

City and County of San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Citizens' Advisory Council

Engineering, Maintenance and Safety Committee Monday, May 28, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. 1 South Van Ness Avenue, 6th Floor, Candlestick Conference Room

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Zepeda called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

2. Roll Call

EMSC members present at Roll Call: Frank Zepeda and Dorris Vincent EMSC members absent: none SFMTA CAC members not on this committee, but also present: Mark Ballew

3. Announcement of prohibition of sound-producing devices during the meeting.

The CAC Acting Secretary made the announcement.

- 4. Approval of Minutes:
 - April 23, 2014

This item was continued to the next meeting

Public Comment:

None

5. Report of the chairman (For discussion only):

None

6. Public Comment:

Edward Mason commented about the J line at 22nd and Church Street. The track work is creating potholes and now there is a plate between the inbound rails but there is still only temporary asphalt adjacent to where automobile tires hit. The track work has been going on for two months now and permanent asphalt needs to be put down.

Frank Zepeda asked staff to provide an update on the Church Street track work.

7. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding the Green Light Rail Center Track replacement and Green Rail Center Roof Rehabilitation projects. (Vince Harris, Director, Capital Projects & Construction and Lisa Chow, Acting Division Deputy, Program Management and Project Relations).

Lisa Chow stated that the Green Light Rail Center Track Replacement Project will replace worn tracks and switches at the north and south tracks in the Green Yard storage and some revenue tracks near the facility, modifications to the overhead contact systems and track switch control systems, repair and improve the facility's storm water drainage system and provide new pavement for the yard. Improvements in the Cameron Beach Yard (Beach Yard) will be necessary for the temporary storage of the Light Rail Vehicles during construction. The construction contract also includes a new key stop with an accessible path of travel, curb ramps, and boarding platform along San Jose Avenue to meet ADA requirements. To better meet the purpose of an accessible key stop, the project team was requested to revisit the feasibility of constructing a high level platform instead of a low level boarding platform.

The contract was written with a two-phased Notice to Proceed (NTP) approach due to the long lead time for procuring the special track work and to minimize disruption. Phase I of the project includes track work at the north side of the maintenance building in the Green Yard, construction of the new Muni Metro key stop on San Jose Avenue and the associated ADA work, and modifications at the Beach Yard. The SFMTA will issue NTP-Phase II either 3 years after NTP-Phase I, or within 60 days after receiving notice from the contractor that it has received materials and equipment required to perform the work. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in early 2017.

Currently, the contractor is working at the M-line pull-in area to the Beach Yard. The goal is to provide necessary support for the contractor to complete the work in the Green Yard ahead of the project schedule and cause minimum disruption to the daily activities in the Green Yard.

For the Castro Streetscape Improvement project, Ghilotti Brothers, will complete the Phase I work by June 17th and is scheduled to demobilize from the site by June 20th to allow for the special event to take place in the Castro area beginning the weekend of June 21st.

Public Comment:

Edward Mason inquired about the Castro Street Project and how much money the SFMTA had to contribute for realignment of the overhead wire.

Lisa Chow stated that cost for contract work for the overhead wire project in the Castro is \$2.1 million.

8. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding the Polk Streetscape Project. (Neal Patel, Livable Streets Project Liaison)

Neal Patel stated that the Polk Streetscape Project is from McAllister to Union Street. The project is in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and the City Planning Department. Polk

Street is bike friendly because it is flat. There are a lot of pedestrians and known safety issues. The project goal is to create a safer street and include lighting improvements, alley enhancements, livable spaces, significant repaying, and to add more greenery. The plan includes moving some bus stops, creating bus bulbs, and adding turn pockets. Loading zones will be reconfigured to decrease the amount of double parkers.

The project staff worked to strike a balance with all stakeholders and incorporate community input. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or addendum will give more information.

Currently, the project is wrapping up the streetscape design work after two years of community outreach. The project is moving forward and targeting this summer for approvals and the environmental phase.

Public Comment:

Edward Mason state that he is encouraged to see planters being used for trees and that trees are not being planting in the sidewalk. The Department of Public Works has a backlog of work due to sidewalks buckling from tree roots.

9. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding the Second Street Improvement Project. (Neal Patel, Livable Streets Project Liaison)

Neal Patel stated that the project requires a full EIR because the impacts are larger and the timeline is longer than most projects. The goals are to improve safety and facilitate muni operations. This project is in partnership with the Department of Public Works and the City Planning Department. Staff did targeted outreach. A survey was conducted and vetted by people who live in the area. The Waterfront Transportation Assessment is looking at a holistic approach and this project is in line with that approach. The project includes key pedestrian improvements, new and raised crosswalks, traffic signal bulb-outs, left turn restrictions, one way cycle tracks, and turn pockets to prevent gridlock. The approval process will take place sometime next year.

Public Comment:

Edward Mason inquired about obstructions to fire hydrants. Cesar Chavez Street has locations where fire hydrants combined with curbed raised planters create an obstruction. He asked if DPW is doing the design work. He prefers to have different trees with biodiversity rather than just one type of tree. Male trees produce pollen causing allergies and asthma problems.

Frank Zepeda asked if signs can be put up telling cyclists to watch for pedestrians.

Dorris Vincent suggested continuing to educate the public about not crossing against a red light.

Mark Ballew asked if there would be funding for NextBus in the bus shelters.

10. Committee members' requests for information. (For discussion only)

Mark Ballew inquired about the folding seats on buses in the handicapped area. They have a sticker on them that says they are broken but no one has told the CAC why.

Dorris Vincent wants to know if Muni is considering a reroute of either the 19 or 44 lines because she has been watching the elderly on walkers and canes going up a steep upgrade near the new apartments on Middlepoint Street. The 19 could go up the hill and come back down instead of folks having to walk the three blocks.

Frank Zepeda wants to see the old PCC's used on special lines because he heard that the SFMTA is talking about getting rid of them. He asked committee members to come up with some ideas and would ask Dan Weaver to put the item on the CAC agenda.

Public Comment:

Edward Mason commented that he has seen the stickers indicating that the seats in the handicapped area are broken and would like to know when they will be repaired. He inquired about the Clipper card going away in four or five years and would like to get some information on the new Clipper card process. He also inquired if Muni is going to consider a day pass in the future. He suggested that the SFMTA get corporate sponsorship for the historic cars.

 Schedule upcoming Meeting and Agenda Items. (For discussion only) Next regular meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 3:00 pm
South Van Ness Avenue, 6th Floor, Candlestick Conference Room #6052

ADJORN: The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Caroline Celaya Acting CAC Secretary

