

July 25, 2024



**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE-AUDITING 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:

The Finance-Auditing 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 Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., with Vice Chair Pahre presiding. A remote audio option for public participation was available.

- (1) **Call to Order:** 10:00 a.m.
- (2) **Roll Call:** Secretary of the District Amorette M. Ko-Wong. **[00:23 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Committee Members Present (7): Vice Chair Pahre; Directors Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin and Rodoni; President Cochran.

Committee Members Absent (2): Chair Rabbitt; Director Dorsey.

Other Directors Present (6): Directors Garbarino, Hill, Moulton-Peters, Snyder, Thériault and Thier.

Committee of the Whole Members Present (13): Directors Garbarino, Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rodoni, Snyder, Thériault and Thier; First Vice President Hill; President Cochran.

Committee of the Whole Members Absent (6): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Safaí and Stefani; Second Vice President Rabbitt.

Staff Present: General Manager Denis Mulligan; Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci; 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

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Manager/Administration and Development Kellee Hopper; Director of Risk Management and Safety Kelli Vitale; Executive Administrator to the General Manager Justine Bock; Senior Board Analyst Elizabeth Eells; Operations Control Center Manager Jamos Yeager.

Copies of all reports are 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.

Vice Chair Pahre stated that the Committee received a public comment from Andrew Sholin that was placed in front of each Board member.

(3) Ratification of Previous Actions by the Auditor-Controller [01:19 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

PFM Managing Director Monique Spyke presented the Investment Report.

Director Thier inquired about the effect of interest rate cuts on the District's portfolio.

Vice Chair Pahre expressed appreciation for Ms. Spyke's presentation.

Ms. Spyke responded to the inquiry.

(a) Action by the Committee

Staff recommended and the Committee concurred by motion made and seconded by **Directors GIUDICE/THIER** to forward the following recommendation to the Board of Directors for its consideration:

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole recommends that the Board of Directors approve the following actions:

- (i) There are no commitments and/or expenditures to ratify for the period of June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024;
- (ii) Ratify investments made during the period June 15, 2024 through July 15, 2024;
- (iii) Authorize the reinvestment, within the established policy of the Board, of any investments maturing between July 16, 2024 and August 12, 2024, as well as the investment of all other funds not required to cover expenditures that may become available; and,
- (iv) Accept the Investment Report for June 2024.

Action by the Board at its meeting of July 26, 2024 – Resolution
CONSENT CALENDAR

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AYES (13): Directors Garbarino, Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rodoni, Snyder, Thériault and Thier; First Vice President Hill; President Cochran.

NOES (0): None.

ABSENT (6): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Safaí and Stefani; Second Vice President Rabbitt.

(4) Authorize Budget Adjustment(s) and/or Transfer(s)

No actions required authorization.

(5) Authorize Actions Related to Grant Programs

(a) Authorize Filing an Application with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for FY 24/25 Transportation Development Act, State Transit Assistance, Regional Measure 2, and Regional Measure 3 Operating Funds to Support Bus, Ferry, and Paratransit Services [09:51 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report.

(i) Action by the Committee

Staff recommended and the Committee concurred by motion made and seconded by **Directors HERNÁNDEZ/GIUDICE** to forward the following recommendation to the Board of Directors for its consideration:

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to file an application with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for FY 24/25 Transportation Development Act (TDA), State Transit Assistance (STA), Regional Measure 2 (RM2), and Regional Measure 3 (RM3) funds to support bus, ferry, and paratransit services in the amount of \$30,119,715. Approval of this action also authorizes the General Manager to file revisions to this application if projected funding amounts change during FY 24/25.

**Action by the Board at its meeting of July 26, 2024 – Resolution
NON-CONSENT CALENDAR**

AYES (13): Directors Garbarino, Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rodoni, Snyder, Thériault and Thier; First Vice President Hill; President Cochran.

NOES (0): None.

ABSENT (6): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Safaí and Stefani; Second Vice President Rabbitt.

(6) Presentation on Bus Operator Compensation [11:42 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

General Manager Denis Mulligan made introductory remarks about the presentation, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. He introduced Deputy General Manager/Bus Transit Division Les Belton and Operations Control Center Manager Jamos Yeager who presented the presentation.

After the presentation, Mr. Mulligan observed that Golden Gate Transit Bus Operators are paid more than most other drivers at transit agencies in the Bay Area and he commended their work. He also spoke about the District's one-time federal relief funding, which has been used to balance the District's budget over the last few years.

[38:53 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Vice Chair Pahre, and Directors Thier, Hernández, Mastin and Snyder expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Director Thériault commented and inquired about the definitions of various terms.

Mr. Belton and Mr. Mulligan responded.

Director Thier inquired about Bus Operator wages with the new Run Book.

Mr. Belton outlined the average hours in the current and upcoming Run Books.

Director Mastin inquired about Bus Operator Spread Time and Work Time (page 51). He also inquired about Bus Operator retirement and separation statistics, and new Bus Operator access to full-time work.

Mr. Belton clarified that the Run Book has historically been based on providing about 95% commuter service, which requires longer spread times. He reviewed Bus Operator retirements (2) and separations (16). Mr. Mulligan provided information about new Bus Operator work opportunities.

Director Thériault commented about Bus Operator employment and compensation. He stated that the District has a long-standing practice of having longer spread times and the practice has changed. He spoke about a possible "meet and confer."

Mr. Mulligan stated that the District's transit service has changed based on current ridership. He spoke about balancing numerous interests including District, employees and customers.

Director Rodoni expressed appreciation for the complexity of Bus Operator

compensation. He requested additional information regarding Bus Operators' workdays, including a comparison to other agencies. He inquired about the possibility of re-negotiating Bus Operator compensation and schedules.

Mr. Mulligan offered that he had talked to Mr. Weinstein about the possibility of meeting earlier to discuss the next Memorandum of Understanding. He confirmed that staff would obtain information about Bus Operator workdays at other transit agencies.

Director Giudice inquired about Bus Operator vacation accruals.

Mr. Mulligan spoke about the time off accruals, the attendance policy and the high absentee rate.

Director Thier requested the District hold off on implementing schedule changes and instead meet and confer with the union. She referred to the public comment received from Mr. Sholin and expressed concern about Bus Operators safety.

Mr. Mulligan spoke about staff's efforts to save money and avoid layoffs in the future.

Vice Chair Pahre spoke about the Board's experience of having to issue layoff notices.

Mr. Mulligan pointed out the current and upcoming Run Breaks (pages 60 and 61). He said that the main reductions are in the three to four hour break range and emphasized the revised breaks still exceed contract requirements.

Director Garbarino spoke about the Bus Operator layoffs that were proposed in the past and the difficulty of the period four years prior. She commented about COVID's effect on organizations and transit ridership. She expressed her view that this could be a time to review the District's Bus Operator compensation package.

Vice Chair Pahre stated that the discussion is starting to move into the area of labor negotiation.

Director Mastin requested clarification about the term "hold-down operator" (page 36).

Mr. Yeager defined "hold-down operator." Mr. Belton added that the average number of vacation days is 17.

Director Hernández expressed support for the District remaining fiscally prudent and staff having adequate breaks and earning a decent living. She spoke about the importance of leadership and management's relationship with staff and additional communication. She expressed support for Director Rodoni's comments.

Mr. Mulligan expressed appreciation for Director Hernández's comments and explained that Mr. Belton frequently communicates with Mr. Weinstein about planned changes.

Director Snyder inquired about the District's payroll savings as a result of the new Run Book.

Mr. Mulligan said he does not have exact payroll savings. Mr. Belton added that the June Run Book was for 240 Bus Operators and the August Run Book is for 188 Bus Operators. Mr. Mulligan added an example of how a Bus Operator could significantly increase their last year of pay and expressed his view that the District has an interest in eliminating the opportunity to "spike" the final year of pay.

Director Snyder requested staff provide information about the difference in payroll for the June and August Run Books.

Mr. Mulligan encouraged Directors to follow up with staff and ask questions.

Director Grosboll stated that 19 Bus Operators, who are more senior and make over \$150,000 a year, will have their wages cut as a result of the new Run Book.

Vice Chair Pahre noted that Director Conroy is listening on the public line.

Director Moulton-Peters expressed her commitment to partnership and working through issues with union and management. She inquired about the timing of the operational changes related to coordinating service with other transit agencies and the possibility of postponing decision making.

Mr. Mulligan responded that Bay Area transit agencies are trying to coordinate their service and schedule changes in August and January. He confirmed that the August Run Book changes are on track, and offered the possibility that the District could initiate another sign up process.

Director Moulton-Peters expressed appreciation for the District's efforts to coordinate its transit schedules with other transit agencies.

[Director Garbarino departed.]

[01:29:47 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]

The following individuals spoke under Public Comment:

- Shane Weinstein, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Local 1575 (in person)
- Brenda Sheppard, Bus Operator (remotely)
- Casey Sweeney, Bus Operator (remotely)
- Norberto Chavez, Bus Operator (remotely)
- Leon Thomasson, Bus Operator (remotely)
- Andrew Sholin (e-mail)

Vice Chair Pahre said the Committee had a good discussion and no action is required on this item.

Director Thériault stated that the Directors could comment further under the General Manager's Report.

Mr. Mulligan concurred.

(7) **Status Report on the FY 23/24 Budget [01:49:39 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report (page 69), which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

(8) **Monthly Review of Golden Gate Bridge Traffic/Tolls and Bus and Ferry Transit Patronage/Fares (for Twelve Months Ending June 2024) [01:50:58 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. She reviewed the traffic, ridership and revenue (page 79).

(9) **Monthly Review of Financial Statements (for Twelve Months Ending June 2024) [01:51:46 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]**

- (a) **Statement of Revenue and Expenses**
- (b) **Statement of Capital Programs and Expenditures**

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report, which were for informational purposes only and no actions were taken.

(10) **Review of the District's FY 23/24 Fourth Quarterly Report of Judgments or Settled Claims [01:52:19 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Director of Risk Management and Safety Kelli Vitale presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

Vice Chair Pahre expressed appreciation for Ms. Vitale's work.

(11) **Review of the Auditor-Controller's FY 23/24 Fourth Quarterly Report on Authorized Budget Adjustments and Budget Transfers Under the General Manager's Authority [01:53:24 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

(12) **Review of the Auditor-Controller's FY 23/24 Fourth Quarterly Report on**

Procurement Actions Under the General Manager's Authority

Acting Auditor-Controller and Director of Budget and Electronic Revenue Jennifer Mennucci presented the staff report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

(13) Public Comment [01:53:59 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]

The following individual spoke under Public Comment:

- Shane Weinstein, ATU, Local 1575 (in person)

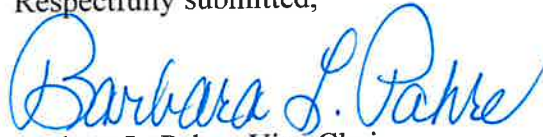
Mr. Mulligan responded to the public comments.

(14) Adjournment [01:57:22 Hours Mark on the Audio Recording]

All business having been concluded Directors SNYDER/GIUDICE moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara L. Pahre, Vice Chair
Finance-Auditing Committee

BLP:AMK:EIE:tnm