



# Geary Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 6 p.m.  
Remote Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Geary CAC Members	Project Staff
Annie Lee	Daniel Mackowski (SFMTA)
Richard Hashimoto	Liz Brisson (SFMTA)
Marian Roth-Cramer	Amy Fowler (SFMTA)
Daniel Calamuci	David Sindel (SFMTA)
Tom Barton	
Lisa Frisch (for Eva Schouten)	
Susannah Raub	
Andrei Svensson	
Lou Grosso	
Kevin Stull	
Joon Choi	

## Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Annie Lee called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

### 2. Virtual meeting etiquette

### 3. Roll call

### 4. Approval of minutes – [March 16, 2021](#)

- a. Rich Hashimoto motioned to approve. Tom Barton seconded. Minutes approved by voice vote 6:08 p.m.

### 5. Public comment

- a. No comments

### 6. Announcements

- a. Josh Kelly has resigned as he moved to a different neighborhood. Tom Barton has joined in his place.
- b. Annie Lee announced she will be moving this summer and will be resigning. Replacement chair will be nominated and elected at the July meeting. For those who'd like to nominate themselves, come prepared to briefly address the committee about their interest in the position. Amy will email group about roles and responsibilities. Several members wished Annie well.

### 7. Geary Temporary Emergency Transit Lanes evaluation update

- a. David Sindel presented on this item
- b. Liz Brisson updated on MTAB schedule
- c. Andrei Svensson asked for clarification on the Muni travel time savings graphs.

- i. David: The blue bar shows Muni travel times in Sept/Oct 2020, which was the worst traffic had gotten during COVID until now. The orange bar shows March/April 2021, the most recent data available. They measure trips where TETL improvements were installed from 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave to Arguello.
- ii. Andrei suggested adding the streets/scope to the chart to help clarify.
- d. Andrei: How is crowding determined?
  - i. David: Data comes from the Muni Dashboard (SFMTA.com/covid-19-dashboard), which collects data from automated counters in the bus doors. A 60-ft bus is considered crowded if it exceeds 30 people for more than five stops (by COVID standards).
- e. Marian Roth-Cramer: How are the merchants interviewed about impacts on the businesses?
  - i. Liz: For Geary TETL evaluation, analysis focused on 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> where minor curb changes were made. We called or visited all affected merchants before making changes. Design was updated to allow for more loading at House of Bagels. We didn't hear any concerns after implementation. Separately, there is a more comprehensive Geary merchant loading survey underway that will be discussed on the next item.
- f. Marian: Concern about people using parallel streets, seeing an increase of traffic on my street. Once kids are back in school and traffic goes back to pre-COVID levels, will there be another assessment of traffic before the July hearing?
  - i. Liz: We're seeing an overall citywide increase in traffic, but data does not appear to indicate that Geary TETL caused notable diversions to parallel streets. Will continue to monitor between now and the hearing.
- g. Tom Barton: I live near Clement, have seen very little difference in cars on Clement. On Geary buses, 25% of time cannot stay more than 3 feet from people.

## **8. Geary Boulevard Improvement Project update**

- a. Liz Brisson presented on this item
- b. Tom Barton asked if CAC members could make in-person visits to merchants to encourage them to complete the loading survey and volunteered himself.
  - i. Liz: The SFMTA contractor has already done in-person outreach to businesses, but additional followup may be helpful for some; we will reach out directly if we could use your help.
  - ii. Marian agreed with the personal touch and volunteered herself to help with businesses near her dance studio.
- c. Andrei noted that some merchants' concern with converting angled parking to parallel may not be as much with loss of spaces, but with the ease of getting into and out of spaces and how inviting it appears to patronize businesses by car.
- d. Kevin Stull asked whether there were businesses other than Grocery Outlet no longer using meters or curb designations that were needed for previous businesses. Is the info up to date?

- i. Liz: The information is not readily available, but we expect there are some locations where current usage doesn't match the curb designation. The loading survey as well as observations by SFMTA loading experts will be used to create a curb plan that accommodates current needs.

#### **9. Geary Rapid – Project update**

- a. Dan Mackowski presented on this item.
  - i. Tom Barton asked about a contract price that is higher than estimated.
    - 1. Dan: The difference is covered by the contingency budget. When adding all contracts together costs are still within the overall budget.

#### **10. Geary Rapid – Implementation update**

- a. Dan Mackowski presented on this item.
- b. Rich Hashimoto commented about several incidents – a bus that side-swiped the paving machine, and a bus that opened its doors near to the hot asphalt. He also asked if businesses received notice of the paving—Nijiya Market didn't receive deliveries that day.
  - i. Dan: Safety is top priority so will work with contractor to improve on future work and projects. The contractor's work was paused due to these incidents until they could implement additional safety measures. Will get back to construction team about other comments.
- c. Kevin Stull asked when the Verizon installation would take place and if it would delay the completion.
  - i. Dan: PUC is reviewing price negotiation; work will hopefully start at the west end by the end of the month. Work should be about a week on each block – fairly straightforward and a shallow trench, though congested underground.
- d. Andrei Svensson asked about striping on eastbound Geary approaching Laguna, and how drivers should get to Gough Street.
  - i. Dan: Several striping designs were considered; this was the approved solution. It should be more clear when the final striping and red lanes are installed. Please let us know any specific suggestions for signage or markings.
- e. Lou Grosso expressed his thanks for the new APS and asked about the volume of APS at Geary/Masonic.
  - i. Dan will check their settings; that is an older installation. New installations have an updated but similar model that should be loud enough.
- f. Lou: Asked about a sidewalk ramp into the roadway without an accompanying crosswalk.
  - i. Dan will meet Lou tomorrow to field check.
- g. Annie had positive comments about the new crosswalks and pedestrian countdowns at Steiner.
  - i. Lou agreed about having extra places to stop safely in the crosswalk.



### 11. Geary Rapid – Outreach update

- a. Amy Fowler and Dan Mackowski presented on this item.
  - i. Committee members voted on a walking tour – longer tour on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> was chosen.

### 12. Adjourn

- a. Next meeting, July 14, 2021
- b. Lou Grosso motioned to adjourn. Susannah Raub seconded. Meeting adjourned by voice vote at 7:37 p.m.