

THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO: 10.5

**SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

DIVISION: Finance and Information Technology

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Approving a six-month promotional program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from locations to receive Covid-19 vaccinations starting March 16, 2021 until September 16, 2021.



SUMMARY:

- The Covid-19 health crisis has had devastating effects on the people and economy of San Francisco and throughout the world.
- The City and County of San Francisco has established a number of public vaccination sites, in addition to those run by private health care, pharmacies and non-profit organizations.
- In order to support the vaccination program, the SFMTA has proposed implementing a six-month promotional program which will expire on September 16, 2021, waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from vaccination sites to receive Covid-19 vaccinations.
- Pursuant to the SFMTA Board's Rules of Order and Charter Section 16.112, advertisements were placed in the City's official newspaper to provide notice of the March 16, 2021 meeting.

ENCLOSURES:

1. SFMTAB Resolution

APPROVALS:

	DATE
DIRECTOR 	<u>March 8, 2021</u>
SECRETARY 	<u>March 8, 2021</u>

ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE: March 16, 2021

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PURPOSE

Approving a six-month promotional program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from locations to receive Covid-19 vaccinations starting March 16, 2021 until September 16, 2021.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND TRANSIT FIRST POLICY PRINCIPLES

This action supports the following SFMTA Strategic Plan Goal and Objective.

Goal 1: Create a safer transportation experience for everyone.

Objective 1.2: Improve the safety of the transit system.

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

Object 3.1: Use Agency programs and policies to advance San Francisco's commitment to equity.

This action supports the following Transit First Policy Principle:

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.

DESCRIPTION

The Covid-19 health crisis has had devastating effects on the people and economy of San Francisco and throughout the world. The City and County of San Francisco has established a number of public vaccination sites, in addition to those run by private health care, pharmacies and non-profit organizations. Beginning on February 23, 2021, the Director of Transportation used his authority under SFMTA Board of Directors' Resolution No. 200630-061 to implement this program as a short-term experimental fare change. In order to support the vaccination program, the SFMTA has proposed implementing a six-month promotional program starting March 16, 2021 through September 16, 2021, waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from vaccination sites to receive Covid-19 vaccinations.

This promotional program will be in effect for up to six months, until September 16, 2021, and may be rescinded upon 30 days advance written notice by the Director of Transportation. If SFMTA staff decide to extend the program for longer than six months, a Title VI analysis for the fare change will be presented to the SFMTA Board for approval in advance of this expiration date.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Pursuant to Charter Section 16.112 and the SFMTA Board of Directors Rules of Order, advertisements were placed in the City's official newspaper regarding this public hearing. The

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advertisements ran in the San Francisco Examiner, the City’s official newspaper, on February 28, 2021, March 3 – 5, 2021 and March 7, 2021, to provide notice that the SFMTA Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on March 16, 2021, to consider this program.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

SFMTA staff conducted outreach to the Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Committee and the Mayor’s Office of Disability regarding the free fare program. Information has also been posted on the SFMTA website and social media sites.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

None.

FUNDING IMPACT

The fiscal impact to the operating budget is negligible and staff estimates the program will cost \$155,000. Given that these are trips that may not have otherwise been taken, the SFMTA has not assumed additional revenue for this purpose in its budget projections.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

On February 26, 2021, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the COVID-19 vaccination fare waiver 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

Pursuant to Charter Sections 8A.108, a budget amendment will be submitted to Board of Supervisors following approval by the SFMTA Board of Directors.

The City Attorney’s Office has reviewed this calendar item.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the SFMTA Board of Directors approve a six-month promotional program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from locations to receive Covid-19 vaccinations starting March 16, 2021 until September 16, 2021.

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, The Covid-19 health crisis has had devastating effects on the people and economy of San Francisco and throughout the world; and,

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has established a number of public vaccination sites, in addition to those run by private health care, pharmacies and non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, Beginning on February 23, 2021, the Director of Transportation used his authority under SFMTA Board of Directors' Resolution No. 200630-061 to implement this program as a short-term experimental fare change; and.

WHEREAS, In order to support the vaccination program, the SFMTA has proposed implementing a six-month program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from locations to receive Covid-19 vaccinations starting March 16, 2021 until September 16, 2021 which may be rescinded upon 30 days advance written notice by the Director of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Charter Section 16.112 and the SFMTA Board of Directors Rules of Order, advertisements were placed in the City's official newspaper on February 28, 2021, March 3 – 5, 2021 and March 7, 2021, to provide notice that the SFMTA Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on March 16, 2021, to consider this program; and,

WHEREAS, If SFMTA staff decide to extend the program for longer than six months, a Title VI analysis for the fare change will be presented to the SFMTA Board for approval in advance of the six month program's expiration date; and

WHEREAS, On February 26, 2021, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the COVID-19 vaccination fare waiver 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 of Directors approves a six-month promotional program waiving Muni and Paratransit Fares for customers traveling to and from locations to receive Covid-19 vaccinations starting March 16, 2021 until September 16, 2021.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of March 16, 2021.

Secretary to the Board of Directors