

**TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 11, 2018

TJPA Office
201 Mission Street, Suite 2100
San Francisco, CA

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bruce Agid, Chair
Derrick Holt, Vice Chair

Belal Aftab
Paul Bendix
Don Dickerson
Jackson Fahnestock

Robert Feinbaum
Helen Han
Amy Jalili
Charley Lavery
Gloria Li

Sean McGarry
Nathan Morales
Patty-Jo Rutland
Howard Wong

Executive Director
Mark Zabaneh

Staff Liaison
Skip Sowko

CAC Secretary
Julie Markus

1. Call to Order

Chair Agid called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Members Present: Chair Agid, Belal Aftab, Paul Bendix, Don Dickerson, Jackson Fahnestock, Robert Feinbaum, Vice Chair Holt, Charley Lavery, Gloria Li, Sean McGarry, Nathan Morales and Howard Wong

Members Absent: Helen Han, Amy Jalili, and Patty-Jo Rutland

A quorum was achieved.

2. Staff Report

Skip Sowko, Senior Design & Engineering Manager, presented the following report. The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) had their first reading of the resolution to adopt the Pennsylvania Alignment as the preliminary preferred rail alignment to mitigate train/traffic conflicts at two intersections on the southern approach to the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX), which passed on September 9, 2018. Mr. Sowko thanked the CAC for their support. He stated that a contract amendment to complete the 30% design for Parsons Transportation Group is going to the TJPA Board of Directors this Thursday, September 14, for approval. Chair Agid stated that he thought there was already approved funding for the 30% design of the DTX. Mr. Sowko explained that the TJPA will apply for more funding through Regional Measure 3 (RM3) and that the TJPA needs more than the \$9.7 million that was received from the SFCTA. Mr. Sowko also said that the TJPA is coordinating with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to receive the RM3 funding for the balance to complete the 30% design. Mr. Feinbaum asked if the design included access to Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) from the transit center. Mr. Sowko confirmed that a pedestrian tunnel under Beale Street, that will link BART to the transit center, is part of Phase 2 and included in the design.

Mr. Sowko concluded the staff report by showing an interactive video showcasing the future DTX. Chair Agid recommended that the video be displayed on the big screen to riders visiting the center. Several CAC members complimented the TJPA on the video.

Public Comment:

Tamsen Drew stated she has a redevelopment background and that the phrase “urban renewal” is associated with displacement and gentrification, which she feels is not what the transit center represents.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: July 10, 2018

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

4. Construction Closeout Update

Dennis Turchon, TJPA Senior Construction Manager, and Ron Alameida, San Francisco Public Works Director of Design & Construction for the transit center, presented the construction closeout update. Mr. Feinbaum asked when Amtrak is projected to come to the transit center. Ms. Velez, TJPA Facility Manager, stated that the TJPA is still in negotiations with Amtrak; however, they are still operating out of the Temporary Terminal. Mr. Feinbaum asked what the TJPA plans on doing about buses exiting the terminal onto Mission Street that are trying to get over to the bus lane during high peak traffic times. Mr. Turchon stated that San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) needs to address the signalization and timing so that it can hold traffic while buses are pulling out of the terminal. Chair Agid stated that even though this is an SFMTA issue, there is still the perception that the transit center may be contributing to traffic and safety issues. Mr. Sowko said there are plans to bring in the SFMTA to discuss current traffic signalization in the next several weeks and how it affects pedestrians and traffic in and around the transit center.

Public Comment:

Adrian Caratowson, East Cut Community Benefit District (CBD), stated that he lives nearby and expressed concern that there is no crosswalk where the transit center meets Fremont Street. Mr. Turchon stated that the TJPA will be placing pedestrian signage and railing in this area. There are no plans for implementing a sidewalk, but the area is planned to be controlled.

5. Facility Operations Update

Martha Velez, TJPA Facility Manager, with support from Sidonie Sansom, TJPA Chief Security Officer, presented the update. Randy Volenec, Senior Associate with Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, contributed to the update. Mr. Feinbaum asked why the restaurant does not have flooring yet. Ms. Velez stated that there is a base allowance the TJPA provides to all tenants for improvements. The TJPA set up tenant improvements this way so the TJPA can evaluate each individual space based upon tenant needs. Mr. Feinbaum asked which bay Golden Gate Transit will be using in the Bus Plaza. Ms. Velez stated that Muni operates the Bus Plaza and determines which bay is used for Golden Gate Transit. Executive Director Zabaneh stated that Muni tends to be very flexible with other lines and said that he will look into this and report back to the CAC. Ms. Li asked how programming on the park is being advertised. Ms. Velez stated that the TJPA marketing company, Spritz, is pushing out information on social media as well as on the Salesforce Transit Center website information regarding current events and activities. Ms. Li suggested that the information should be sent out to neighborhood organizations across the districts to get the word out on a broader scale. Chair Agid stated that transit center information should be widely publicized so people do not have to search for events that are occurring at the center. Mr. Feinbaum made a few suggestions regarding signage at the transit center. He suggested that the font size be increased on the big board in the Grand Hall as bus schedules are difficult to read. He also noticed that there was not directional signage on how to get to BART from the transit center. Mr. Lavery asked about dogs at the park. Ms. Sansom stated that only trained service animals are allowed and the TJPA plans to post signage which states that it is a misdemeanor to fraudulently misrepresent a non-service animal. Chair Agid mentioned that he hears a lot of complaints from residents about dogs in the park and suggested that the TJPA contact Yerba Buena Gardens to see how they manage dogs in the park. Mr. Morales stated that he had had some difficulty getting to his bus after 10pm and suggested that the TJPA make after hours signage stating which elevators to use when accessing the bus deck. He also suggested there be more seating needed up at the bus deck level. Ms. Sansom said that the TJPA has been closing the Grand Hall at 10pm and the Beale Street escalators are open for access to the bus deck. Chair Agid mentioned that the park rules are not clearly visible in the transit center. He also recommended that there be follow-up to the feedback regarding park rules and its progress. Mr. Morales asked about implementation of public Wi-Fi. Executive Director Zabaneh stated that the transit center has the current infrastructure in place for Wi-Fi capabilities and that the TJPA is waiting for AT&T to implement.

The CAC also had a few questions prepared ahead of time for Mr. Volenec. They inquired why some of the escalators are not properly working 100% of the time. Mr. Volenec stated that the escalators are still a work in progress and additional lighting and rails are being installed. In regard to the question about seating in the Grand Hall; Mr. Volenec said that pedestrian studies were previously done and the intent of the Grand Hall was to be functional

for riders coming and going. Mr. Feinbaum feels that the Grand Hall space could be warmed up with a little more greenery. Mr. Feinbaum suggested having Pearl Media come back to provide an update on the digital signage in the transit center. Ms. Velez said she would arrange for an update from Pearl Media.

6. Public Comment

Adrian Caratowson, East Cut CBD, suggested a farmers market near the Natoma Pedestrian way. Ms. Velez stated that implementation of the farmers market is in the works as they are just getting started and are currently selling dry goods.

7. CAC Member Comments & Future Agenda Requests

Future agenda requests include: 1) review of bus and traffic circulation in the area surrounding the transit center; 2) train doors and platform heights for the DTX 3) follow-up presentation by the City's Vision Zero Task Force; 4) presentation on updated plans for Phase 2 funding; and, 5) Update from Pearl Media on digital signage.

8. Adjourn

Chair Agid adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.

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