

SITE: **Bank of America Building (So. Van Ness @ Market)**
One South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor
Union Square Conference Room, #7080

Minutes: July 18, 2013, 1 to 3 p.m.

Members Present:

jakkee bryson, Bruce Morgan, Miro Kielbus, Stu Smith, Jeanne Lynch, Roland Wong, Marty Smith, Randall Glock, Jean Green, Vernon Smith, Les Clark, Demian Williams

Members Absent:

Heidi Hubrich*, Ed Evans*, Joseph Flanagan, Kevin Lee*, David Longa*, Jane Redmond*, Byron Yan*

*Excused

Guests:

Idel Wilson, John Paul Scott, Frank Welte, Bruce Oka, Sean Kennedy*, Virginia Rathke*, Carla Johnson, Jim Lowe*, Peter Mendoza, Mari Hunter*, Matthew West*

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 20th meeting. Motion passed.

Ms. byson had a correction to the February Minutes; the minutes omit that Mr. Williams was nominated to the SFMTA MAAC. Please correct this. The March minutes also have an error; Mr. Williams was not elected to the MAAC in March, instead Ms. Hubrich was. Corrections noted.

Presentations:

Update: Transit Effectiveness Project

Sean Kennedy, SFMTA Operations Planning

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Mr. Kennedy provided the SFMTA MAAC with an update on the Transit Effectiveness Project. He gave a brief overview of the project, its recommendations and its current status. The project is in the environmental review phase. Any comments related to the environmental impact which this project might pose should be directed to the San Francisco Planning Department.

Mr. Smith asked about the congestion on Mission Street, and if anyone had considered limiting vehicle traffic to Taxis, buses, and commercial vehicles – especially between 9am and 7pm.

Mr. Wong asked if the new 5 Line will be an all-day service. Also, will there be a limited service on Noriega? The Richmond has lots of transit, where as the Sunset does not – are there any plans included in the TEP to address this discrepancy?

Mr. Kennedy stated that the 5 Line may be an all-day service, or it may be offered only between 7am and 7pm. He also stated that the 71 Line is identified as a rapid route, and this should help matters.

Ms. Lynch asked why Geary is omitted from the TEP – There are lots of problems on Geary.

Mr. Kennedy stated that Geary is covered in a different plan, which is the Geary Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Mr. S. Smith asked if the environmental review was taking into consideration the impact that time restrictions for disabled

placards might have on parking turnover. Also, many loading zones are deficient – Are there any plans to improve them?

Mr. Kielbus asked about the TEP and turnover in personnel, is this do to the project being so onerous? Also, will the Environmental Impact Report examine the impact that bike share might have on some of the TEP recommendations?

Mr. Morgan asked if there will be any new stops in the TEP.

Mr. Kennedy stated that there are consolidations, which result in a new location for some stops, but no, there will be no new additions of stops.

Ms. bryson asked who the contact is over at the Planning Department.

Mr. Kennedy stated that it is Deborah Dryer.

Ms. bryson also asked about additional bike lanes – “Bike people” go anywhere they want, and so whatever they want. Can anything be done – Chief Suhr said he would come to the next meeting.

Ms. Green had a question about the 5 Line -- Can you clarify which one is the motor coach?

Mr. Kennedy said the motor coach would be the short line.

Mr. Glock stated that you mentioned in slide 6 about transit lanes on Church. Are you aware that 22 Line operators are not stopping at stops in these lanes presently?

Discussion: Better Market Streets

How is Market Street Used?

Simon Bertrang, SF DPW

simon.bertrang@sfdpw.org

Due to a scheduling conflict, Carla Johnson, from the Mayor's Office on Disability, presented in Mr. Bertang's stead.

Ms. Johnson presented a summary of the Better Market Streets Plan. She reviewed the three proposals for Market Street, reviewing the pros and cons of each proposal. She then informed the MAAC about a task force which the Mayor's Office on Disability is setting up to examine different pavement treatments for Market Street. Also, she announced that there is a workshop on Better Market Streets on Saturday, July 20th at the Main Library.

Ms. Johnson went on to ask the committee four questions about Market Street:

1. What is most important for you on Market, transit or socializing?

Transit – Two members agreed with this statement.

Social – One member agreed with this statement.

Several members stated that both statements are true, as is safety.

Ms. Lynch asked why San Francisco allows daytime deliveries.

Mr. M. Smith stated that Market also needs dedicated “pull in zones” for taxis. Also, he is in agreement with Ms. Lynch; we need to explore allowing only nighttime deliveries.

Ms. Green agrees – Other large cities limit delivery times, why can't we? Also, we need to remember that many tourists use Market Street. We need to design a street that is easy for them to navigate.

2. What do you want Market to be?

Several members stated that Market Street should be friendly and safe. It needs to accommodate both transit and stores. It should be San Francisco's main street.

Also, it needs to be safe – Police need to walk the beat as have done in the past. Bicyclists should be licensed, registered, and made to comply with the laws.

Market should be the street to go to. It should be all things good.

We should also explore having Market accessible only to transit, and having bikes and cars move to other nearby streets.

In the end, Market Street should be a street we can all enjoy.

3. What do you need from Market?

Members stated that they would like some entertainment options, shopping choices, and the

feeling of a safe environment in which to just enjoy being on Market Street.

Safety was mentioned once again as one of the major things that needs addressing before Market Street can improve.

Also, in the end Market should have all the qualities of San Francisco's "Main Street USA".

4. Any negatives about Market?

Mr. V. Smith asked if there are any accommodations on Market available to people with visual disabilities so that they may more easily identify island stop locations.

Ms. Johnson thanked members for their answers. She went on to announce that the Mayor's Office on Disability is forming a focus group to identify pavement treatments along Market. The goal of the focus group is to help the city decide to either restore or replace the current brick pavers used on Market Street. We are looking for 10 stakeholders to be on committee, and primarily looking for mobility and visually impaired.

Anyone who is interested in participating can contact the Mayor's Office on Disability or the Independent Living Resource Center directly. Or, if you prefer, MAAC Members can contact Matt West and let him know you are interested.

New Business

Mr. M. Smith stated that there are a lot of changes occurring in the Lift Taxi business as a consequence of new ride sharing services offered by private companies. The SFMTA MAAC needs to begin to look at these changes and should weigh in

on the rules and regulations being proposed. Both the MAAC and the PCC should not miss this opportunity – We need to help out the cab companies to preserve ramp taxi service. Can the SFMTA MAAC explore this issue in greater detail at an upcoming meeting?

Mr. Keilbus stated that he is disappointed in today's occurrences. Why was the Mayor's Office on Disability allowed to come before the SFMTA MAAC and present on the Better Market Streets plan?! What gives them the right to do this? The SFMTA MAAC does not report to the Mayor's Office on Disability, we should be working directly with the Better Market Streets Project Team, not with the Mayor's Office on Disability. Mr. Keilbus hopes that this does not occur again in the future.

Ms. Bryson stated that she had an opportunity to meet Chief Suhr of the SFPD. She invited Chief Suhr to attend the August MAAC Meeting. Can we make sure he gets an invite and that there is space for him on the August Agenda?

Ms. Bryson went on to say that at Saturday's workshop on the Better Market Streets Plan there will be a person from the Department of Public Works who wants to engage MAAC Members on a discussion of curb ramps on Market. She encourages people to attend this workshop and engage this person.

Ms. Lynch asked if we can set aside time on an upcoming agenda to have staff from the Department of Public Works come before the MAAC and listen to some concerns of hers in regards to the condition of the sidewalk – In many parts of the Richmond it is in abhorrent shape.

Announcements

Mr. Frank Welte, from Lighthouse for the Blind, announced that the strip maps which the MAAC received a presentation on a while back are now done and ready for disbursement. These maps will be available, by request, starting in two weeks. The Lighthouse is also working to make contacts with people at SFMTA so as to get this content available electronically

Mr. Peter Mendoza introduced himself to the members of the SFMTA MAAC. Mr. Mendoza is the new Community Organizer at the Independent Living Resource Center. Mr. Mendoza is looking for opportunities to partner with the SFMTA MAAC – If any members would like to reach him, please feel free to do so:

Peter Mendoza
Community Organizer
Independent Living Resource Center
(415) 543-6222
Peter@ilrcsf.org

Mr. S. Smith announced that in their agenda packets for today's meeting, members will find a letter written by the PCC to the California PUC regarding the issue of unregulated rideshare providers, such as Lyft, Sidecar, and Uber. As recently as last weekend, Mr. Smith was informed by a MAAC Board Member that the concerns expressed in this letter were of no consequence and it was just too bad that the PCC felt this way. To stress yet again, the SFMTA MAAC needs to set some time aside on the agenda to discuss this issue and get involved.

Mr. M. Smith announced that the California Highway Patrol sent out a letter this week regarding unregulated rideshare

companies. In it, they stated that these companies need to be licensed and regulated by the PUC. They also stated that they need to have insurance. This letter was sent to the PUC. Once again, this is something that the MAAC should take a look at.

Mr. Glock announced that on Wednesday, July 24th, from 11am – 1pm there will be a mock-up of the new BART cars. This mock up is available for viewing by the general public. Members of BART's accessibility advisory committee will also be present – I encourage any MAAC members who are interested to come and view this mock-up.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.

The next MAAC meeting is on August 15.

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