





Memorandum

Date: 05.12.16 **RE:** Plans and Programs Committee
May 17, 2016

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

From: Eric Cordoba – Deputy Director for Capital Projects 

Through: Tilly Chang – Executive Director 

Subject: **ACTION** – Recommend Appointment of Two Members 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 are two vacancies on the GCAC for a representative of the Richmond area and a representative of at-large interests. The vacancies are due to the term expirations of Margie Hom Brown and Jonathan Foerster, who are both not seeking reappointment. After issuing notices seeking applicants to the GCAC over the past year, we have received applications from 35 candidates. 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. Due to 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 two members to the GCAC for two-year terms. The vacant seats on the GCAC are for a representative of the Richmond area and a representative of at-large interests. The vacancies are due to the term expirations of Margie Hom Brown and Jonathan Foerster, who are both not 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 Sep 2017	J. Foerster (expiring term) A.P. Miller J. Fong
Japantown/Fillmore	3	Sep 2017 Jan 2018 Jan 2018	B. Horne R. Hashimoto W. Newsom
Tenderloin/Downtown	2	Jul 2017 Sep 2017	K. Stull P. Gallotta
At-Large	5	Apr 2016 Dec 2016 Sep 2017 Sep 2017 Oct 2017	M. H. Brown (expiring term) W. Parsons C. Bakir J. John P. Chan

Recruitment: We solicited GCAC applications in March 2016 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 35 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 May 2016 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 two members to the GCAC.
2. Recommend appointment of one member to the GCAC.
3. 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 two members to the GCAC.

Attachments (2):

1. Geary BRT CAC Members
2. Geary BRT CAC Applicants for Richmond and At-Large Seats

Enclosure:

1. Geary BRT CAC Applications for Richmond and At-Large Seats

Attachment 1. Geary BRT Citizens Advisory Committee Members, May 2016

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, 1 vacancy)															
Apr. 2016	Jonathan Foerster	x			x					1	Richmond			M	n/a
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)															
Sep. 2017	Benjamin Horne	x	x		x					5	Lower Pac Heights/ Upper Fillmore	3	Union Square/ Lower Pac Heights	M	n/a
Jan. 2018	Richard Hashimoto	x	x			x	x	x	Pedestrian advocate	n/a	Vallejo, CA (part-time in W. Addition)	5	Western Addition	M	Asian
Jan. 2018	William Newsom	x	x		x	x			Bicycling advocate	5	Western Addition	3	Financial District	M	n/a
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	n/a
At-Large (5 seats, 1 vacancy)															
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	n/a
Sep. 2017	Jolsna M John	x			x				Pedestrian advocate	2	Lower Pac Heights			F	South Asian

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
Sep. 2017	Cyndi Bakir	x		x	x	x		x	Pedestrian and bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond	1	Richmond	F	Euro-American
Oct. 2017	Paul Chan	x	x		x					1	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	n/a

Note: Dark shading denotes members with current term expirations.

Attachment 2. Geary BRT Citizens Advisory Committee Applicants, May 2016

Applicant Status	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, 1 vacancy)															
Applicant*	Matthew Alvarez	x			x		x			1	Inner Richmond	3	Financial District	M	Latino
Applicant	Tom Barton	x			x			x		1	Richmond			M	
Applicant*	Nelson Bonilla	x		x	x					1	Inner Richmond	6	SOMA	M	Latino
Applicant*	Asher Butnik	x		x	x	x			Pedestrian advocate	1	Richmond	1	Richmond		
Applicant*	Jamie Choy	x			x				Pedestrian advocate	2	Sea Cliff / Outer Richmond		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*	Peter Geiler	x			x			x		1	Richmond			M	
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*	Neal Johnson	x	x		x	x			Pedestrian advocate	1	Richmond	1	Richmond	M	Caucasian
Applicant	Jason Jungreis	x			x	x				1	Outer Richmond	3	Financial District	M	Caucasian
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*	Brian Larkin	x	x		x	x		x		1	Outer Richmond	1	Outer Richmond	M	
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 Status	Name	Corridor Relationship / Interest / Affiliation								Residence		Work		Self-Identified:	
		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Applicant*	Thomas Ma	x			x			x		1	Outer Richmond	6	Downtown	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*	Bozhena Palatnik	x			x				Pedestrian advocate	1	Outer Richmond		Belmont, CA	F	
Applicant	Jay Seiden	x			x					1	Richmond	3	Downtown	M	
Applicant*	Daniel Sisson	x	x		x				SF Transit Riders Union	1	Inner Richmond	3	Financial District	M	
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		San Bruno	M	
Applicant*	Alexei Nikolaeff-Svensson	x	x	x	x	x			Bicycling advocate	1	Inner Richmond	1	Inner Richmond		
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
Tenderloin/Downtown (2 seats, 0 vacancies)															
No applicants.															
At-Large (5 seats, 1 vacancy)															
Applicant	Ceci de la Montanya	x	x		x	x				2	Jordan Park	2		F	
Applicant	Alexander Post	x			x					2	Presidio / Laurel Heights				

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		Resident	Business	Employee	Transit	Environment	Disabled	Senior	Other	District	Neighborhood	District	Neighborhood	Gender	Ethnicity
Applicant*	Elliott Talbot			x	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.

***Applicant has not appeared before the Plans and Programs Committee. This is not a requirement but is encouraged.**