

Community Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 23, 2014

6:00-7:30pm

One South Van Ness, 7th floor, Union Square Conference Room

Minutes

1. Approval of September minutes.
 - a. Minutes approved in a voice vote.
2. SFMTA staff updates.
 - a. FTA update.
 - i. A letter is coming from the FTA to the SFAC that shelters must have roofs, FTA won't fund project if shelters have no roofs.
 - ii. Peter to get update on letter from FTA when they meet next week.
 - iii. Van Ness CAC letter to Arts Commission.
 - iv. Ed Reiskin may write letter to SFAC that shelters are beyond its scope.
 - b. CPMC delayed until 2015 (no clear date set) due to an undisclosed utility issue.
 - c. Golden Gate Bridge is closing auto lanes for median construction January 10 and 11. Additional info regarding closure will be circulated to CAC.
 - d. DPW has advised that blue and white zones in current design won't meet the draft ADA criteria that will be implemented before the project begins. As a result, may need to reduce sidewalk width and trees.
 - i. Draft policy requires bulb-in and ramp to sidewalk; City will be liable if latest code is not used for project.
 - ii. Peter drew a diagram of draft requirements indicating bulb-in and ramp for accessibility.
 - iii. Team to study feasibility of implementing ramps; may be able to accommodate ADA zones on side streets without major changes to current design.
 - iv. The impact on trees may be significant; Martha noted that the Urban Forestry Council values historic trees at \$186,000 each.
3. DPW presentation (attachment: PDF of presentation)
 - a. Design of BRT.
 - i. Presentation has been made to the Historic Preservation Commission, City Hall Preservation Group and San Francisco Arts Commission for public art.
 - ii. DPW looked at movement and pauses along the corridor, scale, parks and plaza zones, using paving zones to indicate bus stations and a more cohesive sidewalk pattern for the corridor.
 - iii. New OCS lighting will be implemented with high level lighting for the street and low level lighting for pedestrian safety. Lighting and poles at station for CCTC cameras.
 - iv. New bicycle racks to be added to corridor.
 - v. Platforms on loading side were initially planned at 14" height, but after testing it was proven unfeasible due to 3" maximum gap allowed by ADA. The platform heights are now planned at 6" height and buses will use projected ramps. Step up will now be between 5-8".



VAN NESS BUS RAPID TRANSIT

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1. BRT must be compatible with entire bus fleet for flexibility, including Golden Gate Transit buses that have side loading for wheelchairs and bicycles.
 2. Proposed 6" platform height improves loading for bicycles.
 3. Platforms on traffic side are still planned for 14" tall and 13" wide per Caltrans guidelines.
 - vi. Railings are 4'6" per Caltrans guidelines to prevent people leaning into traffic.
 1. SFAC approved railings are a cantilever design that provides a sense of movement at the stations.
 2. Caltrans is concerned about sight line from side streets with proposed railings.
 3. SFAC second choice would be laser cut panel mounted on frame.
 - vii. For shelters, red and yellow roofs are in use in the SFMTA system, a third color may be specified.
 - viii. Selected artist for public art is Jorge Pardo.
 1. CAC reviewed artist's portfolio (attachment: PDF of portfolio).
 2. Working on sculptural lighting at stations with highest foot traffic, Market Street, McAllister, and O'Farrell/Geary.
 - b. Tree selection process.
 - i. Trees will have strong presence in design.
 - ii. Existing trees are being audited for quality.
 - iii. Horticultural scientist provided original list and Urban Forestry professionals reviewed the species.
 - iv. Trees for median to be either columnar in form and holds form, overtime grows up and over wires, or have a narrow trunk and tuft at the top (palm tree).
 - v. Trees have been narrowed to a top 10-12 species, evaluated by set of guidelines and criteria, then by aesthetics such as color, deciduous or coniferous, density, etc.
 - vi. Considering two trees, a main tree and an accent tree, particularly at stations to serve as a way-finding indicator.
 - vii. Next step for tree selection is to present top three choices to Urban Forestry Council, CAC to be kept in the loop on updates.
4. Van Ness BRT CAC outreach.
 - a. Meet with merchants along corridor and encourage them to write letters or attend meeting the SFMTA board meeting on November 18.
 - b. Proposed changes flyer will be circulated in email or letter that includes summary and info for SFMTA Board of Directors.
 - c. CAC members volunteered to reach out to the following:
 - d. BevMo – Dell.
 - e. Dolce Amore, Mazza Luna, Opera Plaza – William.
 - f. Northern corridor business, CCDG, Notre Dame apartments on Broadway between Van Ness and Polk – Phillip.
 - g. Studio Mix and 24-Hour Fitness – Ming.
 - h. Other places listed for outreach: Schools, coffee shops, and Philz Coffee.
5. Scheduled November 20 meeting.
 - a. Approved with a voice vote.

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