

**Van Ness Business Advisory Committee****Thursday, April 18, 2019, 3:00 p.m.****One South Van Ness Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Civic Center Conference Room**Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m.
2. Introductions.
3. Public comment:
  - a. None heard.
4. Approval of Minutes – [March 19](#)
  - a. Approved by a voice vote.
5. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding letter of support for proposed public art on project corridor.
  - a. Pat Klock proposed a motion to approve the draft of the letter presented. The motion was seconded by Michael George. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.
6. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding update from SFMTA staff.
  - a. Paul Medina:
    - i. How far west does the Geary project extend?
      1. The Geary BRT project is divided into two phases. The project currently in construction is called the Geary Rapid Project and it runs from Stanyan to Market streets. The Geary Boulevard Improvement Project is in design, and that project will extend all the way out to the beach.
      2. Are some parking meters going to be eliminated because of the Van Ness Improvement Project?
        - a. Most of the parking on Van Ness within the project limits will be restored when construction is over. We already removed some of the parking at intersections to improve safety (which is called “daylighting” intersections) at the beginning of the project in 2016, and generally the blocks where there are bus platforms will also experience some parking loss.
    - b. Pat Klock:
      - i. What is exactly a car card campaign?
        1. Car cards are the ads that are placed inside Muni buses above the windows. This is a quarterly “Visit Van Ness” car card ad

campaign. These ads reach approximately 700,000 Muni customers and have a value of just over \$19,000.

- ii. There was no sidewalk work on our block this week, but it turned back into truck parking and staging. When that happens the trash accumulation gets worse. There's also graffiti on the sidewalk.
  - iii. We have a meeting scheduled for next week and was wondering what the purpose of it was.
    - 1. We scheduled a time to do walkthrough with our project engineer so you can flag any issues that might need resolving, especially since we will be shifting the utility construction to the opposite side of the street soon.
- c. Danielle Rabkin:
- i. Will parking meters be restored on Van Ness? When can we expect them back?
    - 1. Parking meters on Van Ness will be restored at the project's completion which is projected to be June 2021.
  - ii. Will fencing be removed from the sidewalk on my side of the street for the remainder of the project, after the utility phase is over?
    - 1. For the most part, yes. During the final phase, some fencing will go up at the corners, near the intersections, to perform the bulb-out work. But it will likely not affect your specific location, and that phase is expected to be considerably shorter.
  - iii. Do you have any data or information you can share with us regarding the potential impact of the project on businesses on Van Ness?
    - 1. Other agencies, such as the City Controller's Office, are in the process of gathering information related to that but we have not seen the results from that process yet. The only data we have received so far is vacancy rate data.
- d. Brian Bruckner: Will other bus stops remain on the sides of Van Ness, or will there only be the BRT stops in the center? Will commuter shuttles make stops on Van Ness?
- i. There will be no other transit stops outside of the boarding platforms in the center running way on Van Ness (from Lombard to Mission). Commuter shuttles are allowed to travel on Van Ness currently, but they are not allowed to make stops on Van Ness, and the same will be true when BRT service begins.
- e. Emma Logan: Can you share details about the additional SFPD enforcement? I haven't really noticed a difference. We have had three break-ins in the last 18 months, which is a significant increase.

- i. We are funding extra patrolling all along the corridor. The officers are tasked with driving along the corridor at night, to turn into side streets and illuminate sidewalks and alleys, and to do walkthroughs of any areas that might raise concerns. We have been getting reports of the extra shifts, but they don't share many details.
    - f. Tony Fernandez: Is there a way to get a more quantitative report of the additional SFPD patrolling? It would be great if we could get details about that additional coverage. I also have not noticed a change. And if the police officers could also come and introduce themselves to businesses on the corridor and stop by from time to time, I would appreciate them doing that and it would help make their presence more apparent.
    - g. Michael George:
      - i. What are the current days of delay and the projected completion date?
        - 1. The project is still experiencing 564 days of delay and BRT Bus service is still projected to begin in June 2021.
      - ii. I also have not noticed more of an SFPD presence and would support Tony's idea that we would like them to stop by when they are out patrolling the corridor.
      - iii. When is the sidewalk work on the Pine to California block expected to begin? How long is the duration expected to be? We would like to coordinate the logistics of that work ahead of time.
        - 1. The latest estimate we have from the contractor for the east side of the California to Pine block, is it would be starting mid-June. We will reach out to our construction management team and work on setting up a meeting closer to the starting date so we can coordinate with you and answer any questions about that work. The duration varies from block to block, but the bulk of the work is generally expected to take three to four weeks per block.
7. Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m. by a voice vote.