



Memorandum

Date: 10.13.15 **RE:** Plans and Programs Committee
October 20, 2015

To: Plans and Programs Committee: Commissioners Tang (Chair), Christensen (Vice Chair), Breed, Farrell, Yee, and Weiner (Ex Officio)

From: Eric Cordoba – Deputy Director for Capital Projects 

Through: Tilly Chang – Executive Director 

Subject: **ACTION** – Recommend Appointment of One Member to the Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit Citizens Advisory Committee

Summary

The Transportation Authority has a 13-member Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC). There is one vacant seat on the GCAC for a representative of at-large interests. The vacancy is due to the term expiration of Paul Chan, who is seeking reappointment. After issuing notices seeking applicants to the GCAC over the past year, we have received applications from 26 candidates. Any applicant may be appointed to fill an at-large seat. Staff provides information on applicants but does not make recommendations on GCAC appointments. Attachment 1 contains a summary table with information about current and prospective GCAC members, showing neighborhood of residence, neighborhood of employment, affiliation, and other information provided by the applicants.

BACKGROUND

Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is one of the signature projects included in the Prop K Expenditure Plan. The Transportation Authority is currently leading environmental analysis for Geary Corridor BRT, in partnership with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). The environmental analysis will identify the benefits and impacts of BRT alternatives, a preferred alternative, and strategies to mitigate any environmental impacts. Engineering work for this phase entails preparation of designs for project alternatives as needed to clarify potential impacts and support identification of a preferred alternative, as well as development of design solutions for complex sections of the corridor. Because of the detailed nature and significance of the study, the Geary Corridor BRT Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC) is distinct from the Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

Role of the GCAC: The role of the GCAC is to advise Transportation Authority staff throughout the environmental analysis of the Geary BRT project by providing input representative of varying interests along the corridor, as well as broader, citywide interests related to the project. The GCAC currently meets approximately bi-monthly. Specifically, the GCAC members have and will continue to:

- Advise on the study scoping to identify the alternatives for analysis;

- Advise on the selection of a preferred alternative based on project benefits and expected environmental impacts;
- Advise on strategies to mitigate any negative environmental impacts; and
- Advise on strategies for effective outreach and assist with outreach to neighborhoods and other stakeholders.

In February 2008, through Resolution 08-56, the Transportation Authority Board established the structure for the GCAC. In October 2013, the Board increased the number of seats on the GCAC from eleven to thirteen. Appointed individuals are to reflect a balance of interests, including residents, businesses, transportation system users, and advocates. Each member is appointed to serve for a two-year term.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this memorandum is to present the applications received for the GCAC and to seek a recommendation to appoint one member to the GCAC for a two-year term. The vacant seat on the GCAC is for one at-large seat (any applicant may be appointed to an at-large seat) and is due to the term expiration of Paul Chan, who is seeking reappointment. The current GCAC membership and structure are shown in the table below:

Geographic Representation	Seats on GCAC	Term Expires	Member(s)
Richmond	3	Apr 2016 Feb 2017 Sept 2017	J. Foerster A.P. Miller J. Fong
Japantown/Fillmore	3	Jan 2016 Mar 2016 Sep 2017	R. Hashimoto A. Spires B. Horne
Tenderloin/Downtown	2	July 2017 Sep 2017	K. Stull P. Gallotta
At-Large	5	Oct 2015 Apr 2016 Dec 2016 Sep 2017 Sep 2017	P. Chan (<i>expiring term</i>) M.H. Brown W. Parsons C. Bakir J. John

Recruitment: We solicited GCAC applications in January 2015 and June 2015 through the Transportation Authority’s website and social media accounts, Commissioners’ offices, and an email blast to community members and organizations with interest in the Geary corridor. Applications are also accepted on a rolling basis on the Transportation Authority’s website.

Applicant Pool: We have received applications from 26 candidates, including the one member seeking reappointment. Attachment 1 provides a matrix summarizing the applications, including information

about each person's affiliation to and interest in the Geary Corridor BRT project. Applicants were informed of the opportunity to speak on behalf of their candidacies at the October 20, 2015 Plans and Programs Committee meeting. Applicants were advised that appearance before the Committee is strongly encouraged, but not required, for appointment. Staff provides information on applicants but does not make recommendations on these appointments.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Recommend appointment of one member to the GCAC.
2. Defer action, pending additional information or further staff analysis.

CAC POSITION

None. The CAC does not make recommendations on other CACs or appointments to those committees.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend appointment of one member to the GCAC.

Attachments (2):

1. Geary BRT CAC Members
2. Geary BRT CAC Applicants

Enclosure:

1. Applications

Attachment 1. Geary BRT Citizens Advisory Committee Members, October 2015

Term Expiration	Name	Corridor Relationship / Interest / Affiliation								Residence		Work		Self-Identified:	
		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Richmond (3 seats)															
Apr. 2016	Jonathan Foerster	x			x					1	Richmond			M	
Feb. 2017	Angela Paige Miller	x	x		x	x	x	x	Pedestrian, bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond		Stanford	F	Caucasian
Sep. 2017	Joanna Fong	x		x	x					1	Richmond			F	Chinese
Japantown/Fillmore (3 seats)															
Jan. 2016	Richard Hashimoto	part-time	x		x				Japantown Merchants Association	n/a	Vallejo, CA (part-time in W. Addition)	5	Japantown	M	Japanese American
Mar. 2016	Austin Spires	x		x	x					5	Fillmore	6	SOMA	M	
Sep. 2017	Benjamin Horne	x	x		x					5	Lower Pac Heights/ Upper Fillmore	3	Union Square/ Lower Pac Heights	M	
Tenderloin/Downtown (2 seats)															
Jul. 2017	Kevin Stull	x		x	x	x	x	x	Central City SRO Collaborative; Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee	6	Tenderloin	6	Tenderloin	M	Caucasian
Sep. 2017	Peter Gallotta	x			x	x			LGBT	6	Tenderloin	6	Civic Center	M	
At-Large (5 seats, 1 vacancy)															
Oct. 2015	Paul Chan	x	x		x					1	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	
Apr. 2016	Margie Hom Brown	x			x		x	x	Chinese speakers	1	Richmond			F	Chinese
Dec. 2016	Winston Parsons	x			x	x			Pedestrian and bicycle advocate	2	Inner Richmond/ Jordan Park	6	SOMA	M	
Sep. 2017	Cyndi Bakir	x		x	x	x		x	Pedestrian and bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond	1	Richmond	F	Euro-American

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		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Sep. 2017	Jolsna M John	x			x				Pedestrian advocate	2	Lower Pac Heights			F	South Asian

Note: Shading denotes members with current term expirations.

Attachment 2. Geary BRT Citizens Advisory Committee Applicants, October 2015

Applicant Status	Name	Corridor Relationship / Interest / Affiliation								Residence		Work		Self-Identified:	
		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environ-ment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Richmond (3 seats, 0 vacancies)															
Applicant	Matthew Alvarez	x			x		x			1	Inner Richmond	3	Financial District	M	Latino
Applicant	Jamie Choy	x			x				Pedestrian advocate	2	Sea Cliff/Outer Richmond	n/a	Oakland	M	Chinese-Caucasian
Applicant	Sascha Cohen	x	x		x	x			Bicycling and pedestrian advocate	1	Inner Richmond	5	Inner Sunset		
Applicant	Gilbert Dair	x						x		1	Richmond	9	Mission		
Applicant	Emily Grimm	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Pedestrian advocate	1	Outer Richmond	6	Financial District	F	Caucasian
Applicant	Rene Hinojosa	x	x							1	Richmond	3	Financial District	M	Latino
Applicant	Patrick Kennedy	x	x		x					1	Inner Richmond	3	Russian Hill	M	Caucasian
Applicant	Sanford Kingsley	x	x		x					2	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	Caucasian
Applicant	Kate Lazarus	x	x	x	x	x				1	Richmond	3	Jackson Square	F	Caucasian
Applicant	David Lee	x	x		x	x		x		1	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	Chinese
Applicant	Dylan MacDonald	x				x				1	Inner Richmond	6	SOMA		
Applicant	Suzie Moy	x	x			x	x	x		1	Richmond			F	Asian
Applicant	Alexei Nikolaeff-Svensson	x	x	x	x	x			Bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond	1	Inner Richmond		
Applicant	Daniel Sisson	x	x		x				SF Transit Riders Union	1	Inner Richmond	3	Financial District	M	Mixed
Applicant	Victoria Stephens	x			x	x		x		1	Lower Richmond			F	Caucasian
Applicant	Ventsislav Stoichev	x			x	x				1	Central Richmond	3	Financial District		
Applicant	Joe Strella	x			x	x			Pedestrian advocate	1	Inner Richmond	n/a	San Bruno	M	

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		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Applicant	Mark Valentine	x	x		x	x			Pedestrian advocate	1	Richmond	1	Richmond		
Applicant	Kevin Watkins	x	x		x				Bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond		SOMA	M	Caucasian
Applicant	Oleg Zhoglo	x	x		x	x				1	Outer Richmond	6	SOMA	M	
Japantown/Fillmore (3 seats, 0 vacancies)															
Applicant	Lotus Yee Fong	x	x		x	x	x	x	Pedestrian advocate	5	Western Addition			F	Asian
Applicant	Alan Kita	x	x	x	x	x				5	Western Addition	5	Western Addition	M	Asian American
Applicant	William Newsom	x	x		x	x			Bicycling advocate	5	Western Addition	3	Financial District	M	
Tenderloin/Downtown (2 seats, 0 vacancies)															
No applicants.															
At-Large (5 seats, 1 vacancy)															
Member, seeking reappointment	Paul Chan	x	x		x					1	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	
Applicant	Elliott Talbot				x					2	Marina	3	Financial District		
Applicant	Jeffrey Wood	x	x			x				8	Noe Valley	8	Noe Valley	M	

Note: Applicants eligible for neighborhood-based seats listed above are also eligible for At-Large seats.