

**Gwyneth Borden**, Chair **Amanda Eaken**, Vice Chair **Steve Heminger**, Director

**Fiona Hinze**, Director **Sharon Lai**, Director **Manny Yekutiel**, Director

Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation

# SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY MULTIMODAL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Held via Video Conference

Dial Toll Free: (888) 475-4499

Zoom Meeting ID: 817 8453 2065

Passcode: 061848

REGULAR MEETING 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1) Call to Order

  Meeting called to order at 1:04 pm
- 2) Attendance See roll call.
- 3) Announcements from Members and City Staff No announcements.
- 4) Acceptance of the Agenda

  Mr. Fischer motioned, and Mr. Glock seconded the approval
  of the agenda. **Motion carried.**
- 5) Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
  Mr. Glock motioned, and Mr. Fischer seconded the approval
  of the July Minutes. **Motion carried.**
- 6) Public Comment



Hillary Brown announced that there will be a rally for Transit Equity at City Hall at 10 am on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

## 7) Business of the Afternoon:

# A) Elevator Attendant Program Diana Hammons from SFMTA Revenue provided a status update on the agreement with BART to provide an Elevator Attendant Program. The program began in 2018 with attendants from Urban Alchemy working at the Civic Center

Attendant Program. The program began in 2018 with attendants from Urban Alchemy working at the Civic Center and Powell elevators and expanded to Montgomery and Embarcadero station elevators in 2019. SFMTA spends \$1 million per year on the program.

The presence of attendants improves elevator availability and reduces calls about cleanliness and maintenance issues. SFMTA and BART plan to make the program permanent by entering into a 5-year contract. The extended contract will need to be approved by the SFMTA board and is being presented at the November 2023 meeting.

Ms. Brown commented that an elevator at Powell Station has been out of service for a long time. Diana Hammons will follow up.



Mr. Kielbus talked about the popularity of elevator attendants in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and about how there seems to be a resurgence of employing attendants.

Mr. Wong noted that he uses the downtown stations and that the attendants make him feel safer.

Ms. Seretan said she appreciates the elevator attendants and feels safer at Civic Center Station when traveling with students. She noted that 80% of attendants are nice and 20% are distracted by their electronic devices. She would like there to be an attendant at 24<sup>th</sup> St. BART Station.

Mr. Fischer said that the feedback he has heard about the elevator attendant program is 95% positive and suggested that it would be good to expand the program to BART-only (16<sup>th</sup> St. and 24<sup>th</sup> St.) and Muni-only stations (Van Ness, Castro, and Forest Hill). He asked how BART staff communicates elevator outages to Muni staff and vice versa.

B) M Oceanview Transit & Safety Project
Project Manager Jessica Kuo presented on the M
Oceanview project, a Muni Forward project providing
improvements between Junipero Serra and Balboa Park
Station. The project will improve travel time, safety, and



accessibility. Challenges on the M line include narrow streets and too many stop signs, which slow travel speed for light rail to about 9 mph. Many stops lack boarding islands or are part of the High Injury Network.

Through extensive community outreach, project staff leaned that there is community concern about safety at transit stops, pedestrian safety, parking loss, lack of accessible stops and stunt driving. which develops an expanded active transportation network, recommendations for parking and facilities, and supportive programs and policies.

Project improvements include stop spacing adjustments, new transit lanes, wider sidewalks and high visibility crosswalks, and treatments to deter stunt driving. The project will also provide landscaping, shelters, and seating at stops.

In Fall 2023 the project will be presented to the SFMTA board. Quick Build improvements will be implemented in Winter 2024, and full construction will launch in 2026.

Mr. Fischer asked for the location of the stop that will be removed. It is at San Jose and Mount Vernon.



Mr. Yan asked how long construction would take and was informed that it would be completed in 2 years.

## 8) Other Business

Mr. Glock mentioned that Annette Williams, recently retired Director of Accessible Services, was honored at the 9.19.23 SFMTA Board and Board of Supervisors meetings for her long career. The Supervisors proclaimed 9.19.23 to be "Annette Williams Day."

Ms. Brown noted that she learned that Annette Williams had started the MAAC committee many years ago.

#### 9) Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm. Motion to adjourn from Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Glock.