

**Van Ness Business Advisory Committee****Thursday, March 21, 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 3:11 (due to technical issues).
2. Public comment.
  - a. Danielle Rabkin: I have a business on Van Ness Avenue between Jackson and Washington. Due to construction there is no parking on Van Ness, Jackson or Washington. There is decreased visibility and as a result there is graffiti, break-ins, feces, garbage piles up against the fences. A trash can was removed from the corner about two months ago.
  - b. Iana Dikidjieva: I represent the Discover Polk Community Benefit District and would echo Danielle's concerns regarding garbage and graffiti along the Van Ness Corridor. These are issues that continuously arise as well as others such as the unnecessary taking of parking spots. I would ask the contractors and the project team to be conscious of how micro-decisions that they make every day have a real impact on the people and the business owners on the ground. Even one week of lost revenue is significant.
3. Approval of Minutes – [December 20](#).
  - a. Approved by a voice vote.
4. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding update from SFMTA staff.
  - a. Project schedule.
  - b. Construction update.
  - c. Outreach update.
  - d. Update on neighboring projects.
5. Presentation, discussion and possible action for public art on Van Ness Improvement Project corridor.
  - a. Danielle Rabkin: Is this proposed art included in the project's budget? Isn't the project over-budget?
    - i. Funds for the public art component have already been set aside and are required by San Francisco's Public Art Ordinance to be set aside for this purpose. The project is currently on-budget.
  - b. Nina Cook: What would happen if the proposal was not approved? Are we able to look at other alternatives?
    - i. This is the only proposal that is being brought forth by the Arts Commission. There are no alternative proposals at this time. SF Arts Commission staff would need to provide details into what would happen if the proposal was not approved. The opportunity that the Van Ness

Business Advisory Committee has today is to decide if it would like to take action supporting the proposed artwork.

- c. Birgit Jacobsen called a motion to write a letter of support for the SF Arts Commission's proposal for public art. The motion was seconded by Durwin Chung. The motion passed by a voice vote.
- d. Public Comment:
  - i. Ronald Mitchell: Will the sculptures be located where the buses pull up? I'm only concerned about visibility and making sure the bus drivers have a clear line of sight as they pull up to the stations to pick up passengers.
    - 1. The sculptures will be located on the opposite side of the bus shelters on the platform, so they should not pose any obstruction for bus drivers pulling up to pick up passengers. The plans for the art also have to be cleared by Caltrans and other entities, not just the SFMTA, that are also very concerned about safety issues such as this one and they are very strict in their provisions.
- 6. Roland Andersen: Daniel Burnham Court has been having some challenges regarding traffic control and they would like to set up a time with project staff to discuss them.
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m. by a voice vote.