMOVE SOME POTENTIAL BARRIERS THAT  
16 MIGHT BE OUT THERE, FOR EXAMPLE, TAG DEPOSITS ARE CURRENTLY  
17 \$20, OR A MINIMUM BALANCE TO PREFUND YOUR ACCOUNT, WHEN YOU  
18 OPEN AN ACCOUNT IS \$20, IF YOU TIE IT TO A CREDIT CARD, BUT  
19 IT'S \$50 IF YOU WANT TO FUND IT MANUALLY BY SENDING IN A CHECK  
20 OR WHATEVER. SO WE'RE LOOKING AT THINGS LIKE THAT THAT WE CAN  
21 MAKE QUICK CHANGES ON THAT CAN MAKE IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO  
22 BECOME FASTRAK CUSTOMERS AND KEEP THEIR ACCOUNTS IN GOOD  
23 STANDING AND ALSO LOOKING AT MORE BOLD IDEAS. FINES AND FEES,  
24 THAT NICK MENTIONED, AND, YOU KNOW, WE'RE REALLY TAKING A  
25 BROAD LOOK AT WHAT WE DO, WHAT OUR POLICIES ARE THESE DAYS,



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1 AND THEN BRINGING FORTH RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHAT WE COULD  
2 CHANGE. BECAUSE WE DO WANT TO GET MORE PEOPLE INTO SOME SORT  
3 OF ACCOUNT. WE DON'T WANT TO BE CHASING THEM. THAT IS WHERE IT  
4 BECOMES EXPENSIVE AND WHERE THERE IS THE MOST OPPORTUNITY TO  
5 NOT BE ABLE TO COLLECT A TOLL. SO THAT IS SOMETHING THAT WE'LL  
6 BE BRINGING FORWARD IN THE SPRING AS WELL.

7

8 **ALFREDO PEDROZA:** THANK YOU. NO. I APPRECIATE THAT, LYNNE, AND  
9 AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE US TO BE VERY INTENTIONAL. BUT IT IS AN  
10 OPPORTUNITY. WE KNOW THE IMPACT IT IS CREATES ON THE BACK END  
11 FOR US. BUT MAYBE AS WE'RE TALKING TO FOLKS WHEN THEY'RE  
12 PAYING OR WE'RE CALLING THEM ABOUT FEES, I THINK WE ADDRESSED  
13 IT, THAT'S A TIME TO ALSO ENGAGE WITH THOSE USERS BUT WHETHER  
14 IT'S A FOCUS GROUP FOR THOSE USERS WHO WE KNOW ARE NOT USING  
15 IT, IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST IT'S A WIN FOR US, THEM, AND A  
16 WIN FOR THE SYSTEM. I THINK THIS IS A GREAT TRANSITION, BUT  
17 LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS TIME, AS WELL, TO TRY TO  
18 TRANSITION MORE FOLKS TO FASTRAK. AND AGAIN, IDENTIFY THE  
19 BARRIERS THAT WE KNOW EXIST, BUT ALSO THERE MIGHT BE OTHERS  
20 THAT WE'RE NOT AWARE OF AND I WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE OF CREATING  
21 MORE INCENTIVES TO EMBRACE FASTRAK MORE.

22

23 **ANDREW FREMIER:** COMMISSIONER PED THERE IS A POWERFUL TOOL YOU  
24 HAVE BUT IT'S COMPLICATED AROUND LEGAL ISSUES AND DIFFERENTLY  
25 PRICING, AND WORK WORRYING ON IT THROUGH LITIGATION BUT YOU



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1 HAVE RECENT AUTHORITY THAT WAS GIVEN TO YOU, IS TO DO FASTRAK  
2 CLIPPER AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOOLS THAT COST DIFFERENTIAL DOES  
3 MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN TERMS OF PEOPLE'S DECISIONS WE CERTAINLY  
4 WANT TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THAT WHEN APPROPRIATE AND BRING  
5 THAT TO A POTENTIAL SOLUTION AS WELL.

6

7 **ALFREDO PEDROZA:** I APPRECIATE THAT ANDY THERE IS COST TO OUR  
8 OPERATIONS HAVING TO SEND THE INVOICE AND FOLLOW UP AND SO  
9 FORTH SO LOOKING AT THE TOTALITY WOULD BE BENEFICIAL FOR US.  
10 THANKS LYNNE, THANKS JEFF.

11

12 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. CHAIR HAGGERTY? SCOTT, YOU'RE ON  
13 MUTE.

14

15 **SCOTT HAGGERTY:** OKAY. THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR, I APPRECIATE THE  
16 OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. FIRST OF ALL, JEFF, WOULD YOU DO ME A  
17 FAVOR AND GO BACK TO THE SLIDE THAT SHOWED THE OVERHEAD GANTRY  
18 AND WHILE YOU'RE DOING THAT, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY I SHARE THE  
19 CONCERNS OF COMMISSIONER JOSEFOWITZ, IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE  
20 ENFORCEMENT AND HOW WE DO THAT MOVING FORWARD. AND I KNOW THAT  
21 NICK AND I HAVE BEEN KIND OF SINGING THE SAME CHORUS FOR ABOUT  
22 A YEAR NOW, MAYBE LONGER, BUT I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT  
23 WE DO IT RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING. AS WE GET TO THE SLIDE --  
24 THAT'S NOT THE ONE I'M LOOKING FOR -- I'M LOOKING FOR ONE THAT  
25 COMES LATER. THAT ONE. WE HAVE SPENT SO MUCH MONEY TRYING TO



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1 MAKE THIS A WORLD-CLASS BRIDGE WITH THE PALM TREES, THE BRIDGE  
2 ITSELF, AND I REALLY HOPE THIS IS NOT THE DESIGN OF A GANTRY  
3 THAT WE'RE GOING TO PUT UP THERE. AND I REALIZE, IN THE GRAND  
4 SCOPE OF THINGS, THAT THIS IS A VERY SMALL ITEM, BUT, YOU  
5 KNOW, WHEN WE DO PROJECTS IN THE COUNTY AND THE CITIES DO  
6 PROJECTS, THERE'S A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE THAT GOES TO PUBLIC  
7 ART, AND I REALLY BELIEVE THERE NEEDS TO BE SOMETHING  
8 INCORPORATED INTO THIS GANTRY TO MAKE IT VERY PLEASING TO THE  
9 EYE AS PEOPLE ARE COMMUTING INTO ONE OF THE GREATEST CITIES IN  
10 THE UNITED STATES. THIS JUST DOESN'T WORK FOR ME. I THINK WE  
11 SHOULD SET-ASIDE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PUBLIC ART, WHETHER IT'S  
12 A RAINBOW, WHETHER IT'S SOMETHING THAT SAYS WELCOME TO SAN  
13 FRANCISCO BAY AREA, SOMETHING. BUT, WE REALLY HAVE TO DO  
14 BETTER HERE.

15

16 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** AND COMMISSIONER -- CHAIR, EXCUSE ME, WE DO  
17 SHARE YOUR CONCERN. WE PUT THIS VISUALIZATION TOGETHER SO YOU  
18 WOULD HAVE AN IDEA OF WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE. WE BELIEVE THAT  
19 AESTHETICS IS GOING TO BE A VERY IMPORTANT PART TO THE GANTRY  
20 DESIGN. WHAT YOU SEE HERE IS A LOW COST OPTION TO GET THIS  
21 INFORMATION IN FRONT OF YOU. THIS WAS DONE BY THE CONSULTANT  
22 THAT DAY THE BAY BRIDGE VISUALIZATIONS FROM TEN YEARS AGO SO  
23 WE WERE ABLE TO PUT THIS TOGETHER FAIRLY QUICKLY AND FAIRLY  
24 CHEAPLY. WHAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY LOOKING AT IS THE DESIGN OF THE  
25 GANTRY THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN ON THE YERBA BUENA ISLAND



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1 OFFRAMP. SO WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO HAVE A VERY LONG AND --  
2 AND WE HOPE -- COMPREHENSIVE PROCESS, TO DETERMINE NOT JUST  
3 THIS GANTRY, BUT ALL GANTRIES AT THE SEVEN PLAZA AS TO MAKE  
4 THEM LOOK AESTHETICALLY PLEASING, AND WE ACTUALLY LOOK FORWARD  
5 TO THAT PROCESS BECAUSE WE THINK THAT'S GOING TO BE PART OF  
6 THE FUN.

7

8 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** GREAT. THANK YOU. SCOTT, I'M SORRY SCOTT,  
9 YOU'RE MUTED AGAIN.

10

11 **SCOTT HAGGERTY:** YEAH. I SEEM TO BE HAVING A PROBLEM WITH THAT  
12 TODAY. I JUST WANT TO SAY THEY APPRECIATE THE ANSWER. AND  
13 DON'T LET MY CRITICISM OVERSHADOW THE GREAT WORK YOU'RE DOING.  
14 THAT'S SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED AND IT SOUND LIKE  
15 YOU WILL BE WORKING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION GOING FORWARD.

16

17 **JEFF GERBRACHT:** THANK YOU.

18

19 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** COMMISSIONER SPERING.

20

21 **JAMES P. SPERING:** GREAT WORK. REALLY EXCITING. TWO QUICK  
22 QUESTIONS, ONE IS, CAN YOU TELL US WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL  
23 FUNDING SOURCES? IS THERE CAPACITY IN RM3 TO HOW MUCH ADVANCE  
24 SOME OF THESE PROJECTS AND THE OTHER IS, ANDY, THE LOW INCOME  
25 USERS OF THE BRIDGE, CAN THAT BE DONE THROUGH A TOLL TAG? CAN



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1 THEY APPLY FOR A TOLL TAG AND YOU CAN MONITOR THEM MUCH CLOSER  
2 AND ASSIST THEM WITH PROBLEMS THAT JOSEFOWITZ JUST RAISED?

3

4 **ANDREW FREMIER:** COMMISSIONER SPERING LET ME TRY YOUR FIRST  
5 QUESTION FIRST. THE ANSWER IS YES RM3 IS COMPLETELY ELIGIBLE  
6 AND STATE FUNDS WOULD BE AVAILABLE AS WELL. SO I THINK WE HAVE  
7 AN OPEN FIELD FOR WHAT WE CAN PURSUE AS OPPORTUNITIES COME UP  
8 AND WE'LL CERTAINLY BRING BACK IDEAS THAT HELP US KEEP ON  
9 TRACK TO THE SCHEDULE THAT JEFF MENTIONED OR EVEN FASTER, IF  
10 POSSIBLE. IN TERMS OF THE LOW INCOME DRIVERS, JUST AS A  
11 REMINDER, WE HAVE PUT THE CLIPPER START PROGRAM ON, AND IT'S  
12 BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE. WE ARE NOW DUPLICATING THAT FOR THE BAIFA  
13 EXPRESS LANES AND WE HAVE PUT TOGETHER OUR FIRST EQUITY  
14 PROGRAM ASSOCIATED WITH A PRICE STRUCTURE, A BREAK FOR LOW  
15 INCOME. IT WOULD BE DONE THROUGH THE BACK OFFICE, SO  
16 TECHNICALLY YOUR QUESTIONS IS CORRECT. -- OR THE ANSWER IS  
17 YES. WE WOULD BE DOING IT THROUGH THE FASTRAK SYSTEM. WE ARE  
18 MINDFUL THOUGH OF TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL OF THESE ARE  
19 TRYING TO BE THE BEGINNINGS OF A MOBILITY ACCOUNT GET TIED  
20 TOGETHER WE DON'T WANT TO DO A BUNCH OF WALD GARDENS WHERE  
21 YOU'RE A CUSTOMER IN BAY WHEELS FASTRAK OR CLIPPER BUT THERE'S  
22 NO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THEM SO WE'RE CONSIDERING THAT AS WE  
23 START UP THESE PROGRAMS BUT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CONTRACT  
24 WOULD BENEFIT FROM SOME OF THESE SERVICES AND TRYING ON THE



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1 BAIFA EXPRESS LANES FIRST WOULD BE THE NEXT STEP BUT IT WOULD  
2 APPLY TO ANY OF OUR PROGRAMS IF YOU DESIRED.

3

4 **JAMES P. SPERING:** WE HAVE A REALLY GOOD EXAMPLE OF THIS  
5 TECHNOLOGY AT THE BENICIA BRIDGE AND AMY KNOWS THIS WHEN WE  
6 PUT THAT IN ON THE BENICIA BRIDGE IT SAVES SOLANO COUNTY  
7 RESIDENTS 15 MINUTES, SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT, SO THE  
8 TECHNOLOGY DOES WORK.

9

10 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** YEAH. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SPERING. THAT  
11 OCCURS TO ME WHEN HEARING THE PRESENTATION, OF THE PLEASURE OF  
12 GOING THROUGH THE OPEN TOLLING ON THE BENICIA BRIDGE, AND THE,  
13 YOU KNOW, TO VICE CHAIR PEDROZA'S QUESTION, ANOTHER ELEMENT OF  
14 COST SAVINGS IS NOT ONLY, YOU KNOW, OPERATIONAL, BUT REALLY --  
15 AND SAFETY, BUT ALSO THE TIME FOR OUR COMMUTERS, AND THE EASE  
16 OF TRAVEL. SO, ABSOLUTELY. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH. IF THERE ARE  
17 NO OTHER COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE, I WILL TURN TO THE  
18 PUBLIC. I SEE WE HAVE THREE PUBLIC SPEAKERS.

19

20 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YES, MADAM CHAIR, THERE ARE THREE MEMBERS  
21 OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HANDS RAISED, AND I HAVE RECEIVED NO  
22 WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THIS ITEM, BY THE WAY.

23

24 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

25





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1 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YOU'RE WELCOME. THE FIRST IS FRANCIS  
2 McELVY, PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF, AND WE ARE ON ITEM FIVE OF THE  
3 BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. I THINK FRANCIS  
4 WANTS TO SPEAK ON THE PROGRAMMING AND ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE SO  
5 WE MIGHT MOVE TO THE NEXT SPEAKER WHICH IS ALETA DUPREE.  
6 PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. ALETA DUPREE.

7

8 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU, CHAIR AMY WORTH, AND  
9 MEMBERS, ALETA DUPREE FOR THE RECORD. VERY GOOD PRESENTATION.  
10 I GOT TO READ IT OVER. AND HAVE LOTS TO SAY, LOTS TO THINK  
11 ABOUT. CERTAINLY, WE WANT TO LOOK AT OUR TIMELINES, AND OUR  
12 FUNDING. AND I THINK WE NEED TO GET OUR FUNDING SOONER RATHER  
13 THAN LATER, BECAUSE WHEN YOU DELAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, THEY  
14 END UP COSTING MORE MONEY. SO THE SOONER WE CAN REASONABLY DO  
15 THIS, THE LESS IT'S GOING TO COST US, AND I THINK WE SHOULD  
16 HAVE A BREAK DOWN AS TO EACH STEP IN THE PROCESS, BECAUSE I  
17 WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT WE CAN GET THE FIRST BRIDGE DONE BY  
18 THE END OF THE YEAR 2022. CERTAINLY, I THINK OUR GOAL SHOULD  
19 ALWAYS BE TO SIMPLY COLLECT THE TOLL MONEY. I DON'T WANT US TO  
20 BASE OUR BUDGETS ON FINES AND FEES. I WANT US TO BE ABLE TO  
21 WORK WITH PEOPLE AND BASICALLY SAY, LET'S GET THE TOLL MONEY  
22 AND MOVE ON. BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT WILL WORK OUT IN THE BEST,  
23 AND LET'S EDUCATE PEOPLE ON HOW THEY CAN PAY THEIR TOLL MONEY  
24 AND NOT GET CAUGHT UP IN THAT CYCLE. WE WANT TO MAKE IT EASIER  
25 FOR EVERYBODY. CERTAINLY, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE US GET TOWARD



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1 100 PERCENT FASTRAK, THERE IS A LOT OF WORK GOING ON IN THE  
2 EAST COAST WITH EV PASS SOME SYSTEMS ON THE EAST COAST HAVE 95  
3 PERCENT EZ PASS. LET'S GET FUNDING SOONER RATHER THAN LATER  
4 AND ACCELERATE THIS TIMELINE. THANK YOU.

5

6 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** NEXT SPEAKER IS ROLAND LEBRUN. PLEASE  
7 UNMUTE YOURSELF. ROLAND LEBRUN, ARE YOU THERE? WE CAN'T HEAR  
8 YOU, IF YOU'RE THERE, MR. LEBRUN, WE HAVE UNMUTED YOU ON THIS  
9 END. PLEASE UNMUTE YOURSELF. PERHAPS HE -- OH

10

11 **SPEAKER:** OKAY, I SEE IT NOW. CAN YOU HEAR ME?

12

13 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** YES. WE CAN HEAR YOU.

14

15 **SPEAKER:** OKAY. IT WAS AN ITEM ON MY SCREEN. [LAUGHTER] ALL  
16 RIGHT. SO GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS AND MADAM CHAIR, THANK  
17 YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY. I WAS WONDERING IF IT WOULD BE  
18 POSSIBLE FOR KIMBERLY TO BRING UP SLIDE TEN FOR CLOSING  
19 COMMENTS? WHICH, IN THE MEANTIME, WITH REGARDS TO  
20 INCENTIVIZING FASTRAK, THE OBVIOUS SOLUTION IS TO PROVIDE  
21 DISCOUNTS, FOR INSTANCE, YOU HAVE GOT THE ONLY WAY TO GET A  
22 DISCOUNT FOR HOV IS TO USE FASTRAK AND THE SAME THINGS WITH  
23 MEANS-BASED DISCOUNT, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES YOU HAVE IS TO  
24 PUT ADMINISTRATION SURCHARGE FOR PEOPLE WHO DO NOT USE  
25 FASTRAK. THE QUESTION I DO HAVE TO THE CHAIR IS WHETHER THERE



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1 WILL BE BIDIRECTIONAL TOLLING ON DUMBARTON ON DAY ONE. AND THE  
2 REASON I'M ASKING IS ESSENTIALLY TO PREVENT SOME PEOPLE FROM  
3 USING HIGHWAY 57 IN THE MORNING AND -- THANK YOU KIMBERLY --  
4 AND GOING BACK THROUGH DUMBARTON IN THE EVENING. AND MY  
5 CLOSING COMMENT IS THAT I WANT EVERYBODY TO REMEMBER, IF YOU  
6 LOOK AT THIS PICTURE, ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE, THIS IS A LANDING  
7 AREA HOLDING 21, THIS IS GOING TO CONNECT CAPITAL CORRIDOR AND  
8 WE NEED TO MAKE SURE NOBODY DOES ANYTHING SILLY OVER THERE.  
9 THANK YOU.

10

11 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** I SEE NO ADDITIONAL HANDS RAISED, MADAM  
12 CHAIR.

13

14 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. GREAT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AT  
15 THIS POINT, ANY CHANGES IN TOLLING OPERATIONS, I THINK IT'S  
16 IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER EVERYBODY THAT IF WE DID IMPLEMENT TWO-  
17 WAY TOLLING, WE WOULD TAKE THE TOLL AND SPLIT IT IN HALF  
18 UNLIKE NEW YORK WHERE THEY CHARGE YOU TWICE WHEN COMING AND  
19 GOING. JUST TO UNDERSTAND THAT. WELL, THANK YOU, WE'LL CLOSE  
20 THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND BRING IT BACK TO THE COMMITTEE  
21 FOR ANY FINAL COMMENTS. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO BEGIN BY THANKING  
22 OUR STAFF FOR THIS TREMENDOUS WORK. THIS IS, YOU KNOW, THIS IS  
23 A HUGE AMOUNT OF WORK, AND WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. YOU  
24 KNOW, THE DESIGN, THE ENGINEERING, THE POLICIES ARE, YOU KNOW,  
25 OBVIOUSLY WELL UNDERWAY, AND WILL BE COMING BACK TO THIS



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1 COMMITTEE. AND THE FINANCING IS CRITICAL. AND I THINK IT'S  
2 IMPORTANT THAT WE ALL RECOGNIZE THAT IN ORDER TO DO THESE,  
3 GIVEN THE DROP IN TOLLS FROM THIS LAST YEAR, AND THE  
4 ACCELERATION OF THESE IMPORTANT PROJECTS, AND I THINK ONE OF  
5 THE SPEAKERS SAID WE NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY BECAUSE COSTS WILL  
6 ONLY GO UP AND IT'S IN EVERYONE'S INTEREST TO MOVE FORWARD. SO  
7 THE BATA RECOVERY TASK FORCE IS GOING TO BE LOOKING AT  
8 FINANCING OPTIONS TO BRING TO THIS COMMITTEE. BUT I THINK THAT  
9 IT'S IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE, AS WE LOOK AT THESE  
10 INFRASTRUCTURE BILLS THAT COME INTO THE BAY AREA, WE START  
11 LOOKING AT PROJECTS TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT'S REALLY GOING TO BE  
12 IMPORTANT THAT WE PROVIDE THE FUNDING THAT WE COME UP IN THE  
13 REGION WITH THE FUNDING FOR THESE PROJECTS, BOTH THE OPEN ROAD  
14 TOLLING, WHICH WE HAVE FOCUSED ON TODAY, AND THE COSTS. BUT  
15 ALSO TO OUR NEXT POINT ABOUT INCREASING THE OPERATIONAL  
16 EFFICIENCIES OF TRANSIT AND HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLES ON THE  
17 BRIDGES. THAT'S GOING TO INVOLVE MONEY IN TERMS OF, YOU KNOW,  
18 RETROFITTING A LOT OF THOSE ENTRANCE WAYS TO GET BUSES AND  
19 CARPOOLS ON TO THE BRIDGE, AND ANDY TALKED ABOUT THE WORK THAT  
20 ASHLEY IS DOING AS AN EXAMPLE OF HIGHWAY 80. ONE OF THE  
21 BIGGEST TIME FRAMES FOR TRADITION COMING FROM EAST BAY VIA BAY  
22 BRIDGE IS NOT THE BRIDGE ITSELF IT'S THE ACCESS, IT'S THE  
23 HIGHWAYS, HIGHWAY 80, YOU KNOW, THOSE GAPS, AND THOSE TIME  
24 DELAYS. SO, YOU KNOW, I'M URGING EVERYONE TO KEEP IN MIND THIS  
25 FINANCING PIECE, THEY THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT COLLECTIVELY,



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1 WE, AS COMMISSIONERS CAN TAKE, YOU KNOW, THE RESPONSIBILITY TO  
2 SAY, OKAY, WE UNDERSTAND THESE BRIDGE ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT IN  
3 TERMS OF THE TOLLING, THE MAINTENANCE, AND THE OPERATIONAL  
4 IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE GOING TO COME AS A RESULT OF THIS. SO,  
5 FOREWARN, THE HAND IS OUT. THE HAND WILL BE OUT FOR FUNDING TO  
6 ACCOMPLISH THIS. SO IT WILL MAKE -- IT WILL INVOLVE MAKING  
7 TRADEOFF DECISIONS, AND SO IF I HAVE -- YOU KNOW, IF I SOUND  
8 LIKE A DISCIPLE OF BRIDGE FUNDING, IT'S TRUE. BUT I THINK  
9 WE'RE ALL IN THIS. THIS IS THE COMMITTEE WHERE WE ALL CARE  
10 DEEPLY ABOUT THE BRIDGES AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO THE REGION.  
11 SO, AND ALSO WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT LOOKING AT OTHER FUNDING  
12 SOURCES FROM, FOR EXAMPLE, ANY FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS THAT  
13 COME, INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING, AS WELL AS STATE, SB1 FUNDS, THE  
14 KINDS OF FUNDS WHERE WE CAN USE THESE -- THE TOLL REVENUE TO  
15 LEVERAGE, AS WE HAVE IN OUR COUNTIES TAKEN THE SALES TAX  
16 REVENUE AND LEVERAGING THAT FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. SO WITH  
17 THAT, COMMISSIONER PAPAN, YOU HAD A COMMENT. I SEE YOUR HAND  
18 WAS UP.

19

20 **GINA PAPAN:** YEAH, I JUST WANTED TO REITERATE, I BELIEVE WE  
21 HAVE CONSENSUS AS TO MOVING FORWARD, IF WE'RE PUTTING OUR  
22 HANDS OUT WITH THE OCCUPANCY DETERMINATION, IT MADE IT SEEM  
23 LIKE THAT, IF WE'RE GOING TO DO IT, DO IT RIGHT.

24

25 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** YEAH.



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1

2 **GINA PAPAN:** OKAY. JUST CHECKING ON THAT.

3

4 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** YEAH. I THINK SO, THE IDEA OF DOING  
5 ENGINEERING, TO BE ABLE TO PUT IN PLACE THE KINDS OF SYSTEMS  
6 WE NEEDS FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE SYSTEM. THANK YOU SO MUCH.  
7 MOVING ON TO ITEM --

8

9 **CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI:** AMY?

10

11 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** CAROLE, YES.

12

13 **CAROL DUTRA-VERNACI:** IN ANY CASE I WANT TO MENTION IN THIS  
14 PROJECT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ALL OF THE GREAT THINGS IT'S  
15 BRINGING FORTH WITH SAFETY AND WHAT HAVE YOU, BUT I WANT TO  
16 MENTION EVEN THOUGH IT'S ALREADY OUT THERE, BUT VERBALIZE WHAT  
17 WE'RE DOING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WITH THESE PROJECTS, BECAUSE  
18 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, WITHOUT HAVING TO SIT A LOT OF TIME  
19 IDLING AT TOLL BOOTHS IS JUST GOING TO BE SO TREMENDOUS. SO  
20 THIS IS GREAT ON SO MANY FRONTS. SO THANK YOU.

21

22 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** WELL, WE HAVE SEEN THAT, WE HAVE SEEN THAT,  
23 COMMISSIONER SPERING'S EXAMPLE OF OPEN ROAD TOLLING ON THE  
24 BENICIA BRIDGE IT'S STAGGERING. SO THANK YOU. GOOD POINT. OUR



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1 NEXT ITEM IS ITEM SIX PUBLIC COMMENT. IS THERE ANY PUBLIC  
2 COMMENT ON ANY OTHER ITEMS? ANY ITEM NOT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE?  
3

4 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** I HAVE RECEIVED NO WRITTEN COMMENT FOR  
5 THIS ITEM BUT I DO HAVE ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR  
6 HAND RAISED. ALETA DUPREE.

7

8 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** GREAT.

9

10 **CLERK OF THE BOARD:** IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO UNMUTE YOURSELF, MR.  
11 DUPREE.

12

13 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** WELCOME.

14

15 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU CHAIR AMY WORTH. I APPRECIATE THE WELCOME.  
16 IT WAS ALMOST FOUR YEARS AGO THEY BEGAN SPEAKING AT THESE  
17 MEETINGS AND ZOOM MAKES IT EASIER FOR ME TO STAY ENGAGED SO  
18 THANK YOU. I KNOW I HAVE GOT A HOME AT BATA. AND A LOT OF WHAT  
19 I SAY IS ANECDOTAL AS OPPOSED TO BE ACADEMIC. BECAUSE IT IS  
20 ABOUT EXPERIENCES. I READ THAT IN NEW YORK, THEY JUST REMOVED  
21 SIX HIGH VOLUME TOLL PLAZAS ON THE NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY  
22 INCLUDING EXIT 24 ALBANY WHICH IS MY HOMETOWN. I GOT MY FIRST  
23 DRIVER -- I GOT A DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME IN  
24 ALBANY AND WITHIN A WEEK, DROVE THE THRUWAY BY MYSELF. DRIVING  
25 ROADS IS NOT JUST NECESSARY BUT FUN. I REMEMBERING CROSSING



February 10, 2021

1 MANY BRIDGES INCLUDING GOLDEN GATE. THE WORK IS NOT JUST ABOUT  
2 BUSINESS AND MOVING PEOPLE, IT'S ABOUT EXPERIENCES THAT WE DO  
3 HAVE BRIDGES THAT ARE LEGENDARY AND HISTORIC, SUCH AS OUR BAY  
4 BRIDGE. AND SO THE WORK MUST CONTINUE OF BUILDING A MORE USER  
5 FRIENDLY SYSTEM. AND MONEY IS NOT EASY, BUT I BELIEVE IT WILL  
6 BE SOLVED. WE CAN LEARN A LOT FROM OTHER AGENCIES, SUCH AS  
7 FLORIDA'S AESTHETICS IN TOLL GANTRIES, BUT OTHER AGENCIES CAN  
8 LEARN FROM US AS WELL. THANK YOU.

9

10 **AMY WORTH, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR COMMENTS. I DON'T  
11 SEE ANY OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT. SO WITH THAT, WE WILL MOVE TO  
12 OUR NEXT ITEM WHICH IS THE ADJOURNMENT. WE WILL ADJOURN THIS  
13 COMMITTEE TO BE SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON WEDNESDAY  
14 MARCH 10TH AT 9:35 ON THE ZOOM. SO MEETING IS ADJOURNED AND  
15 THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AND I'LL TURN THE GAVEL OVER TO  
16 COMMISSIONER GLOVER. [ADJOURNED]

17





*Broadcasting Government*