



The Equity Newsletter | September 2023

Newsletter in PDF

Celebrations for the Office of Racial Equity & Belonging Equity Support Team Cohort



The Office of Racial Equity & Belonging's Equity Support Team is a networking and development program for staff across all SFMTA divisions to work hand in hand with the Office of Racial Equity & Belonging (OREB). This 12-month, professional development program provided a group of SFMTA staff with the opportunity to gain verifiable work experience and direct engagement with agencywide racial equity efforts. The first cohort of SFMTA's OREB Equity Support Team concluded its year-long commitment at the end of July 2023. The celebration event included words from SFMTA leaders like Jeff Tumlin, Director of Transportation, Julie Kirschbaum, Director of Transit and Josephine Ayankoya, Chief Equity Officer, who all spoke to the commitment and hard work of the cohort in its efforts to help SFMTA achieve its racial equity goals.

To learn more about the OREB Equity Support Team, watch this [VIDEO](#) that talks about their journey and experiences with their time at the Office of Racial Equity & Belonging.



Youth Transportation Advisory Board Applications Now Open!

Youth Transportation Advisory Board applications are now live and will be available for any youth between 14-19 to participate. The Youth Transportation Advisory Board (YTAB) is a group of local youth that offer up advice and input on the work of SFMTA. The YTAB offers growth opportunities in leadership, engagement and teamwork. Youth participate from October 2023 through July 2024 and receive a monthly stipend. Applications are now available at the YTAB website and are due by September 20, 2023. If there is a young person in your life that could benefit from this program, or is interested in learning more about transportation or civic engagement, send them to SFMTA.com/YTAB



Youth Transportation Advisory Board Finishes 2022-2023 Cohort With Graduation

On Saturday, July 22,
at 1 South Van Ness
the Youth



Transportation Advisory Board (YTAB) graduation was hosted to celebrate the second cohort of the program. This group of local teens that are interested in transportation, their City, and how to help us improve it, ended their program year with a fun and festive day at the home of SFMTA.

Participating youth, their friends, family and even SFMTA mentors were in attendance to wish them a happy summer and thank them for their many hours of dedication to helping advise and inform the SFMTA on what is going on with youth in our City and how to best serve them. Participants reflected on their time with the program, offered up shout outs to other members of the cohort and played fun games to commemorate the exciting year they had.

Hispanic & Latin Heritage Month Save the Date!



Hispanic & Latin Heritage Month is upon us once again from September 15-October 15 and has been celebrated in some form within the United States since 1968 as a way to highlight the contributions of the Hispanic & Latino community. Here at SFMTA we will be having our 2nd Annual Hispanic & Latin Heritage Month Equity Cable Car Ride on September 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the SFMTA Cable Car Barn, 1201 Mason Street. Make it point to come out and ride with us! Follow the Office of Racial Equity & Belonging

[intranet page](#) to find out more information about events and goings on throughout the month and within agency.

Racial Equity Report at July 18, 2023 MTA Board of Directors (MTAB) Meeting

Every quarter, the Chief Equity Officer is responsible for sharing SFMTA [Racial Equity Action Plan](#) updates with the MTA Board of Directors. This is to ensure that at the highest levels of leadership, there is accountability to achieve the agency's strategic goals to advance equity. On July 18, Chief Equity Officer, Josephine Ayankoya, co-presented the Racial Equity Report with Rashid Herd, Workforce Development Director. Within the Phase One [Racial Equity Action Plan](#), Rashid is responsible for implementing 22 actions, while the larger Workforce Development team is responsible for many more actions in the Phase One REAP focused on internal equity. This collaborative presentation is the first of many that will leverage mandated reporting to the Board to highlight the many Phase One REAP Action Leads working on the agencies stated goals.

The joint presentation focused on the racial equity strategy for pipeline and pathway programs, shared updates on racial equity training for leaders in Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023, and paid tribute to the memory of departed SFMTA Apprenticeship Program Manager Margot Reed. Click on the photo below to see the [presentation to the MTA Board of Directors](#) for a full accounting of the summer 2023 MTAB Racial Equity Report.



Port of San Francisco Interns Visit SFMTA



The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and the Port of San Francisco (SF PORT) participated in an event showcasing SFMTA careers and work opportunities to the more than 20 participating high school and college interns that were in attendance. This included participants in the SF PORT's Rising TIDES, a mentoring, internship, and training program for City Youth.

During the event staff members from SFMTA, including staff from SFMTA's Workforce Development Office, the OREB Equity Support Team and the Transit Division's Cable Car Barn shared their career stories, engaged the students in ice breakers and offered tours of the Cable Car Barn. "The Port's partnership with SFMTA allows us to deepen our work by exposing the Port interns to the vast opportunities across the City. We are grateful to the staff of SFMTA for their time, investment and partnership." said Tiffany Tatum, Senior Community Development Specialist for the Port of San Francisco.



Kurt Raphael addresses the teens



Teens receive information about the Cable Car Barn and its history.

Opportunities in Transportation Equity

THE 2023-2024 TRANSPORTATION JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP

BETTER
BIKE
SHARE
PARTNERSHIP

NACTO

peopleforbikes

City of
Philadelphia

THE WRIGHT INSTITUTE
FOR TRANSPORTATION CHANGE



Image: Darren Burton

Transportation Justice Fellowship Application Now Open- National Association of City Transportation Officials(NACTO)

Transportation justice aims to provide all communities with access to safe, reliable, affordable, and equitable transportation, connecting people to the places, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive.

The Transportation Justice Fellowship is designed to support US-based early- and mid-career professionals of color who are working to embed mobility justice in transportation agency priorities and beyond.

The Fellowship—overseen by NACTO along with the Better Bike Share Partnership—will include 50 hours of programming for eight Fellows, who will receive training from an experienced consultant team, visits from transportation experts, and one-on-one coaching sessions. This year's Fellowship will focus on shared micromobility as a critical tool for operationalizing equity and transportation justice.

[Applications are due by Friday, September 22. Learn more and apply on the website!](#)

The purpose of this publication is to provide information about ongoing equity work at the SFMTA, including upcoming events, trainings and suggested educational resources.

The Equity Newsletter is published by the
Office of Racial Equity & Belonging: equity@sfmta.com



San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency | One South Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94103-5417

[Unsubscribe](#)
andrea.buffa@sfmta.com

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by equity@sfmta.com