



**SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND  
PARKING AUTHORITY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

**REGULAR MEETING  
1 P.M.**

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency and to protect our Board Members, SFMTA staff, and members of the public, the Board's Meeting Room (Room 400) is closed.

**Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely. If you want to ensure your comment on any item on the agenda is received by the Board in advance of the meeting, please send an email to [MTABoard@sfmta.com](mailto:MTABoard@sfmta.com) by 5pm the day before the meeting or call (415) 646-4470. Please see the information on the next page for remote meeting access.**

**SFMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Gwyneth Borden, Chair  
Amanda Eaken, Vice Chair  
Steve Heminger  
Fiona Hinze  
Sharon Lai  
Manny Yekutieli

Jeffrey Tumlin  
**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

Christine Silva  
**SECRETARY**

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Borden called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Present: Gwyneth Borden  
Amanda Eaken  
Steve Heminger  
Fiona Hinze  
Sharon Lai  
Manny Yekutieli

### 3. Announcement of prohibition of sound producing devices during the meeting.

No announcement was made.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Pilpel suggested various, minor corrections.

On motion to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2021 Regular Meeting with corrections:  
unanimously approved.

### 5. Communications

Chair Borden shared that the meeting would be adjourned in honor of Joseph Tracy, Dave Longyear, and John Penman.

Chair Borden discussed the virtual meeting and expressed appreciation to staff for their work to enable the meeting to be held via teleconference. Board Secretary Silva reviewed how members of the public could watch the meeting and address the Board.

### 6. Introduction of New or Unfinished Business by Board Members

Director Hinze requested that staff report on plans related to Assembly Bill 43 (AB 43) implementation.

Director Yekutieli announced the birth of his niece.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Pilpel congratulated Director Yekutiel on his niece's birth.

Luke Bornheimer congratulated Director Yekutiel and looked forward to seeing how the SFMTA would apply AB 43.

#### 7. Director's Report (For discussion only)

- Vaccination Update
- Vision Zero Update
- Project Updates
- Ongoing Activities

Director Tumlin shared updates on employee vaccinations and service impacts, transit service, Vision Zero, legislative items, budget, and ongoing projects.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joe Kunzler thanked Director Tumlin for his support of the vaccination mandate.

Aleta Dupree expressed support for the vaccination mandate and the hiring of new employees to replace employees wishing to leave the SFMTA.

Richard Rothman requested that staff release a report on AB 43 implementation, shared that Fulton Street should be part of car-free JFK, and proposed that Stanyan Street and JFK should be opened.

Benjamin Vallis suggested that forward-facing cameras on taxis be used for enforcement of red transit lanes and urged the SFMTA to keep curbside taxi access at the de Young Museum.

Luke Bornheimer thanked the SFMTA for their continued work on the Golden Gate Park Safety Program and expressed support for car-free JFK Drive.

Barry Taranto agreed with a previous caller, sharing that taxis need to be staged and seen at amenities in the park for people to take taxis. He also suggested that the Taxi Division issue an identification card to drivers to show they are fully vaccinated.

Stacey Randecker shared that there should be limited car access to the parking garage and sports field lots and urged the SFMTA to think creatively about incentivizing riding taxis or buses.

Patrick expressed support for a car-free Golden Gate Park and shared his experience of taking transit to the park.

Herbert Weiner expressed concern about community outreach and urged the SFMTA to restore full service.

#### 8. Citizens' Advisory Council Report

Michael Chen, Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) Chair, presented the report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

David Pilpel shared that Chair Chen and Vice Chair Leifer are doing a good job, thanked them, and thanked other members currently serving on the CAC.

Edward Mason commented that there was overwhelming support at the CAC against the forced transfer for the J Church line and urged the SFMTA to be cautious on this matter.

**9. Public Comment**

Members of the public may address the SFMTA Board of Directors on matters that are within the Board's jurisdiction and are not on today's calendar.

James Reagan expressed concern for taxi medallion holders.

Ali Cunny asked the City to buy back purchased taxi medallions or release medallion holders from the bank.

Mohammad expressed concern about his taxi medallion loan, having no income and not knowing what to do.

Anonymous urged the SFMTA to allow taxi drivers use transit lanes, including new red transit lanes.

Anonymous shared that he paid \$250,000 for his taxi medallion, but currently has no business. He urged the SFMTA buy back the medallions.

Matt Sutter suggested that the SFMTA use federal pandemic funds to buy back medallions because the majority of purchasers cannot keep up with payments. He also suggested issuing a bond to bail out drivers.

Benjamin Vallis expressed concern for purchased medallion holders and shared that the city needs more taxi drivers, questioning how to attract new drivers to the taxi industry.

Marcello Canseco expressed frustration, sharing that the SFMTA should take responsibility for the failed taxi program, and urging the agency to revamp the program.

Hester expressed concern about operating costs and urged the SFMTA to consider a bond to help purchased medallion holders.

Aleta Dupree commented on discrimination on public transportation and asked the Board to build a Muni where all would be welcomed.

Stacey Randecker requested a report at every Board meeting on what the SFMTA has done to address the most pressing issues, including the climate emergency, Vision Zero, and Transit First.

Anonymous expressed concern for taxi medallion holders and urged the SFMTA to buy back medallions to help taxi drivers.

Herbert Weiner expressed concern for the Van Ness Improvement Project bus stops and transfer points and also supported having medallions returned to taxi drivers and not with the SFMTA.

Barry Taranto shared that purchased medallion holders were asked to call in today following the verdict from the related taxi lawsuit and urged the SFMTA to provide relief to medallion holders.

Evelyn Engel commented on the crisis of medallion debt, sharing that many are on the edge of despair and hoped that the SFMTA chooses to help.

Anonymous expressed frustration as a taxi driver with a medallion loan, sharing that it is a debt that cannot be repaid.

Austin Peterson urged the SFMTA to fix the taxi medallion program so that more young people would want to drive a cab and work for the City.

Mark Gruberg expressed support for the drivers that called and voiced their concerns. He shared that it is a disgraceful situation, that the taxi program is a disaster, and it must be repaired.

Waziri Imedal expressed concern over the difficulty making enough money as a taxi driver to cover expenses and urged the SFMTA to help.

Roberto Marquez shared his experience as a taxi driver and medallion holder, expressing frustration with the taxi program.

Luke Bornheimer commented on street design and protected bike lanes, urging the SFMTA to change its policy and paint bike lanes through every intersection.

Phillip suggested that the City make the cab industry a public utility which would allow for more options to address the problem and urged the SFMTA to rebuild the entire taxi program.

Francisco DeCosta suggested the SFMTA do a needs assessment on the suffering, debt and foreclosures of taxi drivers.

Victor Pelgachar shared his experience as a taxi driver and medallion loan holder and urged the SFMTA to find a solution.

Mohad questioned taxi regulation and urged the SFMTA to look for a solution because the SFMTA is the only one can fix it.

David Pilpel thanked the current SFMTA Planning Director for her work, requested that Board emails be posted online, and suggested that the SFMTA consider extending the 21 Hayes trolley coach into Golden Gate Park.

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS BEFORE THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION AS STATED BY THE SFMTA DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OR CITY ATTORNEY WHERE APPLICABLE. EXPLANATORY DOCUMENTS FOR ALL CALENDAR ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT 1 SOUTH VAN NESS AVE. 7<sup>th</sup> FLOOR.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

10. All matters listed hereunder constitute a Consent Calendar, are considered to be routine by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors and will be acted upon by a single vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Directors or the public so requests, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered as a separate item.

(10.1) Approving the following parking and traffic modifications:

- A. ESTABLISH – 1-HOUR PARKING, 7 AM TO 6 PM, EVERYDAY EXCEPT SUNDAYS – Irving Street, north side, between 46th Avenue and 47th Avenue.
- B. ESTABLISH - RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA R – 555 Golden Gate Avenue.
- C. ESTABLISH - RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA U – 345-363 6th Street.
- D. ESTABLISH - RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA C – 610 Hyde Street.
- E. ESTABLISH - RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA C – 1005 Larkin Street and 1002 Post Street.
- F. ESTABLISH - RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA S – 3914-3916 24th Street.  
(Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution. For every parking and traffic modification that received a categorical exemption, the proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.)

### RESOLUTION 211019-119

(10.2) Adopting a resolution of local support for the programming of State Transportation Improvement Program funds in the amount of \$10,642,000 for the Phase 3 (N-Judah) segment of the SFMTA’s Train Control Upgrade Program in Fiscal Year 2025/26; and providing assurances to comply with Metropolitan Transportation Commission policies. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution.)

### RESOLUTION 211019-120

(10.3) Approving retroactively an extension of the six-month promotional program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from COVID-19 vaccination and vaccination booster appointments from September 17, 2021 through September 16, 2022, and expansion of the program to

include a parent/guardian when accompanying a minor, approving the Title VI analysis of the impact of the proposed fare change on low-income and minority communities in San Francisco, and waiving Article 4, Section 10 of the SFMTA Board Rules of Order since the scheduled public hearing is not less than five days after the last publication of notice. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution.)

RESOLUTION 211019-121

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing opposition: David Pilpel (10.2)

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: David Pilpel (10.3) and Stacey Randecker (10.1)

On motion to approve the Consent Calendar with correction to Item 10.3 Resolution, in 4<sup>th</sup> Whereas correcting referenced resolution number to Resolution No. 210316-036:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Eaken, Heminger, Hinze, Lai and Yekutieli

#### REGULAR CALENDAR

11. Adopting the Lake Merced Pedestrian Safety Community-Based Transportation Plan. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution.)

Adrienne Heim, Transit Planner, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Brian Haagsman, Stacey Randecker, David Pilpel, Nick Cordesh, Patrick

RESOLUTION 211019-122

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Eaken, Heminger, Hinze, Lai and Yekutieli

Chair Borden left the meeting.

12. Awarding Contract No. 1313R1, 16th Street Improvement Project to JMB Construction to install traffic signals, overhead wires, pedestrian and transit bulbs, and to replace the sewer on 16th Street between Church Street and Potrero Streets, in the amount of \$16,269,609, and for a term of 550 days to Substantial Completion and making environmental review findings. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, resolution and finance plan.)

Julie Kirshbaum, Director of Transit, and Parand Maleki, Project Manager, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Cat Carter, Stacey Randecker

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: Herbert Weiner, David Pilpel

RESOLUTION 211019-123

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Eaken, Heminger, Hinze, Lai and Yekutiel

ABSENT – Borden

13. Authorizing the Director to execute Contract Nos. 2020-65-FTA and 2020-68-FTA for As-Needed Transit Corridor Planning and Engineering Services, with HNTB Corporation and NN Engineering, respectively, each contract in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, and for a three-year term with two optional one-year extensions. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution.)

Liz Brisson, Major Corridors Planning Manager, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing opposition: Stacey Randecker

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: David Pilpel

RESOLUTION 211019-124

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Eaken, Heminger, Hinze, Lai and Yekutiel

ABSENT – Borden

14. Authorizing the Director to execute Modification No. 14 to Contract No. 1289, Van Ness Corridor Transit Improvement Project, with Walsh Construction Company to perform various roadway work in the amount of \$717,877.56, for a total Contract amount not to exceed \$222,465,143.57, with no time extension, and making environmental review findings. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, resolution, and finance plan.)

Peter Gabancho, Project Manager, presented the item.



PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: David Pilpel, Herbert Weiner, Stacey Randecker

RESOLUTION 211019-125

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Eaken, Heminger, Hinze, Lai and Yekutieli

ABSENT – Borden

ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m. in memory of Joseph Tracy, Dave Longyear, and John Penman.

A recording of the meeting is on file in the office of the Secretary to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors.



Christine Silva  
Board Secretary

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Appeal Rights under S.F. Admin. Code Chapter 31: For identified Approval Actions, the Planning Department or the SFMTA has issued a CEQA exemption determination or negative declaration, which may be viewed online at the Planning Department's website. Following approval of the item by the SFMTA Board, the CEQA determination is subject to appeal within the time frame specified in S.F. Administrative Code Section 31.16 which is typically within 30 calendar days. For information on filing a CEQA appeal, contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102, or call (415) 554-5184. Under CEQA, in a later court challenge, a litigant may be limited to raising only those issues previously raised at a hearing on the project or submitted in writing to the City prior to or at such hearing, or as part of the appeal hearing process on the CEQA decision.

Board of Supervisors review of certain SFMTA Decisions: Certain parking and traffic modifications as well as Private Transportation Programs that involve certain parking modifications can be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors. These decisions are subject to review within 30 calendar days after they are made by the SFMTA Board of Directors. For information on requesting a review, contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102, call (415) 554-5184. Ordinance No. 127-18 specifying which SFMTA decisions are reviewable by the Board of Supervisors can be accessed on-line: <https://sfbos.org/sites/default/files/o0127-18.pdf>.

The Ethics Commission of the City and County of San Francisco has asked us to remind individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [S.F. Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code section 2.100 et seq.] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 415.581.2300; fax: 415.581.2317; 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, SF, CA 94102-6027 or the web site: [sfgov.org/ethics](http://sfgov.org/ethics).

If you wish to contact the Board regarding an item that is expected to be on a agenda, please email the Board at [MTABoard@sfmta.com](mailto:MTABoard@sfmta.com). Please know that the Board appreciates receiving such communication not later than Monday, the day before the meeting so they have time to review and consider the comments prior to the meeting.

#### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decision in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact Administrator, by mail to Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco CA 94102-4689; by phone at 415.554.7724; by fax at 415.554.7854; or by email at [sotf@sfgov.org](mailto:sotf@sfgov.org).

Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City's website at [sfgov.org](http://sfgov.org).