



**SFMTA**  
Municipal  
Transportation  
Agency

**SAN FRANCISCO  
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND  
PARKING AUTHORITY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, December 2, 2014  
Room 400, City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1 P.M.**

**SFMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Tom Nolan, Chairman  
Cheryl Brinkman, Vice Chairman  
Gwyneth Borden  
Malcolm Heinicke  
Jerry Lee  
Joél Ramos  
Cristina Rubke

Edward D. Reiskin  
**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

Roberta Boomer  
**SECRETARY**

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Nolan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Present: Cheryl Brinkman  
Gwyneth Borden  
Malcolm Heinicke  
Jerry Lee  
Tom Nolan  
Joél Ramos  
Cristina Rubke

### 3. Announcement of prohibition of sound producing devices during the meeting.

Chairman Nolan announced that the ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at the meeting. He advised that any person responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices might be removed from the meeting. He also advised that cell phones that are set on “vibrate” cause microphone interference and requested that they be placed in the “off” position.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

On motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2014 Regular Meeting: unanimously approved.

### 5. Communications

Chairman Nolan stated that he would ask the Board Secretary to call Item 11 immediately.

Board Secretary Boomer stated that there would be no closed session.

### 6. Introduction of New or Unfinished Business by Board Members

Director Brinkman requested quarterly updates on Vision Zero.

Director Borden asked for information as to why NextBus wasn't working on cable cars.

### 7. Director's Report (For discussion only)

- Special Recognition Award
- Central Subway Project update
- Ongoing Activities

Kate Toran, Director, Taxis and Accessible Services recognized Zahid Khan, Taxi Driver, Comfort Cab. Ms. Toran also talked about Vadim Belkin, a taxicab driver with National-Veterans Cab Company. Sonali Bose, Director, Finance and Information Technology recognized George Milinovich, Administrative Hearing Officer, Hearings Section.

John Funghi, Director, Central Subway Project, provided an update on the Central Subway project.

Director Reiskin discussed double berthing in the Metro system and recent Vision Zero improvements.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Herbert Weiner questioned Vision Zero. There's danger on the sidewalks with too many cyclists. He would like to see accidents by cyclists in addition to accidents by cars. Pedestrians have to be protected against all vehicles.

Jerry Grace wondered about the Central Subway project and when it would open.

Barry Taranto applauded the Central Subway project and expressed concern about the contractor breaking the rules and their inefficiency and incompetence. He recounted an incident one morning when a cement truck was blocking Stockton Street and nobody would tell him how long the truck was going to block the track. It's nice to have the pedestrian open space on Stockton St. The SFMTA should consider having a taxi lane on Stockton. There is good visual signage but there needs to be better information before a car gets stuck in traffic.

Howard Strassner applauded the start of double berthing vehicles in the Metro. This is only a start. Vehicles shouldn't have to stop twice. There needs to be a signal that tells people where a particular line is stopping. The SFMTA has to increase service in the Metro which means more trains and reduced headways. Stopping twice at a station isn't doing it right.

Tone Lee talked about traffic changes over the years. There are big benefits to extending the T Line into Chinatown. People are speeding on 19<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Debra Benedict discussed improvements to the handicapped ramps at 9<sup>th</sup> and Folsom Streets. Pavement was removed but there were no inspections. The new pavement is wavy and makes it difficult for people to keep their balance. The pavement is of poor quality and is dangerous. The corner of 9<sup>th</sup> and Mission needs a handicapped ramp.

Madeleine Savit discussed Vision Zero education efforts. She would like to see professional driver education for taxicab drivers. Whether she is riding a bike or walking, she gets shouted at by cabdrivers. The culture has to change on the streets.

Dorian Maxwell discussed double berthing. It's not going to be safe. On a two-car train, the first car may be in the platform and the second car may still be in the tunnel. He commended the whistleblower that exposed the corruption at the SFMTA. The audit was done by a mutual friend of board or staff members. An audit needs to be done by the FTA.

## 8. Citizens' Advisory Council Report

No report.

Director Heinicke left.

## 9. Public Comment

Herbert Weiner said that politics is the art of compromising people. He advocated for free Muni for seniors and people with disabilities but not at the expense of making them walk longer distances. It doesn't make sense to have free transit if you have to crawl a quarter of a mile. Paratransit won't compensate for this. Bus routes are being removed from the neighborhoods.

Dorian Maxwell stated that he met with five congressmen who are displeased with the way the SFMTA is run and with workplace bullying in a government agency. The SFMTA has used trickery, lies and false promises since Prop. A was passed. The SFMTA needs to be revamped and investigated by the Department of Justice for misappropriation of public funds. The system isn't working. He will petition the Mayor to put transit-literate people on the Board rather than people from the Bike Commission.

Wendy Silvani asked the Board to waive the administrative penalty for not being able to meet the reporting requirements for the commuter shuttle program. Their inability to push the data in the new format is the only reason why they aren't compliant. This is for one stop. A fine of \$250 per day is punitive. The shuttle pilot program is a large operational expense. Charging community services is counterproductive.

Luke Stewart talked about the Mission Bay Shuttle program and its' goals. It augments existing transit and is funded by the community at large but many businesses don't pay. The best way to operate is as a good neighbor. The shuttle program is hugely popular and ridership often exceeds availability. He asked the SFMTA to allocate additional space near transit hubs for shuttle boarding and for temporary relief for data non-compliance.

Debra Benedict expressed support for providing "Free Muni" to seniors and people with disabilities. She has to choose whether to provide medical support for her service animal or take transit.

Jerry Grace expressed support for providing "Free Muni" to seniors and people with disabilities.

Barry Taranto congratulated the Board for asking wonderful questions about the taxi industry. The rules set by FlyWheel management don't make it convenient for taxis to operate during peak times. Drivers have been discouraged and then they don't turn the app on. If a cab driver cancels an order, they've been punished. If you enforce the rules, people are nice but by the time the person gets to the site of the violation, the person who complained or the violator is gone. There needs to be more staffing.

Joel Bean expressed appreciation for meetings regarding waterfront transportation. There was a less successful meeting regarding the Mission Bay T Line loop that left the neighborhood in an uproar. No one questions the need for the loop but the issue is the location. This location was chosen 15 years ago prior to the business and residential development in the area.

Naeem Malik wondered who was getting taxi medallions. People who aren't driving continuously are being offered medallions. Some of drivers on the list who have been driving continuously are being ignored. He asked the Board to give medallions to those on the list with A card seniority. The A card list should be posted online.

Carl Macmurdo discussed advertising for taxi apps. The feeling he gets is that it's not appropriate for the SFMTA to participate in advertising. Fraud is committed every time Uber picks up a passenger. 20% of the money goes to Silicon Valley cartel investors. Virtually none of the drivers have commercial insurance and thus can offer a low rate. Enforcement is spread out across various agencies. He suggested a hearing to discuss the matter at the Board or force the TNC drivers to have commercial insurance.

Mary McGuire stated that a former taxi school teacher is poaching drivers for Uber and Lyft. This needs to be dealt with. She also discussed the cell phone lot at the airport.

Howard Strassner stated that privately driven vehicles have taken over most streets in major cities throughout the world. He urged the Board to consider what Google is trying to do. A car will pick someone up and take them where they want to go without the need for a parking space. These cars will help provide public transportation. The SFMTA needs to work with Google or they'll flood the market with these cars.

Betty Traynor expressed support for providing "Free Muni" to seniors and people with disabilities. This has been a movement for many organizations and people who testified previously. This began with the youth. Seniors were gratified to hear youth speak on behalf of their grandparents.

Nathan Dwiri talked about competitive equity with the taxi apps. He recommended fee flexibility. The commercial apps charge various fees to support their infrastructure. It would benefit the industry if taxis had fee flexibility.

Barry Korengold talked about the misconceptions about taxicabs at the airport or with TNC's. TNC's don't have the same expenses as taxicabs but they compete with cabs. Cab drivers are aggravated by having to follow rules when they are surrounded by many who don't have to follow the same rules. Streets are clogged on Friday and Saturday night. TNC's are using the transit only lanes but there's no enforcement.

Anonymous stated that "Free Muni" is difficult but he's not in favor of it. This is only temporary and will need to be budgeted every year. The youth pass is being abused and needs to be looked at. There are many ways to get what you need in the City and he hears that people feel that they are entitled to it.

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS BEFORE THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION AS STATED BY THE SFMTA DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OR CITY ATTORNEY WHERE APPLICABLE. EXPLANATORY DOCUMENTS FOR ALL CALENDAR ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT 1 SOUTH VAN NESS AVE. 7<sup>th</sup> FLOOR.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

10. All matters listed hereunder constitute a Consent Calendar, are considered to be routine by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors and will be acted upon by a single vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Directors or the public so requests, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered as a separate item.

(10.1) Requesting the Controller to allot funds and to draw warrants against such funds available or will be available in payment of the following claims against the SFMTA:

- A. Convergent Technologies vs. CCSF, Unlitigated Claim #1500828 filed on 10/7/14 for \$40,551.24

#### RESOLUTION 14-168

(10.2) Approving the following traffic modifications:

- A. ESTABLISH – PERPENDICULAR PARKING – Noe Street, east side, from 29th Street to Valley Street; and Valley Street, south side, from Noe Street to Sanchez Street.
- B. ESTABLISH – NO PARKING ANY TIME – Avalon Street, south side, from Vienna Street to 30 feet westerly; Avalon Street, north side, from Vienna Street to 30 feet westerly; and Avalon Street, north side, from Vienna Street to 45 feet easterly.
- C. ESTABLISH – RED ZONE – Battery Street, east side from Pine Street to 48 feet northerly; and Battery Street, west side, from Pine Street to 28 feet northerly.
- D. ESTABLISH – STOP SIGN – Cleveland Street, westbound, at 7th Street; and Sherman Street, southbound, at Harrison Street.
- E. ESTABLISH – NO PARKING ANY TIME 12:01 AM TO 6 AM EVERY DAY FOR VEHICLES MORE THAN SEVEN FEET TALL OR 22 FEET LONG – Ocean Avenue frontage road, north side, from Phelan Avenue to 73 feet westerly.
- F. ESTABLISH – STOP SIGN – Belcher Street, southbound, at 14th Street.
- G. ESTABLISH – RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREA Z, 2-HOUR PARKING 8 AM TO 6 PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, EXCEPT VEHICLES WITH AREA Z PERMITS – Dolores Street, both sides, from 21st Street to 22nd Street (800 block).
- H. ESTABLISH - STOP SIGN – Athens Street, westbound, at Naples Street.
- I. ESTABLISH - STOP SIGN – Conkling Street, southbound, at Silver Avenue.
- J. ESTABLISH - STOP SIGN – Innes Street, westbound, at Phelps Street.
- K. ESTABLISH - RED ZONE – Phelps Street, east side, from Innes Street to 25 feet southerly.
- L. ESTABLISH - TOW AWAY NO STOPPING FIRE LANE – Key Avenue, north side, from Bayview Park fire access road gate to 52.5 feet westerly.

- M. ESTABLISH – NO PARKING ANY TIME – ESTABLISH – SIDEWALK WIDENING – 8th Street, east side, from 178 feet to 262 feet north of Mission Street. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution. The proposed actions are all Approval Actions as defined by S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31.)

RESOLUTION 14-169

(10.3) Approving the following temporary parking modifications in support of the Commuter Shuttle Pilot program:

- A. ESTABLISH – TOW-AWAY NO PARKING, PERMITTED COMMUTER SHUTTLE BUS ZONE, 6 AM TO 10 AM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY – San Jose Avenue, west side, from Dolores Street to 45 feet northerly
- B. EXTEND – BUS ZONE – Townsend Street, south side, from 40 feet to 73 feet east of 3rd Street. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution. The proposed actions are all Approval Actions as defined by S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31.)

Item 10.3 was severed from the Consent Calendar by Director Rubke so she could recuse herself from the item.

On motion to recuse Director Rubke from voting on Item 10.3:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Heinicke, Lee, Nolan, and Ramos

RECUSED – Rubke

RESOLUTION 14-170

On motion to approve Item 10.3:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Heinicke, Lee, Nolan, and Ramos

RECUSED - Rubke

On motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Item 10.3 severed):

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Heinicke, Lee, Nolan, Ramos and Rubke

REGULAR CALENDAR

11. Amending Transportation Code Division II, Article 1100 regarding the vehicle standard requirements for San Francisco taxicabs; change the Medallion Re-Transfer Fee from 20% to 5%; and waive the Ramp Medallion Use fee through June of 2016 and status report on taxi-related issues. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, resolution and amendment.)

Kate Toran, Director, Taxis and Accessible Services, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Sam Alicia Duke, Carl Macmurdo, Tone Lee, Charles Rathbone, Naeem Malik, Greg Cochran, Muwaffaq Mustafa, Pi Ra, Ashwani Aeri, Barry Korengold,

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: Barry Taranto, Mikhail Chernobils, Alexander, Hussein Bakir, Mary McGuire and Peter Witt. (Mr. Witt provided a written statement that is attached to these minutes.)

Director Ramos asked for a report on the practice of taxicab drivers having to tip dispatchers.

RESOLUTION 14-171

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Heinicke, Lee, Nolan, Ramos and Rubke

12. Authorizing the Director to execute Contract No. CPT 713 with New Flyer of America Inc. to purchase 61 60-foot low floor diesel hybrid coaches for an amount not to exceed \$68,257,536 and for a term not to exceed 6 years as a base contract, with options to purchase an additional 200 40-foot and 163 60-foot low floor diesel hybrid buses over the next six years. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, evaluation, and contract.)

John Haley, Director, Transit Services, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: Howard Wong

RESOLUTION 14-172

On motion to approve:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Heinicke, Lee, Nolan, Ramos and Rubke

13. Presentation and discussion regarding the SFMTA's FY14 Annual Report. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, report, slide presentation and appendix.)

Ed Reiskin, Director of Transportation, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: Howard Wong

14. Presentation and discussion regarding the "All Door Boarding" Evaluation Report. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, evaluation, and a slide presentation.)

Jason Lee, Performance Manager, Finance and Information Technology presented the item.



PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Howard Strassner and Howard Wong

Members of the public expressing opposition: Dorian Maxwell

15. Presentation and discussion regarding the T-Third Phase Three Concept study. (Explanatory documents include the report and a slide presentation.)

Paul Bignardi, Principle Planner, Sustainable Streets and Bob Masys, Senior Engineer, Transportation Authority

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Bruce Agid, Patrick Valentino, Stephen Taber, Howard Strassner, Troy Campbell, and Julie Christensen.

Members of the public expressing opposition: Dorian Maxwell, Howard Wong,

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: Bill Schwartz

16. Presentation and discussion regarding the SFMTA's 2014 year-end financial audit. (Explanatory documents include a staff report and slide presentations.)

Sonali Bose, Director, Finance and Information Technology and Lisa Avis, Senior Manager, KPMG presented the item.

No public comment.

17. Discussion and vote pursuant to Administrative Code Section 67.10(d) as to whether to conduct a closed session.

The closed session was cancelled.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

A recording of the meeting is on file in the office of the Secretary to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors.

Roberta Boomer  
Board Secretary

Material supplied by Peter Witt for inclusion in the SFMTA's minutes of August 21, 2012. To ensure that the comments are accessible, this material is reproduced as written below. The actual statement provided will be added to the printed meeting minutes.

For those who don't know ME ,... "I'm back" .

I'm not Canadian....and I don't get \$300,000. To do one but I do-do a little taxi SURVEY every yr. and give it to the TAXI REGULATES of S.f. for free ... as a public service, to improve-taxi service.

17 YRS. AGO...I figured , IF you're going to run MY bizness ....you should know-HOW IT'S Running FIRST.

Also 17 yrs. AGO , I naively --- factored-in ..... "Good faith and fairness" .

The "DATA" I produce here..... doesn't lie ..... ONLY the "Career PR-Politicians".

This is the **17<sup>th</sup> TAXI CUSTOMER SURVEY** ... as a public service, FOR THE PUBLIC AND for you to-do...as you see-fit.

Question IS Who's fit – to serve THE PUBLIC ???

As a Native and Resident S.F .

TELL ME IS ....., Gridlock & Congestion ---- THE PLAN ???

IF IT IS ..... ANOTHER GREAT JOB !!