

## **John Larson's Statement of Qualifications and Objectives for Chair**

**January 24, 2018**

Dear Fellow CAC Members:

I am asking for you to consider me for Chair of the Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee. I outline my qualifications and objectives below.

### **Qualifications**

I have been serving for four years as the District 7 representative on the CAC. In that time, I have developed a thorough understanding of the budgetary and decision-making processes of the Transportation Authority. In addition, I have represented the CAC in making the Chair's Report before the Transportation Authority Board on three occasions in the last year where I strived to present issues of importance to the CAC and highlight areas of public interest gleaned from public comment at the CAC meetings. I also chaired a CAC meeting as temporary chair at one meeting where the Chair and Vice-Chair were absent.

As Chair, I will work to continue to run the CAC meetings in an efficient and equitable manner to make sure that all voices are heard, and the issues are presented in a clear and understandable manner. I have worked as professional staff to diverse advisory groups in my work at the Judicial Council of California, so I understand the value and role of professional staff in decision-making. I know the value of the rules of order to keeping a meeting on track, balanced with a sense of humor to keep the meeting relaxed and engaging.

### **Objectives**

The Citizens Advisory Committee represents an opportunity for residents to have a direct impact on the transportation policies and planning decisions that will affect them. I believe that a public-centered process always results in more successful long-term results for policy-makers and the public they serve. As Chair of the CAC I would focus on equitable distribution of resources across all supervisorial districts.

I am a 20-year resident of Miraloma Park and West Portal and I have worked in the Civic Center for over 18 years. Living on the Westside in District 7 and working in Civic Center I have a global view of the transportation needs of the City and County. I have seen the vibrant neighborhood that has emerged in Hayes Valley resulting from the removal of the Central Freeway and the development of Octavia Boulevard. At the same time, it is important that when making recommendations to the Authority that the outer districts of the city also have their voices heard and their needs met. I will work to ensure that the diverse perspectives of San Franciscans are heard, especially those people living in transportation corridors in the underserved neighborhoods of San Francisco.

Some of the specific policy areas and objectives that continue to be important to me are:

- Pedestrian safety and continued support of Vision Zero goals.
- Planning for future enhancements of subway, light rail, historic streetcar lines and bus rapid transit.
- Awareness of displacement and affordability impacts that come with development, land use and transportation policy decisions.

- Maintaining focus on the Transbay Transit Center and in particular funding oversight for the Downtown Extension so that the Transit Center doesn't end up a \$2 billion bus station.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John A. Larson