

**THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO. : 10.4**

**SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**DIVISION:** Sustainable Streets

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

Approving the removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street.

**SUMMARY:**

- Under Proposition A, the SFMTA Board of Directors has authority to adopt parking and traffic regulations changes.
- Taxis are not exempt from any of these regulations.
- The proposed removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street will remove the restriction on parking, loading, and unloading along the curb from 3 PM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday. Traffic modeling found that existing traffic and Muni service will not be impacted by the removal of the peak-hour lane.
- The San Francisco Planning Department determined that the proposed removal of the tow-away lane is categorically exempt under CEQA on March 10, 2014.

**ENCLOSURES:**

1. SFMTAB Resolution

**APPROVALS:**

**DATE**

DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_ 3/20/14

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_ 3/20/14

**ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE:** April 1, 2014

## **PAGE 2.**

### **PURPOSE**

Approving the removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street.

### **GOAL**

This action supports the following SFMTA Strategic Plan Goal and Objectives:

Goal 3: Improve the environment and quality of life in San Francisco

Objective 3.2: Increase the transportation system's positive impact to the economy.

Objective 3.4: Deliver services efficiently.

### **DESCRIPTION**

Prior to the construction of St. Mary's School and City College on the 800 block of Kearny Street, the block contained metered parking and metered commercial loading zones (yellow zones), both subject to the 3 PM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday tow-away lane. After construction was completed in 2011, passenger loading zones (white zones) were requested by St. Mary's School and City College, and approved by the SFMTA. The passenger loading zone hours of 7 AM to 7 PM are in conflict with the tow-away hours of 3 PM to 6 PM and prevent students and faculty attending St. Mary's School and City College from using the passenger loading zone during evening classes. St. Mary's School requests that the tow-away lane be removed and that the use of the passenger loading zone be allowed throughout the day and evening due to the school's evening classes.

During the tow-away hours of 3 PM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday, four travel lanes are available for general traffic. Outside of these hours, three travel lanes are available. Removal of the tow-away lane would result in three travel lanes being available at all times.

With the relatively low volume of traffic compared to the capacity of the roadway, the removal of the tow-away lane is not expected to add delays to traffic or Muni operation of the 8X Bayshore Express route based on the SFMTA's traffic analysis.

On December 27, 2013, an SFMTA hearing was held to discuss the following parking and traffic changes:

- A. RESCIND – TOW-AWAY NO STOPPING 3 PM to 6 PM – Kearny Street, east side, from Jackson Street to Washington Street (approximately 275 feet, adds 2 spaces and passenger loading zone access).

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

Staff considered two other alternatives:

- 1) Shortening the tow-away hours to 4 PM to 6 PM
- 2) Leaving the tow-away hours as is

**PAGE 3.**

Under both alternatives, the tow-away hours would prevent students and faculty attending St. Mary's School and City College from using the Kearny Street passenger loading zone during evening class hours. Traffic volumes on Kearny Street are not high enough to require the tow-away lane to minimize delays to Muni or maintain free flowing traffic. By removing the tow-away lane, students and faculty attending St. Mary's School and City College will have full access to the passenger loading zone and no impacts are expected to Muni or vehicular traffic.

**FUNDING IMPACT**

Removal of the tow-away lane may reduce revenues from parking fines and increase revenues from the increased hours of parking meter enforcement. Funding impacts are expected to be negligible.

**OTHER APPROVALS RECEIVED OR STILL REQUIRED**

Modifications to parking restrictions are subject to the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA). On March 10, 2014, the San Francisco Planning Department determined that the proposed removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street was categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations section 15301(c) (Class 1(c) categorical exemption).

The Planning Department's determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors. The proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by the S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31.

The City Attorney's Office has reviewed this report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

SFMTA staff recommends that the SFMTA Board of Directors approve the removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street.

SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has received a request, or identified a need for traffic modifications as follows:

- A. RESCIND – TOW-AWAY NO STOPPING 3 PM to 6 PM – Kearny Street, east side, from Jackson Street to Washington Street.

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Planning Department reviewed the proposed removal of the tow-away lane on Kearny Street, and determined that the parking modification is categorically exempt, under Class 1(c), from environmental review pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations section 15301(c) (“CEQA Guidelines”) on March 10, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the San Francisco Planning Department’s determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors. The proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by the S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31; and,

WHEREAS, The public has been notified about the proposed modifications and given the opportunity to comment on those modifications December 27, 2013, through the SFMTA’s public hearing process; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors approves the removal of the tow-away lane on the east side of the 800 block of Kearny Street.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of April 1, 2014.

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Secretary to the Board of Directors  
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency