



Plan Bay Area  **SPUR ABAG**

Transportation 2030 **Vision Zero**

Complete Streets **SFMTA** Muni Forward: Enhancing Safety and Access

Sustainable Smart Growth

MUNI
BACKWARD

MARCH 2015 REPORT

The SF Supervisors in their role as County SFCTA made a few surprise moves this month, as did the SFMTA Board. There are also bills being written at the state level that we may want to weigh in on.

County - In reviewing transportation funding options, the SFCTA unanimously voted to remove the SF Bicycle Coalition's \$72 K Safety Classes from the budget, citing a lack of data showing who is attending the classes, who are the classes aimed at and what has been the result of the classes in terms of safer riding habits in the cycling community. There was also some discussion about the contract going to the SF Bicycle Coalition. We feel this leaves the door open for others to come forward with suggestions for new safety class programs.

State - In light of the fact that there is some activity at the state level for requiring bikers to be more responsible for their own safety by requiring helmets and night lights or reflectors, some people are interested in pushing a state licensing bill, that would treat bikers more like drivers, requiring licenses, safety insurance and equal enforcement of the rules of the road.

We are looking at state bills that address these issues:

<http://discoveryink.wordpress.com/california-bills/>

City - The Polk Streetscape Plan was passed by the MTA Board, after inclusion of an economic review of the construction impacts on local business on Polk Street, as recommended by the MTA CAC.

We have seen similar suggestions made by the Small Business Commissioners ignored. This time the MTA Board has agreed to take the economic impacts on the community into consideration. We should also commend former Planning Commissioner Borden, who reminded her colleagues that the core priority of the General Plan is the protect and enhance existing businesses. She strongly recommended the study.

Perhaps we should consider writing a letter commending the MTA Board for including an economic evaluation in the Project and, request all future streetscape projects in commercial areas include impact studies. There is no rush to write it. I just think it is a good idea to thank people when they do things we like.

Follow-up on the SF General Hospital Plans

We track the stories here: <http://metermadness.wordpress.com>

SF General Hospital seeks solutions to parking headache

Posted on February 19, 2015

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/sf-general-hospital-seeks-solutions-to-parking-headache/Content?oid=2920484>

Parking crunch crimps growth at SF General

By Jerold Chinn : **SFbay** – excerpt

Parking at San Francisco General Hospital could soon get worse for patients and employees if a plan is not in place to figure out how to solve the parking situation, health officials said. Health officials presented their dilemma to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Policy and Governance Committee last Friday seeking help from SFMTA staff to find solutions... [\(more\)](#)

Some important details:

The Health Commission last Tuesday also passed a resolutions urging health officials to work collaboratively with the SFMTA find transportation and parking solutions for patients to access the hospital.

A report from the Department of Public Health said **if the UCSF Research Building gets approved**, up to 130 parking spaces could be eliminated used by patients. Another 130 parking spaces or so will be eliminated once emergency care services moves. *(It looks like the Research Building has not been approved yet.)*

At least 67 percent of employees from the hospital drive to work or carpool, according to health officials.

Jung said she plans to present to the same presentation full SFMTA Board of Directors at their March 17 meeting.

Grassroots actions and events: <http://discoveryink.wordpress.com>

City Officials: <http://discoveryink.wordpress.com/san-francisco-officials>

SF Department of Public Works:

Cristina C. Olea - <mailto:cristina.c.olea@sfdpw.org>

Try Arla Escondidas - <mailto:arla.escondidas@sfdpw.org>

<http://sfdpw.org/index.aspx?page=1673>

Sustainable Streets:

Julie Kirschbaum: 415-701-4304

Subscribe to email notices :

Find more update options at [Agency News](#), [Muni Alerts](#), [Streetscape and Other Projects](#) & [Muni Forward](#). Thank you for subscribing!

Part of a December 9 letter I sent to the Small Business Commission and the Supervisors and MTA Board.

Re-consider medical center parking plans

The city has plans to build several large medical facilities with no parking, or difficult and expensive parking. Have you never been sick? You are going to be competing with medical facilities all over the world that have much cheaper treatments, cheaper housing and are much more hospitable to sick people and their families. Patients often come with families who want to visit them and they will prefer to go to a place that caters to their needs. Once families get a taste of what you are offering and word gets out, potential patients will possibly choose another option.

This plan does not take out-patient procedures into consideration either. Getting picked up at my downtown dentist after treatment is the most stressful part of that process. Doctors who administer anesthetics are required to have their patients picked up by a friend in a car or cab afterward. How do you expect that will work when SFMTA implements their street-calming plans for Potrero, limiting traffic in and out of General Hospital? Do you really want sick, possibly contagious patients taking the bus to the hospital? Do you expect sick patients going in for difficult treatments to take a bus home afterward? Patients and their families need comfort and support. Not standing room only bus service.

I have said it before and I will say it again, SFMTA is supposed to get us where we need to go not tell us how to get there.

New Report on General Hospital: March 19 followup

I spoke to Hillary at Campos office today.

She gave me this contact at DPH: Colleen Chawla 1-415-554-2769

I left two phone messages and will attempt to email Colleen at using the formula to confirm the meeting Wednesday, March 25th with Health Department and SFMTA subcommittee I assume.

I will also call Malia's office to see what they come up with. Malia got back to me almost immediately when I contacted her earlier, but I haven't heard any detailed information yet.

Here is what I have according to recent media:

<http://sfbay.ca/2015/03/01/parking-crunch-crimps-growth-at-sf-general/>

Kathy Jung, director of facilities and capital planning for the Department of Public Health.... *said she plans to present to the same presentation full SFMTA Board of Directors at their March 17 meeting. This was not on the agenda and did not happen on that date.*

I heard from Cohen at Malia's office. Will gather those notes and add them in later. The DPW and the PUC are replacing pipes and installing street improvements at the same time. He has no information yet on the construction or dates of construction on the hospital, now is he able to confirm any of the meeting dates.

Due to the lack of information, I am beginning to think that there is a major Departmental Power Struggle going on between the SFMTA and Health and Fire Departments, and this may extend to others as well. SFMTA has limitless funds which is bound to anger the other departments at some point.

Editorial statement

The TPP is only one example of corporate giveaways. Government at all levels is handing over rights to private enterprises. SFMTA is taking public parking space away for the public and leasing it to private corporations. In the midst of the California drought, the public water rights are being taken away from private citizens for "public use". The message is "You can't can't water your lawn or wash your car, because your water is going into building stack and pack housing and street trees." Cities are taking down well-established trees to re-arrange the streets and then planting trees new trees in the middle of the street and telling us that this is a better use of water than watering our own lawns because someone the groundwater will be better preserved under their streets than under our yards.

March 17 BOS Meeting:

Item 1. 150027 [Building Code - Temporary Fee Reduction] Sponsor: Mayor Ordinance extending the reduction of all Building Code fees for staff services by 7% until October 31, 2015; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act. Recommendation of the Land Use and Transportation Committee Present: Supervisors Cohen, Wiener, Kim
Item 13. 140954 [Planning Code - Exceptions from Dwelling Unit Density Limits and from Other Specified Code Requirements] Sponsors: Wiener ; Breed Ordinance amending the Planning Code to permit exceptions from dwelling unit density limits and other requirements of the Code when adding Dwelling Units to existing buildings undergoing seismic retrofitting; deleting the requirement that a new In-Law

Unit constructed in and near the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District be limited to 750 square feet; correcting outdated cross-references and Code language; affirming the Planning Department's California Environmental Quality Act determination; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

REGULAR AGENDA NEW BUSINESS

Recommendations of the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee Present: Supervisors Farrell, Tang Item 14.141235 [Business and Tax Regulations Code-Repealing Article 3 Regarding Transient Merchants] Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to repeal Article 3, which contains a license requirement and tax on transient merchants, both of which have been suspended.

Item 26.150155 [General Plan - Repealing Ordinance No. 97-14 - Adoption of 2014 Housing Element] Sponsors: Mayor; Wiener Ordinance amending the San Francisco General Plan by repealing the 2009 Housing Element (Ordinance No. 97-14), and adopting the 2014 Housing Element; and making findings, including environmental findings, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Item 29.150250 [Declaration of Intention to Work With Other Cities to Prevail Upon the Owners of Delinquent Mortgages to Sell to Non-Profits for Restructuring and Foreclosure Prevention] Sponsor: Avalos
Resolution declaring the Board of Supervisors' intent to work with other cities to prevail upon the owners of delinquent mortgages to sell these at-risk loans to qualified non-profits that have the funding and infrastructure to purchase, restructure, and hold the mortgages in order to prevent foreclosures and help keep struggling homeowners in their homes. 03/10/2015 - FAILED.

Item 32.150254 [Successor Agency to the Former Redevelopment Agency - Adoption of the Board of Supervisors' Rules of Order] Sponsor: Breed