

SAN FRANCISCO PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This report provides a summary of PSAC activities during the past year,
along with relevant background information.

2012 Annual Report

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Committee Members

SEAT	NAME	CATEGORY
1	Kenneth Frausto*	Pedestrian Safety Organizations
2	Pi Ra	Pedestrian Safety Organizations
3	Richard Rothman	Senior or Disability Organizations
4	John Alex Lowell	Senior or Disability Organizations
5	Paul Supawanich*	Bicycle or Non-motorized Organizations
6	Howard Strassner (SECRETARY)	Transit or Environmental Organizations
7	Robin Brasso*	Child Advocate or School Support Organizations
8	Abigail Evans*	Public Health Organization
9	Jay Lee*	At Large
10	Paul Supawanich/Zachary Marks	At Large
11	Kevin Clark	BOS District 1
12	John Ehrlich	BOS District 2
13	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>BOS District 3</i>
14	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>BOS District 4</i>
15	James Rhoads	BOS District 5
16	Raymon Smith (VICE CHAIR)*	BOS District 6
17	Robin Brasso/Christopher Coghlan	BOS District 7
18	Leslie Garner*	BOS District 8
19	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>BOS District 9</i>
20	Thomas Rogers (CHAIR)	BOS District 10
21	R. Gary McCoy*	BOS District 11
22	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Parent Appointed by the Superintendent of Schools</i>
23	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Student Appointed by Superintendent of Schools</i>

Asterisk (*) indicates that seat was partly vacant during 2012. A detailed member list and attendance report is available later in this report.

Acknowledgments

The Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee would like to thank numerous individuals for sharing their time and for their participation at our meetings over the past year.

Peter Albert, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Matt Brill, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Captain Al Casciato, San Francisco Police Department
Lily Langlois, San Francisco Planning Department
Sergeant Eric Mahoney, San Francisco Police Department
Julie Kirschbaum, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Darcie Lim, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Frank Markowitz, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Jannette Mena, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Commander Lea Militello, San Francisco Police Department
Luis Montoya, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Christina Olea, San Francisco Department of Public Works
Captain Dennis O'Leary, San Francisco Police Department
Kris Opbroek, San Francisco Department of Public Works
Neal Patel, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
Rebecca Prozan, San Francisco District Attorney's Office
Chad Rathmann, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Michael Schwartz, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Miriam Sorrell, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Elizabeth Stampe, Walk San Francisco
Ben Stupka, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Shari Tavafrashti, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Sergeant Patrick Tobin, San Francisco Police Department

The committee understands its role as an advisory committee composed of engaged San Francisco citizens. As such, we appreciate the efforts of the various city agencies in striving to improve pedestrian safety in our City.

Introduction

Creation of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

In 2003, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declared that it was in the public interest to officially recognize walking as an important component of our transportation system, and as a key component to creating livable and suitable communities.

As such, they established the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) by ordinance to be composed of concerned and informed residents charged with providing expertise on issues concerning pedestrian safety, convenience, ambiance, and planning. The committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 5:30 P.M. in City Hall Room 408.

Composition of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

According to the ordinance, the PSAC shall consist of twenty-three members: two from pedestrian safety organizations, two from senior or disability organizations, one from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal transport organizations, one from transit or environmental organizations, one from child advocate or school support organizations, one from a public health organization, two at-large members, and one who lives or works in each of the 11 City districts. The district seats shall be Supervisor-appointed. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee shall make appointment recommendations for the remainder, subject to review and action of the full Board.

Mission and Goals of the Report

The mission of the PSAC is to advocate for pedestrian safety by engaging in the following: 1) serving as the liaison between the public, the Board of Supervisors, and agencies working on pedestrian-related projects, 2) making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and to other relevant agencies about projects or policies that directly or indirectly affect pedestrian safety, 3) maintaining the public's safety as the top priority, and 4) recommending ways to improve the ambient environment and convenience in order to encourage pedestrianism as a healthful transportation activity.

Previous PSAC annual reports have provided more extensive analysis, as well as the establishment and review of unique committee goals. However, given the pending release of the comprehensive Pedestrian Action Strategy, the scope of this report is somewhat more limited. The primary goal of this report is to provide a concise summary of committee activities during 2012. The committee will continue to develop ideas and refine policies based on the knowledge gathered in this and previous reports. The recommendations from the 2011 annual report are included at the end of this report, as reference.

Web Resources

SFMTA PSAC page (official agendas, minutes, reports)

<http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cpdsafe/19509.html>

Committee-maintained PSAC page (meeting materials, related information)

<https://sites.google.com/site/sfpsac/>

PSAC Facebook page (relevant news articles, meeting reminders)

<https://www.facebook.com/SFPSAC>

From the Chair

On behalf of the members of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee, I would like to thank you for your time in reading our report. Our committee is composed of committed volunteers trying to make it better for our residents and visitors past, present and future. 2012 featured both successes and challenges with regard to pedestrian safety. Successes included the continued development of a comprehensive Pedestrian Action Strategy, the completion of the 15-mile-per-hour school zone project, and the establishment of a rapport between PSAC and the District Attorney's office. Challenges included the pace of the Pedestrian Action Strategy, turnover/vacancies of certain PSAC seats, delays with the implementation of the Citation Diversion Program, and a lack of committee consensus on bicycle-related improvements (in particular, the JFK Drive Cycle Track project).

As we head into 2013, it is my hope that PSAC can continue to build on the positive developments of recent years. Key to this is that committee membership can be stabilized and enhanced. In addition, while much of our 2012 work was somewhat reactive (i.e., PSAC provided input on plans/projects already in progress), I hope that members feel empowered in 2013 to proactively initiate relevant projects and to improve PSAC's public visibility. I look forward to assisting the 2013 officers in achieving these and related objectives, and encourage members of the public to contact us with any questions or suggestions.

-Thomas Rogers

District 10 Representative and 2012 Chair

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2012 PSAC Activities and Accomplishments

Meeting Summaries

The following section summarizes key topics of each meeting and relevant actions. Information Sharing/Gathering items are noted with “(I)”, and Planning items are noted with “(P)”. In addition to the listed items, all meetings featured reports from the SFPD and SFMTA. Detailed meeting minutes are available on the PSAC web site (<http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cpdsafe/19509.html>).

January

- PSAC Policies and Procedures Overview (I)
- Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit Update (I)
- 2011 PSAC Annual Report
Action: Report approved in concept, to be finalized by Chair with potential minor edits
- Continued PSAC Action on JFK Drive
Action: The Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee amended the November resolution regarding the “John F Kennedy Drive Separated Bikeways” project to request that the SFMTA treat the planned buffer zone as equivalent to a sidewalk.
- PSAC Elections
Action: Unanimous approvals of the following officers to serve from February 2012 through January 2013: Chair: Rogers; Vice Chair: Smith; Secretary: Strassner.

February

- Appointment of PSAC Delegate and Alternate to Community Court
Action: PSAC elected Richard Rothman as the primary member and Pi Ra as an alternate.
- Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP) Overview (I)
- Oak/Fell Bikeways (I)

March

- Crosswalk Push Buttons
Action: PSAC deferred action, but recommended holding a sub-committee meeting on the subject and seeking input from Mayor’s Disability Council (MDC), if topic is pursued in the future.
- Stop Spacing
Action: PSAC deferred action, but recommended seeking input from the Muni CAC and MDC, if topic is pursued in the future.
- Annual Report Outreach (I)
- Membership - Review of Terms, Outreach (I)

- Brown Act, Robert's Rules of Order Overview (I)
- Support for Pedestrian Safety Grant
Action: PSAC voted to support the grant request to add corner bulbs at the intersection of Powell and Broadway, near the Jean Parker School

April

- District Attorney – Prosecution/Process Overview; Cases of Interest (I)
- Better Market Street (I)
- Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan (I)

May

- Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan (I)
- Green Connections (I)
- Push Buttons – Interest/Availability/Basic Objectives for Follow-Up Meeting(s) (I)

June

Meeting cancelled

July

- Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan (I)
- America's Cup People Plan: Updates and Possible Legacies (I)
- SFMTA Prop AA Funding (I)
- SFCTA Prop AA Program (I)

In addition to the regular PSAC meeting, a number of members of PSAC and MDC conducted a field visit to the JFK Drive Cycle Track project on Saturday, July 14.

August

- Commendation for Former Captain Casciato
Action: PSAC issued commendation by acclamation and with sincere thanks.
- Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan (I)
- JFK Drive Cycle Track – Tour Reports and Possible Direction on Future Action
Action: PSAC requested involvement with the pending draft report on JFK and intends to discuss the topic again at that time.
- Endorsement of SFMTA Prop AA Application
Action: PSAC endorsed the pedestrian portion of the program, which includes funding for pedestrian signal improvements.
- Traffic Calming (I)

September

- Van Ness Avenue (US 101) Complete Streets Approach Endorsement
Action: PSAC supported requests for waivers from Caltrans standards for A) 11 foot traffic lanes (because the traffic lanes on Van Ness have long been 10 feet with no problems and the extra street width is not available); B) Corner bulbs with a three foot clearance from the inner traffic lane (because two feet of clearance provides better pedestrian visibility and a shorter walk); and C) five-foot clearance between plantings and a traffic lane (because 1.5 feet is all that is available, in order to preserve and enhance as much as possible of the existing median plantings, and because the clearance is not between a traffic lane but between a dedicated transit lane).
- One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Program (I)
- Annual Report – General Direction, Subcommittee Formation (P)

October

- 2nd Street Improvement Project (I)
- Prop B (I)
- One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Program (I)
- Prop AA (I)

November

- Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan (I)
- America's Cup People Plan: Updates and Possible Legacies (I)
- SFMTA Prop AA Funding (I)
- SFCTA Prop AA Program (I)

December

- District Attorney Update (I)
- Appointment of Two PSAC Members to Ad-Hoc Committee to Address Market/12th Intersection
Action: PSAC appointed Howard Strassner and Howard Bloomberg (pending PSAC member) to this committee, with Chris Coghlan, Pi Ra, and John Lowell as potential alternates.
- Polk Street Project Update (I)

Attendance

Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<u>Seat 1 - Pedestrian Safety Organizations</u>												
Kenneth Frausto	E	E	A	A	E	n/a	A	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 2 - Pedestrian Safety Organizations</u>												
Pi Ra	P	P	P	A	P	n/a	A	P	E	A	P	P
<u>Seat 3 - Senior or Disability Organizations</u>												
Richard Rothman	P	P	P	P	P	n/a	P	P	P	E	P	E
<u>Seat 4 - Senior or Disability Organizations</u>												
John Alex Lowell	P	P	P	P	P	n/a	E	P	P	P	P	P
<u>Seat 5 - Bicycle or Non-motorized Organizations</u>												
Paul Supawanich	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	E	P	E	E	E	P
<u>Seat 6 - Transit or Environmental Organizations</u>												
Howard Strassner	P	P	P	E	P	n/a	P	P	P	E	A	P
<u>Seat 7 - Child Advocate or School Support Organizations</u>												
Robin Brasso	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	P	P	P	P	P	P
<u>Seat 8 - Public Health Organization</u>												
Abigail Evans	-	-	P	P	P	n/a	E	P	E	A	E	-
<u>Seat 9 - At Large</u>												
Jay Lee	P	E	P	P	A	n/a	A	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 10 - At Large</u>												
Paul Supawanich	P	E	P	E	E	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zachary Marks	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	P	P	P	P	P	P
<u>Seat 11 - BOS District 1</u>												
Kevin Clark	E	P	P	E	A	n/a	A	P	P	E	E	E
<u>Seat 12 - BOS District 2</u>												
John Ehrlich	P	P	P	P	P	n/a	P	P	P	E	P	P
<u>Seat 13 - BOS District 3</u>												
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 14 - BOS District 4</u>												
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-

Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<u>Seat 15 - BOS District 5</u>												
James Rhoads	P	P	P	P	P	n/a	P	E	P	P	P	P
<u>Seat 16 - BOS District 6</u>												
Raymon Smith	P	E	A	P	A	n/a	A	A	E	E	E	-
<u>Seat 17 - BOS District 7</u>												
Robin Brasso	P	P	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Christopher Coghlan	-	-	P	P	P	n/a	E	P	A	P	P	P
<u>Seat 18 - BOS District 8</u>												
Leslie Garner	A	E	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 19 - BOS District 9</u>												
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 20 - BOS District 10</u>												
Thomas Rogers	P	P	P	P	P	n/a	P	P	P	P	P	P
<u>Seat 21 - BOS District 11</u>												
R. Gary McCoy	-	-	-	E	P	n/a	P	E	P	A	P	A
<u>Seat 22 - Parent Appointed by the Superintendent of Schools</u>												
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Seat 23 - Student Appointed by Superintendent of Schools</u>												
Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-

P: Present
E: Excused
A: Absent

2011 PSAC Annual Report Recommendations

As noted earlier within this report, due to the pending release of the comprehensive Pedestrian Action Strategy, this report does not establish new goals. However, the 2011 annual report goals are still of relevance and are included here for reference.

- **Ensure needed adequate resources for pedestrian safety data collection and distribution.** While the Department of Public Health is in the process of ensuring that all collected pedestrian data is consolidated and accessible through their “Geodatabase”, the archive is only as useful as the data it is provided. We recommend that all relevant agencies provide a summary of their existing data collection, entry, and upkeep needs. Consistent with Pedestrian Safety Task Force recommendations, we recommend that funding for data collection technology and back-end support be prioritized, as it is an essential component to pedestrian safety planning.
- **Seek innovative means to enhance pedestrian safety given constrained resources.** As a city, we should continue to seek out shared opportunities to leverage existing knowledge and resources through our pool of community-based organizations, advocacy groups and neighborhood organizations who have a vested interest in the safety of pedestrians. Agencies should provide additional opportunities to enable these groups to be involved in pedestrian planning. This can be done through focused data collection, education workshops, or other programs to further extend our ability as a city to collectively to move in a positive direction on pedestrian safety issues.
- **Provide funding for a pedestrian and bicycle public safety campaign.** With a growing number of cyclists in San Francisco, it is important that both pedestrian and bicycling advocates both understand the mutual benefit of a greater percentage of non-motorized users on the road. Cyclists and pedestrians both provide benefits to the environment (virtually no greenhouse gas emissions) and they are less likely to cause severe harm to one another if involved in a collision (as compared to motor vehicles). PSAC is fully supportive of a city that accommodates cycling as an everyday mode of transportation. However, we want to ensure that new cyclists are aware of their responsibilities while driving a bicycle to help keep both themselves and other users safe. Such a campaign would be focused on this interaction between pedestrians and cyclists in addition to general pedestrian safety reminders.
- **Establish clear pedestrian safety “leader” among the city agencies.** The Pedestrian Safety Task Force has helped forge relationships among various city agencies to the overall benefit of pedestrian safety. PSAC would like to see this inter-agency interaction continue. We recommend that clear leadership for this process be defined.

- **The SFMTA should involve PSAC and WalkSF and other appropriate organizations towards the beginning of projects that involve pedestrians.** As a means to ensure that pedestrian related projects can be vetted early in the process and to avoid last minute modifications or “surprises”, the SFMTA should involve all potential stakeholders early in the project development process. This would help promote designs and pedestrian amenities that best reflect user needs.
- **Development of a Pedestrian Strategic Action Plan that responds to PSAC and Pedestrian Safety Task Force Recommendations.** Over the past year, San Francisco has benefited from numerous pedestrian safety related initiatives that have resulted in solid tools (PEQI, WalkFirst models, etc.) and recommendations across various city departments. The members of PSAC feels strongly that these efforts should not carry forth in vain. It is incumbent on the Board of Supervisors to support and implement the recommendations in the 2011 PSAC Report and the Pedestrian Safety Task Force Final Report.