



MINUTES
For the
Southern Waterfront Advisory Committee (SWAC)
MEETING MINUTES
for
July 24, 2019

SWAC Members in Attendance: Karen Pierce, Mike Bishop, Michael Hamman

Port & City Staff in Attendance: David Beaupre, Diane Oshima, and Phoenix Alfaro from the Port of San Francisco, Bessie Tam and Beatriz Flores from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

Other Attendees: Scott Klopf, Silverado Contractors - Zaccor

Agenda Items:

- 1. Announcements**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Draft Waterfront Plan**
- 4. Embarcadero Historic District RFP**
- 5. SF Public Utilities Commission Third Street/Cargo Way Sewer Odor Reduction Project Presentation**
- 6. Recreation and Parks Staff Announcement of September Events Hosted by Eco-Center at Heron's Head Park**
- 7. Public Comment Announcements**

Announcements

Karen Pierce, chair of SWAC, starts the meeting by prompting introductions from attendees.

Approval of Minutes

The last set of minutes received numerous comments. David Beaupre sent a Word document to members and requested that prior to the next meeting, make track change edits and he will consolidate the revisions. The members agree to do this task. David concludes by stating he will send a message to the members, along with the May minutes.

Draft Waterfront Plan

Karen, who was a member of the Waterfront Plan Working Group, introduces the Plan. She recaps the process of developing recommendations for the documents, which were incorporated into the policies. Her goal was to ensure the equity considerations and protection of the southern waterfront. She concludes by emphasizing the importance of residence providing input on Port projects, as they are the only ones who know how things work down there. David responds by acknowledging that the last resilience meeting at the Bayview Opera House was not representative of the community, but the community will get more notices in the future. Karen concludes by encouraging tenants and businesses nearby to contribute to these conversations.

Diane Oshima, Deputy Director of Planning and Environment at the Port, begins an overview of the draft Waterfront Plan. She encourages people to fill out the online survey or contact David if they have additional questions. She also requested to let the Port know of other organizations they can outreach to. For more details, follow this link to the presentation.

Comment: Congratulations on getting 300 people on a boat.

Response: The boat ride had family with kids, who were engaging with the seawall maps. A different slice of population, people who we don't normally interact with, came out the event. The Port will try to regularize these events.

Embarcadero Historic District RFP

David begins the presentation by stating the Port Commission asked for more continuity with the advisory groups and encouraged more combined meetings. These meetings would cover projects that dovetail with both groups and allow members to learn about projects outside of their respective geographies. For more details on the Embarcadero Historic District RFP, follow this link to the presentation.

Question: What is on the table for the Southern Waterfront? What is the status on the land swap?

Response: The Port Commission, Board of Supervisors, and State Lands Commission have approved the swap. The City is currently working on the memorandum of understanding. India Basin has received approval and is moving forward now that the land is in the public trust. The Backlands interim improvements are done, and the Port is working with Public Works on the batch plant and crushing operations. They are working with maritime to expand industries and exploring the potential for autos at Pier 96. The Port is also working with the State Lands Commission for flexibility Warehousing is trying to be advanced in the Backlands, but in the near term, the Port is working with the State Lands Commission for flexibility with warehouse construction unless they recognize the value it brings to the Port.

Question: What is the status on the land between Heron's Head Park and the former PG&E plant?

Response: With PG&E's bankruptcy and Chapter 11, there isn't much happening with that piece of land. There is an agreement in place for a land swap so the Port can accommodate an open shoreline, but that will not happen in the immediate future.

Response: It is impossible to complete the Blue Greenway without this piece of land. The swap would allow bikes along waterfront. If it is postponed, it will have a deleterious impact on the community.

Response: The city cannot condemn the land while PG&E is dealing with Chapter 11. The land swap might not be five years off, but it is not six months off. In the meantime, residents can use the bridge and other trail.

Response: This planning highlighted the importance of the Southern Waterfront as an important site for industry. If our piers were to collapse during an earthquake, the city would not be able to rebuild. We are the economic engine for the city. Pier 70 has seen a lot of building development, but it is hard for a shipyard to develop.

Response: The departure of ship repair is not at fault of the Pier 70 development. Seismic evaluation south of Mission Creek will begin in the fall. The Southern Waterfront is a lifeline and primary access for emergency response.

Response: If you lose the Bay Bridge, you cannot get any material. It is key, especially during an earthquake.

Question: Much of the construction industry is congregated in this area and it very critical for rebuilding the city. A major ambulance facility is being built in a seismically unsafe area behind Shoreline Boulevard. How will the ambulance get through if roads collapse?

Response: The Port is only working on the assessment of Port lands.

Response: We urge the Port to coordinate with the city. When you do an analysis of the piers, work with the city to understand how trucks will get to these properties.

Response: The Port did a great job of educating people the Northern Waterfront about how critical the Southern Waterfront is. Someone asked if it was feasible to have industrial activity preserved. After touring the Southern Waterfront, discussions changed. It was clear that maritime activities needed more attention. A lot of people did not know what happens down here, and they cannot be making decisions that affect this area. We need to talk through our understanding of issues, what is valuable, what needs protecting, and create a vision.

Response: If you have time, read the maritime section of the Waterfront Plan and provide feedback.

SF Public Utilities Commission Third Street/Cargo Way Sewer Odor Reduction Project

Bessy Tam from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission provided an overview of their project addressing odor complaints at Cargo and Third. After evaluating sewer infrastructure and its capacity for construction, a combination of open cut and trenchless work will be ensued to divert effluent and mitigate odor in the vicinity. Construction will begin next summer and last 16 months. For more details, follow this link to the presentation.

Response: An open trench would allow us to get buses back, which are more efficient than the T Line.

Question: Which lane will have construction?

Response: The lane heading towards the Eco-Center.

Question: Will construction occupy the whole lane?

Response: It will occupy one lane during traffic.

Question: Do you think it will take 16 months?

Response: It will happen in a sequence. The first block up to Amador will be complete at the end of the summer, and then we will proceed with the rest. It might be completed quicker, but the challenge is inside the sewer box and not disrupting MUNI.

Question: When you have a better handle on this project, can you share with us? When you open the boulevard, will the entire street be repaved or just the portion opened?

Response: The street must be paved from the island to the curb line.

Question: Will the bike lane be disrupted?

Response: Yes, but only where the contractor is working.

Question: Will there be a temporary bike lane?

Response: We can bring up this recommendation to the Public Utilities Commission. The bike lane will be diverted into traffic around the construction site. It will not be shutoff.

Response: You will be diverting cyclists into heavy truck traffic.

Response: We can work with MTA and use Evans Street to divert traffic.

Response: Cargo Way is heavily trafficked at certain times of the day and trucks cannot see. You should try to divert to Evans.

Response: The sidewalk ends, you should try to keep it open.

Question: Where is the sewer?

Response: It is under the second land and connects past Mendel.

Question: Can the treated water be diverted to the batch plant?

Answer: That is not in the scope of the project.

Response: The Port can talk to PUC to get recycled water, but flushed water won't be appropriate. A sleeve can be inserted to accommodate a future opportunity.

Response: Remind the team that residents are asking for grade water access in this part of the city. Stop using drinking water for industrial uses. Things won't be in the scope until you put it in the scope. By the time we hear about these projects, the scope has been identified.

Response: India Basin is 3,000 acres and it would be unfortunate to use Hetch Hetchy water.

Recreation and Parks Staff Announcement

Tracy from the Rec and Parks department provided dates for upcoming events at the EcoCenter.

- Second Saturday: August 10, 2019 10 am – 12 pm
- National Public Lands Day: September 28, 2019 11 am – 3:30 pm

For outreach opportunities, attendees were asked to fill out the EcoCenter sign in sheet.

Question: What is policy for using the EcoCenter for community activities?

Response: We are working on permit system. Contact Elizabeth Coke or book online and place a deposit.

Response: There is a concern about parking for National Public Lands Day. Tenants are being asked to open their properties for parking. This event should be especially inviting to populations that do not normally come out here, such as immigrant families who are living in garages.

Response: The Port will reach out to PG&E about parking and will consider special parking on Cargo Way.

Public Comment Announcements

Karen concludes the meeting by stating she is happy with the way things are going. People are feeling more welcome with the new tenant of the EcoCenter. David concludes by announcing there will be a tentative joint SWAC and CWAG meeting in September and inquires about a neutral place to meet. Pier 70 is not recommended because of acoustics. UCSF is suggested as a potential site. Advisory group members recommend that the two groups have separate meetings at the same time and convene for the joint meeting immediately afterwards.

Meeting Adjourned 7:52