GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-02

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND MASTER ORDINANCE 2010, AS AMENDED, TO ADOPT CHANGES TO GOLDEN GATE FERRY FARES FOR PASSENGERS USING CLIPPERSM CARD PROGRAM

November 19, 2010

THIS ORDINANCE is adopted with reference to the following facts and circumstances which are found and declared by the Board of Directors (Board):

- 1. The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) had initially identified in 2009 a \$132 million projected deficit over the next five years.
- 2. The District created a Financial Planning Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) in May 2009, for the purpose of identifying possible solutions to address said projected deficit.
- 3. The Advisory Committee drafted and recommended approval of FY 09/10 Financial Plan for Achieving Long-Term Financial Stability (Plan) which laid out specific initiatives that, once implemented, will help restore the District to stable financial footing.
 - 4. The Board approved said *Plan* at its meeting of October 30, 2009.
- 5. Phase I of the *Plan* includes Initiative 13 which proposed to reduce the ferry fare discount for passengers using the Clipper Card Program from 38% off the Larkspur cash fare and 47% off the Sausalito cash fare to 30% off the basic adult cash fare, which corresponds to a \$1.40 increase (31.8%) in the one-way Sausalito fare and a \$0.65 increase (12.6%) in the one-way Larkspur fare.
- 6. The Board authorized the setting of a public hearing on Thursday, October 7, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., for the purpose of receiving public comment on a proposal to set a standard discount of 30% from the adult cash fare for passengers using the Clipper Card Program on the Sausalito and Larkspur ferry service.
- 7. The proposed ferry fare increase will help restore the District to stable financial footing, and the estimated net additional revenue is between \$210,000 and \$300,000 during the second half of FY 10/11.

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8. After extensive public outreach and a careful consideration of the over 400 public comments received by the deadline date of October 7, 2010, staff recommended a revised, more modest ferry fare increase proposal, as follows:

	Current Clipper Fare	Original Proposed Clipper Fare	Revised Proposal
Larkspur	\$5.15	\$5.80 or a \$0.65 Fare Increase	\$5.70 or a \$0.55 Fare Increase
Sausalito	\$4.40	\$5.80 or a \$1.40 Fare Increase	\$4.85 or a \$0.45 Fare Increase

- 9. The revised ferry fare proposal was presented to the Ferry Passengers Advisory Committee (FPAC), and the FPAC passed a resolution in support of the revised ferry fare proposal.
- 10. The revised ferry fare proposal corresponds to a 10% increase in the Clipper fare for both Larkspur and Sausalito passengers. The fare for passengers using the Clipper Card Program, who qualify for the Youth, Senior, Medicare, and Disabled discount, will remain at 50% of the adult cash fare. Staff recommends approval of the revised proposal, with the understanding that in the spring of 2011 staff will evaluate and present to the Board its analysis and proposals regarding Initiative 15 (Charge for Parking at Larkspur Ferry) and Initiative 25 (Renew Transit Fare Increase Plan: Annual 5% fare Increases) of the *Plan*.
- 11. Based upon a review of available Census and ridership data, staff has concluded that no disparate impact to minority, low income or disadvantaged communities under Title VI will result from the implementation of the proposed ferry fare increases.
- 12. Staff has analyzed the recommended ferry fare increase proposal under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and has determined that the fare changes are categorically exempt as per CEQA Code of Regulations 15273, *Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges*. The recommended ferry fare proposal is for the purpose of meeting District operating expenses, they are statutorily exempt from CEQA.
- 13. On November 18, 2010 a meeting of the Transportation Committee was held to consider a final recommendation to the Board for the revised ferry fare increase proposal. Following presentation of the staff report, review of the record of public participation, and receipt of further public comment, the Transportation Committee voted to recommend to the Board adoption of the revised ferry fare proposal as recommended by staff.
- 14. The Board has considered all public comments and the recommendation of the Transportation Committee. The Board finds that the recommended revised ferry fare proposal is consistent with the District's mission and its adopted *Plan* for achieving long-term financial stability.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> Section III, "Golden Gate Transit – Bus and Ferry Systems," Subsection D.1, "Discount Fares and Transfers – Prepaid Discount Fares (Effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010," of Master Ordinance 2010), Item d, "Regional Ferry Travel – Ferry Translink®" is replaced in its entirety with the following:

d. Regional Ferry Travel – Ferry Clipper Card one way fares are as follows:

Larkspur - SF: \$5.70 Sausalito - SF: \$4.85

Clipper Card Youth, Senior, Medicare and Disabled: \$4.10

Section 2. The Board finds that the recommended ferry fare proposal effected by this Ordinance is for the purpose of meeting District operating expenses, and are therefore categorically exempt as per CEQA Code of Regulations 15273, *Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges*. The Secretary of the District is directed to file a Notice of Exemption in the offices of the County Clerks in the City and County of San Francisco and the County of Marin.

Section 3. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be January 1, 2011.

Section 4. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

ADOPTED this 19th day of November 2010, by the following vote of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District Board of Directors:

AYES (12): Directors Brown, Chu, Cochran, Elsbernd, Kerns, McGlashan, Newhouse Segal,

Turantino

Pahre and Sanders; Second Vice President Eddie, First Vice President Reilly;

President Boro

NOES (2): Directors Campos and Snyder

ABSENT (5): Directors Dufty, Grosboll, Moylan, Sobel and Stroeh

Albert J. Boro

President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Janet S. Tarantino
Secretary of the District