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SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY MULTIMODAL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Held via Video Conference

Dial Toll Free: (888) 475-4499
Zoom Meeting ID: 817 8453 2065
Passcode: 061848

REGULAR MEETING
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm

2) Attendance

See roll call.

3) Announcements from Members and City Staff

No announcements

4) Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Glock motioned, and Mr. Fischer seconded the approval of the agenda. **Motion carried.**

5) Acceptance of Minutes from Two Previous Meetings

Mr. Glock motioned, and Mr. Fischer seconded the approval of the January 18, 2024, and February 15, 2024, minutes.



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6) Public Comment

None.

7) Business of the Afternoon:

A) Geary Boulevard Improvement Project

Project Manager Liz Brisson provided an overview of the current phase of Geary Boulevard improvements (Phase I, the Geary Rapid Project, is substantially complete). Phase 2 of the Project will improve transit performance and the customer experience as well as multimodal safety. The Improvement Project aims to build on Phase I successes such as decreasing travel time on the 38R and reducing transit collisions.

The Improvement Project will construct side-running transit lanes instead of the center lanes that were previously considered. This change reflects the outcome of a 2021 community survey showing that 2/3rds of residents preferred side running transit lanes. The project includes bus stop removal and relocation and bus zone lengthening. Bus bulbs will be constructed, and Accessible Pedestrian



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Signals will be installed. Bus shelters are currently being permitted and will be installed later this year.

To improve multimodal safety, the project will construct bulb-outs and pedestrian refuges, eliminate unprotected left turns, daylight intersections, and change signal timing to give people more time to cross the street. Safety improvements are expected to be completed in 2027.

Mr. Fischer asked if crossing times would be extended for slower pedestrians and if median refuges would be provided. Ms. Brisson confirmed that both will be provided.

Ms. Brown expressed appreciation for the accessibility improvements and asked whether there are vacancies on the Geary Project CAC. Ms. Brisson noted that new members are accepted on a rolling basis and that no seats are vacant currently. The CAC meets quarterly on the 2nd Wednesday.

Mr. Hamada expressed support for the decision to move from center running to side running transit lanes.

Mr. Wong said that he did not realize that the 38 Geary is one of the busiest transit lanes in the country. He asked whether signal priority will be given to buses and Ms. Brisson said it would.



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8) Muni Service Equity Strategy

Senior Transportation Planner Jessica Garcia provided an update on the Muni Equity Strategy for FY25 and FY26. The Strategy document will be presented to the SFMTA Board in April.

Ms. Garcia noted that the Strategy is updated every 2 years and is a collaborative effort with communities and advocates for affordable housing and transit equity. The current update looks at equity citywide and, in the Bayview, Chinatown, Excelsior/Outer Mission, Inner Mission, Oceanview/Ingleside, Treasure Island, SoMa/Tenderloin, Visitacion Valley and Western Addition neighborhoods.

Ms. Garcia described the range of improvements that resulted from the previous Equity Strategies, including service changes to reduce crowding, construction of bus bulbs and transit lanes to improve reliability, and the addition of red curb “clear zones” at nearside flag stops to improve access.

The aim of the current report is to use equity strategy principles to develop cost-neutral solutions to service needs. Equity Strategy recommendations for FY 25 and FY 26 include convening the Muni Equity Working Group quarterly, focusing service management and operational improvements on equity



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routes and completing Transit Priority projects that are already underway.

Mr. Fischer inquired about flag stops and Ms. Garcia indicated that the locations are provided on the SFMTA website.

Mr. Rosen stated that he is a former employee of the Janet Pomeroy Center, and it was difficult for clients to get to Stonestown from there. Ms. Garcia noted that the 58 line does now go to Stonestown.

Mr. Wong noted that it can be difficult to board a bus from the street at flag stops. Ms. Garcia said that a Board of Supervisors resolution calls for flag stops to be improved and that SFMTA has a project to address the issue.

9) Other Business

Ms. Seretan noted that, since membership levels have been far below the maximum of 21 members stated in the Bylaws, 9 members should be sufficient for a quorum.

10) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 with a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of longtime MAAC member Dave Longa. Mr. Wong made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Brown seconded.