METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Meeting Transcript

BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 9:35 A.M. APRIL 14, 2021

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. GOOD MORNING. THIS IS AMY WORTH, CHAIR, IT'S MY PLEASURE TO CALL TO ORDER THE BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND, ALSO, IT'S MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME MARGARET ABE-KOGA AS OUR NEW VICE CHAIR. SO, WELCOME. AND I WOULD NOW LIKE TO PROCEED AND REQUEST THAT WE HAVE THE PLAYING OF THE COVID RECORDING. DUE TO COVID-19 THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AS A ZOOM WEBINAR PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT. THIS MEETING IS BEING WEBCAST ON THE MTC WEB SITE. THE CHAIR WILL CALL UPON COMMISSIONERS, PRESENTERS, STAFF, AND OTHER SPEAKERS BY NAME AND ASK THAT THEY SPEAK CLEARLY AND STATE THEIR NAMES BEFORE GIVING COMMENTS OR REMARKS. PERSONS PARTICIPATING VIA WEBCAST AND ZOOM WITH THEIR CAMERAS ENABLED ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE VISIBLE TO VIEWERS. COMMISSIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING BY ZOOM WISHING TO SPEAK SHOULD USE THE RAISED HAND FEATURE, OR DIAL STAR NINE, AND THE CHAIR WILL CALL UPON THEM AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES WILL BE CALLED UPON BY THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THEIR PHONE NUMBER. IT IS REQUESTED THAT PUBLIC SPEAKERS STATE THEIR NAMES AND ORGANIZATION, BUT PROVIDING SUCH INFORMATION IS VOLUNTARY. WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

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RECEIVED AT INFO@BAYAREAMETRO.GOV BY 5:00 P.M. YESTERDAY WILL BE POSTED TO THE ONLINE AGENDA AND ENTERED INTO THE RECORD BUT WILL NOT BE READ OUT LOUD. IF AUTHORS OF THE WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK, THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO. A ROLL CALL VOTE WILL BE TAKEN FOR ALL ACTION ITEMS. PANELISTS AND ATTENDEES SHOULD NOTE THAT THE CHAT FEATURE IS NOT ACTIVE.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. OUR NEXT ITEM, AND MAY I TURN TO OUR COMMITTEE CLERK FOR OUR ROLL CALL AND TO CONFIRM A QUORUM, PLEASE?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: YES. ABE-KOGA?

MARGARET ABE-KOGA, V. CHAIR: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: CHAVEZ?

CINDY CHAVEZ: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: EL-TAWANSY?

DINA EL-TAWANSY: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: GLOVER?

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FEDERAL D. GLOVER: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: MILEY?

SUP. NATHAN MILEY: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: PAPAN?

GINA PAPAN: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: RABBIT?

DAVID RABBIT: HERE.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: RONEN? COMMISSIONER RONEN IS ABSENT. WORTH?

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: HERE.

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

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: KIMBERLY, THANK YOU SO MUCH. NOW I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN TOGETHER THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND I FIGURED OUT THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS IS IF EVERYBODY COULD MUTE THEIR SCREENS, WE CAN SAY IT

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INDIVIDUALLY, AND IT WILL BE COLLECTIVE ON THE ZOOM. WITH THAT, I WILL HOLD UP THE FLAG. PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE] "I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

CLERK OF THE BOARD: YOU MUTED YOURSELF.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: I MUTED AND UNMUTED. THANKS KIMBERLY. I'LL GET IT. WE HAVE THE COMPENSATION ANNOUNCEMENT, KIMBERLY COULD YOU PLEASE KINDLY READ THAT FOR US? AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE LAW I AM MAKING THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT. EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD HERE TODAY WILL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE $100 PER MEETING ATTENDED UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $500 PER MONTH PER AGENCY. THIS AMOUNT IS A PROVIDED AS A RESULT OF CONVENING A MEETING FOR WHICH EACH MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO COLLECT SUCH AMOUNT.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT ITEM FOUR THE CONSENT CALENDAR. FIRST I WANT TO ASK OUR CLERK IF WE HAVE RECEIVED ANY CORRESPONDENCE WITH REGARDS TO THE CONSENT CALENDAR PRIOR TO THE MEETING?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: NO. I HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING IN WRITING, AND I SEE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED.

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AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. LET ME TURN TO THE COMMISSION.

GINA PAPAN: PAPAN MOVES APPROVAL.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: LET ME JUMP TO THAT IS THERE ANY ITEM STAFF OR THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO REMOVE? SEEING NONE. COMMISSIONER PAPAN, NOW, PLEASE.

GINA PAPAN: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

CINDY CHAVEZ: SECOND.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: WHO WAS THAT?

CINDY CHAVEZ: CINDY CHAVEZ.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PAPAN AND SECONDED BY CINDY CHAVEZ. KIMBERLY MAY WE PLEASE HAVE ROLL CALL FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE].

CLERK OF THE BOARD: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

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AMY WORTH, CHAIR: ITEM FIVE BATA RESOLUTION 143 PROGRAM FOR PROJECTS FOR BATA'S FORMULA SHARE OF THE LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FOR CYCLE THREE. MAY I TURN TO STAFF, THESE, FOR THAT REPORT? ROSALYNN, I THINK YOU'RE MUTED. WE CAN'T HEAR YOU.

ROSALYNN CHONGCHAIKIT: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. ROSALYNN CHONGCHAIKIT WITH STAFF I'M GOING TO PRESENT THE PROGRAM PROJECT FORMULA SHARE FOR CYCLE THREE, LPP AWARDS AGENCIES WITH VOTER APPROVED TAXES FOR TOLLS DEDICATED SOLE TOW TRANSPORTATION CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ADOPTED GUIDELINES WHICH PROVIDES 50% OF ANNUAL AMOUNT TO A FORMULA PROGRAM AND DISTRIBUTED AMONG AGENCIES. ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FORMULA FUNDS DUE TO REGIONAL MEASURES 1, 2, AND 3. BATA HAS 18 MILLION IN CYCLE THREE LPP FORMULA FUNDS FOR PROGRAMMING. SO STAFF RECOMMENDS PROGRAMMING BE APPROXIMATELY 18 MILLION FROM CYCLE THREE TO THE SAN FRANCISCO OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE OPEN ROAD TOLLING CIVIL DESIGN. BAY BRIDGE FORWARD ALAMEDA 80 WESTBOUND BUS LANE CONSTRUCTION, BAY BRIDGE FORWARD ALAMEDA CONSTRUCTION BEING 680 SOUTHBOUND EXPRESS LANES AND STATE ROUTE BOULEVARD IN ALAMEDA COUNTY IDENTIFIED IN DISCUSSION AT THE BATA RECOVERY AD-HOC WORKING GROUP. IN SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT THIS COMMITTEE REFER BATA RESOLUTION 143 BATA PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR BATA'S FORMULA SHARE OF THE LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS TO THE AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL.

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AMY WORTH, CHAIR: GREAT. ROSALYNN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THAT EXCELLENT STAFF REPORT. AND GOOD NEWS. WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THESE PROJECTS FOR QUITE SOMETIME, AND GLAD THAT BATA GETS ITS SHARE OF FUNDING TOO. WE HAD OUR OWN STEALS TAX ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE BRIDGE IT'S GOOD TO KNOW WE GET OUR SHARE OF THE FORMULA FUNDS. FIRST, I'LL TURN TO THE COMMITTEE TO SEE IF WE HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? SEEING NO HANDS UP. KIMBERLY, DO WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THIS ITEM?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: WE DO HAVE ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, AND WE HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING IN WRITING FOR THIS ITEM.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: OKAY. GREAT.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: ALETA DUPREE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO UNMUTE YOURSELF? YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU CHAIR AMY WORTH AND MEMBERS. ALETA DUPREE FOR THE RECORD. ALWAYS GOOD TO BE BACK WITH YOU. THESE ARE ITEMS THAT ARE NEAR AND DEAR TO ME. BAY BRIDGE FORWARD IS VERY IMPORTANT. BECAUSE I HAVE OFTEN USED THE F BUS THAT'S F AS IN FRANK, FOR NYC TRANSIT TO GO BACK AND FORTH OVER THE BRIDGE.

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AND I MENTIONED TO YOU BEFORE MY CHALLENGE IS WITH NAVIGATION THROUGH THE TRAFFIC WAYS ESPECIALLY IN THE EARLY MORNING. SO BAY BRIDGE IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ME. AND THE 3 MILLION ODD DOLLARS THAT GOES FOR THE CIVIL DESIGN OF THE OPEN ROAD TOLLING PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE IS ESSENTIAL. SHOWS THAT WE'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO BE STARTING SOME WORK ON THIS. IT IS A COMPLEX PROJECT, A SIMILAR PROJECT WOULD BE THAT OF THE OPEN ROAD TOLLING WORK ON THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE, WHICH SPANS THE HUDSON RIVER BETWEEN NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY. I AM SURE MANY OF YOU HAVE PROBABLY BEEN OVER IT. AND IT'S A COMPLEX TWO-LEVEL PROJECT. SO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. I LOOK FORWARD TO THIS MONEY BEING DEPOSITED SO WE CAN SIGN SOME CONTRACTS AND GET TO WORK. IT SHOWS THAT BATA IS NOT JUST TALKING THE TALK, BUT WE'RE REALLY WALKING THE WALK. THANK YOU.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH ALETA. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. WELL SAID. APPRECIATE THAT, AND APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS, ALWAYS, AT OUR MEETINGS. AND SO WITH THAT, IS ANY ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: I SEE NO RAISED HANDS MADAM CHAIR.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: OKAY WITH THAT I WOULD LIKE TO BRING IT BACK TO THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION. ANY FURTHER

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COMMENTS, OR I WOULD BE HAPPY TO ENTERTAIN A MOTION FOR THIS ITEM. ^

FEDERAL GLOVER: MOVE APPROVAL.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: COMMISSIONER GLOVER MOVES APPROVAL. SECOND?

MARGARET ABE-KOGA, V. CHAIR: SECOND.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: ABE-KOGA SECOND. KIMBERLY, PLEASE CALL THE ROLL FOR THIS ITEM.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: [ROLL CALL VOTE].

CLERK OF THE BOARD: IT PASSES. THE MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU SO MUCH. AGAIN, I WANT TO REITERATE THE COMMENTS OF THE PUBLIC SPEAKER, HOW IMPORTANT THESE PROJECTS ARE, AND THESE BRIDGES. WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THESE. AND I ALSO WANT TO THANK -- I KNOW ALAMEDA COUNTY IS CONTRIBUTING FUND FOR SOME OF THESE PROJECTS, AND I THINK THESE ARE REALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUTERS, AND TO PROVIDING INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR, YOU KNOW, THE OUR RESIDENTS THAT ARE CROSSING THE BRIDGES. SO, AGAIN, I REALLY WANT TO COMMEND STAFF. I AM GRATEFUL THESE PROJECTS HAVE COME FORWARD AND THE

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COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED THESE INVESTMENTS. SO WITH THAT, WE'LL MOVE ON NOW TO PUBLIC COMMENT. AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE CLERK IF WE HAVE RECEIVED ANY WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT? OR IF WE HAVE ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT AT THIS TIME?

CLERK OF THE BOARD: WE HAVE RECEIVED NO WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THIS ITEM, AND I HAVE ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR HAND RAISED, ALETA DUPREE, PLEASE GO AHEAD AND UNMUTE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU CHAIR AMY WORTH AND MEMBERS. ALETA DUPREE FOR THE RECORD. I SPEAK GENERALLY HERE AND I APPRECIATE THE CONTINUING WORK OF THIS AGENCY AND THANK YOU FOR DOING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, IT MEANS A LOT TO ME. I PARTICIPATE AS WELL. A LOT HAS REALLY STARTED TO HAPPEN AROUND THE COUNTRY, AND I THINK MUCH OF IT HAS TO DO WITH THE IMPROVING WEATHER. I READ SOME INFORMATION THAT IN NEW YORK, THAT ABOUT 15 LOCATIONS ON THE NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY ARE IN VARYING STAGES OF TOLL BOOTH DECONSTRUCTION. SO MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE EXPERIENCING THE BENEFITS OF OPEN ROAD TOLLING AS THIS WORK CONTINUES. SO, ALL OF THESE PROJECTS, WHETHER IT BE THE OPEN ROAD TOLLING OR THE EXPRESS LANES AND BAY BRIDGE FORWARD AND THE PAINT AND RUST PREVENTION, ET CETERA, ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE I USE THESE BRIDGES ALL THE TIME WHEN I'M IN THE BAY

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AREA. AND THERE IS NOTHING I LIKE MORE THAN A SAFE BRIDGE. BECAUSE, REALLY, I REMEMBER THE DAYS OF THE MIANIS RIVER BRIDGE AND THE SCHOHARIE CREEK AND THE TRAGEDY OF MINNESOTA WHEN BRIDGES FELL AND THE EARTH TAKE TOOK OUT PART OF OUR OLD BAY BRIDGE. AND I WISH MORE WOULD COME AND ENGAGE WITH THE IMPORTANT WORK. I THINK LIFE WITHOUT THE BRIDGES WOULD BE VERY, VERY HARD AND THAT'S HOW IT WAS BEFORE THEY WERE BUILT. SO LET'S CONTINUE TO GET OUR MONEY AND TO DO OUR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS SO WE CAN ENJOY THESE BRIDGES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. THANK YOU.

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: ALETA THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COMMENTS. AND ARE THERE -- I SEE NO ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, KIMBERLY? DO YOU SEE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS?

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

AMY WORTH, CHAIR: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. SO MOVING ON TO ITEM SEVEN, THAT'S OUR ADJOURNMENT, AND NEXT MEETING OF THE BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY MAY 12TH, 2021, AT 9:35 OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 9:00 A.M. BUDGET STUDY SESSION REMOTELY AND BY WEBCAST. SO ANY CHANGES TO THAT SCHEDULE WILL BE DULY NOTICED

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THROUGH OUR PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THAT. AND OUR MEETING IS ADJOURNED. [ADJOURNED]

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