



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

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION  
1 P.M.

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](mailto:MTABoard@sfmta.com) by 5pm on Monday, February 15, 2021 or call (415) 646-4470. Please see the information on the next page for remote meeting access.**

**SFMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Gwyneth Borden, Chair  
Amanda Eaken, Vice Chair  
Cheryl Brinkman  
Steve Heminger  
Fiona Hinze  
Sharon Lai  
Manny Yekutieli

Jeffrey Tumlin  
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Caroline Celaya  
ACTING 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  
Fiona Hinze  
Sharon Lai  
Manny Yekutieli

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

No announcement made.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

Public Comment:

David Pilpel stated that his comments in the January 19 meeting minutes should read “Potrero Hill lost service” and his other comment should read “budget workshop issues”. The last name of Kevin is incorrect and should be spelled Carroll.

On motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting and the February 2 and 3, 2021 Special Meeting: unanimously approved.

### 5. Communications

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 Celaya reviewed how members of the public could watch the meeting and address the Board.

No public comment.

### 6. Introduction of New or Unfinished Business by Board Members

Director Brinkman requested an update on bike share availability in Golden Gate Park.

Director Hinze requested a briefing on the work of the Fare Integration Task Force.

Director Lai requested an update on work to increase the safety of the Asian community, workers, and passengers against racist attacks.

Chair Borden requested a hearing on how Local Business Enterprises are doing during the pandemic.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

David Pilpel thanked Director Hinze for her efforts regarding the Fare Integration Task Force.

**7. Director's Report (For discussion only)**

**-Ongoing Activities**

Director Tumlin discussed federal funding, the Transportation Recovery Plan, Vision Zero, the Sutter Stockton garage explosion, parking enforcement, the Black History Month celebration, Paratransit Driver of the Year, the hiring of an Ombudsperson and introduced Josephine Ayankoya the first Race, Equity and Inclusion Officer.

Vice Chair Eaken asked to join the Rapid Response Team on a visit to see their approach.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Christopher stated that the four traffic fatalities were all preventable. There needs to be better road design. There was only one change made from those and it was just daylighting. He asked why the SFMTA isn't doing more after these collisions. The Rapid Response Team isn't taking Vision Zero seriously. There were two more traffic deaths and six overall in 2021. We are only six weeks into the new year.

Hayden Miller stated that four traffic deaths is unacceptable. He was at the Castro and Waller Streets intersection where someone was recently hit by a car and the treatment is ridiculous. These little improvements aren't going to work. Car drivers don't care about yield signs, paint, or bike posts. The Rapid Response Teams need to hurry up. He has heard there are operators buying their own masks to give to riders. Buses are spreading COVID and the Agency doesn't care.

Dave Alexander stated that he was told a stop sign would be installed at the intersection of 38<sup>th</sup> and Geary, where a traffic death occurred, but that hasn't happened. There are major delays in rapid responses. There needs to be changes to slow the speed of drivers. Street paint won't stop murders in the streets. Physical barriers are needed. He urged the Board to take a stronger stance.

Catherine Masterson discussed the Great Highway closure and announced a petition on change.org to reopen the highway. The residents are frustrated that the highway is still closed because it isn't helping anyone. She urged the Agency to give the community a date when the highway will be reopened.

Stacey Randecker thanked Director Eaken for asking to join the rapid response team because someone needs to see what the team does. It's horrifying that the Streets department doesn't take responsibility for Vision Zero. There is no proactive nor reactive work being done. The needle hasn't moved. Children

are being killed and nothing changes. Paint the curb, put in the stop sign, and make changes. The actions taken in the Tenderloin are sad and meek. There are still personal cars driving on Market Street. The Agency relies on police enforcement, but physical barriers are needed. Criminals have free access to get away because our streets permit it.

#### 8. Citizens' Advisory Council Report

Neil Ballard, Chair, Citizen's Advisory Council, presented the report.

Director Eaken would like to see the CAC's recommendations on revenue choices.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Laura Schaefer stated that she is in favor of bringing back cable car lines. The Powell Hyde line is an iconic tourist experience. The cable cars are a national historic landmark. If San Francisco is seen as struggling with changes from COVID, this will impact tourism.

Hayden Miller supports all of the CAC's recommendations. He hopes the recommendations will be implemented especially Sunday parking meters. He urged the Agency to bring back the historic cars which will help with tourism. He asked that the F and E lines get prioritized because they bring in revenue and locals also use them.

#### 9. Public Comment

Hayden Miller asked for a staff contact to discuss safety on the buses. He is disappointed with the SFMTA's proposal of prioritizing tour buses over people walking and biking at Twin Peaks. He urged the Agency to keep the Great Highway open because people love it. He urged the SFMTA to listen to the people instead of auto drivers.

Mac Allen encouraged the Board to make Slow Streets permanent throughout the City. Every intersection along Slow Streets should have signs and barricades to reinforce safety. He urged the Board to eliminate flag stops because they are not accessible for all transit users.

Dave Alexander thanked staff for attending the Slow Streets Art Hunt event. It was great to have the community engage in the conversation around safe passages and cultural connections. He suggested staff reach out to residents to understand their concerns around making Lake Street a permanent Slow Street. He understands there is a huge support for permanency there. He looks forward to seeing the traffic calming measures at lower Great Highway.

Jorge stated that the SFMTA did not conduct community outreach with Midtown Terrace homeowners and residents on the Twin Peaks for All Initiative. The citywide survey only gathered opinions and that does not constitute a dialogue with neighbors impacted by the reopening or closure of Twin Peaks Boulevard to traffic. Any decision about the opening should have input from the neighbors. Residents have started a petition on [change.org](https://change.org).

Patrick Traugher discussed the safety of flag stops. There are 1800 of them and at least 500 are located in car parking areas. Cars are allowed to park in front of the bus stop and buses can't pull into the stop. People must squeeze through cars to get on or off the bus. This can be easily changed by painting the curbs red and then the bus stops would then be accessible. Please prioritize this.

Stacey Randecker stated that Slow Streets are wonderful and should be everywhere. Residents in areas like Quesada Street don't get to have that great slow street experience. There needs to be equity for every resident. Make the streets safe for everyone. Do your job SFMTA.

Bob Planthold stated that he is speaking on behalf of the San Francisco Action Team of the California Alliance for Retired Americans. The Alliance has sent a letter detailing the problems the SFMTA caused related to taxis on Market Street. The SFMTA overlooked the fact that paratransit is a "door to door" service. The Alliance is asking staff to carefully look at that decision and respond. Staff didn't look at the way that cabs use Market Street and that is a denial of paratransit service properly handling people with disabilities.

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. 7<sup>th</sup> 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) Requesting the Controller to allot funds and to draw warrants against such funds available or will be available in payment of the following claims against the SFMTA:

- A. Allstate Indemnity Co. vs. CCSF, Superior Ct. #CGC20584280 filed on 5/1/20 for \$2,080.59
- B. Bernadette Hawkins vs. CCSF, Superior Ct. CGC19576427 filed on 6/5/19 for \$30,000
- C. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 6 on behalf of Floyd Adriano, settlement of grievance filed 10/17/2020 for reinstatement. (Explanatory documents include a resolution.)

#### RESOLUTION 210216-019

(10.2) Approving the following parking and traffic modifications:

- A. RESCIND – ANGLED PARKING, Irving St., north side from 20 feet to 45 feet west of 40th Ave.
- B. ESTABLISH – PARK PARALLEL, Irving St., north side, from 9 feet to 45 feet west of 40th Ave.

- C. ESTABLISH – TOW-AWAY, NO STOPPING ANYTIME, Beale Street, east side, from Market Street to 30 feet southerly, Beale Street, east side, from 115 feet to 154 south of Market Street, and Beale Street, east side, from Mission Street to 155 feet northerly.
- D. ESTABLISH – RED ZONE, Beale Street, east side, from 245 feet to 315 feet south of Market Street (Explanatory documents include a staff report and resolution. For every parking and traffic modification that received a categorical exemption, the proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.)

RESOLUTION 210216-020

(10.3) Authorizing the Director to execute Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. CS-174, Professional Project Management and Construction Management Support Services for Van Ness Corridor Transit Improvement Project, with HNTB Corporation, in the amount of \$1,678,925, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$7,380,000, and to extend the term of the contract by 16 months. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, amendment, resolution and financial plan.)

RESOLUTION 210216-021

(10.4) Authorizing the SFMTA’s general use and purchase of gift cards to compensate various forms of public outreach and engagement under a policy establishing rules that the purchase and disbursement of gift cards will be at the discretion of responsible Program Mangers and approved by the Chief Financial Officer or their designee; and authorizing the Director to set compensation for members of the SFMTA Youth Transportation Board using gift cards consistent with the policy for use and disbursements of gift cards. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, memo, policy and, resolution.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public expressing support: David Pilpel (10.2)

Members of the public expressing opposition: Hayden Miller (10.2), Aleta Dupree (10.4)

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: David Pilpel (10.4)

On motion to amend Item 10.4 to add “generic cash value,” before the mention of gift card in the resolution and in the policy:

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

RESOLUTION 210216-022

On motion to approve as amended:

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

On motion to approve the Consent Calendar (10.4 severed):

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

## REGULAR CALENDAR

11. Presentation and discussion regarding transit service. (Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Anonymous discussed the frequencies, bunching and gaps on the 8 and 8AX lines. He hopes the agency becomes more transparent and equitable with decisions because it's not fair to residents in the southeast section of the city.

Hayden Miller stated that he reviewed the pullouts at the divisions and thinks there is room for growth. He suggested resuming surface LRV lines, more mobile cleaning, reducing frequency on low ridership lines, prioritizing community routes, and extending the currently shortened lines. Also work with SFUSD to create a plan for schools reopening and resume work on the 29 Rapid Project. It's ridiculous that the public is only now getting hand sanitizers and masks after almost a year into the pandemic. He believes staff is incorrect that bus capacity limits provide enough space for between three and six feet and that the SFMTA was in violation of the initial health order.

David Pilpel questioned why the Agency is closing the subway at 8:30 pm. He suggested running the K and T lines as before. He inquired why a consultant is needed. The current route network is bad. There is no service on light rail or cable cars, yet operators are paid the same. He stated that Roger Marengo requested a cable car crossover at Powell and Market and asked if that was going to happen.

Herbert Weiner stated that after COVID passes, all the lines need to be restored as they were before the pandemic. Restore service to Saturday service levels as a start. Muni should serve all.

Aleta Dupree stated that she hopes the opening of the subway will happen sooner rather than later. There is crowding on Muni and many people are being passed up and denied service. The disabled community should be fully included in Muni and the SFMTA needs to ensure they aren't being passed up. Opening up the rail lines reduces the number of transfers riders need to make. She urged staff to figure out a way to clean buses on the routes to be more efficient.

Anonymous inquired if wi-fi will be for the entire system including the underground lines. He asked if the J Church line will open in May.

Francisco De Acosta stated that there is too much violence on Muni and the SFMTA doesn't seem to care nor does the SFMTA care about taxi drivers. The situation is going from bad to worse.

Bill Graziano stated that he rode the T line which has been a problem since was built. The light rail vehicles are clean but the transit stop coverings are filthy. He urged Board members to ride the line.

Derek Simmons stated that there are parking issues on Folsom Street where he lives. There are disabled

people, children, and seniors that have to park four or five blocks away and then have to walk to their homes. The neighborhood has less and less parking options and there is always construction taking place.

Barry Taranto discussed subway service ending at 8:30 pm and forcing people above ground on Market Street. That area isn't safe at night and there are very few buses running on Market Street. Buses on Market Street are going faster than 20 mph. The retirement community in the area can't get to cabs.

12. Presentation and discussion regarding the SFMTA's budget and financial status. (Explanatory documents include a slide presentation.)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Francisco De Acosta stated that he was at the Board of Supervisors meeting where the budget was presented and it seemed as though decisions were made but today there are still more decisions to be made. This is confusing and causes public mistrust. He questioned the leadership during the pandemic. Leaders need to have empathy and compassion. Taxi drivers weren't treated very well.

13. Authorizing the Director to execute Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. 2014-48, Towing and Storage of Abandoned and Illegally Parked Vehicles, with TEGSCO, doing business as San Francisco AutoReturn, to increase the contract amount by \$23.2 million for the first two years of the extension for a total contract amount not to exceed \$88.6 million and, to extend the Agreement for five years. (Explanatory documents include a staff report, resolution and amendment.)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Members of the public expressing neither support nor opposition: David Pipel

**RESOLUTION 210216-023**

On motion to approve:

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

**NAYES - Yekutieli**

14. Discussion and vote pursuant to Administrative Code Section 67.10(d) as to whether to invoke the attorney-client privilege and conduct a closed session conference with legal counsel.

No public comment.

On motion to invoke the attorney-client privilege: unanimously approved.

**RECESS REGULAR MEETING AND CONVENE CLOSED SESSION**

CLOSED SESSION

1. Call to Order

Chair Borden called the closed session to order at 6:18 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Gwyneth Borden  
Cheryl Brinkman  
Amanda Eaken  
Steve Heminger  
Fiona Hinze  
Sharon Lai  
Manny Yekutieli

Also present: Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation  
Caroline Celaya, acting Board Secretary  
Susan Cleveland-Knowles, Deputy City Attorney  
Ari Baruth, Deputy City Attorney  
Rob Stone, Deputy City Attorney  
Tom Maguire, Director of Sustainable Streets  
Edgar Lopez, Claims Consultant

3. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9 (d) (2), and Administrative Code Section 67.10 (d) (2), the Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors will meet in closed session to discuss attorney-client matters in the following case(s):

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Anticipated Litigation:

X  As defendant or  X  As plaintiff

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENE OPEN SESSION - The closed session was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

15. Announcement of Closed Session.

Secretary Celaya announced that the SFMTA Board of Directors met in closed session to discuss anticipated litigation with the City Attorney but took no action.

16. Motion to disclose or not disclose the information discussed in closed session.

On motion to not disclose the information discussed: unanimously approved (Brinkman - absent).

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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

Caroline Celaya  
Acting 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](http://sfgov.org/ethics).

If you wish to contact the Board regarding an item that is expected to be on a agenda, please email the Board at [MTABoard@sfmta.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://sfgov.org).