



Transbay Transit Center

Transbay Newsletter - Summer 2012

TJPA hosts Governor Jerry Brown at Transbay Transit Center Construction Site to Sign HSR Funding Legislation

On July 18th, Governor Jerry Brown signed the State high speed rail funding bill (SB 1029) on the site of the future Transbay Transit Center in downtown San Francisco. Executive Director of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan served as emcee for the historic event, where Governor Brown was joined by President Pro Tem of the California State Senate Darrell Steinberg, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee, Deputy Secretary of Transportation John Porcari, Chair of the California High Speed Rail Authority Dan Richard and other dignitaries from around San Francisco, California, and the region.



Governor Jerry Brown with TJPA Executive Director Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan at the Transbay Transit Center Construction Site

The new Transbay Transit Center is the only piece of high speed rail infrastructure currently under construction in California. But with passage of this historic legislation, that will soon change. Thousands of new jobs will be created in California by providing \$8 billion in funding from Prop 1A and federal Recovery Act funds for construction of the first segment of high-speed rail and infrastructure upgrades on the Northern and Southern "bookends" in San Francisco and Los Angeles. This includes funding to complete the electrification of Caltrain, which along with high-speed rail will come into the Transbay Transit Center.

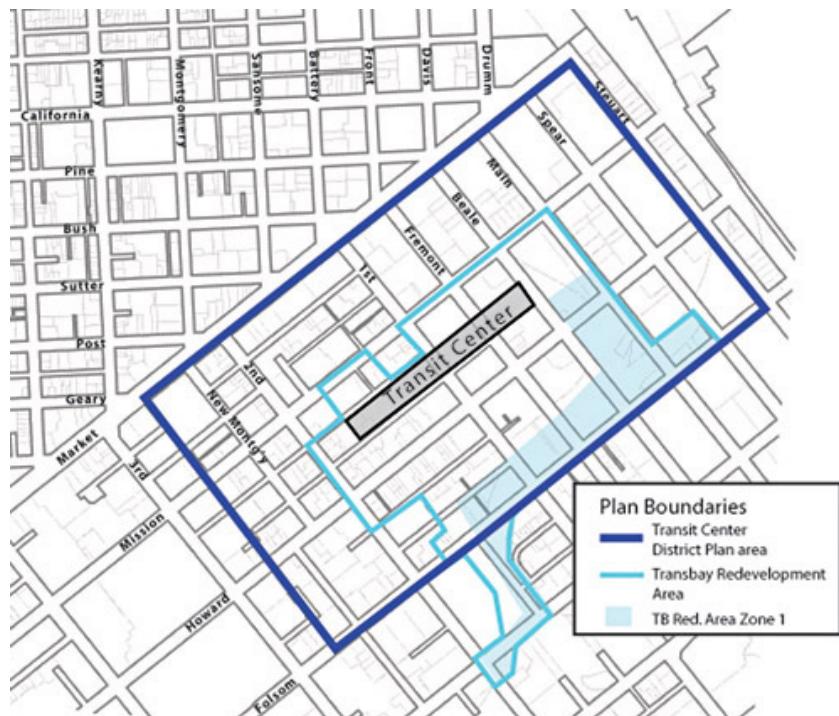
"This legislation will help put thousands of people in California back to work," said Governor Brown. "By improving regional transportation systems, we are investing in the future of our State and making California a better place to live and work."

"Today is a momentous day for the State of California, The City of San Francisco and the Transbay project," said Executive Director Ayerdi-Kaplan. "We are proud to have hosted this event at the northern terminus for future high-speed rail where so many construction jobs have already been created," she said.

Earlier that same day, Governor Brown held a similar signing event at Union Station in downtown Los Angeles, the site of one of the many regional systems receiving funding through this legislation. Union Station and the Transbay Transit Center stations will serve as major stations of the future high-speed rail line in California.

Transbay Center District Plan Approved by Board of Supervisors in a Pivotal Moment for the Transbay Transit Center Project

On July 31st, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Transit Center District Plan (TCDP). Mayor Ed Lee signed the TCDP legislation on August 9. This follows the Planning Commission's approval of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the TCDP on May 24th. The TCDP will be implemented by a series of amendments to the general plan, zoning and related city codes. This innovative plan will allow the creation of a new "Transit Oriented Development" community around the new Transbay Transit Center, where people will live and work near transit and other urban amenities. The new neighborhood will be pedestrian and bike friendly and set the standard for livable cities.



By creating a new 5.4-acre “City Park” on the roof of the Transit Center and a new multi-modal transportation hub that will serve 11 different transportation systems (Muni, AC Transit, SamTrans, WestCAT, Golden Gate Transit, Greyhound, BART, Caltrain, Amtrak, future high-speed rail, and paratransit), the Transbay project will dramatically increase access to transportation and open space.

“This is a major milestone for the project and the City,” said Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan, Executive Director of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority. “The development facilitated by the Transit Center District Plan will provide necessary funding for the Transbay Transit Center and Caltrain Downtown Extension. It will also create a new high density neighborhood in the heart of downtown San Francisco,” she said. “The new Transbay Transit Center will be the centerpiece of this national and international model for transit-oriented development.”

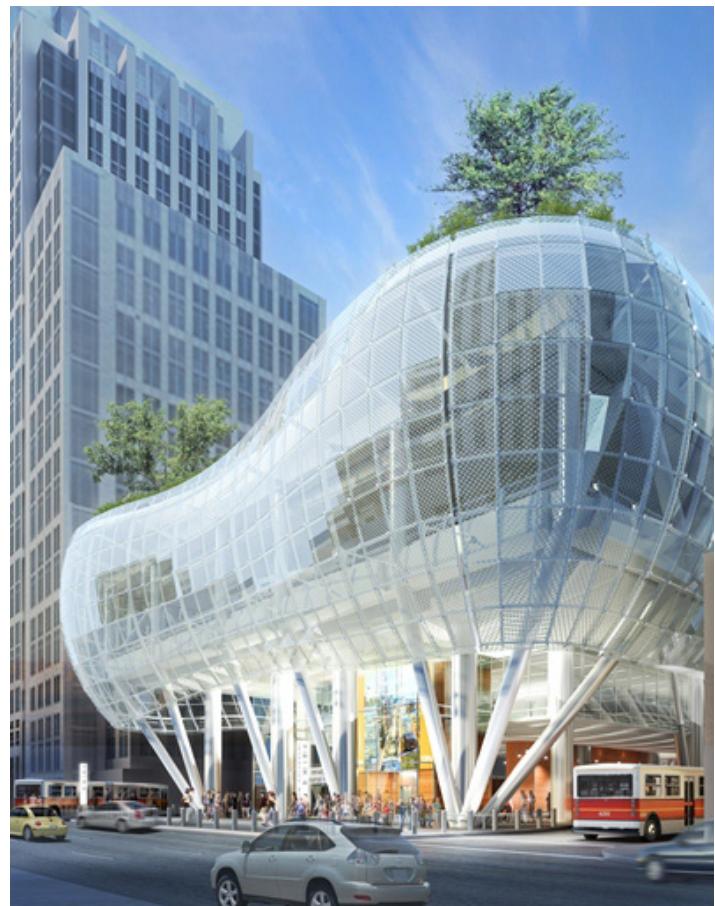
The Transit Center District Plan is a 145-acre plan that will incorporate several new high-rises, including the Transbay Tower, an 1100 foot skyscraper adjacent to the Transit Center.

Between now and 2035, approximately 17 percent of the projected job growth in San Francisco will occur in the area surrounding the new Transbay Transit Center. This represents the fastest projected job growth in the entire city. The connectivity provided by the Transbay project will maximize this job growth potential by connecting downtown San Francisco with employers throughout the Bay Area and Silicon Valley.

Transbay Transit Center Phase 2 Designated as Regional Priority for Major Federal Funding Stream

On May 17th, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) jointly approved a draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that designates the Caltrain Downtown Extension (DTX), Phase 2 of the Transbay Transit Center project, as a regional priority for the federal New Starts program. New Starts is the federal government’s primary financial resource for supporting this type of transit capital investment. As a regional priority for New Starts, the project would begin working with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) towards a Full Funding Grant Agreement that would allow for construction of the DTX.

“This commitment is a major step forward for our project,” said Maria Ayerdi-Kaplan, Executive Director of the TJPA. “The draft RTP includes a plan to fully fund the DTX. We are thankful that MTC and ABAG have recognized the importance of the Caltrain Downtown Extension project,



and we look forward to working with DOT and our regional partners to move forward expeditiously with implementation."

This extension of Caltrain into the heart of downtown San Francisco will be a major driver of economic growth for the city and region. The US Census Bureau reports that today approximately 180,000 jobs are located within ½ mile of the Transbay Transit Center, and construction of the DTX will create, directly and indirectly, nearly 89,000 new jobs. In addition, urban living is very attractive to employees of high-tech firms on the Peninsula, and the DTX provides a viable reverse commute transit option for this population.

The RTP will now go through an environmental review process that is expected to be completed in April 2013.

Intern Spotlight

Lilian Li and Brian Flores, who this fall will both be starting their senior year at the Philip and Sala Burton High School in the San Francisco Unified School District, joined the Transbay project in June as part of the TJPA's Summer Internship Program. Lilian grew up in China and has made tremendous progress mastering both English and her studies since moving to the Bay Area. During her time with TJPA, Lilian contributed to many aspects of the project, working on assignments related to finance, accounting and engineering. She plans to study either civil or environmental engineering after graduating from high school next year. Brian worked directly with TJPA's program management team and was immersed in the Transbay Transit Center construction operations and assisting our engineers as directed in a controlled jobsite environment. He also intends to pursue a career in engineering.

This six-week paid internship provides 20 hours per week of hands-on, real-life work experience in both the offices of TJPA and those of its Program Manager for the Transbay Transit Center Program. High school juniors and seniors enrolled in one of the District's engineering academies or building trades pathways are eligible to participate. Several of the project's contractors also hosted summer interns. In total, 9 interns spent their summers working on various components of the Transbay project.



Summer Intern Lilian Li Presenting an Overview of Her Experiences Working at TJPA

Best Regards,

The Transbay Joint Powers Authority