



# DRAFT MINUTES

## PLANS AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

### 1. Roll Call

Chair Mar called the meeting to order at 10:42 a.m. The following members were:

**Present at Roll Call:** Commissioners Breed, Mar, and Yee (3)

**Absent at Roll Call:** Commissioners Campos (entered during Item 5) and Kim (entered during Item 6) (2)

### 2. Approve the Minutes of the December 10, 2013 Meeting – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The minutes were approved without objection.

### 3. Citizens Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION

Committee Chair Mar announced that there was no Citizens Advisory Committee report since the CAC did not meet in late December due to the year end holidays.

There was no public comment.

The item was approved, without objection.

### 4. Recommend Appointment of One Member to the Geneva-Harney Bus Rapid Transit Community Advisory Committee – ACTION

Chester Fung, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum. He noted that though there were two seats available, the current item focused on the Bayview Hunters Point seat. He explained that the other open seat was only recently vacated when the member resigned to take a position with a partner agency, and staff would begin recruitment and return to the committee for consideration at a future meeting.

Maluwi Tugbenyo, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Cohen, spoke in support of appointing Eleanor Batiste. He noted that though Ms. Batiste had recently moved to Pittsburgh, she was raised in the Portola neighborhood and currently worked in the corridor. He explained that given Ms. Batiste's activities and advocacy in the community over the years, Commissioner Cohen would like to support Ms. Batiste's appointment.

Commissioner Mar invited candidates to discuss their qualifications. Ms. Batiste spoke about her qualifications and interest in improving transportation options and working to make the community more connected.

There was no further public comment.

Commissioner Breed made a motion to support Ms. Batiste's candidacy, seconded by Commissioner Yee. The motion to appoint Ms. Batiste to the Geneva-Harney Bus Rapid Transit Community Advisory Committee was approved, without objection.

**5. Recommend Appointment of Two Members to the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit Citizens Advisory Committee – ACTION**

Chester Fung, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Mar invited candidates for the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit Citizens Advisory Committee (Geary CAC) to discuss their qualifications. Richard Hashimoto spoke about his qualifications, noting that he is the president of the Japantown Merchants Association and has family history in the Japantown neighborhood.

Commissioner Breed expressed her support for Mr. Hashimoto, discussing his longtime involvement with the Japantown community and ability to represent the interests of seniors in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Mar thanked Mr. Hashimoto for his work to preserve the Japantown community and build unity with the Fillmore and Western Addition neighborhoods. He asked Commissioner Breed if she supported a particular candidate for the second open seat, noting that no other candidates were present. Commissioner Breed said that her office had not been contacted by other candidates to say they would not be able to attend the meeting, and she would support moving Mr. Hashimoto's candidacy forward with a positive recommendation while continuing the second vacancy,

Commissioner Mar said that Mr. Hashimoto would be a perfect candidate for the seat given his leadership of the Japantown Merchants Association and how critical transportation improvements are to the economic vitality of neighborhoods throughout the Geary corridor.

Commissioner Yee asked if continuing the item would affect the ability of the Geary CAC to continue meeting. Mr. Fung responded that it would not, explaining that eleven of the thirteen members are seated and continue to meet. He said that the project team continues to move the project forward and is doing additional outreach to the Japantown community in addition to hearing feedback from the Geary CAC.

There was no public comment.

The motion to appoint Mr. Hashimoto to the Geary CAC and to continue the remaining vacancy was approved, without objection.

**6. Major Capital Projects Update – Presidio Parkway – ACTION**

Lee Saage, Deputy Director for Capital Projects, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

There was no public comment.

The item was approved, without objection.

**7. Recommend Allocation of \$146,825 in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, to the Department of Public Works for Sloat Boulevard Pedestrian Improvements, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedule and Amendment of the Relevant 5-Year Prioritization Programs – ACTION**

Seon Joo Kim, Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Yee commended staff efforts to improve safety on Sloat Boulevard and thanked the Transportation Authority for its efforts in expediting the project.

Jacqueline Sachs, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) member, stated the CAC did not hold a meeting in December, therefore the CAC did not discuss the item and took no action on the item.

Bob Planthold asked the Commissioners to approve the allocation request.

The item was approved, without objection.

**8. Recommend Allocation of \$13.1 Million in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for Preliminary Engineering and Detailed Design for the Transit Effectiveness Project, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedule and Amendment of the Bus Rapid Transit/MUNI Metro Network 5-Year Prioritization Program – ACTION**

Amber Crabbe, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the allocation request per the staff memorandum.

John Haley, Director of Transit, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), presented on the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP).

Commissioner Breed expressed the need to learn from past mistakes regarding the outreach with the 5L-Fulton and the need to address those mistakes in advance. She noted the importance of outreach to seniors and emphasized the need for targeted outreach to senior residential developments.

Chair Mar thanked Sean Kennedy and the SFMTA for incorporating the Committee members' input since the November Plans and Programs Committee meeting. He provided an example of the SFMTA's responsiveness to community concern when it reinstated the Baker Street bus stop on the 5-Fulton.

Commissioner Campos thanked staff and commended the outreach process that had been done and was planned. He requested a copy of the outreach plan for the TEP and asked SFMTA staff to make extra efforts to reach out to seniors and the disabled community. He also stated the importance of engaging youth and the school district. He said he appreciated the emphasis on non-English monolingual communities in the outreach process.

Commissioner Kim concurred with the statements regarding outreach on the TEP and the 5L-Fulton project. She also requested additional information on the community outreach process prior to the full Board meeting on January 28, 2014.

During public comment, Bob Planthold objected to the allocation request and expressed a lack of faith in the SFMTA's outreach process. He said stop consolidation would negatively impact seniors, the disabled community, and pedestrian safety because riders must travel further to access stops. He expressed concern over the SFMTA's use of a consulting firm to perform the planned outreach and the use of Prop K funds for that purpose.

Ms. Crabbe clarified that the allocation request would only fund SFMTA staff and would not be used for the outreach contractor.

Joseph Flanagan, Vice Chair of the Transportation Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), stated that there were negative impacts from bicyclists riding on the sidewalk. He stated

that improving sidewalks and streets would increase safety for people with disabilities when they disembarked from a taxi, paratransit vehicle, or transit bus.

Jacqueline Sachs, CAC member commented that the TEP would decrease transit service, did not consider transit needs of swing shift employees, and ignored the needs of seniors and the disabled. She expressed her opposition to the TEP and asked the Committee to reject the allocation request.

Chair Mar stated that the goal of the TEP was to increase service but acknowledged public distrust about some of SFMTA's prior outreach efforts. He reiterated Commissioner Kim's request for a clear outreach implementation plan and requested that SFMTA provide regular monthly written updates and occasional presentations to the Committee on its outreach efforts. He added that the SFMTA should continue to conduct bilingual outreach.

Commissioner Breed asked for confirmation that the SFMTA would update the Plans and Programs Committee in 6 months regarding the outreach process. She recommended going directly to senior residential developments rather than having seniors travel to a community meeting elsewhere. She stated it was important to serve the citywide population, but did not want obstacles to seniors and the disabled community.

Commissioner Kim asked if the Transportation Authority would allocate additional funds for the TEP in the future, which would allow the Committee to provide input.

Tilly Chang, Executive Director, stated the SFMTA would likely request additional Prop AA and Prop K capital funds for TEP-related projects in the future.

Commissioner Kim said she supported recommending the item for approval and noted her particular support for the TEP capital improvements that would increase pedestrian safety.

The item was approved, without objection.

**9. Introduction of New Items – INFORMATION**

There was no public comment.

**10. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.