

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

*(July 26, 2007)*

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority met in regular session at the Port of San Francisco, Bayside Conference Room, Pier 1 on the Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA.

**1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Board of Directors began at 12:35 p.m. Directors present were President Johnson, Directors Fang, Intintoli, Mancinelli, Secchitano and Withington.

**2. REPORT OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

President Johnson reported on the recent keel laying ceremony in Seattle attended by herself, Authority staff, South San Francisco City Councilman Pedro Gonzalez and Washington State Senator Patty Murray.

**3. REPORT OF DIRECTORS**

No Directors had a report to make.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 6 and 7)**

Director Withington moved to approve the item. Director Mancinelli seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

**5 AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE PROCUREMENT DOCUMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO TERMINAL (Item 8)**

Mr. John Sindzinski, Planning and Design Manager, reviewed this item, noting that the item is a follow up to last month's meeting wherein the Board requested further gangway and float design information. It was noted that lease negotiations with the San Mateo Harbor District were on hold until the terminal project 35% cost estimate.

Director Intintoli asked about the project moving forward if there is no lease in place with the San Mateo Harbor District. Mr. Castleberry answered that staff expects the lease to be negotiated at essentially the same terms that were discussed with the Harbor District six months ago.

Director Fang asked what plans are if an agreement is not reached with the San Mateo Harbor District. Mr. Castleberry answered that changes in the lease terms would likely impact the project budget and that would have to be revisited.

Director Withington made a motion to approve the item contingent upon reaching an agreement with the San Mateo Harbor District for the Oyster Point Terminal design on substantially the same terms as the prior temporary agreement. Director Mancinelli seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

Mr. Sindzinski then gave a PowerPoint Presentation on gangway and float designs.

---

---

Director Secchitano asked if there will be sufficient coverage and ventilation included in the design. Mr. Sindzinski answered that there will be sufficient coverage. He added that passengers will not be inside long enough to become uncomfortable with the interior temperature. He noted that some options are a “green design”, which includes adding a glass canopy with solar panels, and transoms for ventilation.

Discussion then ensued as to whether the gangway should be enclosed with glass walls estimated to cost an additional \$335,000. Director Mancinelli commented that he would prefer to not glaze the structure. There was a general consensus among the Directors not to add glazing to the structure.

Director Secchitano asked if the hand rails could be elevated and about passenger discomfort due to high winds. Mr. Sindzinski said the hand rails cannot be raised due to ADA regulations but the covered panels below the handrails can be if desired. Ms. Culnane added that the prevailing winds are parallel rather than cross, so discomfort is unlikely due to high winds.

## **6 REPORTS OF STAFF**

CEO Steve Castleberry reviewed the CEO report highlighting the following issues:

- South San Francisco – The Authority has not received any other proposals to operate this service except from AC Transit.
- Richmond – There is general stakeholder support of our proposed terminal site which will be included in the City’s Land Use Plan.
- Hercules – The City is looking at moving the proposed terminal site.
- Spare Vessels – A keel laying ceremony took place in Seattle attended by staff, Directors, South San Francisco Council Member Pedro Gonzalez, and Washington State Senator Patty Murray.
- National issues - APTA Nationwide Ferry Committee meeting was attended by staff on July 11 and the ferry members plan a presentation before APTA in October.
- Federal Legislative Report – Both houses have included appropriations for the WTA in their draft transportation allocations for the next year.
- State Legislative Report – The budget has not been approved, although staff is optimistic there will be an allocation of Infrastructure Bond funds in the budget once it is approved.

Director Intintoli asked about testimony given at the Golden Gate Bridge District’s recent hearing on emissions. Mr. Castleberry reported briefly on the hearing and that no decision was made by the Bridge District on emissions standards.

Director Withington asked the status of the Ag Building study. Mr. Castleberry answered that staff has recently received a draft report from the consultant and will bring its findings and a cost analysis back to the Board at a future meeting.

## **7 PROPOSED NEW TRANSIT ORIENTED DESIGN STANDARDS FOR FERRY TERMINALS (Item 9)**

Mr. James Corless, MTC Senior Planner, gave a PowerPoint Presentation on this item and noted that the MTC standards for ferry terminals are being revised. Currently MTC requires that 750 housing units be built or planned to be built within a half mile of a ferry terminal before MTC can allocate discretionary funding for a terminal project. Mr. Corless went on to say that the staff

---

---

is proposing to increase this threshold to a minimum of 2,500 housing units with a half mile of a ferry terminal.

Director Secchitano asked if the Authority's proposed terminal sites are generally supported by the developers in those areas. Mr. Corless answered that they are supported.

Director Withington asked if there is funding available for the Authority from MTC to develop Transit oriented Plans for ferry terminal sites. Mr. Corless answered that there is \$4.6 million allocated by RM2 to be shared by the WTA and other local development projects to help develop just such plans.

Director Intintoli asked if 2500 units are not produced in an area, does that area not get considered. Mr. Corless answered that this issue will be presented to the MTC in September for action.

Director Mancinelli asked how MTC's plan correlates with the Authority's ridership model. Mr. Corless said that it is somewhat difficult to predict transit ridership from varying levels of residential development near a transit station such as a ferry terminal. However, in general the current thinking is that transit ridership increases when there are greater densities near to transit facilities Mr. Castleberry added that ridership projections vary depending on the location of proposed terminal sites and that the general trend is supportive of the argument that ridership increases when density increases.

#### **8 STATUS UPDATE ON REDWOOD CITY FERRY TERMINAL**

Mr. Michael Giari, Executive Director, Redwood City Port, gave a PowerPoint Presentation on this item.

Director Mancinelli mentioned that the Authority's 2002 Program EIR shows three sites studied and a beginning date for service of 2011. He asked if the same issues in the EIR are at issue today. Mr. Castleberry said that a Redwood City Discussion Group held meetings to determine the site with the least impact on wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. Mr. Giari added that the only new dredging mitigation issue is the discovery of native oysters growing in the area.

Director Withington asked what the non-commute travel time is between San Francisco and Redwood City and how much time will be added on the ferry route since speed must be reduced going into the channel. Mr. Giari answered that driving time is 45 minutes to 1 hour depending on traffic. He added that it is two miles from the start of the channel to the marina, which adds travel time due to reduced vessel speeds. Mr. Michael Fajans, Consultant, added that his analysis shows a travel time of 8-9 minutes going 1.5 miles, then the remaining ½ mile at 5-6 minutes.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jerry Grace asked when the Redwood City route will be implemented and what type of ferry would be used on the route. Mr. Giari answered ferry service is 3 – 3 ½ years out and that a similar type of vessel to the one Vallejo Baylink now uses would like be used on the route.

#### **9 MARKETING PLAN FOR SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND FERRY SERVICE**

---

---

Ms. Shirley Douglas, Manager of Community Relations, gave a brief review of the proposed Marketing Plan for the next year, highlighting some of the activities planned by staff during the Phase I of the Marketing Plan - Building Awareness. Activities include determining target audiences, and increasing awareness and support for South San Francisco ferry service.

Director Withington asked if the Authority plans to market public transit access. Ms. Douglas answered that stakeholder meetings with operators like SamTrans and the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance are being held to coordinate activities that will optimize public awareness of public transit access from the ferry.

President Johnson asked about the timing for marketing the SSF service and the potential to build demand too early. Ms. Douglas answered that concentrated efforts specifically focused on building demand and riders for SSF service will begin during the Phase II of the Marketing Plan – Building Demand. This phase begins three months prior to the beginning of service in SSF.

Director Secchitano thanked Ms. Douglas for her work on the Marketing Plan.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jerry Grace asked when service to South San Francisco is scheduled to begin, what type of boat will be used and if the Authority is required to inform MTC of its plans for new service. Ms. Douglas answered that service is scheduled to begin in 2008. Ms. Mary Culnane, Manager of Marine Engineering, added that a catamaran similar to those currently in use on other lines will be used, and Mr. Sindzinski said that MTC is aware of the Authority's plans for service in South San Francisco.

**10 SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO OPERATIONS PLANNING**

President Johnson directed staff to bring this item back for review at the next meeting.

**11 OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Jerry Grace commented that there was no notice posted at Pier 9 (the WTA offices) that this public meeting would be held elsewhere. He added that he very much enjoyed the Golden Gate Ferry rides he has taken.

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Castleberry mentioned the Lunch Bunch promotional ferry ride events and, thereafter, all business having concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Shelver,  
Board Secretary

---