



# DRAFT MINUTES

## PLANS AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

### 1. Roll Call

Chair Tang called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The following members were:

**Present at Roll Call:** Commissioners Avalos, Peskin and Tang (3)

**Absent at Roll Call:** Commissioners Breed (entered during Item 2) and Farrell (entered during Item 3) (2)

### 2. Citizens Advisory Committee Report – INFORMATION

Chris Waddling, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), reported that at its November 30 meeting the CAC considered and unanimously passed Item 5 from the agenda. He said that the CAC was supportive of the Alemany Interchange project and that it was a great example of coordination between city agencies. He said that there had been public comment at the meeting expressing concern that the Geneva Harney Bus Rapid Transit project was primarily intended to serve new instead of existing residents. He said that the Child Transportation presentation (Item 6) was especially interesting in light of the Commuter Shuttle presentation that the CAC also heard at the meeting.

There was no public comment.

### 3. Approve the Minutes of the November 15, 2016 Meeting – ACTION

There was no public comment.

The minutes were approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Tang and Yee (4)

Absent: Commissioner Farrell (1)

### 4. Recommend Appointment of One Member to the Citizens Advisory Committee – ACTION

Mike Pickford, Transportation Planner, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Chris Waddling spoke to his interests and qualifications in being reappointed to the CAC.

Chair Tang said that she was glad Mr. Waddling was seeking reappointment and that she appreciated that he was always prepared to present the CAC's comments to the Committee.

During public comment, Jackie Sachs said that Mr. Waddling did a good job of running the CAC meetings as its Chair and that she supported his reappointment.

Commissioner Avalos moved to recommend reappointment of Chris Waddling, seconded by Commissioner Peskin.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Farrell, Tang and Yee (5)

**5. Recommend Allocation of \$6,507,592 in Prop K Funds, with Conditions, for Five Requests, Subject to the Attached Fiscal Year Cash Flow Distribution Schedules Committee – ACTION**

Maria Lombardo, Chief Deputy Director, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Avalos commented that the diagram of the Alemany Interchange looked more like a work of art and that that it showed how complex the project was.

Commissioner Breed asked if the subway wiring project could be done at the same time as another project that would bring cellular phone signals into the subway tunnel to save money. Ms. Lombardo replied that she would follow up with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and get back to the Committee.

During public comment, Jaqualine Sachs said that she was a member of an advisory group for the Third Street light-rail project and that people wanted the Central Subway to go beyond Chinatown, but that before the subway was extended, a transportation sales tax would have to go before the voters again. She said that all the projects identified in Prop K should be finished before the city considers any new projects. She asked, regarding the subway wiring allocation request, how much money Muni had budgeted for this type of project and why they were using their own funds first before requesting funds from the Transportation Authority.

Ms. Lombardo responded that staff reviewed each allocation request for its potential to match Prop K funding with other funding sources in order to leverage the sales tax dollars as expected by the Expenditure Plan. She said that if you looked at the allocations in aggregate, they exceeded the fund leveraging standards established in Prop K.

The item was approved without objection by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Avalos, Breed, Farrell, Tang and Yee (5)

**6. Findings of Child Transportation Survey Report – INFORMATION**

Chair Tang introduced the item and said the survey work was initiated by her office along with the Mayor's Office, as the city did not have any comprehensive citywide data on child transportation. She said the survey looked at Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to see how parents from both public and private schools traveled around the city, the types of challenges they faced, and what transportation alternatives they would consider. She said one of the measurements used in the survey was the number of miles traveled in order to gauge the issue from a congestion standpoint, but also to consider what policy or programming changes could be made. Chair Tang added that this report was not meant to undermine the school assignment system or to restart the yellow school bus system, but rather to capture the reality that parents faced transporting their children to and from school and after-school programs.

Joe Castiglione, Deputy Director for Technology, Data & Analysis, presented the item per the staff memorandum.

Commissioner Farrell commented that transportation was a significant challenge for families, especially those with multiple kids at different schools. He said this was especially true for after-school activities, such as athletics, where the athletic facilities may not be nearby or along a bus

route. He said that while carpooling was better than individual parents driving, the best approach would be to get people out of their cars altogether, and that this was a complicated issue citywide. Mr. Castiglione replied that those comments were also expressed by people in the community through the survey, and that the inability of children to participate in activities was a big challenge, especially in the afternoon.

Commissioner Avalos commented that he recently took part in the ‘Walk and Roll to School’ in the Excelsior which had hubs where children congregated together and then dispersed to neighborhood schools. He said that Safe Routes to Schools helped fund these types of events, and that the city had good programs such as these but needed them to be stronger. He added that the city needed to consider what transportation alternatives were successful and to build on those. He said that one challenge that a lot of neighborhood schools in District 11 faced was that the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency did not allocate resources for crossing guards since the amount of traffic did not warrant them. He said if the allocation rules were eased to fund more crossing guards, it would encourage more parents to have their children walk to school.

Commissioner Breed commented that this was not just a transportation issue but also a school assignment issue. She said that parents were stressed about where their kids would go to school and how they would get them there and that instead kids should be able to go to their neighborhood schools. She said the school assignment system was not working which in turn caused transportation challenges, prompting the city to then look for transportation solutions and that it added another layer to the city’s congestion problems. She added that getting kids to after-school programs was another challenge which should be considered, and that there had to be a better way to coordinate resources to get kids to the appropriate places which could help reduce congestion.

Chair Tang commented that the study solidified what many parents experienced on a daily basis. She said that there hadn’t been comprehensive data collected in the past and that going forward they would be coordinating with the Department of Public Health and San Francisco Unified School District on shuttle programs. She said that after-school programs should not be a luxury and were just as important to a child’s development, and that the next phase of this work would be to engage after-school programs about the challenges they faced and to come up with solutions. She said this report was an introductory piece to the ongoing work, and that it was really a citywide parent issue in terms of doing what’s best for children. She added that she shared the survey results with the SFUSD Parent Action Committee and wanted them to be part of the dialogue.

There was no public comment.

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

There were no new items introduced.

**8. Public Comment**

During public comment, Andrew Yip spoke about character.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.