San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Citizens' Advisory Council

MINUTES • Meeting Date: September 7, 2023

REGULAR MEETING
5:30 pm

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

SFMTA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS
Aaron Leifer, Chair
Chris Arvin, Vice-Chair
Sascha Bittner
Michael Chen
Queena Chen
Steve Cornell
Robert Jaques
John Lisovsky
Eliza Panike
Karim Salgado
Yensing Sihapanya
Connor Skelly
Susan Vaughan
Frank Zepeda

COUNCIL LIAISON
Christine Silva

COUNCIL SECRETARY
Keka Robinson-Luqman

ORDER OF BUSINESS
1. Call to Order

Chair Leifer called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan

CAC members absent at Roll Call: John Lisovsky

CAC members absent with notification: Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Eliza Panike, and Frank Zepeda

CAC members absent without notification: Queena Chen

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 August 3, 2023:

> ADOPTED: AYES – Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan
> ABSENT – Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Queena Chen, John Lisovsky, Eliza Panike, and Frank Zepeda

5. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

Chair Leifer provided a life update. He also thanked the Council for responding to the future agenda topic survey.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason stated that September is Rail Safety Month.

6. Public Comment

Edward Mason provided an update and list of violations from the commuter shuttle bus program.

Angel stated that the 47 line needs to return.

REGULAR CALENDAR
7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the M Oceanview Transit and Safety Project. (Jessica Kuo, Project Manager. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason asked if the agency expects any patrons to board at Geneva and San Jose, with all the new housing at that location. He asked if there will be any parking impact from that housing area or is everyone that ends up residing in that upper yard housing going to be expected not to have an automobile and rely on transit.

Hesham asked if the tracks on San Jose Ave will be replaced or painted over. He also asked how much travel-time savings the project will create.

CAC MOTION 230907.01

> The SFMTA CAC recommends that the SFTMA board adopt the M Oceanview Transit and Safety project so it can move forward in the most expeditious manner feasible and implement measures to reduce unsafe driving.

On motion to approve:

> ADOPTED: AYES – Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, Robert Jaques, Aaron Leifer, John Lisovsky, Karim Salgado, Yensing Sihapanya, Connor Skelly, and Susan Vaughan
> ABSENT – Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Queena Chen, Eliza Panike, and Frank Zepeda

8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding extended parking meter hours. (Hank Willson, Policy Manager, Parking & Curb Management. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

Kenya Wheeler, Principal Transportation Planner, Curb Management, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason stated that there is a lack of enforcement. He suggested assessing medallion costs on each one of the commuter buses for additional revenue.

Hesham stated that the plan needs to be ironed out a little more.

Richard Becker stated that this is a terrible proposal. This is the most unpopular proposal in his 40+ years of being a community activist. He said the SFMTA is trying to squeeze every last penny out of poor people and working-class people even though the City has more billionaires per capita than any other city in the United States.

Scott Brown stated that this is an obscene attack on the working class. The City refuses to tax big business. It's totally disconnected from reality.

Stephanie stated that this is low hanging fruit. It's awful what the SFMTA is doing to push people into a desperate situation.

Gloria stated that she is a delegate to the SF Labor Council. She stated that several unions are against this proposal. New condos going up in the Mission don't require parking spaces anymore like they used to. The SFMTA is squeezing everybody into the street and charging far higher prices. It's a neighborhood of poor people and this is not going to fly.

Ramsey stated that this is a very unpopular proposal. He stated that the fiscal crisis shouldn't be taken out on the poor. This is unfair to the working class.

Sanika Mahajan stated that it's crazy for the agency to pass extended parking meter hours off as a measure to reduce emissions, to reduce traffic, and to raise revenue, when there are so many alternative ways to do that. Cruise cars are littering the streets of San Francisco. with plans for them to release even more. And yet, the SFMTA is not taxing Cruise anymore for their use of the public streets. They're not taxing Google or Facebook more for their use of public bus stops for their shuttles.

Paula Katz stated that she strongly opposes the extension to the parking meters. The people who are going to be hurt are the merchants.

Prianna Nunn stated that she works for a tech company that is not paying taxes and should be. She opposes the proposal to extend parking meters. It shouldn't be on the working class.

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

No public comment.

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

No public comment.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned due to lack of quorum at 8:44 p.m.

Submitted by:

Keka Robinson-Luqman
SFMTA CAC – Secretary

Next regular meeting: Thursday, October 5th at 5:30pm | Union Square Conference Room