

Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee**Thursday, August 23, 2018, 6:00 p.m.****One South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor, Union Square Conference Room**Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. Public comment.
 - a. None heard.
3. Approval of minutes – [July 26](#).
 - a. Approved by a voice vote.
4. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding update from SFMTA staff.
 - a. Project schedule.
 - i. The project is delayed 445 days. There is a discrepancy between the contractor and the city about the schedule logic used to calculate the delays.
 1. Anne Turner: Please provide more detail about the discrepancy.
 - a. Currently there is a discrepancy in the logic that is being used to calculate the schedule because the project schedule is complex with many interdependent project activities. Project staff is actively working to resolve this discrepancy, however, there is agreement between the parties that the project is at least 400 days behind schedule.
 - ii. Bob Anderson: Are there any blocks that are done with the utility work?
 1. No. There are some blocks that are done with the major phases of utility work (water, sewer, sidewalk, etc.) on the side of the street that crews are working on, but they still have some activities left, like installing light poles. After that, crews will return to those blocks to do the entire utility phase sequence on the other side of the street.
 - b. Construction update.
 - i. Bob Lockhart: How will the sidewalk work affect access to my garage?
 1. Every block is different, but the construction team is working to minimize disruption. The contractor is looking into phasing the work for some areas or using accelerants to help the cement dry quicker, in about 8-10 hours.
 - ii. Bob Lockhart: The crews have been really responsive and attentive in providing access in other phases of construction.

- iii. Martha Knutzen: Is the new sidewalk in front of 601 Van Ness wider?
 - 1. No, the sidewalk has been restored to its previous condition.
 - iv. Joanna Gubman: The new sidewalk looks very nice, but there are some slopes close to where the steps are located that seem a little off and are worth examining.
 - c. Outreach update.
 - i. Bob Lockhart: Is there an image of the final pole design?
 - ii. Yes, project staff has images of the final pole design available.
 - d. Update on neighboring projects.
5. Member comment:
 - a. Alex Wilson:
 - i. A motion was passed by the committee for SFMTA staff to provide an update at the next meeting regarding construction impacts to transit service, cyclists, pedestrians and traffic on Van Ness.
 - ii. A motion was passed by the committee for SFMTA staff to provide an update on the public art component of the project.
 - iii. A motion was passed by the committee to reschedule the Van Ness BRT CAC November meeting to the third Thursday of that month, and to invite the Van Ness Business Advisory Committee for a joint meeting.
 - iv. A motion was passed by the committee to cancel the Van Ness BRT CAC December meeting.
 - b. Adam Mayer: The construction zones create safety concerns when cars are turning right. Pedestrians are less visible.
 - c. Bob Anderson: Because there are no pedestrian countdown signals at some intersections, pedestrians can sometimes get stuck in the middle of Van Ness and there is no safe place for them to wait. Driving conditions are tougher on Van Ness with all of the construction.
 - d. Joanna Gubman: The intersections that have been torn up and patched up are also harder to cross. The pedestrian walkways can be dark and narrow, which feels less safe. Is any outreach done to tourists organizations to encourage tourists to avoid Van Ness when driving in the city?
 - i. Project staff did reach out to tourism organizations such as SF Hotel Council to let tourists know to expect construction and related delays on Van Ness.
 - e. Bob Lockhart: Tour buses are still making illegal left-turns at California.
 - f. Anne Turner: I observed the lane shift that happened this morning on Van Ness, and the driving public did very well with the change.
 - g. Martha Knutzen: Construction barriers create additional blind spots for drivers, and create tougher conditions to navigate Van Ness in all modes. The pedestrian walkways can get dark and secluded, especially at night, which creates safety concerns.
6. Meeting adjourned by a voice vote at 6:43 p.m.