



Geary Community Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Geary CAC Members	Project Staff
Tom Barton	Liz Brisson (SFMTA)
Hillary Brown	Amy Fowler (SFMTA)
Paul Epstein	John Gravener (SFMTA)
Sean Kim	David Sindel (SFMTA)
Spud Law	
Caixuan (Annie) Li	Derek Adams (SFPUC)
Susannah Raub	Kathryn Mandapat (SFPUC)
Kevin Stull	Shalon Rogers (SFPUC)
Andrei Svensson	Ming Yee (SFPUC)
Devi Zinzuvadia	
Marian Roth-Cramer	

Minutes

1. Call to Order

- a. Susannah Raub called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

2. Remote meeting housekeeping

3. Roll call and Introductions

4. Approval of minutes – April 10, 2024

- a. Tom Barton motioned to approve; multiple people seconded. Minutes approved by voice vote at 6:10 p.m.

5. Public comment

- a. No public comment.

6. San Francisco Public Utilities Commission project update

- a. Derek Adams presented on this item.
 - i. Devi Zinzuvadia asked whether SFPUC would be working with Supervisor Chan’s office (D1).
 - 1. Shalon Rogers replied that SFPUC staff is working with D1 for the small business working group and a September informational meeting. They are also working with D2 given the project limits include D2 between Stanyan and Arguello.
 - ii. Spud Law asked whether utility construction will be just on Geary or also on cross streets.

1. Derek Adams replied that there will be a small amount of cross street work at some locations, mostly for catch basins, but otherwise work will only be on Geary.
 - a. Spud asked whether this presentation will also be given to the SFPUC CAC.
 - i. Shalon Rogers replied that a presentation to the CAC is not currently scheduled, but that staff will plan for a presentation.
- iii. Sean Kim noted that different utilities (water, sewer, fiber optic conduits) are located in different parts of the streets and asked which utility will be worked on first.
 1. Derek Adams replied that all three utilities will be worked on at the same time to help shorten the overall duration. The water work is the critical path and sets the schedule. Sewer and fiber work will be scheduled around water work and may jump around more. SFPUC will be able to share the schedule once the contractor is on board.
 - a. Sean asked whether traffic lanes will be kept open.
 - b. Derek replied that two lanes per direction will always be open to traffic, one bus lane and one vehicle lane.
- iv. Sean Kim asked whether work on Segment A will proceed east-to-west or west-to-east.
 1. Derek replied that work will not necessarily proceed exactly in one direction – some segments will have to be completed before others. The sequence will be determined after investigation. The contractor has scheduling flexibility to make the project as speedy as possible, such as delaying certain blocks until conflicts have been resolved.
- v. Sean Kim requested outreach be done to merchants once there is a schedule so they can plan around it.
 1. Shalon Rogers replied that SFPUC will always inform residents and business owners before a block is under active construction, with mailers and also with door-to-door outreach when possible. The SFPUC will also have a 3-week lookahead on their website.
- vi. Tom Barton suggested that Sean use “inbound” and “outbound” for directions on Geary. Tom asked how the project will impact Muni riders, and whether it was okay to share the slides from this presentation on social media.
 1. Derek Adams and Shalon Rogers replied that sharing slides is fine – they are already on the SFMTA website.
 2. Ming Yee replied that SFPUC can meet with stakeholder group/organizations as needed.

3. Derek replied that there will always be at least two lanes open on any block, so there should be minimal impacts to buses. There may be temporary bus stop relocations during lateral work.
4. Amy Fowler noted that SFMTA.com/TempStop has a map of all temporary stop locations. The SFMTA and SFPUC are coordinating closely and may be able to share bus stop changes in the SFPUC's construction forecast.
- vii. Andrei Svensson asked whether the water work will be for the AWSS or domestic water.
 1. Derek Adams replied that the work will just be domestic water.
 - a. Susannah asked what AWSS means
 - i. Derek said it's no longer AWSS (Auxiliary Water Supply System), now called EFWS (Emergency Fire Water System). A system called PEFWS (Potable Emergency Fire Water System) is now in early stages of work for the Richmond and other areas. There is no work on Geary related to any of these emergency systems
- viii. Kevin Stull asked whether the heat of later summer/fall would impact work.
 1. Derek Adams replied that fall 2024 work is just potholing and utility investigations; the contractor will not break ground for the utility work until January.
 - a. Kevin asked whether extreme heat or rains later could affect the schedule.
 - i. Derek replied that wet weather days are factored into the contractor schedule. A number of days are added, assuming work will stop on some days during the rainy season.
 - ix. Andrei Svensson asked how old the water lines are, and whether there could be problems with unmarked utilities like on Van Ness.
 1. Derek Adams replied that potholing early is intended as mitigation by giving the contractor a lot of time to be thorough. The existing water pipes are about 100 years old. The Geary project area is expected to encounter fewer conflicts than Van Ness because the location is less likely to have historic unmarked utilities.

7. Geary Boulevard Improvement Project – Project update

- a. Liz Brisson, David Sindel, and John Gravener presented on this item.
 - i. Tom Barton noted that the bus ads are only in English and asked how they would attract non-English-speaking riders.

1. Liz Brisson replied that that is a fair point; while this ad campaign is in English, it's something to think about in the future. SFMTA project outreach is always conducted in multiple languages.
2. John Gravener noted that it may be possible to include information about the ad campaign in Russian and Chinese in the community enhancement round 2 survey.
- ii. Sean Kim expressed appreciation for working with businesses and creating three themed ads. He commented that the project should avoid fast-growing trees which can damage the sidewalk. He asked if Public Works could fix existing sidewalk damage from tree roots.
 1. Liz Brisson: SFMTA is working with the Public Works landscape architects, who are recommending tree species that will not cause these issues. The survey will also ask for feedback about whether trees should be placed in the median (which would not create the same potential challenges with sidewalk damage) or on the sidewalk.
- iii. Andrei Svennson commented that trees should be placed so they don't narrow the sidewalk too much.

8. Geary Rapid update

- a. Liz Brisson presented on this item.
 - i. Hillary Brown commented that July 10 is her one-year anniversary of being on the Geary CAC.
 - ii. Sean Kim mentioned that the next Richmond Night Market will be on July 20, 4pm to 8pm
 - iii. Tom Barton expressed appreciation for feeling welcomed by project staff.

9. Adjourn

- a. Next meeting, October 9, 2024. Group will continue meeting remotely.
- b. Tom Barton motioned to adjourn. Susannah Raub seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.