



## REVISED GENERAL PLAN REFERRAL

March 23, 2022

**Case No.:** 2022-001887GPR  
**Block/Lot No.:** Various, Citywide  
**Applicant:** Michelle Beaulieu  
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**Recommended By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daniel A. Sider, AICP  
 for Rich Hillis, Director of Planning

**Recommendation:** Finding the proposed expenditure plan, on balance, is **in conformity** with the General Plan

### Project Description

This General Plan Referral contains revisions to that which was issued on March 17, 2022 and supersedes that document.

The Board of Supervisors proposes to place a measure on the November 2022 ballot to approve an expenditure plan for an existing, local half-cent sales tax. This measure is a reauthorization ordinance to continue this half-cent sales tax, which was first approved by voters in 1989 and reauthorized in 2003 as Proposition K. If approved, the reauthorization ordinance would fund the 2022 Expenditure Plan for 30 years and supersede the existing Proposition K Expenditure Plan. The 2022 Expenditure Plan proposes five categories of investments:

- 1) Major Transit Projects: \$587 Million
- 2) Transit Maintenance and Enhancements: \$1,070 Million
- 3) Paratransit: \$297 Million
- 4) Streets and Freeways: \$492 Million
- 5) Transportation System Development and Management: \$152 Million

Individual projects funded by the 2022 Expenditure Plan may require additional project-level analysis and review (including separate General Plan Referrals) as required by San Francisco Charter §4.105 and § 2A.53 of the Administrative Code, Environmental Review, and/or other discretionary actions by the Planning Department.

## Environmental Review

The proposed 2022 Expenditure Plan is not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because it would not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

## General Plan Compliance and Basis for Recommendation

The proposed 2022 Expenditure Plan to invest in transportation programs and infrastructure is, on balance, in conformity with the General Plan.

### TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

#### OBJECTIVE 1

MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS FOR SAFE, CONVENIENT AND INEXPENSIVE TRAVEL WITHIN SAN FRANCISCO AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND OTHER PARTS OF THE REGION WHILE MAINTAINING THE HIGH QUALITY LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THE BAY AREA.

#### POLICY 1.2

Ensure the safety and comfort of pedestrians throughout the city

#### POLICY 1.3

Give priority to public transit and other alternatives to the private automobile as the means of meeting San Francisco's transportation needs, particularly those of commuters

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would provide funds for transit and pedestrian improvements, including infrastructure for street crossings and intersection improvements. These improvements would enhance safety and comfort for pedestrians and people with disabilities. Additionally, using the funds for transit system improvements is consistent with San Francisco's Transit First Policy, which prioritizes transit over automobiles.*

#### OBJECTIVE 11

ESTABLISH PUBLIC TRANSIT AS THE PRIMARY MODE OF TRANSPORTATION IN SAN FRANCISCO AND AS A MEANS THROUGH WHICH TO GUIDE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVE REGIONAL MOBILITY AND AIR QUALITY

#### POLICY 11.2

Continue to favor investment in transit infrastructure and services over investment in highway development and other facilities to accommodate the automobile

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would provide funding for transit infrastructure, which should be prioritized over automobiles and parking.*

**OBJECTIVE 20**

**GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO IMPROVING TRANSIT SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE CITY, PROVIDING A CONVENIENT AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM AS A PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE TO AUTOMOBILE USE**

**POLICY 20.9**

Improve inter-district and intra-district transit service

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would provide funds for improving transit service and on-street infrastructure, which would facilitate faster, more reliable transit service between and within districts.*

**OBJECTIVE 21**

**DEVELOP TRANSIT AS THE PRIMARY MODE OF TRAVEL TO AND FROM DOWNTOWN AND ALL MAJOR ACTIVITY CENTERS WITHIN THE REGION**

**POLICY 21.11**

Ensure the maintenance and efficient operation of the fleet of transit vehicles

**POLICY 21.2**

Where a high level of transit ridership or potential ridership exists along a corridor, existing transit service or technology should be upgraded to attract and accommodate riders.

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would provide funds for enhancing transit service and connecting residents to destinations across the City such as jobs and services. It would also provide funds for maintaining SFMTA's transit fleet, which would help to ensure that transit operations run smoothly.*

**Planning Code Section 101 Findings**

Planning Code Section 101.1 establishes Eight Priority Policies and requires review of discretionary approvals and permits for consistency with said policies. The proposed Expenditure Plan is consistent with the Eight Priority Policies as set forth in Planning Code Section 101.1 for the following reasons:

1. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses enhanced;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not affect neighborhood-serving retail uses or opportunities for employment in or ownership of such businesses.*

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have a negative effect on housing or neighborhood character.*

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have an adverse effect on the City's supply of affordable housing.*

4. That commuter traffic not impede Muni transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would improve Muni transit service. It would not overburden the streets or neighborhood parking.*

5. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have an adverse effect on the City's industrial or service sectors nor on opportunities for resident employment and ownership.*

6. That the City achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have an adverse effect on City's preparedness against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.*

7. That the landmarks and historic buildings be preserved;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have an adverse effect on the City's Landmarks and historic buildings. Projects funded by the 2022 Expenditure Plan will be evaluated individually for any impacts to historic buildings.*

8. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development;

*The 2022 Expenditure Plan would not have an adverse effect on the City's parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas.*

**Recommendation: The project, on balance, is in conformity with the General Plan**