

Peter Sachs' Statement of Qualifications and Objectives for Vice Chair
January 14, 2017

Dear fellow members of the CAC,

I'm happy to be re-nominated as your vice chair and eager to continue our work. This Citizens Advisory Committee plays an important role in providing feedback and recommendations to the TA Commissioners, and it's important that we continue to take stands on the issues we believe are most important.

Even since before I joined the CAC in 2015, I've made a habit of meeting regularly with District 4 Supervisor Katy Tang. We have a strong working relationship and share many of the same priorities, especially when it comes to improving transit on the west side of the city. I'm excited to see the overhaul of the L-Taraval begin this month, and eager to be part of the discussions regarding the future of the M-Ocean View, Geary BRT and Geneva BRT – among other projects.

But that future is imperiled because Prop K failed on the November ballot. I was a strong advocate on the CAC for passing the sales tax. We've all seen the data that San Francisco voters in particular are willing to raise taxes on themselves when they know where the money will go.

Last November's ballot saw incredibly strong support for other taxes: Funding for the SFUSD and City Colleges both passed with 80 percent in favor. Measures to enact a sugar tax and raise the transfer tax both passed with more than 60 percent in favor.

And most relevant to us, BART's Measure RR passed in the city with 81 percent in favor. Yet the Measure K sales tax **failed** with 65 percent voting **against** it.

That says to me that we can and must do better to get the word out about the work we're doing. As your vice chair, I will take the lead in organizing a campaign in favor of a future transportation funding initiative. I'll do my part in educating and reaching out to voters in my district, and I hope you'll join me. And just as I have in the past, I will continue to ask questions to make sure that we are spending those tax dollars in the most responsible way possible.

Thank you for your support,

Peter Sachs