

April 26, 2024



MINUTES OF THE
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE/
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

These minutes are supplemented by the audio recording that is posted online at:

<https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents>.

Honorable Board of Directors
Golden Gate Bridge, Highway
and Transportation District

Honorable Members:

A meeting of the Governmental Affairs and Public Information Committee/Committee of the Whole (Committee) of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) met in regular session in the Board Room, Administration Building, Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza, San Francisco, CA, on Friday, April 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., with Chair Snyder presiding. A remote audio option for public participation was available.

- (1) **Call to Order:** 9:00 a.m.
- (2) **Roll Call:** Secretary of the District Amorette Ko-Wong

Committee Members Present (8): Chair Snyder; Vice Chair Giudice; Directors Dorsey, Garbarino, Hill, Rabbitt and Rodoni; President Cochran.

Committee Members Absent (1): Director Safaí.

Other Directors Present (7): Directors Engardio, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Pahre, Thériault and Thier.

Committee of the Whole Members Present (15): Directors Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Pahre, Rodoni, Snyder, Thériault and Thier; Second Vice President Rabbitt; First Vice President Hill; President Cochran.

Committee of the Whole Members Absent (4): Directors Conroy, Moulton-Peters, Safaí and Stefani.

Staff Present: General Manager Denis Mulligan; Auditor-Controller Joseph Wire; Acting District Engineer John Eberle; Secretary of the District Amorette Ko-Wong; Attorney Kimon Manolius; Deputy General Manager/Bridge Division David Rivera; Deputy General Manager/Bus Transit Division Les Belton; Deputy General Manager/Administration and Development Kellee Hopper; Executive Administrator to the General Manager Justine Bock; Senior Board Analyst Elizabeth Eells.

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A copy of the report is available on the District's web site at <https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents> or upon request from the Office of the District Secretary.

**(3) State Update From the District's Legislative Advocates, Platinum Advisors, LLC
[01:15 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Steve Wallauch of Platinum Advisors, LLC (Platinum) presented the State Update. He highlighted the FY 24/25 State Budget including the Senate's Early Action plan. He spoke about Platinum's legislative advocacy efforts for Seismic Retrofit project funding and reviewed legislative activity that Platinum is tracking on the District's behalf, which includes Assembly Bills (AB) 817, AB 1837, AB 2061, and AB 2824 and Senate Bills (SB) 960 and SB 1031.

[11:50 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Director Garbarino inquired about AB 2061 and sales tax exemptions.

Director Grosboll commented about the State budget reductions and inquired about the current amount of reserves that are being used. He asked about the status of SB 537.

Chair Snyder inquired about AB 1837 and the District's participation on the Regional Network Management Council.

Director Rabbitt said that he is Chair of the Transit Regional Network Management Committee. He commented about SB 1031 and competing views about the bill. He also added that he had recently been appointed as the Chair of the California Seismic Safety Commission. He further commented about the challenges of crafting a bill and making decisions about the funding recipients.

Director Pahre inquired about AB 2669 and the District's ability to charge pedestrian and bicyclist tolls on the Bridge sidewalks.

Director Thier inquired about the budget deficit and the possibility that the District's funding will be in jeopardy.

Chair Snyder commented about SB 1031, the complexity of the District's labor environment with 28 unions and the challenges of consolidating transit agencies.

Director Hill commented about the possibility of carbon fees.

Mr. Wallauch responded to the inquiries regarding AB 2061, use of reserves, SB 537, the District's participation in a Regional Network Management Council, and stated that a possible sales tax could not be more than a half-cent.

Mr. Mulligan commented that the District has not yet taken a position on SB 1031 because the legislation is still in flux. He spoke about the current issues and limits with the bill and

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noted that some oppose the bill. He spoke about the value of studying consolidation. He stated that Assemblymember Ting, who authored AB 2669, is helping the District obtain some funding for the Seismic Retrofit Project.

Mr. Wallauch responded that most transportation funding is usually outside of the General Fund and as a result, the funding is fairly safe. However, he said that greenhouse gas revenues could be directed to other programs and reduce funding for the District.

(4) Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

(5) Adjournment [28:10 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

All business having been concluded, Directors HILL/GARBARINO moved and seconded that the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Snyder, Chair
Governmental Affairs and Public Information Committee

CS:AMK:EIE:tnm