

## Diridon Station Joint Policy Advisory Board

Friday, April 23, 2021

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Diridon Station Joint Policy Advisory Board (“Committee”) was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chairperson Peralez via video and teleconference.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

| Attendee Name  | Title             | Status  |
|----------------|-------------------|---------|
| Cindy Chavez   | Member            | Present |
| Dev Davis      | Vice Chairperson  | Present |
| Jim Ghielmetti | Member            | Present |
| Sam Liccardo   | Member            | Present |
| Raul Peralez   | Chairperson       | Present |
| Robert Raburn  | Member            | Present |
| Charles Stone  | Member            | Present |
| Rod Diridon    | Ex-Officio Member | Present |
| Vacant         | Ex-Officio Member | N/A     |

**A quorum was present.**

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Blair Beekman, Interested Citizen, commented on the following: 1) data collection to be open to public ideas; 2) ShotSpotters at the Milpitas and Berryessa BART stations; and 3) endorsement for Interim General Manager/CEO to continue in her current capacity.

Roland Lebrun, Interested Citizen, commented on the following: 1) discontinuation of contribution to Caltrain by VTA and other agencies 2) proposed governance re-organization to merge BART and Caltrain; and 3) building of new stations with grade separation is a violation of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) rules.

#### 3. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

##### Public Comment

Mr. Beekman commented on the following: 1) Alameda County’s plan for construction of high-speed rail in the Bay Area; and 2) City of Fremont to construct a second train station.

4. **Regular Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2021**

M/S/C (Stone/Chavez) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2021

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED – Consent Agenda Item #4</b>          |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Charles Stone, Member                             |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Cindy Chavez, Vice Chairperson                    |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Chavez, Davis, Ghielmetti, Peralez, Raburn, Stone |
| <b>NAYES:</b>    | None  |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Liccardo  |

**REGULAR AGENDA**

5. **City of San Jose Diridon Station Area Plan Update**

Rosalynn Hughey, City of San Jose Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Director, and Jessica Zenk, City of San Jose Department of Transportation Deputy Director, provided a presentation entitled “Diridon Station Area Plan & Downtown West Project Updates.”

**Public Comment**

Mr. Beekman commented on the following: 1) Google housing development; 2) Area Median Income (AMI); 3) historic preservation; and 4) tree preservation in the area.

Mr. Lebrun made the following comments: 1) commended San Jose staff for their presentation of the Diridon Station Area Plan; 2) commented on the negative potential community impact of the plan if extended beyond the Buffer Zone; and 3) suggested collaborating with Google on community benefits with the unallocated Community Benefit fund.

Member Liccardo joined the video and teleconference meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Members of the Committee and staff discussed drafting a “Declaration of Enthusiasm” for the City of San Jose presenters.

6. **Diridon Integrated Station Concept Plan Update**

Liz Scanlon, Kimley-Horn, provided an update on the Diridon Integrated Station Concept Plan.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Beekman commented on the following: 1) trees in the area are indigenous; 2) high-rise buildings are not green sustainable; 3) rail line from Los Angeles through the Bay Area; and 4) automatic vehicle and grade separation for the Peninsula.

**NOTE:** M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Lebrun made the following comments: 1) project is one year late and thus costs more; 2) referenced slide #5. and noted impacts Google properties and parcels earmarked for affordable housing and several transit lines; and 3) suggested collaboration with Google and integrate BART station in the project.

Members of the Committee and staff discussed the following: 1) constraints on high-rise residential structures; 2) optional structures above the BART station; 3) agendize downtown light rail alignment study; 4) draft letters of support and advocacy for the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) New Business Plan and the Biden administration infrastructure plan; and 5) utility relocation.

## **7. Legislative Update**

Aaron Quigley, Sr Policy Analyst - External Affairs, provided the Legislative update, highlighting: 1) advocacy for light rail and high-speed rail vs. roads and airports; 2) corporate tax rate; 3) user fees on vehicles; 4) government spending packet on social programs; 5) increase on gas tax; and 6) distribution principles for American Rescue Act.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Lebrun commented on increasing frequency of the committee meeting to monthly to begin moving the project forward.

Mr. Beekman commented on the following: 1) building structures height; 2) prioritizing high speed rail from Los Angeles to Sacramento.

Ex-Officio Member Diridon addressed Mr. Beekman's comment.

**On order of Chairperson Peralez** and there being no objection, the Committee received the Legislative Update.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Peralez announced that the next Diridon Station Joint Policy Advisory Board meeting is on August 24, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Peralez** and there being no objection, the Committee was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reyne Jimeno, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary