



# San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Citizens' Advisory Council

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**MINUTES** • Meeting Date: July 6, 2023

## **REGULAR MEETING**

5:30 pm

1 South Van Ness Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Room 7080, Union Square Conference Room

## **SFMTA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Michael Chen, Chair  
Aaron Leifer, Vice-Chair  
Chris Arvin  
Sascha Bittner  
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 Chen called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

CAC members present at Roll Call: Chris Arvin, Sascha Bittner, Michael Chen, Stephen Cornell, Aaron Leifer, John Lisovsky, Eliza Panike, Yensing Sihapanya, Susan Vaughan, and Frank Zepeda

CAC members absent at Roll Call: Karim Salgado

CAC members absent with notification: Queena Chen, Robert Jaques, and Connor Skelly

### 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 June 1, 2023:

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

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Robert Jaques, and Connor Skelly

### 5. Report of the Chair (For discussion only)

Chair Chen reported that the agenda is abbreviated due to staff having to reschedule. He discussed funding and the CAC Chair and Vice Chair election.

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Edward Mason asked everyone who makes a comment to please speak up. He asked if he would receive a formal response to his signal controller box art suggestion.



## 6. Public Comment

Written 150-Word Public Testimony by Angel for Minutes of SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council Regular Meeting July 6, 2023: Agenda Item #6, Public Comment:

1. Need new bus signs, old ones are crappy. Buses have broken windows. Bus stops should be remodeled. Put 28 on bus stop sign at North Point and Mason. Fix sidewalk at this stop. Do not allow cars to park at bus stop and put-up signs for this.

2. It would be nice to have security guards on buses. Sometimes people do unsafe things and the driver doesn't care. One time a homeless person started yelling at people and hitting a person with a pamphlet and the driver didn't do anything. It would be nice to have the 47 bus back, it would help a lot of people from the Arc San Francisco to have that back.

3. I like Muni because it takes me places. It is scary when people are yelling and screaming on the 14.

4. I like Muni services but the 8 is too crowded. I like free bus passes for people with disabilities.

Written 150-Word Public Testimony by David Duckworth for Minutes of SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council Regular Meeting July 6, 2023: Agenda Item #6, Public comment:

(Finishing the public comment of Angel)

5. I like the Muni to take me places, but I saw people get robbed on the 67 bus.

6. On May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 on the southbound 14 I tried to get on the bus at 11<sup>th</sup> and Howard. The bus driver pulled away from the bus stop after refusing to clear space for my motorized chair in front of the bus. The passengers did not move to make way for my chair and the driver did not make them, he just drove away.

7. I need Muni to be safe and secure. We need security guards on the bus, please. Thank you.

8. On Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at approximately 2:35 p.m., the driver told me on the southbound 14 that there was no room and that I would need to wait for another bus. This is problematic for me as I am in a motorized wheelchair.

Edward Mason gave an update on commuter shuttle buses. He stated only Apple and Genentech buses are fully occupied. Indirectly, the citizens of San Francisco are paying for the commuter shuttle buses to operate.



Jerry Grace asked about code 19.

Patrick Gentry from Arc San Francisco spoke for Leo. He stated that she was told by an operator on the 9 that she could not come onto the bus with her walker and would need to sit in a regular seat. This made her feel discriminated against. He inquired about the training of drivers and the rules and regulations regarding helping disabled passengers, especially those in wheelchairs.

### **REGULAR CALENDAR**

7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the election of the CAC Chair and Vice Chair.

CAC Secretary Robinson-Luqman opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair.

Chair Michael Chen nominated Vice Chair Aaron Leifer for Chair of the CAC. There were no additional nominations, so nominations were closed.

No public comment.

On motion to elect Vice Chair Aaron Leifer as Chair:

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

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Robert Jaques, and Connor Skelly

Chair Leifer opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Chair Leifer nominated Council member Chris Arvin for Vice Chair of the CAC. There were no additional nominations, so nominations were closed.

No public comment.

On motion to elect Council member Chris Arvin as Vice Chair:

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

ABSENT – Queena Chen, Robert Jaques, and Connor Skelly



8. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding financial update and zero-base budgeting. (Bree Mawhorter, Chief Financial Officer, Finance & Information Technology. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

This item will be rescheduled to a later date.

9. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding Quarterly Transit Update. (Sean Kennedy, Manager, Transit Planning. Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Edward Mason offered suggestions about changing attitudes about riding transit. There should be regional cooperation between all the transit agencies.

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

EMSC Chair, Council member Frank Zepeda, presented the item.

Edward Mason stated that the EMSC presentation was excellent. He felt that there was not a discussion about the long-term plan of truncating the J and interlining the J and L. He asked if the new communication-based control system will the J, K, and L be excluded from subway operations.

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

Sue Vaughan asked what the cost is to operate the Central Subway and what its impact is on the rest of the system.

Karim Salgado asked what the fare evasion percentage was before clipper compared to now.

Sue Vaughan requested a presentation on autonomous vehicles.

Edward Mason stated that there was a Policy and Governance meeting presentation on autonomous vehicles and encouraged the CAC to look at the explanatory documents.

**ADJOURN** - The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KAR Luqman'.

Keka Robinson-Luqman  
SFMTA CAC – Secretary

Next regular meeting: Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm | Union Square Conference Room