



SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Thursday, March 7, 2019
Room 7080, Union Square Conference Room
1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor

REGULAR MEETING
5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Daniel Weaver (Chair), Frank Zepeda (Vice Chair), Neil Ballard, Mark Ballew,
LisaMarie Betancourt, Jarie Bolander, Queena Chen, Steve Cornell, Joan Downey, Aaron Leifer,
Christopher Man, Daniel Murphy, Susan Vaughan, and Dorris Vincent

COUNCIL LIAISON
Roberta Boomer

COUNCIL SECRETARY
Keka Robinson-Luqman

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Weaver called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Neil Ballard, Mark Ballew, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Aaron Leifer, Christopher Man, Daniel Murphy, Susan Vaughan, Dorris Vincent, Daniel Weaver, and Frank Zepeda

CAC members absent at Roll Call: LisaMarie Betancourt, Jarie Bolander, and Joan Downey

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

CAC Secretary Robinson-Luqman made the announcement.

4. Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

On motion to approve the minutes of February 7, 2019:

ADOPTED: AYES – Neil Ballard, Mark Ballew, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Aaron Leifer, Christopher Man, Daniel Murphy, Susan Vaughan, Dorris Vincent, Daniel Weaver, and Frank Zepeda

ABSENT – LisaMarie Betancourt, Jarie Bolander, and Joan Downey

5. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

No report.

6. Public Comment:

Edward Mason provided a summary report of commuter shuttle activity in Noe Valley. (Mr. Mason submitted written comments for inclusion in the minutes.):

Written 150-Word Public Testimony by Edward Mason for Minutes of SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council Regular Meeting March 7, 2019:

March 7, 2019 MTA CAC Public comment, E. Mason: February 2019 Noe Valley private commuter shuttle bus summary report of continuing violations. SFO 601, 06-0004 double parks and idles on Sanchez near 24th Street exceeding ten minutes. Creates unnecessary pollution and passing bicycle and vehicle safety situations. WeDriveU 3616, 05-0016 stages and idles in the Muni Castro/25th Street stop. Creates unnecessary pollution. Muni passengers street board and vehicles pass around both creating unsafe situations. Since November 2018, mystery van License 35824K2 partially occupies muni stop at 24th/Church Street. No MTA blue sticker, partially block

traffic lane creating unsafe conditions. The monthly engine idling for two buses account for over 400 minutes per month. This is the unacceptable price the neighborhood has to pay to accommodate industries in adjacent cities.

Council member Jarie Bolander arrived at 5:36 p.m.

Bob Feinbaum stated that he is the President of Save Muni. It is an organization that supports public transit in San Francisco. He invited the CAC members to participate in their meetings on the third Monday of every month from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Police Station on Turk and Fillmore streets.

Jerry Kauthen stated that there's a movement to increase the capacity of Muni vehicles by removing seats to create more standing room and substantially increasing the fleet. There is an inadequate focus on the capacity to move trains in the subway. The stations are only being used at a fraction of their capacity. Muni only runs one or two car trains when stations were designed for the trains to occupy all of the platform in the station. People are jammed into the trains. That is a major safety problem.

Council member LisaMarie Betancourt arrived at 5:43 p.m.

Council member Joan Downey arrived at 5:43 p.m.

REGULAR CALENDAR

7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the status of Transit. (Julie Kirschbaum, Director, Transit. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

Julie Kirschbaum, Director, Transit, introduced herself in her new role as the Acting Director of Transit. She discussed subway performance, the current 90-Day Plan, and Light Rail Vehicle (LRV4) Phase II seating options.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robin Krop stated that she was injured last summer riding on a new Siemens car. It threw out her pelvis, spine, and back. She appreciates the work being done on changing the seating. She can only ride in transverse seats. As a disabled person, she's afraid they're not going to be able to sit down in the cars because there won't be enough transverse seats. Her preference is a row of single transverse seats on one side of the train car and a row of double transverse seats on the other.

Bob Feinbaum stated that the new Bart cars are far superior to any of the seating options that Muni is presenting. The seating configuration in the new Seoul, South Korea subway cars are all-bench seating but the seats are luxury seats which stop the sliding problem. That is a big problem that is going to lead to injuries. The 38 Geary line is the mother of all bus bunching. It's a critical problem that Muni needs to solve.

Lorraine Petty stated that she frequently rides the new cars. If limited by contract to the options shown, she prefers option three for the seat configuration. The bench seats are

dangerous for seniors. Option three is a good compromise. She doesn't want to see Muni compromise safety in favor of standing room for a very limited time during the day.

Evy Posamentier stated that it's ageist and ableist that how many blue seats will be on the new trains has not been discussed. If someone is sitting on orange seats they are not going to get up. There is no string to pull to let the driver know when you wish to exit. It's disgusting. She would love to know what the questions were on the rider survey.

Edward Mason inquired what the capacity is of the Siemens cars. He stated that backward seating is safer. The articulation section is noisy compared to the Breda. The doors are slow to operate which is going to increase dwell times. There needs to be more focus on customer comfort.

Herbert Weiner inquired why people weren't given the opportunity to sample the seating before the coaches were bought. This is a top down thing. That's how decision making comes with the SFMTA. He asked what is being done to address bullying and morale within the SFMTA. When there is bullying at the worksite, it effects service delivery. Operators cannot drive effectively while being bullied. He prefers the Option C seating configuration.

David Pilpel is looking forward to improvements at West Portal Station. Transit inspectors used to be able to write tickets for vehicles that were parked illegally. He inquired if they are still able to do that. The Prop F cap should be removed in the proposed MOU.

8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Harvey Milk Plaza redesign. (Douglas Ullman, Project Manager, San Francisco Department of Public Works. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

Douglas Ullman, Project Manager, San Francisco Department of Public Works presented the item. He discussed the project history and the concept design.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Pilpel stated that there is a famous photo of Harvey milk on an LRV that should be in the station. The project rendering is all about grades and levels, which is hard to see without a model. There are a lot of issues about public realm and public space there. There's a lot going on in a very small space. He inquired about the environmental review process.

Edward Mason stated that Ginkgo trees are beautiful trees, but it is a bad decision to have them at the site because the female tree drops a ball in the winter that will cause people to slip and slide. It will be a maintenance nightmare.

9. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding Service Animals on Muni Vehicles. (Matt West, Fixed Route Accessibility Coordinator. No explanatory documents.)

Matt West, Fixed Route Accessibility Coordinator provided an overview. Federal law states that a service animal is any animal trained to perform a service for a passenger. No proof is required.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason stated that Bart has a descriptive placard posted defining service animals.

CAC MOTION 190307.01

The SFMTA CAC recommends that the pet and service animal behavior policies be posted on Muni vehicles and that Transit Fare Inspectors cite riders not in compliance.

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Neil Ballard, Mark Ballew, LisaMarie Betancourt, Jarie Bolander, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Joan Downey, Aaron Leifer, Christopher Man, Daniel Murphy, Susan Vaughan, Dorris Vincent, Daniel Weaver, and Frank Zepeda

10. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Operations and Customer Service Committee (OCSC) report and recommendations.

OCSC Motion 190212.01

The SFMTA CAC urges the SFMTA Board of Directors to support the proposed routing changes to the 55 Dogpatch line.

No public comment.

CAC MOTION 190307.02

The SFMTA CAC urges the SFMTA Board of Directors to support the proposed routing changes to the 55 Dogpatch line.

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Neil Ballard, Mark Ballew, LisaMarie Betancourt, Jarie Bolander, Queena Chen, Stephen Cornell, Joan Downey, Aaron Leifer, Christopher Man, Daniel Murphy, Susan Vaughan, Dorris Vincent, Daniel Weaver, and Frank Zepeda

11. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Engineering, Maintenance and Safety Committee (EMSC) report and recommendations.

EMSC Chair Frank Zepeda discussed the SFMTA Stroller policy presentation from the February 27th EMSC meeting.

12. Council Member Information and Agenda Item Requests. (For discussion only)

Sue Vaughan requested a presentation on sea level rise at Embarcadero.

Sue Vaughan asked why there is no pedestrian countdown at the intersection of Balboa and Turk streets and Arguello Street.

Queena Chen inquired if the etiquette campaign will be translated into other languages.

Frank Zepeda inquired what the space near the exit door on the New Flyer vehicles is for.

Joan Downey requested a presentation on cable car service.

Joan Downey asked if Muni is looking at autonomous vehicles to replace buses on community lines.

Queena Chen asked for a follow up to her RFI 181206.03. The answer to the RFI was that the stop sign would be installed in a month, yet, there is still no stop sign there. She inquired when it will be installed.

Queena Chen asked when SFMTA will make the red carpet lane for lower Stockton Street and will it only be for taxis and Muni buses.

Queena Chen asked for the Jump and Ford motor bike incident reports to be sent to the CAC regularly.

Dorris Vincent asked why the pedestrian countdown signals at McKinnon Avenue & Third Street and Palou Avenue & Third Street were removed and will they be replaced.

Daniel Murphy inquired what the language policy is of the SFMTA as it applies to signage, information outside vehicles at stops, and items on the website.

ADJOURN- The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Submitted by:



Keka Robinson-Luqman
SFMTA CAC – Secretary

Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 4th at 5:30pm
1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7th Floor, Union Square Conference Room, #7080