

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

Meeting No. 41
October 14, 2022

In compliance with Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, and pursuant to the Shelter-in-Place Order issued by the San Mateo County Health Officer, this meeting was conducted via remote conferencing.

Board of Directors: Rico E. Medina (Chair), Alicia Aguirre (Vice Chair), Diane Papan, Don Horsley, Emily Beach and Maryann Moise Derwin

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Chair Rico E. Medina called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken.

Members Present:

C/CAG Members: Maryann Moise Derwin, Diane Papan, Alicia Aguirre

SMCTA Members: Don Horsley, Emily Beach, Rico E. Medina

Members Absent:

None.

Staff Present:

Sean Charpentier – Executive Council

Mima Crume – Clerk

Tim Fox – Legal Counsel

Van Ocampo, Kaki Cheung – C/CAG staff supporting SMCEL-JPA

April Chan, Connie Mobley-Ritter, Grace Martinez – SMCTA staff supporting SMCEL-JPA

Matt Click, Lacy Vong, Christa Cassidy, Monique Fuhrman – HNTB

Other members of staff and the public were in attendance.

2.0 BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING PROCEDURES

Clerk Crume provided an overview of the teleconference meeting procedures.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Note: Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker.

4.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

This item is to set the final consent and regular agenda, and to approve the items listed on the consent agenda. All items on the consent agenda are approved by one action. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless members of the Board, staff or public request specific items to be removed for separate action.

- 4.1 Approval of the minutes of Board of Directors regular business meeting No. 40 dated September 16, 2022. APPROVED
- 4.2 Review and approval of Resolution SCMEL 22-25 finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. APPROVED
- 4.3 Accept the Sources and Uses of Funds for the FY22 Period Ending June 30, 2022. APPROVED
- 4.4 Accept the Sources and Uses of Funds for the FY23 Period Ending August 31, 2022. APPROVED

Director Beach MOVED to approve items 4.1 through 4.4 of the consent agenda. Director Aguirre SECONDED. Roll call was taken. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0-0**

5.0 REGULAR AGENDA

- 5.1 Receive update on the US 101 Express Lanes operations. INFORMATION

The Board received an update on the US 101 Express Lanes operation. The express lanes continue to operate at a good level of service, as do the general-purpose lanes. The express lanes are still in a ramp-up phase and performing well.

Board of Director Papan had a follow-up question on equity and asked if the JPA has been able to expand our equity program registration to the south.

Mr. Click said there has been more enrollments in the southern part of the County, although the number of participants are still higher in the northern part of county. The Program Managers are still working on a marketing plan to specifically focus on the south county.

Public Member Drew commented on a follow up from last month. He inquired about whether there are any further breakdown on image-based transactions between FasTrak account holders and those that do not have a FasTrak account. Drew also asked if there is a maximum cost for driving in the express lanes. He was traveling southbound in the evening and noticed the sign said \$7 and wanted to know if it was a glitch in the system.

Mr. Click responded that the toll system is doing what it's supposed to do. There is an algorithm that increases and decreases the pricing. The goal is to maintain a

45 mile an hour traffic speed in the express lanes. The Program Manager reports on the average toll amount. Staff did not have a breakdown for violations between those with and without transponders. Staff will work with some peer agency and get back to him next month.

6.0 REPORTS

a) Chairperson Report.

Chair Medina has saved his report towards the executive council report.

b) Member Communication.

None.

c) Executive Council Report - Executive Council Verbal Report.

Sean Charpentier gave the Board an update on the construction schedule. Currently the most recent schedule shows that by the middle of November, the JPA will be able to open both the northbound and southbound lanes to HOV three usage. The signs are fabricated, and they will be installed on the overhead signs next week, therefore, motorists can expect to see truction activity in the lane. Once the signs are installed, crews will go back in and remove the temporary barriers. The testing of the toll equipment is continuing. Our current estimate for commencement of polling is next year. All schedule estimates are weather dependent, and we will start having a regular item on the agenda to report on lane opening schedule. There has been a great deal of interest in opening the lane early. In response to that, an FAQ's have been updated with current schedule information. The Q&A is available at smcexpresslanes.org.

In addition, the governor signed AB 2994 from Phil Ting into law. This new legislation requires toll bridges and express lanes in the state of California to have a payment plan related to equity. The deadline for creating such is program is July 1, 2023 for toll bridges. The deadline for Express Lanes to implement a plan is July 1, 2024. We are in conversation with both the Bay Area Toll Authority and the other express lane operators to work in a uniform fashion and have consistent implementation of this legislation. Right now, staff is targeting that change for the earlier deadline to be consistent with the bridges. Staff will be talking to the board over the next couple months about this change.

Chair Medina added that any emails that have been received are being replied to. There was one he personally replied to at about 10:20 p.m. to the person with the concerns. We are available, we are answering, and we are updating. He wanted to assure that the Board and the Community of that. In addition, the Chair congratulated April Chan, who has been announced as the General Manager/CEO of the San Mateo County Transit District. April will begin her new role in capacity and start her new chapter on November 1st.

April Chan thanked Chair Medina and the Board of Directors. She would like the

Board to know that they are going to be working on a ribbon cutting event as the JPA opens up the entire US 101 corridor. More details to come as we continue to report back to the board on the progress.

d) Policy/Program Manager Report.

None.

7.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

8.0 NEXT REGULAR MEETING

November 18, 2022

9.0 ADJOURNMENT – 9:20 a.m.