

## San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting No. 58  
October 11, 2024

This meeting of the SMCEL-JPA Board of Directors was held in person and by teleconference pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e). Members of the public was able to participate in the meeting remotely via the Zoom platform or in person.

**Board of Directors:** Rico E. Medina (Chair), Michael Salazar (Vice Chair), Alicia Aguirre, Carlos Romero, Julia Mates and Rich Hedges

### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Chair Rico E. Medina called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Roll call was taken.

AGENCY:	IN-PERSON:	ABSENT:	REMOTE AB 2449:	REMOTE Publicly Accessible Teleconference Location:
C/CAG		Alicia Aguirre*		
C/CAG	Michael Salazar			
C/CAG	Rich Hedges			
SMCTA		Carlos Romero*		
SMCTA		Julia Mates		
SMCTA	Rico E. Medina			

<b>Staff Present (In-Person):</b>	<b>Members of the Public (In-Person):</b>
Sean Charpentier, Executive Council – C/CAG	Lacy Vong
April Chan, Executive Council – TA	Eryca Dinsdale
Peter Skinner – TA	Giuliano Carlini
Mima Crume – Clerk of the Board	
Kaki Cheung – C/CAG	
Emily Beach – San Mateo County Transit District	<b>Members of the Public (Remote):</b>
	Mike Swire
<b>Staff Present (Remote):</b>	
Van Ocampo	

Three members were present at the physical location posted on the public agenda. One member (Board Member Romero) was teleconferencing from San Francisco from a teleconference location posted on the public agenda. Because a quorum (of four members) was not physically present in a singular physical location in the jurisdiction, AB 2449 remote member participation was disallowed for all members under Cal. Gov’t Code § 54953(f)(1), so the member requesting remote member participation (Board Member Aguirre) observed the meeting as a member of the public and was not counted toward quorum. Separately, because a quorum was not participating

from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the JPA exercises jurisdiction, the meeting failed to have a quorum for purposes of permitting the use of traditional teleconferencing under Cal. Gov't Code § 54953(b)(3), and the member participating via traditional teleconferencing (Board Member Romero) was also not counted toward a quorum. On advice of counsel, the members in attendance were limited to informational items and no action was proposed or taken.

## 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

*Note: Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker. Members of the public who wish to address the Board should complete a speaker's slip to make a public comment in person or raise their hand in Zoom to speak virtually.*

Public member Mr. Carlini requested access to data showing the impact of express lanes on overall congestion, stressing that this information is essential for public understanding.

Public member Mr. Swire echoed the call for congestion data. He emphasized that the express lanes were intended to benefit all drivers, not just those who can afford to use them.

Both speakers urged the board to make congestion data available to assess the project's success.

## 3.0 PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1 Approval of the minutes of Board of Directors regular business meeting No. 57 dated July 19, 2024. NO ACTION TAKEN
- 3.2 Accept the Sources and Uses of Funds for the FY2024 Period Ending June 30, 2024. NO ACTION TAKEN
- 3.3 Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending July 31, 2024. NO ACTION TAKEN
- 3.4 Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending August 31, 2024. NO ACTION TAKEN
- 3.5 Receive an update on the US 101 Express Lanes Variable Rate Bond. INFORMATION

## 4.0 REGULAR AGENDA

- 4.1 Receive presentation and provide feedback on the various organizational model options as part of the JPA organizational assessment project. INFORMATION

Deputy Director Kaki Cheung introduced the organizational assessment project, which aims to evaluate the best structure for managing express lanes operations.

This project is part of an ongoing commitment to ensure efficient and effective management of the Express Lanes program.

Consultant Eryca Dinsdale from WSP presented five organizational models for consideration. The models ranged from maintaining the current structure, which splits responsibilities between two agencies, to creating a new, dedicated agency specifically for express lane operations. Each model was assessed based on costs, efficiency, and alignment with local values.

A cost analysis revealed that establishing a dedicated agency would be significantly more expensive than other options. Adding a program manager, however, was identified as a middle-ground solution. This role could enhance coordination and reduce redundancies within the existing framework without incurring high costs.

The presentation concluded with a recommendation to consider adding a program manager. This approach would streamline operations while preserving the strengths of the current structure. Board members acknowledged the findings and noted the need for further discussion on the organizational options.

- 4.2 Review and discuss potential alternative Board meeting schedule.

NO ACTION TAKEN

Executive Director Sean Charpentier suggested revising the board meeting schedule based on Board member feedback. He proposed moving meetings to the first Friday of each month, with the option to reduce frequency to a bimonthly schedule. This change could provide fewer but more focused sessions.

The Board showed interest in considering and the bimonthly meeting schedules on the first Friday of the month, and it was agreed that the topic would be discussed further at the next board meeting.

## 5.0 REPORTS

- a) Chairperson Report.

None.

- b) Member Communication.

None.

- c) Executive Council Report - Executive Council Verbal Report.

None.

- d) Policy/Program Manager Report.

Lacy Vong, the Policy/Program Manager, provided updates on current policy

initiatives and program developments for the Express Lanes project.

6.0 **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

7.0 **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

November 8, 2024

8.0 **ADJOURNMENT** – 9:59 am