



San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Citizens' Advisory Council

MINUTES • Meeting Date: June 1, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

5:30 pm

1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor
Room 7080, Union Square Conference Room

SFMTA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Chen, Chair
Aaron Leifer, Vice-Chair
Chris Arvin
Sascha Bittner
Queena Chen
Steve Cornell
Robert Jaques
John Lisovsky
Obai Rambo
Karim Salgado
Yensing Sihapanya
Connor Skelly
Susan Vaughan
Frank Zepeda

COUNCIL LIAISON

Christine Silva

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Keka Robinson-Luqman



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Chen called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Chris Arvin, Michael Chen, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, Karim Salgado, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

CAC members absent at Roll Call: John Lisovsky

CAC members absent with notification: Sascha Bittner, Obai Rambo, Yensing Sihapanya, and Frank Zepeda

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

CAC Secretary Robinson-Luqman made the announcement.

4. Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

On motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2023:

ADOPTED: AYES – Chris Arvin, Michael Chen, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, Karim Salgado, Connor Skelly, Susan Vaughan,
ABSENT – Sascha Bittner, John Lisovsky, Obai Rambo, Yensing Sihapanya, and Frank Zepeda

5. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

Chair Chen welcomed newly appointed CAC member Robert Jaques. He also reminded the Council that there will be elections for Chair and Vice Chair at the July CAC meeting. He reported that there is a lot of advocacy happening at the State level regarding transit funding.

6. Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sara Desumala stated that it took a long time to process a RTC clipper card application.



Angel asked when his RTC application will be processed, and when he will receive his Clipper card.

Edward Mason stated that micro-mobility devices such as scooters are proliferating, private, and all over the sidewalks. It seems that they believe themselves to be fast pedestrians. The real danger is that. There's a total disregard of common sense. He is concerned for the safety of pedestrians.

Mari Eliza asked if there are there any plans to announce to the public when systems are turned over to AI programs, so the public knows when things are changing.

7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding building trust with the agency. (Viktoriya Wise, Chief of Staff. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason stated that he witnessed a supervisor yelling at a driver for not being properly staged. There should be mentoring available for supervisors.

8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding Geary Improvement Project Update. (Liz Brisson, Manager, Long Range Transit Corridor Planning. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Written 150-Word Public Testimony by Mari Eliza for Minutes of SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council Regular Meeting June 1, 2023: Agenda Item #8, Geary Improvement Project Update:

I drive across town to Geary about once a week and rarely pass more than 3 buses or bikes each trip. I also observe that people including bus drivers generally try to avoid the potholes and that means a lot of times the buses are not in the bus lanes. They, along with the cars, drive in the better surfaced lanes. Therefore, my suggestion for making the streets safer is to repair the streets so all drivers, including MUNI drivers are less distracted by trying to avoid potholes and ripples in the street. I support the Geary merchants request to drop the Geary quick build.

Edward Mason inquired about casino buses on Geary and if left turns will stop the opposite flow of traffic. He also asked if the plan considers building permits for auxiliary dwelling units.

Dave Alexander thanked staff for the presentation and the council for their thoughtful comments. Geary BRT is being used as a political football. It is troubling to see.



Lian Chang discussed parking regarding the Geary project. In the same way the parklet creates new opportunities, this project has a ton of benefits. Business owners often become the biggest champions of this work once they see the benefits.

Sean Kim, Vice President of the Geary Merchants Association, spoke against angled-to-parallel parking.

Vic Collaco stated that he travels every day on Geary. The parking is critical to non-profits and churches. There are many elderly people who need the parking. Any change west of 25th avenue is insignificant to the time saving.

Cyrus Hall from Faster Safer Geary gave a history of Geary transit.

Josh Kelly stated that the pedestrian safety improvements cannot come soon enough. They are critical.

Scott asked the CAC to support the project. Public transit is good for business.

CAC MOTION 230601.01

The SFMTA CAC recommends adoption of the agency's plans on Geary without delay, and commends the agency for:

- (1) the extensive outreach to all community stakeholders
- (2) the commitment to our city's transit and taxis
- (3) the commitment to substantially reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- (4) the prioritization of fast project delivery to minimize community disruption

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Chris Arvin, Michael Chen, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

NAYES – Stephen Cornell,

ABSENT – Sascha Bittner, Queena Chen, Obai Rambo, Yensing Sihapanya, and Frank Zepeda

9. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Administration, Operations, and Customer Service Committee (AOCSC) report and recommendations.

Council member Chris Arvin, Chair, AOCSC, presented the item.



10. Council Member Information and Agenda Item Requests. (For discussion only)

None.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KARobinson-Luqman'.

Keka Robinson-Luqman
SFMTA CAC – Secretary

Next regular meeting: Thursday, July 6th at 5:30pm | Union Square Conference Room