

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

March 31, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT (Via Teleconference): M. Adler, S. Appenrodt (left at 6:32, rejoined at 6:49 pm), J. Baker (Chair), A. Barnes, B. Gomez, A. Juarez, S. Johnston (Vice Chair), N. Lacsamana, A. Madrid

MEMBERS ABSENT: I. Chan

STAFF PRESENT: A. Rivas, D. Harbour, J. Brook

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair John Baker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

CAC Secretary Jean Brook called the roll. A quorum was present.

Steve Appenrodt left the meeting at 6:32 pm.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Brett Garrett spoke endorsing the use of autonomous vehicles on the Dumbarton rail corridor.
- Michelle Lewis commented via email requesting that Route 292 continue going to and from San Francisco.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Motion/Second: Lacsamana/Adler

Ayes: Adler, Baker, Barnes, Gomez, Juarez, Johnston, Lacsamana, Madrid

Noes: None

Absent: Appenrodt, Chan

5. PRESENTATION: BUS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATOR TRAINING

David Harbour, Director, Bus Maintenance, provided the presentation.

Steve Appenrodt rejoined the meeting at 6:49 pm.

Bob Gomez suggested that the bicycle racks on the buses be lubricated so that they are easier to operate. Mr. Harbour said he would spot check some of the bicycle racks. Mr. Gomez said that the operators are not illuminating the inside signs showing the destination.

Alex Madrid asked what happens if a bus breaks down or has an accident while operating. Mr. Harbour said the bus may be driven back to the yard if minor. Otherwise, transportation dispatch sends out a maintenance person out to the bus or tow it back to the yard. He said that another operator may be dispatched.

Mary Adler asked what the term "cutaway" referred to. Mr. Harbour said it refers to Redi-Wheels vehicles that are converted Ford vans.

Vice Chair Scott Johnston asked if the electric buses affected route planning due to range limits. Mr. Harbour said that battery capacity has greatly improved over the last few years.

Chair Baker said that he agreed with Mr. Gomez that the telescoping action of the bike racks was difficult to operate. He asked about how much extra training is required for mechanics as the District transitions to using hybrid and battery-powered vehicles. Mr. Harbour noted that there are additional hazards involved with the high voltage used in battery electric buses, which will require additional personal protective equipment. He also said there will be new tooling and diagnostic software and equipment.

Chair Baker asked if the operator barriers would be in place following the pandemic. Mr. Harbour said the barriers would be removed post-COVID. David Olmeda, Chief Operating Officer/Bus, noted that the barriers were designed to be user-friendly.

6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

There was no report.

7. SAMTRANS STAFF UPDATE

Ana Rivas, Director of Bus Transportation, presented her report on the February 2021 bus statistics.

Chair Baker asked Ms. Rivas to pass on the CAC's best wishes to Jim Hartnett

Nancy Lacsamana said that it was commendable that drivers were able to be taken to receive their COVID vaccines while at work.

Chair Baker asked if riders needed to show proof of a vaccine appointment in order to receive a free bus ride. Ms. Rivas said that the operator requests proof of a vaccine appointment for the first injection and a vaccine card for the second appointment.

8. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

Ms. Adler and Mr. Madrid said they had both attended the first meeting of the Measure W Citizens Oversight Committee on March 15.

Ms. Lacsamana thanked Andrew Barnes for serving as chair in 2020. She said she had reached out to the City of Brisbane regarding maintaining Route 292 going into San Francisco. Ms. Rivas encouraged her to bring that issue up during the upcoming Reimagine SamTrans workshop at the April 28 CAC meeting.

Mr. Barnes thanked David and Andrew for the presentation.

9. SAMTRANS BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Chair Baker provided a summary of the March 3 Board meeting.

10. NEXT MEETING

Chair Baker said that the next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:30 pm, via Zoom teleconference.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.