



# San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Citizens' Advisory Council

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**MINUTES** • Meeting Date: February 2, 2023

## **REGULAR MEETING**

5:30 pm

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency and to protect our Council Members, SFMTA staff, and members of the public, the SFMTA Meeting Room (Union Square Conference Room) is closed.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely. If you want to ensure your comment on any item on the agenda is received by the Council in advance of the meeting, please send an email to [CAC@sfmta.com](mailto:CAC@sfmta.com) by 5pm on the Wednesday before the meeting, or call (415) 646-2388.

## **REMOTE MEETING ACCESS**

WATCH: (link can be found online <https://www.sfmta.com/calendar/citizens-advisory-council-cac-regular-meeting-february-2-2023>)

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN: (415) 915-0757 | Conference ID: 297 424 247#

## **SFMTA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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

## **COUNCIL LIAISON**

Christine Silva

## **COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Keka Robinson-Luqman



## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Chen called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

CAC members absent with notification: Queena Chen, Aaron Leifer, and Frank Zepeda

CAC members absent without notification: Obai Rambo and Dorris Vincent

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

No announcement was made.

### 4. Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

On motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2023:

ADOPTED: AYES – Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Aaron Leifer, Obai Rambo, Dorris Vincent, and Frank Zepeda

### 5. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

Chair Chen reported that the March 2<sup>nd</sup> CAC meeting will be in person at 1 South Van Ness in Union Square Conference Room (7080).

No public comment.

### 6. Public Comment

No public comment.



## **REGULAR CALENDAR**

7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding findings under new state urgency legislation to allow remote meetings during the COVID-19 emergency; continuing remote meetings for the next 30 days; and directing the Council Secretary to agendize a similar resolution at a council meeting within 30 days. (Explanatory documents include a resolution.)

CAC MOTION 230202.01

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 54953(e) empowers local policy bodies to convene by teleconferencing technology during a proclaimed state of emergency under the State Emergency Services Act so long as certain conditions are met; and

WHEREAS, In March 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a state of emergency in California in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, and that state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, On February 25, 2020, the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco (the City) declared a local emergency, and on March 6, 2020, the City's Health Officer declared a local health emergency and both those declarations also remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, On March 11 and March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued emergency orders suspending select provisions of local law, including sections of the City Charter, that restrict teleconferencing by members of policy bodies; those orders remain in effect, so City law currently allows policy bodies to meet remotely if they comply with restrictions in State law regarding teleconference meetings; and

WHEREAS, On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that amends the Brown Act to allow local policy bodies to continue to meet by teleconferencing during a state of emergency without complying with restrictions in State law that would otherwise apply, provided that the policy bodies make certain findings at least once every 30 days; and

WHEREAS, While federal, State, and local health officials emphasize the critical importance of vaccination and consistent mask-wearing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City's Health Officer has issued at least one order (Health Officer Order No. C19-07y, available online at [www.sfdph.org/healthorders](http://www.sfdph.org/healthorders)) and one directive (Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33i, available online at <http://www.sfdph.org/directives>) that continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, such as masking, in certain contexts; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) has promulgated Section 3205 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, which requires most employers in California, including in the City, to train and



instruct employees about measures that can decrease the spread of COVID-19, including physical distancing and other social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, Without limiting any requirements under applicable federal, state, or local pandemic-related rules, orders, or directives, the City's Department of Public Health, in coordination with the City's Health Officer, has advised that for group gatherings indoors, such as meetings of boards and commissions, people can increase safety and greatly reduce risks to the health and safety of attendees from COVID-19 by maximizing ventilation, wearing well-fitting masks (as required by Health Officer Order No. C19-07), using physical distancing where the vaccination status of attendees is not known, and considering holding the meeting remotely if feasible, especially for long meetings, with any attendees with unknown vaccination status and where ventilation may not be optimal; and

WHEREAS, On July 31, 2020, the Mayor issued an emergency order that, with limited exceptions, prohibited policy bodies other than the Board of Supervisors and its committees from meeting in person under any circumstances, so as to ensure the safety of policy body members, City staff, and the public; and

WHEREAS, The SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council has met remotely during the COVID-19 emergency and can continue to do so in a manner that allows public participation and transparency while minimizing health risks to members, staff, and the public that would be present with in-person meetings while this emergency continues; and

WHEREAS, On September 27, 2021, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the AB 361 findings described above are not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b); and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council and is incorporated herein by reference;

WHEREAS, On October 14, 2021, in Recommendation No. 211014-117, the Council adopted the recommended findings allowing it to continue to meet remotely for 30 days; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council finds as follows:

1. As described above, the State of California and the City remain in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, the Council has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency.



2. As described above, State and City officials continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, in some settings.
3. As described above, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings of this body and its committees in person would present imminent risks to the safety of attendees, and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person; and, be it further

RESOLVED, for at least the next 30 days, meetings of the SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council and its committees will continue to occur exclusively by teleconferencing technology (and not by any in-person meetings or any other meetings with public access to the places where any policy body member is present for the meeting). Such meetings of the Council and its committees that occur by teleconferencing technology will provide an opportunity for members of the public to address this body and its committees and will otherwise occur in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of parties and the members of the public attending the meeting via teleconferencing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Council Secretary is directed to place a resolution substantially similar to this resolution on the agenda of a future meeting of The SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council within the next 30 days. If the Council does not meet within the next 30 days, the Council Secretary is directed to place such a resolution on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.

No public comment.

On motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2023:

ADOPTED: AYES – Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Aaron Leifer, Obai Rambo, Dorris Vincent, and Frank Zepeda

8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the 29 Sunset Improvement Project. (Steve Boland, Transportation Planner. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation).

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Hayden Miller stated that he supports the project. He rides the 29 Sunset line daily to get to school and stated that stop consolidation is important. All the nearside stops on nearly every



block of Sunset Blvd. makes what could be a 15-minute car ride into a 30-to-45-minute bus-ride.

Edward Mason stated that 10,000 people a day turn 65. Stop consolidation could have a negative impact on San Francisco's aging population.

#### CAC MOTION 230202.02

The SFMTA CAC recommends that the SFMTA perform further outreach to the disability and senior community and study red carpet lanes along the 29 Sunset route as soon as is feasible.

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Aaron Leifer, Obai Rambo, Dorris Vincent, and Frank Zepeda

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

Sue Vaughan requested an up-front fare pilot program update.

Sue Vaughan requested a presentation on the budgeting process and the organization headcount that gets down to zero-base budgeting.

No public comment.

**ADJOURN** - The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KAROLU'.

Keka Robinson-Luqman  
SFMTA CAC – Secretary

Next regular meeting: Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm | Union Square Conference Room