



Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 28, 2016

6:00-7:30 p.m.

One South Van Ness, 7th floor, Union Square Conference Room

MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.
2. Public comment (see policy on reverse): Members of the public may address the Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee on matters that are within its jurisdiction and are not on today's calendar.
 - a. No public comment was made.
3. Member comment. Members of the Community Advisory Committee may address the Van Ness BRT project staff on matters not on today's calendar.
 - a. Bill Crissman expressed concern about the bus stop spacing on Van Ness, particularly between Sutter and Clay northbound. He has heard from several people that eliminating the California Street stop has created too long a distance between stops.
 - i. Many members agreed and said they had heard similar complaints.
 - ii. Don Savoie mentioned that he has also heard complaints from people about eliminating the Grove Street stop, but there hasn't been as much as he had expected.
 - b. Bob Lockhart asked about commercial loading zones during construction. He said the project will reduce capacity on Van Ness by a third and was concerned about trucks double parking and reducing capacity even further. He was also concerned about bicyclists using the sidewalks on Van Ness and said they should be encouraged to use Polk Street instead. It was suggested that staff reach out to bike rental shops to inform tourists and non-locals. Bob also suggested staff reach out to fronting businesses with loading zones.
4. Minutes from the June 23, 2016, meeting were approved by a voice vote.
5. SFMTA staff updates.
 - a. Project schedule.
 - i. Staff anticipates an early October start date for construction.
 1. The city's holiday moratorium on construction begins November 25 and is in place through January 1.
 - a. No construction activity may occur where more than 50 percent of a block's frontage is business.
 - b. Restriction can be lifted if businesses give permission through signed waivers.
 - c. Team will work with places of worship to ensure they are not impacted during moratorium work.
 2. Chris Parkes asked what work would be done first in the current construction plan.
 - a. Early work includes removing left turns, removing 86 trees in the median, and temporarily paving over the existing median.
 - b. Some left turns will be preserved at the start of construction as drivers adjust to new traffic patterns. These will be phased out through construction.
 - c. Median trees will likely be removed within the first two months of construction.

- a. Commissioners requested a less industrial aesthetic and asked for an alternative to the red seismic wave shelter roof. Alternate designs were presented to the Architectural Review Committee of the Historic Preservation Commission in May.
 - c. Frequently Asked Questions update.
 - i. Staff is drafting answers to questions collected from members of the Van Ness Business Advisory Committee, members of the Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit Community Advisory Committee, bus stop consolidation ambassadors, and general public inquiries.
 - 1. Randy Uang asked that responses include visuals as well as text and hyperlinks.
- 7. Van Ness Business Advisory Committee Report for July 21 meeting.
 - a. The fall issue of the Van Ness Improvement Project newsletter will focus the Construction Survival Guide being developed in coordination with the Van Ness Business Advisory Committee.
 - b. Staff provided an update on a construction marketing plan being developed with the Office of Economic Workforce and Development.
 - c. Members of the Van Ness Business Advisory Committee voted to combine their November meeting with the Community Advisory Committee meeting.
 - i. November 17, 2016, at 6 p.m. in the Union Square Conference Room, 7th Floor, at One South Van Ness.
- 8. Next meetings.
 - a. August 25, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - b. September 22, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 - c. October 27, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Every agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on items of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.

Public comment will be taken for each agenda item after discussion of the item by the Van Ness BRT CAC.

Privilege of Floor and Public Participation. The privilege of the floor shall be granted to any member of the public or officers of the City and County of San Francisco, or their duly authorized representatives for the purpose of commenting on any question before the Committee. Each person wishing to speak on an item at a regular or special meeting shall be permitted to be heard once per item for up to three minutes. The presiding officer shall be the judge of the pertinence of such comments, and have the power to limit this privilege if in the presiding officer's opinion the comments are not pertinent to the question before the Committee or the comments are merely reiterative of points made by previous speakers.

Presentations. After a presentation, the Van Ness BRT CAC Chair will ask committee members if they have any questions and then will open the meeting to public comment. When members of the public ask a question of the presenter, presenters should not respond, nor engage in any conversation. First, the commenter should finish their commentary. After which, if the Van Ness BRT CAC Chair or any committee member wants the presenter to respond to that question, the presenter will then respond to the Committee and not to the public.