



SFMTA
Municipal
Transportation
Agency

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Thursday, August 7, 2014
Room 7080, Union Square Conference Room
1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor

REGULAR MEETING
5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Daniel Weaver (Chair), Daniel Murphy (Vice Chair), Mark Ballew,
Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Alex Reese,
Susan Vaughan, Dorris Vincent, Roland Wong, and Frank Zepeda

COUNCIL LIAISON
Roberta Boomer

COUNCIL SECRETARY
Yvette Torres

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chairman Weaver called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

CAC members absent at Roll Call:

CAC members absent: Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

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

CAC Liaison Boomer made the announcement.

4. Approval of Minutes

- June 5, 2014

Public Comment:

None

On motion to approve the minutes of June 5, 2014: Approved

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

5. Election of CAC Chairman and Vice Chairman

Public Comment:

None.

On motion to elect Dan Weaver as Chairman

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Nayes –

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

Public Comment:

None

On motion to elect Daniel Murphy as Vice Chairman

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

6. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

CAC Staff Liaison Boomer discussed possible revisions to the format of the CAC staff report. Vice Chairman Murphy stated that the information on the web is similar to the information about system delays that the CAC used to get but noted that the last post was May 2014 and that the reports are inconsistent. He expressed concern about timeliness.

7. Public Comment

Edward Mason reported his observations in Noe Valley of the impact of commuter shuttle buses over the past week. Some operated in unauthorized stops. Some don't have signs or the signs can't be viewed easily. Signs are not on all four sides of the bus. Some license plates in the front window of the bus can't easily be seen. Enforcement is visible but buses are now diverting to other streets. Buses are blocking traffic and backing up traffic. Bicycle removal blocks traffic in the evening. Double parking is an issue.

REGULAR CALENDAR

8. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding the Van Ness Ave. Bus Rapid Transit Project. (Peter Gabancho, Project Manager)

Peter Gabancho reviewed the project, design and accessibility features, safety improvements and benefits of the project. He discussed the configuration and impact of the proposed alignment on cars, bicycles, passengers and pedestrians. The intersections of Market, Geary and Union are major transit hubs. Mr. Gabancho also reviewed various "parallel projects" that are being done in conjunction with the Van Ness BRT project but which aren't part of the project including signal system upgrades, vehicle procurement, radio replacement, work on sewer, street lighting, water and water supply systems. Other city department or utility company infrastructure work will be coordinated with this project to minimize disruption to nearby residents. There will be 7 ½ minute headways for the 47 and 49 lines. Infrastructure will be installed that will allow ticket vending machines on the platforms in the future but initially there will be no fare pre-payment options. 37 vehicles will be required. Approximately 100 parking spaces will be removed mostly where the stations will be located, which represents approximately 26% of the current spaces. The project is anticipated to be complete in mid-2018 with revenue service later in 2018. Staff is working on construction sequencing and traffic management plans and is continuing to work on project design.

Public comment:

Eric Scott wondered about the need for bridge plates and suggested that staff look at what New York City is doing with regard to ticket vending machines. Their TVM's aren't sheltered and endure more climate extremes than in San Francisco.

Edward Mason wondered who would be responsible for trees and vegetation. There is a lot of LED lighting down the Peninsula which is a significant cost savings. He also wondered what the VTA was doing with their BRT program.

Motion 140807.01

The SFMTA CAC recommends that Van Ness BRT station shelters be equipped with roofs. If a reasonable agreement can't be reached with Clear Channel about roof design the SFMTA CAC recommends that the SFMTA purchase and maintain its own shelters with roofs.

If the SFMTA finds that obtaining and maintaining its own roofs is impractical, the SFMTA CAC recommends that the SFMTA return to the Arts Commission and argue that the "wave" style roofs, while less than ideal, are better for passengers than no roofs at all.

The SFMTA CAC finds it unacceptable in light of San Francisco's average of 73 rainy days per year that high traffic stations being built at a cost of \$125 million might provide no shelter whatsoever from the rain.

Public comment on the motion:

Eric Scott wondered what shelter maintenance entailed and whether maintenance could be performed by others, such as those in citation diversion programs.

On motion to approve 140807.01:

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Nayes –

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

APPROVED

9. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding California Pacific Medical Center Public Improvements Funding Program. (Frank Markowitz, Senior Transportation Planner)

Frank Markowitz stated that the Cathedral Hill medical building, St. Luke's and a new neuroscience center at Castro and Duboce are the key projects. The transportation benefits should be substantial to the SFMTA. Over the course of the agreement, the SFMTA should receive approximately \$20 million. He reviewed the SFMTA's plans for public improvements including improvements on Geary and Van Ness, bicycle studies and projects, improved reliability and travel times, enforcement and pedestrian safety. The CPC has developed a plan to provide low cost parking, information and financial incentives to encourage employees, visitors and patients to use sustainable modes.

Public Comment:

Edward Mason noted that St Luke's is served by multiple lines. He wondered about the number of employees and where they would be coming from. With an increasing population, he wondered about

how the plan would fit into the mix with respect to congestion and ride share services. Uber and Lyft are getting into shared ride services.

10. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation from Engineering, Maintenance and Safety Committee (EMSC)

Public Comment:

None

Motion 140625.01:

The SFMTA CAC recommends the SFMTA develop a master plan for the historic and vintage fleet to: explore future expansion of historic line service, plan for future rehabilitation of historic vehicles, plan for new historic lines, plan for future procurement of historic vehicles, plan for shelter of historic vehicles, and plan for operations and maintenance of historic vehicles.

On motion to approve 140625.01:

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Nayes –

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

APPROVED

Motion 140625.02:

The SFMTA CAC would like to thank the operators who showed up to work during the June three-day 'sickout' and further recommends the SFMTA Board commend the said operators with a letter of commendation to acknowledge the difficult situation those drivers were put in due to the 'sickout'. Furthermore, the CAC would like to thank and acknowledge the Operations group, Line Management, Central Control and Street Ops for the extra effort and dedicated service to maintain a reasonable headway for all lines given the severely limited resources during the 'sickout'. The CAC also recommends that the SFMTA Board acknowledge these individuals and their managers for their work.

Chairman Weaver stated that if the motion was approved, he would send a letter to Director Reiskin asking him to express the CAC's appreciation to staff.

Public Comment:

Eric Scott called the motion appalling. He questioned commending operators for showing up to work. In any other context, showing up for work is a minimum requirement of the job. A commendation should be for going above and beyond or for being heroic. If just doing their job is "above and beyond" the expectations the CAC has for these people, something is seriously wrong. He wondered

if it wasn't time to look at privatizing Muni with managers who are unafraid to take action. He expressed support for commending managers.

On motion to approve Motion 140625.02:

Ayes – Joan Downey, Steve Ferrario, Katie Haverkamp, Daniel Murphy, Dorris Vincent, Dan Weaver, Roland Wong and Frank Zepeda

Absent – Mark Ballew, Alex Reese, and Susan Vaughan

APPROVED

11. Council Members' requests for information. (For discussion only)

Daniel Murphy asked about the posting of post-incident summaries on the SFMTA's website. The summaries are not up to date and some months are missing.

Dorris Vincent discussed an incident on the T line when a packed train was pulled out of service due to graffiti although the paint was dry. She requested the standard operating procedure for dealing with graffiti, especially when a vehicle is in service.

Steve Ferrario requested another hearing about the accuracy of the Next Bus information. At the Embarcadero station, an old ATCS display was replaced with an inaccurate NextBus display. (Chairman Weaver asked that it be scheduled for discussion at a future CAC meeting.)

Katie Haverkamp noted an advertisement that covered all windows and most of the doors. She asked for the language in the contract regarding what can be wrapped and what the safety regulations are with respect to visibility.

Katie Haverkamp asked for information about what will happen to the Breda cars when they are retired.

Joan Downey noted that in the evening at Duboce and Church, there are a number of cars that travel in the red lane. She wants to know if there is enforcement of the red lane.

Joan Downey requested a presentation at a future CAC meeting regarding the commuter shuttle bus program and enforcement. (Chairman Weaver scheduled a presentation for Spring 2015.)

Joan Downey described a situation on Divisadero where a recently constructed bus bulb has made it difficult and dangerous for people who can't see traffic when they try to exit their garage. She would like to know what can be done to make it safe for people to exit their garage now that their line-of-sight is gone.

Public Comment:

Ed Mason suggested a report on an incident on 21st and Chattanooga where a commuter bus got stopped transit. It occurred on August 5. He wondered how the bus got on those streets (Councilmember Downey requested that staff provide a report.)

12. Schedule upcoming calendar items. (For discussion only)

Next regular meeting: Thursday, September 4 at 5:30 p.m.

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

ADJOURN- The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Submitted by:

Roberta Boomer

SFMTA CAC – Liaison

Accessible meeting policy – One South Van Ness Avenue

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