

Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee
December 11, 2012
Approved Minutes

Present: Robin Brasso, Child Advocate Org; Chris Coghlan, D-7; John Ehrlich, D-2; John Lowell, Senior/Disability Org; Zachary Marks, At Large; Pi Ra, Ped Safety Org; James Rhoads, D-5; Thomas Rogers, D-10; Howard Strassner, Transit Advocate; Paul Supawanich, Bike/Non-Motorized Org.

Excused: Kevin Clark, D-1; Richard Rothman, Senior/Disability Org.

Absent: R. Gary McCoy, D-11

- Howard Bloomberg was approved by the Rules Committee for final appointment in Jan.

- Abigail Evans had to retire from the Committee.

- Paul S. announced this was his last meeting.

1) Approval of the December 11, 2012 Agenda – Motion Passed Unanimously

2) Approval of the November 13, 2012 Minutes – Motion Passed Unanimously

3) No Public Comment

4) SFPD Traffic Company Update – Approximately 20 pedestrian fatalities this year.

The driver was deemed most at fault for the December 10th accident on Market Street. There is no education for pedestrians to know pedestrian signals. A truck was driving southbound and accelerated through the yellow light. The pedestrian had a red hand light and made it 40 feet across the 60-foot crosswalk. We need to obey pedestrian safety signs if we expect others to do so. Cell phone use is a major problem. The middle of the street is the traffic kill zone. Thomas Rogers thanked the SFPD for putting together the pedestrian safety statistics. One member was concerned about the length of yellow lights.

5) Rebecca Prozan - Traffic safety program (What's the Rush?) launched yesterday. The marketing signs are bilingual and will appear on MUNI. There was a homeless person in North Beach that was paralyzed by a hit and run accident. The North Beach community was outraged and arranged to bring the victims family back to visit. He is on life support. Ms. Prozan reviewed a few cases and mentioned that some pending cases are under investigation. The DA decided not to move forward with the Trader Joes case. There are a lot of ways that we can make it a whole lot safer out there. Ms. Brasso wanted to know if we could do a public service announcement.

Public Comment – Howard Bloomberg – Announcements should be made through the PSAC website about upcoming meetings like sentencing hearings.

6) Appointment of two PSAC members to ad-hoc committee to address Market/12th Intersection (process initiated by Bicycle Advisory Committee) Ms. Brasso said that most bicyclists go right through red lights. Howard Strassner and Howard Bloomberg will serve on the ad-hoc committee with Chris, Pi, and John L. as potential backups.

7) Polk Street Project Update – Darcie Lim – Polk Street improvement project – Polk Street will be repaved through Proposition B. This project focuses between Union Street and McAllister. \$8 million will hopefully achieve a reduction in pedestrian collisions by 50% in 2021. The sidewalks range from 10-12 feet. The sidewalk narrows down with signs and garbage cans. The 19 Polk runs every 15 minutes during peak time. The sidewalk is narrowed down even more by bus shelters. Polk Street is part of Route 25. Van Ness is a State highway. Double-parking is a problem. Polk Street is five times worse than Columbus Street. There has been outreach since September 26, 2012. There was a design workshop on October 27th. There was a public meeting on December 1, 2012. The project goals discuss what is great about Polk Street and how we can make it better through improvements. We need to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety. There were also walking tours offered for all of the stakeholders. The design workshop was hosted at the First Congressional Church. There was also an open house workshop. The final public meeting will be in early 2013. Construction will be in early 2015.

www.sfmta.com/Polk

8) SFMTA Staff Report – The Masonic Street project was accepted in the OBAG Grant program. The first traffic circle in the Richmond district just started. Bryant St. had a median installed along with a road diet. Greening is also scheduled for early Jan. 2013. Ms. Brasso wanted to know if One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) funds could be used for educational programs. Her concern is about changing people's behavior when walking and driving in San Francisco. Ms. Brasso wants to know about updating buses with sensors and back up cameras.

9) Chairs Report – Thomas Rogers is going to return to working on the Annual Report. The other item is that leadership elections will happen during the next meeting. Please contact Thomas Rogers about running for a leadership position.