

Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

Draft Action Minutes November 1, 2014

Meeting started at 6:05 PM.

Present: Kevin Clark, D-1; Todd Henry, At-Large; Becky Hogue, Senior and Disability Org; Sonja Kos, At-Large; John Lowell, Senior & Disability Org; Gary McCoy, D-8; Trevor McNeil, D-4; Howard Strassner, Transit Advocate; Christina Tang, D-3 and John Winston, SFUSD. Excused: Howard Bloomberg, Walk Advocate; Christopher Coghlan, D-7; Morgan Fitzgibbons, Bicycle; Robin Brasso, Child Advocate; Kevin Stull, D-6 and Thomas Rogers, D-10. Absent: Anyan Cheng, Student. There are currently 17 appointed members. Staff: Neil Patel, SFMTA absent.

1. Minutes: PSAC approved the October minutes.

2. Safe Routes to School (SRS): Ana Validzic, DPH Presented: (Ana was invited by John W. because of his concerns with problems at Sunnyside School.) Most schools need specific solutions for the site. The overall problem is: Only 25% of students walk or bike to school. Many kids go to distant schools and are driven. DPH has added transit and car sharing to their Walk and Bike to School program because only 23% live within half mile, suitable for walking; only another 19% live between half and one mile, suitable for biking. The program operates at 50% of public schools with 100% of funding from grants. Program reaches out to schools based on need. Some needs can be fixed with residential neighborhood traffic calming. Program also works with private schools but they don't have same data.

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SRS Five E's: Education: at school assemblies; Lessons in classes didn't work so they meet with parents who make the decisions. Program prepares maps for each school with specific instructions. Encouragement: make it fun with walking school buses. Enforcement: Needs grants. Engineering: Low income schools have high rates because they are near arterials. After need is established and grants are provided MTA uses walk surveys to solve specific problems. Evaluation: On going.

Public Comment: Jennifer Hilton, President Sunnyside PTA: Auto crash into school fence was a wake up call. They have a once a week walking school bus and have reorganized drop off zones. Need Help with SRS in the afternoon because many schools have severe double parking.

PSAC: Should include safe routes with every construction project. Help is necessary on Treasure Island. AV: Will work with Becky. Sunnyside may need

PSAC group to walk the site to make recommendations. John W. and Howard S. are interested. Robin should also be contacted.

3. Signal Timing: Bryant Woo, SFMTA Presented MTA method with an example: A crossing with 35 feet, measured at the center of the cross walk. Yellow is usually four seconds; minimum walk time (white walk man) of seven seconds; minimum count down of six seconds and all red of one second. In this case the count down time is set by dividing the crossing length by walking speed of 3.5 feet per second or $35/3.5 = \text{ten seconds}$. They also check to see that the total crossing time would allow for a walking speed of only 2.5 feet per second for a slow walker.

In this case: Yellow 4 + White 7 + count down 10 + Red 1 = Total = 22 seconds. In this case $35/22 = 1.6$ ft/sec, plenty of time.

MTA uses yellow ladder crosswalks near schools. CA is only State to use this to make school crossings more visible. Sometimes the rungs are staggered to reduce wear. Adding an advance stop line could impact all red time because auto will need more crossing time.

PSAC Comments: Crossing time of 2.8 feet per second would be better. BW: Our method provides more total crossing time. PSAC: Need teaching for all new symbols. Often cars have to move into the cross walk to see around the corner because the cross walk is too far from the curb. BW: Sometimes the walk width must be larger because of high pedestrian volumes and there are poles and stuff in a closer cross walk path.

4) Announcements: FDR Democratic Club will cover pedestrian issues starting on 1/7/2015. Prop 'A' will provide \$70 million for pedestrian safety. Pedestrians have to be very careful and alert at crossings.

5. Future Meeting Items: A) Howard S. Thanks to Pi. (My notes didn't jog my memory for new items and we cleaned up last month's items. So you should add.)

6. Adjournment: 7:50 pm. Next regular meeting Tuesday, December 9, 2014, Room 400 at 6:00. Annual Report Meeting Dec. 1, 2014, Room 408 at 5:30. Howard S. was note taker.