FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2013 Contact: Paul Rose 415.601.1637, cell paul.rose@sfmta.com Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

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PRESS RELEASE

SFMTA to Join Supervisors Mar, Breed and Kim to Launch Pilot Program for 5 Fulton Corridor

New limited stop service makes for quicker trips, increased frequency and reduced crowding

San Francisco—The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), which oversees all surface transportation in the city, including the Municipal Railway (Muni), will join Supervisors Eric Mar (District 1), London Breed (District 5), and Jane Kim (District 6) at *9 a.m. Monday, October 28, 2013 at the southeast corner of Van Ness Avenue and McAllister Street* to greet customers as the Agency launches the 5L Pilot. The pilot project along the 5 Fulton corridor will introduce limited stop service to improve service reliability and provide quicker travel times. The program will increase bus frequency and reduce crowding with 20-30 percent more capacity during peak periods between Fulton Street/6th Avenue and the Temporary Transbay Terminal. Safety will also be improved by reconfiguring lanes and bus stops.

"The SFMTA continues to look for innovative approaches to improving Muni service," said Mayor Edwin M. Lee. "The 5 Fulton Pilot Project makes a smart investment in Muni that will help our transportation network keep pace with the City's growth."

"This is a major improvement for the Richmond District and for all 20,000 people who ride the 5 Fulton every day," said Supervisor Mar. "I am grateful to the MTA for working so closely with my office and our residents to bring this critical service to fruition."

"I have worked closely with the MTA, community members, and Supervisor Mar on the 5L program, and I am proud to see it coming to fruition," said Supervisor Breed. "This program will bring faster, more reliable service to one of our most important east-west transit corridors, and it will improve everyone's safety along the central stretch of Fulton in District 5."

"The Fulton 5 is a valuable connector between other parts of the City and Civic Center, South of Market and the temporary Transbay Terminal," said Supervisor Kim, who also serves as the Chair of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority. "The new 5L line - coupled with the new two-waying of McAllister already saving valuable time on this highly utilized route — ensures a speedy travel network for our residents who work, attend cultural institutions or connect to other transit lines in the downtown area. I'm particularly pleased with the pedestrian refuge pockets implemented to compliment this transit pilot."

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5/5L Fulton Pilot Program Service Improvements

- Providing up to 30 percent more capacity on the most crowded portion of the 5 Fulton between Fulton Street/6th Avenue and the Temporary Transbay Terminal
- Evening/weekend service similar to existing service with all electric buses serving all stops.
- Weekdays until 7 p.m., the 5L Fulton Limited electric buses will make all stops between La Playa/Cabrillo streets and Fulton Street/6th Avenue, then limited stops between Fulton Street/6th Avenue and Market/McAllister streets, then all stops between Market/McAllister streets and the Temporary Transbay Terminal.
- Limited stops include Fulton Street at Arguello Boulevard, Fulton Street at Parker Avenue/Shrader Street, Fulton Street at Masonic Avenue, McAllister Street at Divisadero Street, McAllister Street at Fillmore Street, McAllister Street at Van Ness Avenue and McAllister Street at Leavenworth Street (inbound) and Jones Street (outbound).
- Weekdays until 7 p.m., the 5 Fulton short line motor buses will provide added capacity at all stops between Fulton Street/6th Avenue and the Temporary Transbay Terminal.

5/5L Fulton Pilot Program Street and Bus Stop Improvements

Planned low-cost projects to improve safety, reliability, and travel time will:

- Extend bus zones to make room for both limited and local buses at shared stops, and to improve safety and accessibility at local stops while allowing limited buses to pass.
- Consolidate bus stops at 10 intersections to reduce bus delays associated with closely spaced stops.
- Relocate bus stops across the street at seven intersections to reduce bus delays at traffic lights and to improve pedestrian safety.
- Widen travel lanes on Fulton Street between Baker and Stanyan streets to improve safety and provide up to 20 new parking spaces on Fulton Street between Central Avenue and Baker Street.
- Remove up to five parking spaces on the east side of Central Avenue between Fulton and McAllister streets to reduce bus delays on this narrow block from congestion.
- Add right-turn lanes at three intersections to help turning traffic and reduce bus delays.

"The 5 Fulton pilot will help demonstrate how the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP) will improve Muni's reliability. It takes a smart, thoughtful planning approach to explore new ways to prioritize transit and help it run more effectively, so customers can get where they're going faster and more reliably," said Ed Reiskin, SFMTA Director of Transportation.

Lane Changes on Fulton Street from Baker to Stanyan Streets

The new program will reconfigure Fulton Street between Baker and Stanyan streets by removing one lane in each direction and adding a center left-turn lane to provide room for wider travel lanes that will increase traffic safety. Left-turn pockets or pedestrian refuges will also be provided at some intersections.

Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP)

The TEP is a joint effort by the SFMTA and the City Controller's Office that aims to transform Muni so that people can get where they want to go more quickly, reliably and safely. The SFMTA hosts community workshops to review the TEP travel time reduction proposals, facilitate community input and involvement, and implement final recommendations. For more information on the 5 Fulton Pilot Project go online at www.sfmta.com or call 311 for further details.

What:

SFMTA will join Supervisors Eric Mar (District 1), London Breed (District 5) and Jane Kim (District 6) to greet 5 Fulton customers as the Agency launches the 5L Pilot.

When:

Monday, October 28, 2013 9am

Where:

Southeast corner of Van Ness Avenue and McAllister Street

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Established by voter proposition in 1999, the SFMTA, a department of the City and County of San Francisco, oversees the Municipal Railway (Muni), parking and traffic, bicycling, walking and taxis. With five modes of transit, Muni has approximately 700,000 passenger boardings each day. Over 1 million people get around this city each day and rely on the SFMTA to ensure safe and reliable travel by transit, walking, bicycling, taxi and driving.

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