MINUTES OF AUGUST 26 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Stone (Chair), C. Chavez, M. Zmuda

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: J. Hartnett, J. Cassman, S. van Hoften, S. Petty, M. Bouchard, D. Hansel, D. Seamans, S. Wong

1. CALL TO ORDER
Chair Charles Stone called the subcommittee meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL
District Secretary Dora Seamans called the roll and confirmed all members were present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
Chair Stone extended public comments to three minutes per speaker.

4. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2020
Motion/Second: Zmuda/Chavez moved approval of the July 22, 2020 minutes
Ayes: Chavez, Zmuda, Stone
Noes: None
Absent: None

5. RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE RIDING TOGETHER: BAY AREA HEALTHY TRANSIT PLAN
Seamus Murphy, Chief Communications Officer, introduced the plan that was coordinated by the Bar Area’s transit systems and transit agencies to provide a collective set of measures to ensure the health and safety of riders on their systems. He provided the presentation, which included collaborative plans, key components for public confidence, common commitments (on hygiene, communication, and reporting), and plan implementation (for reporting and maintaining the plan as a living document).

Director Cindy Chavez inquired about the jointly funded communication campaign everyone is investing in. Mr. Murphy replied that there is a communication effort that agencies will be responsible for associated with this plan and it is being developed and funded by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s (MTC) CARES Act fund.

Director Chavez commented about MTC using one voice to converse with public health officers about the guidelines used. Mr. Murphy concurred and noted that there was a central website (www.healthytransitplan.com) for enhanced consistency.
Director Chavez suggested each of the Board of Supervisors adopt the resolution so the nine Bay Area counties reflect a central document.

Public comment
Roland Lebrun, San Jose, referenced page 2 of the July meeting minutes and noted that it should state running double length trains, not double line trains. He also commented on the healthy transit plan agreement regarding the three foot distancing and safety, getting all 26 agencies to reflect the same transit environment, and MTC’s financial leverage outweighing their legislative leverage.

Aleta Dupree, Oakland, expressed support for the healthy transit plan and for touchless payment. She stated that Caltrain staff was responsive to public questions.

Adrian Brandt, San Mateo County, spoke in favor of focusing on airborne transmission rather than surface transmission, and focusing on masking and good air filtration. He encouraged Caltrain to put up graphics that demonstrated the frequency of their air filtration.

Motion/Second: Chavez/Zmuda moved approval of the staff recommendation
Ayes: Chavez, Zmuda, Stone
Noes: None
Absent: None

6. RECEIVE STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
Casey Fromson, Director of Government and Community Affairs, said that at the state level they have until August 31st to wrap up their session, unfortunately a transportation supplement is not likely to happen this session. She stated that on the Federal level, the Department of Transportation (DOT) released a $50 million grant to improve grade crossings but there are no updates on the big funding package, though there is a possibility that could occur in September.

Director Monique Zmuda stated that unless there was a significant CARES package in the fall, Caltrain would have significant problems balancing the budget.

Public comment
Roland Lebrun, San Jose, commented on Senate Bill 288 and issues regarding existing alignment of the Transbay Tube.

Adrian Brandt, San Mateo County, commented on using the $50 million grade crossing grant on visual markers to prevent grade crossing issues and photo enforcement for cars stopping on the tracks.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTS
There were none.

8. DATE/TIME OF NEXT REGULAR WPLP COMMITTEE MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 AT 3:00 PM VIA ZOOM

9. ADJOURN
The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.