



## Geary Community Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

6:00 pm

One South Van Ness, 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Union Square Conference Room

### Geary CAC Members

Sana Ahmed  
Daniel Calamuci  
Paul Epstein  
Fay Fua  
Lou Grosso  
Benjamin Horne  
Andrei Svensson  
Susannah Raub

### SFMTA Staff

Liz Brisson  
Kannu Balan  
Amy Fowler  
Lulu Feliciano  
Kim Le  
Sophia Scherr  
Hester Yu

## Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Paul Epstein, Vice Chairman, standing in for Geary CAC Chairman Annie Lee, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

### 2. Roll call

### 3. Ice breaker activity

- a. Members participated in a short ice breaker exercise.

### 4. Approval of minutes – [September 18, 2018](#)

- a. Daniel Calamuci motioned to approve. Lou Grosso seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by a voice vote.

### 5. Public comment: Members of the public may address the Geary Community Advisory Committee on matters that are within its jurisdiction and are not on today's calendar.

- a. Tom Barton: He is waiting for results/next steps for Spruce Rapid stop working group.

### 6. Geary Boulevard Improvement Project update

- a. Paul Epstein: Is there sewer work planned?
  - i. Kannu Balan: The sewer scope is not yet known, SFMTA is still coordinating with SFPUC, and so far they haven't indicated a desire to do a major upgrade, so its possible that only certain spot locations will require upgrades.
- b. Susannah Raub: What does 35% design mean?
  - i. Kannu Balan: There are different milestones within the engineering design process that reflect how close to a full set of plans, specifications,



and estimates the design is (35, 65 and 95%) and the Geary Boulevard Improvement Project is in the early design phase at 35%, which includes a basic layout, general bus stop locations, signals, and light posts, but is not detailed. SFMTA can use this info to apply for funding, and estimate schedule and construction sequencing.

- c. Paul Epstein: Will additional cisterns be built as part of the project?
  - i. Kannu Balan: The project is still in early design and that has not been determined yet.
- d. Ben Horne: Does your subsidewalk basement survey include those downtown and how will the project address them?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The Geary Boulevard Improvement Project scope is west of Stanyan and does not include the downtown portion of the Geary corridor. The Geary Rapid Project conducted a similar subsidewalk basement survey and received the necessary information about subsidewalk basements downtown and has incorporated that information into the design.
- e. Paul Epstein: What is the structure plan needed for?
  - i. Kannu Balan: Certain design elements have structural implications. For example, sometimes we cannot use a standard design such as if there is a sub-sidewalk basement, or unusual soil conditions, etc. In those cases we may need to develop a special structural design.
- f. Andrei Svensson: There are some locations in the drawings that appear to be locations where vehicles will be allowed to turn left, is that correct? Will there be bulb-outs for local bus service or will local buses run in the center lane?
  - i. Kannu Balan: Yes, those locations represent where there will be pockets for drivers to make left turns;
  - ii. Liz Brisson: the environmental document contains information about each location where left turns are planned to be removed, added or retained. While there are several that are removed, some left turn opportunities will remain. Regarding center-running bus lanes, all buses will run through the center lanes from Palm Avenue to 27<sup>th</sup> (inbound)/28<sup>th</sup> Avenue (outbound). All Rapid and local buses would stop at the same bus stops so there would be no need for passing. There would be more stops than the current Rapid and fewer than the current local in this segment of the corridor.
- g. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

## **7. Geary Rapid – Implementation update**

- a. Paul Epstein: Will sewers be replaced or repaired, and will that work be along the entire length?
  - i. Hester Yu: Between Masonic and Van Ness: there will be water and sewer main replacement; west of Masonic to Stanyan, there will be



minor sewer upgrades; east of Van Ness to Market, there will be water main replacement on Geary only (not O'Farrell)

- ii. Paul Epstein: It would be helpful to produce a one-page summary of this
- b. Andrei Svensson: Will the contractor, JMB, only be doing work for PUC or will they also do paving and bulb-outs? Has that contract been awarded?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The contract is primarily for water/sewer west of Van Ness, but they also are doing work sponsored by SFMTA and the Department of Technology to install fiber optic cable conduits for traffic signals and for potential future high-speed internet services. The contract was awarded in August, however the other contracts have not been advertised yet. There is a separate contract for paving and bulb-outs west of Van Ness that Public Works is responsible for; and there is yet another contract east of Van Ness that Public Works is responsible for that includes water upgrades, pedestrian/bus bulbs, and traffic signal upgrades.
- c. Lou Grosso: Will sewer/water work take place during the day or night?
  - i. Liz Brisson: Work will mostly be done during the day during non-peak hours. Water switchovers would typically be done at night, when it is least disruptive.
- d. Ben Horne: What outreach will be done for the water/sewer work?
  - i. Liz Brisson: MTA is coordinating with Public Utilities Commission to finalize procedures to ensure minimal disruption and give adequate advance public notice. The Geary Rapid Project is also following the City's construction mitigation program to provide business support in the project area, which includes, wayfinding signs, banners for business frontages, and marketing support to the four commercial areas (Union Square, the Fillmore, Japantown and Tenderloin). SFMTA will hold meetings with merchants to determine how to best use marketing funds.
- e. Andrei Svensson: Will there be pest/vermin control for businesses once construction starts?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The project will be managed by a construction management team that will address construction site housekeeping concerns including pests. The contractor is required to develop a Sanitary Work Practices plan and to comply with the City's Integrated Pest Management Program. The project team will work with the Department of Public Health to identify issues, develop its management plan, monitor conditions and address issues as needed.
  - ii. Andrei Svensson: In Sweden, they place electronic devices in sewers that help with vermin issues.



- f. Andrei Svensson: Can the CAC see an overview sheet for each contract that shows what work is being done where at the next meeting?
  - i. Liz Brisson: these drawings can sometimes be hard for lay-people to read, but yes we can bring them to the next CAC meeting. In addition, the project has a schematic map that summarizes the entire scope that can also be shared.
- g. Andrei Svensson: this afternoon I witnessed a delivery truck blocking the transit-only lanes at Baker. What is SFMTA doing for enforcement?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The project team has been coordinating with SFPD to do educational outreach to drivers about the new transit-only lanes on Geary. We provided officers with one-page hand-outs to distribute to drivers that explain how drivers are allowed to access transit-only lanes. In addition, SFMTA's Transit Only Lane Enforcement (TOLE) program also issues citations for non-moving violations (e.g. double parking). In addition, SFMTA's Parking Control Officers (PCOs) can also monitor and issue citations for double-parking – the Project Team has been communicating with PCOs so they are aware of new transit-only lane locations that should be added to their patrol routes.
- h. Public Comment: Tom Barton asked how long the project will take to be completed?
  - i. Liz Brisson responded that the Geary Rapid Project is currently anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2021.

#### **8. Geary Rapid – Communications/outreach update**

- a. Andrei Svensson: (asking about a handout showing decorative panels planned at the Buchanan crossing) what do these different colors mean?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The panels will be one of the two colors shown next to each panel
- b. Ben Horne: Who will maintain the panels?
  - i. Liz Brisson: The material is easy to maintain and Public Works will be responsible for upkeep of the panels.
- c. Lou Grosso: Thanked the team for the outreach email updates.
- d. Public Comment: Tom Barton: how will the project team advertise the groundbreaking?
  - i. Amy Fowler: An email will be sent to the CAC and we are planning on doing a press release as well.

#### **9. Geary Rapid – Draft Transportation Management Plan (TMP)**

- a. Ben Horne: Will there be coordination with concurrent construction projects? Ben informed the team of construction that is planned at the Macy's men's store that may overlap with Geary Rapid. He also suggested including the holiday moratorium in the TMP.
  - i. Liz Brisson: The project will follow the holiday moratorium and incorporate reference into the TMP. SFMTA also coordinates internally



and with other public and private' projects to minimize disruption and would appreciate a connection to the Macy's development team.

- b. Lou Grosso: The eastbound stop at Van Ness keeps moving, making it both confusing and frustrating for riders that use the stop as a transfer point. How will the team inform public about bus stop changes when construction begins?
    - i. Liz Brisson: She isn't familiar with the specifics regarding the bus stop at Geary and Van Ness, but team has discussed ways to make temporary bus stop relocations more clear with large signs. We also maintain a [map](#) on our website (and [accessible table](#)) with the current status of all relocated bus stops.
  - c. Public Comment: No public comment.
- 10. Adjourn.**
- a. Paul Epstein motioned to adjourn. Lou Grosso seconded the motion. All approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.