

THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO.: 13

**SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

DIVISION: Government Affairs

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Approving the SFMTA's 2021 Legislative Program


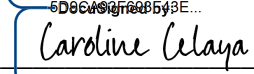
SUMMARY:

- The 2021 SFMTA Legislative Program is intended to guide SFMTA's advocacy efforts at the local, state and federal level over the course of the upcoming legislative sessions. The program is intended to be broad enough to cover the wide variety of issues that may be taken up locally and in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and flexible enough to allow the SFMTA to respond to unanticipated developments. Approval of the program will provide our legislative delegation and our transportation partners with an approved statement of SFMTA's priorities for this year.
- In addition to the Legislative Program, staff will provide legislative updates as appropriate to the Board regarding bills of interest to the SFMTA.
- In order to take official positions on proposed legislation, SFMTA must seek a city-wide position through the City's State Legislation Committee, which is chaired by the Mayor's Office and consists of representatives from various City departments. After presenting a bill analysis and justification, the Committee votes to approve or deny the recommended position. If the position is approved, the City's Sacramento advocates will be activated to provide support.

ENCLOSURES:

1. SFMTAB Resolution
2. 2021 SFMTA Legislative Program

APPROVALS:

	DocuSigned by:	DATE
DIRECTOR	 5D8C4916853E...	December 8, 2020
SECRETARY	 0C6E772DC7D2437...	December 8, 2020

ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE: December 15, 2020

PURPOSE

Approval of the SFMTA's 2021 Legislative Program

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND TRANSIT FIRST POLICY PRIORITIES

This item will support the following goals and objectives of the SFMTA Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Create a safer transportation experience for everyone.

Goal 2: Make transit and other sustainable modes of transportation the most attractive and preferred means of travel.

Goal 3: Improve the quality of life and environment in San Francisco and the region.

Goal 4: Create a workplace that delivers outstanding service.

This item will support the following Transit First Policy Principles:

1. To ensure quality of life and economic health in San Francisco, the primary objective of the transportation system must be the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.
2. Public transit, including taxis and vanpools, is an economically and environmentally sound alternative to transportation by individual automobiles. Within San Francisco, travel by public transit, by bicycle and on foot must be an attractive alternative to travel by private automobile.
3. Decisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety.
4. Transit priority improvements, such as designated transit lanes and streets and improved signalization, shall be made to expedite the movement of public transit vehicles (including taxis and vanpools) and to improve pedestrian safety.
5. Pedestrian areas shall be enhanced wherever possible to improve the safety and comfort of pedestrians and to encourage travel by foot.
6. Bicycling shall be promoted by encouraging safe streets for riding, convenient access to transit, bicycle lanes, and secure bicycle parking.
7. Parking policies for areas well served by public transit shall be designed to encourage travel by public transit and alternative transportation.
8. New transportation investment should be allocated to meet the demand for public transit generated by new public and private commercial and residential developments.
9. The ability of the City and County to reduce traffic congestion depends on the adequacy

of regional public transportation. The City and County shall promote the use of regional mass transit and the continued development of an integrated, reliable, regional public transportation system.

10. The City and County shall encourage innovative solutions to meet public transportation needs wherever possible and where the provision of such service will not adversely affect the service provided by the Municipal Railway.

DESCRIPTION

Each year, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) prepares a legislative program to guide advocacy efforts in the City and County of San Francisco, with Bay Area regional government organizations, the state government in Sacramento, and the federal government in Washington, D.C.

The 2021 SFMTA Legislative Program is intended to guide SFMTA's advocacy efforts at the local, state and federal level over the course of the upcoming legislative sessions and be broad enough to cover the wide variety of issues that may be taken up locally and in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and flexible enough to allow the SFMTA to respond to unanticipated developments. Approval of the program will provide our legislative delegation and our transportation partners with an approved statement of SFMTA's priorities for this year. The program is a strategic document that is not meant to be comprehensive of all legislative issues but rather to provide general direction on issues relevant to the SFMTA and transportation partners in the coming year.

In addition to the Legislative Program, staff will provide legislative updates as appropriate to the Board regarding bills of interest to the SFMTA.

In order to take official positions on proposed legislation, SFMTA must seek a city-wide position through the City's State Legislation Committee, which is chaired by the Mayor's Office and consists of representatives from various City departments. After presenting a bill analysis and justification, the Committee votes to approve or deny the recommended position. If the position is approved, the City's Sacramento advocates will be activated to provide support.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The State and Federal provisions of this program were presented to the Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) on December 3, 2020, and is also informed by outreach with the San Francisco County Transportation Agency, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and other transit agencies. There will continue to be opportunities throughout the legislative cycle for additional input into the legislative agenda for transportation – related issues as they arise.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No alternative was considered as it is essential that a program be approved annually.

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FUNDING IMPACT

Some of the proposed initiatives may result in additional funding for SFMTA's priority programs and projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

On November 3, 2020, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the 2021 SFMTA Legislative Program is not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b).

A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and is incorporated herein by reference.

OTHER APPROVALS RECEIVED OR STILL REQUIRED

The SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Committee approved a motion to support to 2021 State Legislative Program on December 3, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the SFMTA's 2021 Legislative Program.

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) each year approves an annual legislative program and forwards that program to the Mayor's office for inclusion in the City's full legislative program; and,

WHEREAS, The purpose of a legislative program is to set forth legislative policies, principles and priorities to guide SFMTA staff and to provide input to the Mayor's office on transportation matters for the upcoming year; and,

WHEREAS, In response to the interests of the SFMTA and the Mayor's office, staff has prepared the accompanying 2021 Legislative Program (the "2021 Legislative Program") for the consideration and approval of the Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors; and,

WHEREAS, The 2021 Legislative Program provides, among other things, support for measures that will enhance funding levels for SFMTA's programs, opposition to governmental actions that might decrease funding for SFMTA's programs, and authorization for SFMTA staff to carry out the objectives of the 2021 Legislative Program; and,

WHEREAS, On November 3, 2020, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the 2021 SFMTA Legislative Program is not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b); and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors, and is incorporated herein by reference; now, therefore be, it,

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board does hereby approve the SFMTA's 2021 Legislative Program and authorizes the Director of Transportation to carry out the objectives of the Program.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of December 15, 2020.

Secretary to the Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

SFMTA 2021 Legislative Program

Each year, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) prepares a legislative program to guide advocacy efforts in the City and County of San Francisco, with the Bay Area regional government organizations, the state government in Sacramento, and the federal government in Washington, D.C. It is a strategic document that is not meant to be comprehensive of all legislative issues but rather to provide general direction on issues relevant to the SFMTA and transportation partners in the coming year. This program is also intended to align with the SFMTA's FY 2019/FY 2020 Strategic Plan and supports the overall goals and objectives as developed in the Plan including:

Goal 1: Create a safer transportation experience for everyone.

Goal 2: Make transit and other sustainable modes the most attractive and preferred means of travel.

Goal 3: Improve the quality of life and the environment in San Francisco and the region.

Goal 4: Create a workplace that delivers outstanding service.

Consistent with the SFMTA's commitment to advance racial equity, this program will also serve to support the Agency's Racial Equity Action Plan and bring a racial equity lens aimed at advocating for anti-racist policies at all levels of government.

This document includes a summary of the anticipated priority issues for the SFMTA in the next legislative session.

Local Legislative Priorities

- 1. SFMTA Legislation and Policy:** The Government Affairs team will work proactively with the SFMTA's Executive team to strategically plan and implement all legislative and policy initiatives supporting the Agency's operations and overall goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. Additionally, Government Affairs staff will work proactively with all key City stakeholders to maintain positive working relationships and implement those same legislative and policy initiatives also incorporating SFMTA's Public Participation Plan and engaging local elected officials in their role as District Supervisors and as San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) Commissioners in those efforts.
- 2. Board of Supervisors (BOS) Legislation and Policy:** The SFMTA will continue efforts to coordinate local legislative priorities with all key City stakeholders. Government Affairs staff will work closely and collaboratively with the Mayor's office, the Board of Supervisors (BOS), SFCTA and various City agencies to engage, manage, inform and advise on any BOS hearing requests, audits, or legislation relating to all Divisions of the SFMTA.

3. **San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA):** The SFMTA will continue to work collaboratively with the SFCTA to fund street repair and reconstruction, pedestrian safety, transit reliability and mobility improvement projects.
4. **Priority Projects Requiring Legislative Approvals:** SFMTA staff will work with city partners on advancing key priority projects that are now underway, and at various stages of progress, including regular briefings with BOS offices and stakeholders. This work will also include engagement with the Mayor's Office, members of the SF Board of Supervisors, the SFCTA and the BOS Budget and Legislative Analyst for any approvals needed pursuant to Section 9.118 9(b) of the Charter.

Contracts requiring Board of Supervisors approvals may include items such as transit vehicle and transit service-related maintenance or procurement, real estate agreements, and other revenue measures, among others. In addition to these contracts, grant authorizations may require BOS approvals.

- **Shared Spaces/Slow Streets Continuance in 2021:** Amendments to the Public Works and Transportation Codes may be necessary to set up the current dining parklet/structures program on a better long-term regulatory footing, and possible amendments to State or local law to facilitate street closures in new ways.
 - **Potrero Yard Modernization Project:** Procure a development partner to replace a 105-year-old bus facility and deliver an expanded, seismically resilient bus storage, maintenance and training facility with housing -- including affordable housing above the yard -- and to advance the project through key milestones.
5. **Vision Zero:** Vision Zero is San Francisco's policy commitment to eliminate all traffic-related fatalities on our City's streets. It is a joint effort of San Francisco's Municipal Transportation Agency, Department of Public Health, Police Department, Department of Public Works, and Department of the Environment, Public Utilities Commission, Unified School District, Planning Department, District Attorney's Office, County Transportation Authority, and the Mayor's Office.

The City's approach to Vision Zero focuses on engineering safer streets, encouraging safer speeds, investing in safer vehicles and supporting the safe use of streets by everyone on the road, regardless of mode. Equity is a core principle of Vision Zero and the SFMTA will continue to work with city leaders to advance equity in all related policy initiatives. SFMTA's Local Government team is involved with these discussions and will work closely and collaboratively with the City family to engage, manage, inform and advise on any BOS or SFCTA hearing requests or legislation relating to all aspects of this joint effort.

6. **Proposals for June 2022 Ballot:** Local Revenue Measures: SFMTA is currently targeting the June 2022 ballot for possible revenue measures. SFMTA's Local Government team is involved with these discussions and will work closely and collaboratively with the City family to engage, manage, inform and advise on any BOS or SFCTA hearing requests or legislation relating to this joint effort.

- **General Obligation (GO) Bond:** Seek \$350M GO Bond beyond the \$500 M

already contemplated in the City's Capital Plan.

- **Proposition K:** The sales tax itself does not expire, but the expenditure plan ends in 2034. The reauthorization would provide access to future funds for financing and presents an opportunity to consolidate and simplify Prop K programs.
- **Community Facilities District:** Establish a new Community Facilities District to fund transit investments.

7. **Emerging Mobility and Innovation:** SFMTA staff will monitor and engage in city efforts around emerging mobility services, models and technologies such as autonomous vehicles, e-scooters, autonomous delivery devices and private transit vehicles, coordinating efforts with city agencies, BOS, SFCTA, Mayor's Office, and community groups to ensure city interests and impacts are communicated.

State Legislative Priorities

The proposed 2021 State Legislative Program is categorized into nine policy priority areas: COVID-19 emergency funding and statutory relief, transportation funding, Vision Zero, emerging mobility and innovation, parking, sustainability, regional transit integration, land use and housing, finance and administration. The SFMTA will coordinate much of this work with other large city transportation departments through an ongoing collaboration with the California City Transportation Initiative (CACTI), a working group representing the seven largest cities in California, as well as the California Transit Association.

1. COVID-19 Relief

- **Emergency Funding and Statutory Relief:** Advocate for additional emergency funding and statutory changes to provide financial and regulatory relief to address the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the Agency.

2. Transportation Funding: Support efforts to secure new funding for transportation.

- **Regionwide Transportation Funding Measure:** Support and engage in any future efforts that may arise from the MTC's Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force for a regionwide transportation funding measure to support transit recovery, promote the use of regional mass transit, and the continued development of an integrated, reliable, regional public transportation system.
- **Flexible Funding for Community Outreach:** Work with relevant State agencies to provide more flexibility in State grant funding to encourage more robust and equitable community engagement.
- **Support State Transportation Grant Applications:** Support efforts to advance grant applications for State competitive programs including the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program and the Active Transportation Program.
- **Transportation Development Act:** Work with the California Transit Association on Transportation Development Act (TDA) reform efforts pursuant to a request by Assembly and Senate Transportation Committee chairs to conduct a

comprehensive review of the TDA program; seek to ensure maximum funding for San Francisco is maintained. TDA is the ¼ cent sales tax on all goods and is returned to each county to support transit investments (2% is directed to bike/pedestrian projects).

- **Cap and Trade Funding:** Maintain the existing transportation and housing programs funded by cap and trade and seek opportunities to direct additional cap and trade funds towards these purposes. Key programs for San Francisco include the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program, which has provided \$116 million in funding thus far for SFMTA’s light rail vehicle replacement program, \$40 million to improve transit reliability on key Muni corridors, and \$1.66 to plan additional corridor improvement and a comprehensive upgrade of the train control system. Monitor legislation to modify the programs and support administrative or legislative efforts to streamline applications and simplify program administration.
- **High Speed Rail:** Consistent with San Francisco’s on-going support for high speed rail to the Transbay Terminal, support efforts aimed at advancing the high-speed rail program.

3. Vision Zero

San Francisco adopted Vision Zero as a citywide policy in 2014, committing to eliminate all traffic deaths on our streets. The City’s approach to Vision Zero focuses on engineering safer streets, encouraging safer speeds, investing in safer vehicles and supporting the safe use of streets by everyone on the road, regardless of mode. Equity is a core principle of Vision Zero and the SFMTA will continue to work with city leaders to advance equity in all related policy initiatives.

- **Implement Recommendations from CalSTA’s Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force Report of Findings:** The State’s Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force (created pursuant to AB 2363-Friedman in 2018) was charged with developing a structured, coordinated process for early engagement of all parties to develop State-level policies to reduce traffic fatalities to zero. The Task Force focused on policies related to speed management, including local control of speed limit setting and automated speed enforcement – both of which are included in San Francisco’s current Vision Zero Action Strategy. The Task Force Report of Findings was issued in January 2020 and priority recommendations for legislative action include:
 - **Local Control of Speed Limit Setting:** Pursue recommendations that provide clarity in the other factors that may be considered in – and greater flexibility around the use of – the 85th percentile methodology to develop context-sensitive speed limits on local roads.
 - **Speed Safety Cameras (Automated Speed Enforcement):** Support efforts to develop guidelines and implement authorizing legislation to deploy an speed safety camera program to enforce excessive speeding violations.
- **Vision Zero and Transit:** Riding transit is one of the safest ways for people to move around the City. Improving transit performance by ensuring effective

enforcement of vehicles stopping in bus stops, including support for authorization for use of bus lane enforcement cameras, could help encourage people to choose transit over other modes.

- **Support Efforts that Encourage Safety:** Support efforts to improve the overall safety for all road users, including bicycle and pedestrian related measures, measures that discourage dangerous driving, cycling or walking behavior, and proposals that seek to increase investment in infrastructure improvements and education that advances the goal of Vision Zero.

4. Emerging Mobility and Innovation

Managing the adoption and integration of new and emerging mobility innovations is a fundamental issue for San Francisco and other cities. The SFMTA has adopted *Guiding Principles for Emerging Mobility Service and Technologies*, which establishes a framework to evaluate existing and future new transportation technologies to ensure they support the City's transportation goals.

The SFMTA will monitor and engage, as appropriate, in state legislative measures in the areas listed below based on our Guiding Principles framework. Legislative topics in this arena may include preemption of local regulatory authority, data sharing, and pricing, among others. We will continue to engage with State agencies regulating emerging mobility including the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), and others to ensure emerging mobility is effectively managed and regulations are enforced.

- **Shared Mobility Regulatory Authority:** Ensure local authority is preserved as it relates to the City's local pilot and permit programs for shared mobility services, including docked and dockless bikeshare and e-scooters.
- **Shared Mobility Data:** Maintain cities' ability to collect mobility device data to enforce local regulatory programs.
- **Autonomous Vehicles:** Advance efforts to ensure cities are included in the decision-making process for testing and deployment of autonomous vehicles, including working with relevant State agencies such as DMV and CPUC.
- **Advance a Congestion Pricing Framework:** Consistent with the City's Vision Zero Action Strategy, support advancing congestion management efforts using pricing and incentives, to ensure fewer vehicle miles traveled and low-income travelers receive a net benefit.
- **Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and Taxis:** Seek to locally regulate certain aspects of TNC operations that directly impact the Agency's ability to manage the public right of way. Evaluate any additional legislative proposals regarding taxis and TNCs.
- **Commuter Shuttles & Private Transit Vehicles:** Monitor legislation related to commuter shuttles and private transit vehicles within the context of SFMTA's Commuter Shuttle and Private Transit Vehicle Permit Programs.

5. Regional Transit Integration

SFMTA will engage in efforts to develop regional transit integration legislation that may be proposed as an element of MTC's Blue Ribbon Transportation Recovery Task Force Transformation Action Plan. The Action Plan will be finalized in June 2021.

6. Parking Policy

The SFMTA will continue to coordinate parking advocacy efforts with public parking interest groups including the California Public Parking Association, other cities and stakeholders.

- **Parking Fines and Fees:** Monitor legislation related to reducing parking and towing fines and fees to ensure impacts balance equity issues and the Agency's financial considerations.
- **Curb Management:** Support legislative efforts that provide the City with more flexibility within the California Vehicle Code to implement recommendations from our Curb Management Strategy.
- **Accessible Parking Policy:** The SFMTA will continue to work with interested stakeholders statewide on accessible parking policy reform based on the past work of San Francisco's Accessible Parking Policy Advisory Committee and the recent engagement by other cities, including Los Angeles and Sacramento, on this important issue.

7. Land Use & Housing

The Agency will support State efforts to encourage new housing production and advocate that new development should be coupled with transit improvements and transportation infrastructure investments to meet new induced demand. This will ensure occupants of new developments are able to move around the City by transit or active transportation modes, reducing dependence on a personal automobile.

8. Sustainability

SFMTA is dedicated to meeting the City's climate action targets of 80% trips taken in sustainable modes by 2030 and net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In May 2018, SFMTA additionally committed to purchasing only all-electric buses starting in 2025 in order to have an all-electric bus fleet by 2035. These efforts align with Governor Newsom's recent executive order (N-19-19) directing actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions:** Monitor and engage in legislation that supports greenhouse gas emissions reductions in the transportation sector.
- **Bus Electrification:** Engage in legislation and policies that support Muni's commitment to have a fully electric bus fleet by 2035.
- **Electrification Infrastructure:** Monitor legislation related to electric vehicle infrastructure as it impacts our parking and curb space.

9. Finance & Administration

SFMTA will engage in legislation that could affect the Agency's administrative practices

or have a financial impact on the Agency's operations.

- **Credit Card Authentication to Reduce Fraud:** Seek a State Legislative Counsel opinion or support statewide efforts to amend the California Vehicle Code to authorize zip code authentication at unattended ticket vending machines operated by public transit agencies. This proposal is aimed at protecting against the fraudulent use of credit cards at transit properties and the associated revenue loss.

10. Support Shared Policy Priorities of City Departments

Support as appropriate the policy priorities of other City departments including Planning, Department of the Environment, Public Health and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development that advance mutual policy objectives including transportation and livable street design, pedestrian safety, transit-oriented development, California Environmental Quality Act reform policy and infrastructure investment.

Federal Legislative Priorities

1. COVID-19 Relief

- **Emergency Funding and Statutory Relief:** Advocate for additional emergency funding and statutory changes to provide financial and regulatory relief to address the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the Agency.

2. Federal Transportation Funding and Appropriations:

- **Long-Term Surface Transportation Funding Reauthorization:** Partner with local, regional, state and national stakeholders to ensure San Francisco's funding priorities are maintained or enhanced in the development of the next long-term federal surface transportation reauthorization bill, expected in 2021. The current authorization bill, the FAST Act, expired on September 30, 2020, and is now operating under a one year-extension. Advocate for San Francisco's transportation priorities to be included in new policies such as: prioritizing safety and achieving Vision Zero, establishing national complete streets design guidelines, streamlining environmental review and project delivery, and supporting continued funding for a robust Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program.
- 3. Infrastructure Initiative:** Monitor any opportunities for the SFMTA created by a federal infrastructure initiative, if proposed.
 - 4. Autonomous Vehicles:** Continue to track and engage in development of federal legislation around autonomous vehicles. Coordinate efforts and participate in strategy development with the National League of Cities, National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), and other advocacy organizations to ensure City priorities are incorporated into any legislation.
 - 5. Emerging Mobility and Innovation:** Monitor and engage in federal efforts around emerging mobility and innovation. Monitor ongoing competitive grant opportunities for advanced transportation technologies.
 - 6. Sustainability:** Support federal transportation policy and legislation that seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through advancing the transition to zero-emission buses, supporting mode shift to low carbon modes, and expanding eligibility for tolling and pricing

pilot programs.