



Van Ness Business Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 19, 2018

3:00-4:30 p.m.

One South Van Ness Avenue, 3rd Floor, Civic Center Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order by voice vote at 3:04 p.m.
2. Public comment.
 - a. None heard.
3. Icebreaker activity. Introduce new members of the committee.
 - a. Roland Anderson representing Daniel Burnham Court.
 - b. Arezou Akbarpour representing HealthRIGHT 360.
 - c. Judi Basolo representing Coldwell Banker and St. Luke's Episcopal Church.
 - d. Nina Cook representing Crescent Heights.
 - e. Chris Gembinski representing Middle Polk Neighborhood Association.
 - f. Mary Thomas, representing Red Hula Design was absent.
 - g. Durwin Cheung, representing the Durwin Group was absent.
4. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding Open for Business program update.
 - a. Public Outreach and Engagement Manager Kate McCarthy provided an introduction of the Open for Business Program for the benefit of new members.
 - b. Wayfinding posters
 - i. The plan is to have posters at the ends of every affected block.
 - ii. The team will be working with businesses on blocks with construction to finalize signage
 - iii. 1000 merchant directories have been distributed to date. More to be coming.
5. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding SFMTA staff updates.
 - a. Project overview by staff for the benefit of new members.
 - i. In discussing the features of the project, Chris Gembinski asked whether the transit-only lanes would be raised lanes. Kate McCarthy explained they will not be raised but will be delineated by a mountable curb. It is designed so that it will create a barrier to discourage private cars, but that vehicles would be able to drive over it in the event of an emergency or for buses to pass a disabled vehicle.
 - ii. Michael George inquired how many blocks at a time were being actively worked on. Currently 16, but up to 32. He also wanted to

- know how much time each block is projected to be worked on for the next phase of the project, Phase 1B.
- iii. Michael George and Judi Basolo also inquired about the impact on sidewalks and access to buildings. Sidewalk space for people walking should be maintained on at least one side of the street on each block. Project Manager Peter Gabancho explained that the contractor needs to submit a traffic control plan before beginning the work in a location, and that plan needs to outline how they will keep sidewalk and building access. He explained different potential options they have to maintain access.
 - iv. Chris Gembinski asked about the 47/49 bus routes and whether they would continue their routes uninterrupted, outside of Van Ness Avenue BRT lanes. 47/49 buses will use BRT lanes on Van Ness and then will continue the rest of their current routes uninterrupted.
- b. Project schedule.
 - i. Staff discussed the most recent project timeline, and new projected schedule, which includes delays from the utility phase of construction. Project staff are actively working to recover days of delay. The project is currently projected 341 days behind schedule.
 - c. Construction update.
 - i. Discussion of tentative Lombard roadway project that is contiguous to Van Ness. It is projected to start in August 2018 and run to the end of 2020.
 - ii. Michael George asked where the sewer lines on Van Ness tie-in to sewer lines on East-West cross streets and how work on those lines would affect traffic on side streets. Staff to provide a list of where there are sewer line tie-ins with East-West cross streets.
 - d. Update on neighboring projects.
 - i. Staff discussed updates on the Polk Streetscape Project, and on the Emergency Sewer Main Replacement Program in the northern part of Van Ness Avenue, which is now on hold.
6. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding Outreach update.
 - a. Staff discussed recent outreach milestones, and upcoming outreach activities, including an upcoming presentation to the County Transportation Authority's Board of Commissioners on April 24, 2018.
 7. Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.