



Citizens' Advisory Council
Michael Chen, Chair
Aaron Leifer, Vice Chair
Chris Arvin
Sascha Bittner
Queena Chen
Stephen Cornell
John Lisovsky
Obai Rambo
Karim Salgado
Yensing Sihapanya
Connor Skelly
Susan Vaughan
Dorris Vincent
Frank Zepeda

March 18, 2022

SFMTA Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
One South Van Ness Avenue, Seventh Floor
San Francisco, California 94103-5417

Re: SFMTA CAC Recommendation

Dear Directors:

In our Citizens' Advisory Council meeting on March 17, 2022, the Council considered the following recommendation:

CAC MOTION 220317.02

WHEREAS the SFMTA CAC appreciates the outreach staff has performed over the last two months to the CAC and to the public on the 2023-2024 budget;

WHEREAS the SFMTA CAC appreciates and agrees with the agency's focus on data-driven insights and prioritizing a state of good repair;

WHEREAS the SFMTA CAC recognizes that the agency is still in a serious, structural budget crisis despite receiving more than \$1 billion in federal relief money;

WHEREAS the SFMTA (due to a variety of factors) still lags comparable agencies in service restoration, which is key to increasing ridership;

WHEREAS the continued global climate emergency demands a transit policy that reduces a dependence on fossil fuels in transportation, the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions;

BE IT RESOLVED that the SFMTA CAC recommends that while this is not an exhaustive list, the SFMTA budget reflect the following priorities and values:

A. Deliver Safe, Quality Service to Bring Riders Back

1. Implement 2022 Muni service restoration plan without further delay and look to further expand service as staff hiring permits
2. Expand the Muni Forward and Temporary Emergency Transit Lane (TETL) programs to enhance Muni service safety, speed, reliability, and efficiency
3. Fully explore programs that will increase ridership such as Free Muni for Youth, business commuter benefits programs, and other ridership incentives and marketing initiatives
4. Implement a fare policy that freezes fares for this budget and includes a fare-capping pilot
5. Prioritize delivering service equitably, especially for communities of concern

B. Drive a Business Model that Ensures Long-Term Reliability and Sustainability

1. Reduce the agency's dependency on one-time cash infusions and transform to a more self-sustaining revenue model, including additional tax revenue
2. Prioritize one-time federal relief funds towards shrinking the maintenance backlog and moving towards a fully realized state of good repair
3. Accelerate delivery of the next-generation customer information and replacement subway train control systems
4. Continue to eschew the previous practice of deferring maintenance in order to deliver service
5. Promote transportation mode shifting and safer streets in recognition of our changing local travel patterns and global climate emergency
6. Implement a fee and fine structure that provides revenue to the agency while scaling to and considering ability to pay

It is the opinion of the SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council that the proposed recommendation would be of significant benefit to the citizenry of San Francisco and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency.

Sincerely,



For

Michael Chen, Chair
SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council

cc: SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council