

SacMoves/SMART Coalition Meeting 5/15/2020

Attending: Deb Banks, Will Brieger, Delphine Cathcart, Steve Cohn, John Deeter, Roger Dickinson, Joann Fuller, Patrick Guild (notes), Angela Herring-Jackson, Russell Henly, Chris Holm, Kent Lacin, Anthony Lee, Kendra Lewis, Dyane Osario, Dale Paige, Ralph Propper, Adrian Rehn, Barbara Stanton, Anne Strausboll, Dale Steele, Jeffery Tardaguila, Doug Thompson, Emel Wadwani

Next Coalition Meeting: Friday, June 19th at 10:00 am. Monthly meetings will resume on the third Friday of each month.

Note: Next recurring SMART meeting first Thursday of month, June 4 at 4:00.

Next ECOS meeting will focus on Slow Streets on Tuesday, May 26th at 6:00 pm. Sacramento City Council members have been invited.

Update on STA Measure A Ballot

STA Board of Directors voted to approve the ordinance and expenditure plan previously presented at the April 9th STA Board meeting and that has now been approved by all seven cities within the County and the County Board of Supervisors. Measure A will now go to the County Board of Supervisors before the end of July to approve placing the measure on the November ballot. Votes opposed were Hume, Miller, Sandhu, Frost, and Gatewood. The consensus of the steering committee is to not take a position on the Measure until after the BOS places the measure on the November ballot.

Update on Rail/Transit

Amtrak is continuing to operate service on both the Capitol Corridor and the San Joaquin lines and is requiring passengers to wear mask on trains and in stations. Capitol Corridor is running trains at commute hours in the morning and afternoon and seeing continued ridership but plans to increase service in June. Their midday trains are seeing reduced ridership.

SacRT has received a Federal Grant that will help them stay in operation and has helped CEO Henry Li stay optimistic. They are encouraging users to wear facemasks and requiring drivers/operators to use PPE. They have repurposed some of their busses as mobile WIFI hotspots to provide free access to communities in need.

The San Joaquin JPA is still accepting comments on the Valley Rail Project EIR. Project approval is scheduled this Summer.

Mayors Council on Climate Change

The Mayors Council on Climate Change released their Supplemental Report a few weeks ago and it was discussed at the May 13th meeting. The Council has a final meeting on June 29th, at which the plan is scheduled to be adopted. The preliminary report is available on the Local Government Commission's website.

City of Sacramento Staff has started work on a Climate Action Plan and will be selecting a consultant to put together the plan soon.

Update on Slow Streets Pilot Project

SABA and WALKSacramento have had three meetings with the City of Sacramento, including Julia Borrows, indicating Mayor Steinberg's support of this initiative. For the pilot program, there is only funding available for two or three streets. To determine those streets, a large-scale outreach campaign has been launched to gather input from neighborhood associations, PBID's, community members and other relevant groups as to which streets are supported by residents. SABA has put together a short survey in English and Spanish to gather input from residents. Deb will send out a survey to the coalition email list.

There is another effort underway to explore opening restaurants al fresco in the city, using parking spaces and closed streets to create more space for people to dine outside while practicing social distancing. Additional funding for al fresco exists and could also include parklets. The City will consider relaxing permitting for the new concept and is looking to cities around the world for implementation ideas.