SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
PARKING AUTHORITY COMMISSION

MINUTES

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency and to protect our Board Members, SFMTA staff, and members of the public, the Board’s Meeting Room (Room 400) is closed.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely. If you want to ensure your comment on any item on the agenda is received by the Board in advance of the meeting, please send an email to MTABoard@sfmta.com by 5pm on Monday, August 31 or call (415) 646-4470. Please see the information on the next page for remote meeting access.

REGULAR MEETING
1 P.M.

SFMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gwyneth Borden, Chair
Amanda Eaken, Vice Chair
Cheryl Brinkman
Steve Heminger
Sharon Lai

Jeffrey Tumlin
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Roberta Boomer
SECRETARY
ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Borden called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Gwyneth Borden
Cheryl Brinkman
Amanda Eaken
Steve Heminger
Sharon Lai

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

No announcement was made.

4. Approval of Minutes

No public comment.

On motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020 Regular Meeting: unanimously approved.

5. Communications

Chair Borden noted the untimely passing of Operator Antonio Cahilig and asked that the meeting be adjourned in his memory.

Chair Borden discussed the virtual meeting and expressed appreciation to staff for their work to enable the meeting to be held via teleconference. Board Secretary Boomer reviewed how members of the public could watch the meeting and address the Board.

6. Introduction of New or Unfinished Business by Board Members

Vice Chair Eaken asked staff to work swiftly to bring a deep dive about Vision Zero to the Board.

7. Director’s Report (For discussion only)

-Update on shared spaces
-ongoing Activities

Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation, discussed Slow Streets, Shared Spaces and bus system expansion.
At the request of a member of the public Chair Borden reopened public comment on the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT on the minutes:

David Pilpel stated that there wasn’t a phone number on the SFGTV screen so he couldn’t comment prior to approval. He asked that the motion to approve the minutes be rescinded and that he be allowed to make comment. Mr. Pilpel noted that Director Heminger’s comments about posting information was missing. He suggested adding that to the minutes. He also noted a typo.

PUBLIC COMMENT on the Director’s Report:

Joe Ferrero discussed the extension of the 30 Stockton. The extension is unsafe and unnecessary and its bad government. Broderick Street is very narrow. Putting a large bus on that street will put people at risk. There is a weight restriction on Marina Blvd. The 30 Stockton intersections with the 28 and the 43 lines at multiple locations. He asked the Board to rethink why the 30 should connect with the Presidio.

Barry Taranto stated that the delay in streaming the information went until half-way through the Directors Report. He suggested more notice about Slow Streets so the public can comment. There is bad signage going on. Lake and Haight streets seem to work well but the east-west streets don’t. Clay is a valuable street for cab drivers.

Hayden Miller expressed support for the extension of the 30 Stockton. One bus line was blocked by parked cars. He supports the Cabrillo Slow Streets.

Marley Kornreich expressed opposition to the extension of the 30 Stockton Street. This extension is counterproductive and there has been no indication that it is needed. This is an infeasible route given the narrowness of Broderick Street. She asked that previous routes be reinstalled. There is concern about weight restrictions on Marina Blvd. There has been a lack of communication to the neighborhood.

John Garaul expressed opposition to the extension of the 30 Stockton. There are very few people on the buses. People aren’t trying to get to Chrissy Field. It’s irresponsible to have the buses on Broderick going both directions.

David Pilpel requested that Director Tumlin’s materials be posted online and, in the future, that his materials be posted in advance of the meeting. It’s helpful to have it posted beforehand.

Aleta Dupree wondered why some vehicles can travel on Marina Blvd when that street has a weight restriction. Regardless of the size of the vehicle, overweight vehicles can have a damaging effect on city streets. She is looking forward to more Slow Streets. Smaller buses should be used if larger buses are too large.

Director Heminger requested information regarding Senator Weiner’s law regarding environmental review.
On motion to rescind the approval of the minutes of August 18, 2020:

AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Eaken, Heminger and Lai

On motion to approve the minutes of August 18, 2020:

AYES - Borden, Brinkman, Eaken, Heminger and Lai


No report.

9. Public Comment

Hayden Miller encouraged opening the Kirkland and Islais Creek divisions on the weekends. A 60-foot bus is just as wide as a 30-foot bus. There used to be a shuttle service to the Presidio, but it is not running now.

Aleta Dupree discussed Revel, a scooter company, that is now operating in San Francisco. This is an important service. Two wheeled vehicles are helpful in promoting distancing between transit riders. Revel provides helmets. She suggested improved access for people with disabilities for Clipper cards. Service should not be curtailed. Reduced fares must never mean reduced service.

Anonymous discussed Revel and new safety procedures. Revel has a history of accidents and deaths in New York City.

Barry Taranto welcomed the new director and hopes she will download the Flywheel app and will learn about the taxi industry. Philip Cranna has done a great job with the new taxi stand in the Castro. He thanked Director Tumlin for expanding the Essential Trip Card program. People are using the card. It would be great to keep this expansion. There is a problem with enforcement and keeping the cab stands clear.

David Pilpel stated that the crawl is now happening across the SFGTV screen. The environmental review (CEQA) appeal at the Board of Supervisors is about Slow Streets, Phase I. He has two pending CEQA appeals. He may be filing additional appeals.

Roan Kattouf acknowledged staff for the Folsom Street Open House including the materials posted on the website. It was impressive.

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS BEFORE THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION AS STATED BY THE SFMTA DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OR CITY ATTORNEY WHERE APPLICABLE. EXPLANATORY DOCUMENTS FOR ALL CALENDAR ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT 1 SOUTH VAN NESS AVE. 7th FLOOR.
CONSENT CALENDAR

10. All matters listed hereunder constitute a Consent Calendar, are considered to be routine by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors and will be acted upon by a single vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Directors or the public so requests, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered as a separate item.

(10.1) Making environmental review findings and approving the following traffic modifications:

A. ESTABLISH – TOW-AWAY, NO STOPPING ANYTIME, ESTABLISH – SIDEWALK WIDENING, Fulton Street, south side, from 18 feet west of 6th Avenue to 125 feet east of 6th Avenue.
B. ESTABLISH – RED ZONES, Fulton Street, south side from 10 to 54 feet west of Willard Street North east crosswalk.
C. ESTABLISH – RED ZONES, Fulton Street, north side, from 7 to 37 feet east of 46th Avenue.
D. ESTABLISH – NO PARKING, Fulton Street, south side, between the east crosswalk and west crosswalk at La Playa.
E. ESTABLISH – CAR SHARE, Fulton Street, north side, from 20 feet to 37 feet east of 37th Avenue (Explanatory documents include a staff report, environmental review documents and resolution.)

RESOLUTION 200901-074

(10.2) Approving Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. SFMTA – 2011/12-25, As-Needed Specialized Engineering Services for SFMTA Rail Vehicle Projects, with Raul V. Bravo + Associates, to extend the term of the Agreement for six months, to March 5, 2021, with no increase to the amount. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, amendment and resolution.)

RESOLUTION 200901-075

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: Hayden Miller (10.1)

On motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

ADOPTED: AYES – Borden, Brinkman, Eaken, Heminger, and Lai

REGULAR CALENDAR

11. Presentation and discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2019 State of Good Repair Report; update on Capital Revenue Projections and associated impacts due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, report and slide presentation.)
Jerad Weiner, Manager, Asset Management and Joel Goldberg, Manager, Programming and Grants, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Pilpel stated that he pays attention to the issues. He appreciates that staff is concerned about assets and replacement life. He expressed hope that the agency is investing in and developing projects.

12. Presentation and discussion regarding transit service and rail system repair. (No explanatory documents.)

Julie Kirschbaum, Director of Transit, and Charles Drane, Deputy, Maintenance of Way, presented the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Herbert Weiner expressed concern that the subway has been under budgeted all along. Funding was deflected to other projects such as bike lanes and bulb outs. Transportation should be given top priority. It should take priority over bike lanes and Vision Zero. The public is paying for Muni’s deflected funding.

Hayden Miller expressed disappointment with the subway issues but appreciates the resilience of staff. He suggested that opening Islais Creek and Kirkland on the weekend and adding articulated buses would help. It’s great to have Ambassadors on the streets but they are just standing around and not providing any benefit to the public.

Aleta Dupree said that the agency is being reactive rather than proactive. She wondered why we didn’t foresee these issues in advance. There are pain points that are forcing the system to be closed for months. BART has done well with redundancy but if the SFMTA loses its’ control room, the agency loses the ability to operate the rail system. Wire failures on railroads have happened before. There has to be someone who owns this problem so the system can be reopened.

David Pilpel said that he saw the rail operation on the first day. He made a number of comments to staff about service and signage. The SFMTA wasn’t ready for the reopening. He believes there are enough operators and vehicles to operate service on Saturday. People shouldn’t have to choose. It’s unfair to people on routes that aren’t currently operating.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m. in memory of Antonio Cahilig.

A recording of the meeting is on file in the office of the Secretary to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors.

Roberta Boomer
Board Secretary
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Appeal Rights under S.F. Admin. Code Chapter 31: For identified Approval Actions, the Planning Department or the SFMTA has issued a CEQA exemption determination or negative declaration, which may be viewed online at the Planning Department's website. Following approval of the item by the SFMTA Board, the CEQA determination is subject to appeal within the time frame specified in S.F. Administrative Code Section 31.16 which is typically within 30 calendar days. For information on filing a CEQA appeal, contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102, or call (415) 554-5184. Under CEQA, in a later court challenge, a litigant may be limited to raising only those issues previously raised at a hearing on the project or submitted in writing to the City prior to or at such hearing, or as part of the appeal hearing process on the CEQA decision.

Board of Supervisors review of certain SFMTA Decisions: Certain parking and traffic modifications as well as Private Transportation Programs that involve certain parking modifications can be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors. These decisions are subject to review within 30 calendar days after they are made by the SFMTA Board of Directors. For information on requesting a review, contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102, call (415) 554-5184. Ordinance No. 127-18 specifying which SFMTA decisions are reviewable by the Board of Supervisors can be accessed on-line: https://sfbos.org/sites/default/files/o0127-18.pdf.

The Ethics Commission of the City and County of San Francisco has asked us to remind individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [S.F. Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code section 2.100 et seq.] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 415.581.2300; fax: 415.581.2317; 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, SF, CA 94102-6027 or the web site: sfgov.org/ethics.

If you wish to contact the Board regarding an item that is expected to be on an agenda, please email the Board at MTABoard@sfmta.com. Please know that the Board appreciates receiving such communication not later than Monday, the day before the meeting so they have time to review and consider the comments prior to the meeting.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decision in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact Administrator, by mail to Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco CA 94102-4689; by phone at 415.554.7724; by fax at 415.554.7854; or by email at sotf@sfgov.org.

Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City’s website at sfgov.org.