

San Francisco Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee



2013 Annual Report



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Committee Members

SEAT	NAME	CATEGORY
1	Howard Bloomberg	Pedestrian Safety Organizations
2	Pi Ra	Pedestrian Safety Organizations
3	Becky Hogue	Senior or Disability Organizations
4	John Alex Lowell (VICE CHAIR)	Senior or Disability Organizations
5	Morgan Fitzgibbons	Bicycle or Non-motorized Organizations
6	Howard Strassner (SECRETARY)	Transit or Environmental Organizations
7	Robin Brasso	Child Advocate
8	<i>Vacant</i>	Public Health Organization
9	Sonja Kos	At Large
10	Zack Marks (CHAIRMAN)	At Large
11	Kevin Clark	BOS District 1
12	<i>Vacant</i>	BOS District 2
13	Christina Tang	BOS District 3
14	<i>Vacant</i>	BOS District 4
15	Alex Reese	BOS District 5
16	<i>Vacant</i>	BOS District 6
17	Christopher Coghlan	BOS District 7
18	R. Gary McCoy	BOS District 8
19	Devin Silvernail	BOS District 9
20	Thomas Rogers	BOS District 10
21	<i>Vacant</i>	BOS District 11
22	Jon Winston	<i>Parent Appointed by the Superintendent of Schools</i>
23	Anyan Cheng	<i>Student Appointed by Superintendent of Schools</i>



Acknowledgements

The Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee would like to thank numerous individuals for sharing their time and for their participation at our meetings over the past year.

Matt Brill, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Darcie Lim, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Luis Montoya, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Neal Patel, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Mari Hunter, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
Miriam Sorrell, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

Sergeant Patrick Tobin, San Francisco Police Department
Sergeant Eric Mahoney, San Francisco Police Department
Captain Denise Flaherty, San Francisco Police Department
Inspector Clifford Cook, San Francisco Police Department

Ben Stupka, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Chester Fung, San Francisco County Transportation Authority

Monique Zmuda, Controller's Office
Chava Kronenberg, Controller's Office

Elizabeth Stampe, Walk San Francisco
Denise Schneider, Walk San Francisco
Natalie Burdick, Walk San Francisco

Matt Chamberlain, Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association

Charles Sheehan, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Rebecca Prozan, San Francisco District Attorney's Office

Megan Wier, Department of Public Health

Sean Nozzari, Caltrans

The committee understands its role as an advisory committee composed of engaged San Francisco citizens. As such, we appreciate the efforts of the various city agencies in striving to improve pedestrian safety in our City.

Introduction

Creation of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

In 2003, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declared that it was in the public interest to officially recognize walking as an important component of our transportation system, and as a key component to creating livable and suitable communities.

As such, they established the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) by ordinance to be composed of concerned and informed residents charged with providing expertise on issues concerning pedestrian safety, convenience, ambiance, and planning.

Composition of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

According to the ordinance, the PSAC shall consist of twenty-three members: two from pedestrian safety organizations, two from senior or disability organizations, one from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal transport organizations, one from transit or environmental organizations, one from child advocate or school support organizations, one from a public health organization, two at-large members, and one who lives or works in each of the 11 City districts. The district seats shall be Supervisor-appointed. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee shall make appointment recommendations for the remainder, subject to review and action of the full Board.

Mission and Goals of the Report

The mission of the PSAC is to advocate for pedestrian safety by engaging in the following: 1) serving as the liaison between the public, the Board of Supervisors, and agencies working on pedestrian-related projects, 2) making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and to other relevant agencies about projects or policies that directly or indirectly affect pedestrian safety, 3) maintaining the public's safety as the top priority, and 4) recommending ways to improve the ambient environment and convenience in order to encourage pedestrianism as a healthful transportation activity.



Web Resources

SFMTA PSAC page (official agendas, minutes, reports)

<http://www.sfmta.com/about-sfmta/organization/committees/pedestrian-safety-advisory-committee-psac>

Committee-maintained PSAC page (meeting materials, related information)

<http://www.sfpsac.com>

PSAC Facebook page (relevant news articles, meeting reminders)

<https://www.facebook.com/SFPSAC>

From the Chair

On behalf of the members of the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee, I would like to thank you for your time in reading our report. On an average day in San Francisco, drivers injure three pedestrians. With 21 pedestrians killed in San Francisco last year, the facts are alarming, devastating, and demand action by our city. The status quo is deadly, and simply unacceptable. A pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash in the United States every two hours, and a pedestrian is injured every eight minutes.

Serving as the official public representative to the Board of Supervisors, PSAC is composed of concerned citizens that approach pedestrian safety from a wide variety of perspectives. We are comprised of parents, students, seniors, advocates, victims, people with disabilities, city employees, a city planner, a Muni driver, and bicyclists.

During the year of 2013, our Committee has made great strides and has been proactive and productive with a sense of renewed enthusiasm. We would like to briefly review 13 accomplishments that PSAC has made during 2013.

- 1) We have had 55 guest speakers averaging five presenters at each meeting.
- 2) We have a new website and new app for smartphones.
- 3) We have numerous new members now totaling 20 people serving on our Committee.
- 4) We have a new legislative chamber here in room 400.
- 5) We have sent out seven formal letters advising the Board of Supervisors and provided a quarterly update and annual report.
- 6) We issued two commendations honoring Sgt. Tobin and Ms. Elizabeth Stampe.
- 7) We helped convince the Mayor's Pedestrian Safety Task Force to reconvene.
- 8) We persuaded the SFPD to post traffic citation statistics on their website monthly.

9) We increased public awareness and interest in our Committee by having a PSAC booth at events like Sunday Streets.

10) We have been given the important responsibility of leading the promotion and accountability of implementation efforts of the Mayor's Pedestrian Safety Strategy.

11) We have started holding two meetings per month.

12) We have established a new Education Subcommittee.

13) We have been well represented at important meetings including the Mayor's Transportation 2030 Task Force and the SFCTA Transportation Plan Committee.

Our promise is to continue speaking for the victims with unrelenting resolve to effect meaningful change. It has been and continues to be our privilege to represent the great citizens of San Francisco.

Meeting Summaries

February

- Daniel Lawson – University of San Francisco – Department of Public Safety
- Mari Hunter – SFMTA – Mayor's Pedestrian Strategy
- Captain Denise Flaherty – SFPD
- Approved Letter to Mayor Ed Lee
- Formed an Education Subcommittee
- Miriam Sorrell – SFMTA – Traffic Calming Program
- Charles Sheehan – SFPUC – Wireless Streetlight Project
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update
- New PSAC Website and Social Media Presence

March

- Captain Denise Flaherty – SFPD
- SFMTA Traffic Calming Program Revisions
- Annie Chou – Field Representative – Senator Leland Yee's Office
 - o Double Fine Zones on 19th Ave. and Van Ness Ave.
- Tour of the University of San Francisco Neighborhood
- Liz Miles – University of San Francisco – Master Plan Manager
- Marin McIntyre – USF / UTA Traffic Calming
- Anne-Marie Pierce – University Terrace Neighborhood Association President
- Ben Stupka – SFCTA - One Bay Area Grant Presentation
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update

April

- Captain Denise Flaherty – SFPD
- Andres Power – Supervisor Scott Wiener’s Proposed Legislation to Streamline Safety
- Sean Nozzari – Caltrans – Sloat Blvd.
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update

May

- Alex Randolph and Eric Andersen – Rec and Parks
- Chris Coghlan – Monterey Blvd. and Circular
- Approved Letter Supporting Supervisor Wiener’s Legislation
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update

June

- Captain Denise Flaherty – SFPD Update
- Approved Honorable Commendation for SFPD Sgt. Tobin
- Cecilia Tran – Field Representative – Assembly Member Tom Ammiano
 - o AB 840 and AB 1194
- Jon Winston – Friends of Monterey Blvd. - Sloat Blvd.
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update

July

- Sgt. Eric Mahoney – SFPD
- Rebecca Prozan – District Attorney’s Office
- Jill Cooper – UC Berkeley – Safe Transportation Research and Education Center
- Ben Stupka – SFCTA – One Bay Area Grant Update
- Approved Letter to Supervisor Chiu about the Mayor’s Office

August

- Sgt. Eric Mahoney – SFPD Update – Case # 130159581
- Mari Hunter – SFMTA – Mayor’s Pedestrian Strategy Update
- Chava Kronenberg – Office of the Controller – City Performance and Walk First
- Matt Chamberlain – Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association
- Discussion on Daylighting and Bulb Outs
- Darcie Lim – SFMTA Update

September

- Sgt. Eric Mahoney – SFPD Update
- Megan Wier – Department of Public Health
- Morgan Fitzgibbons – Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Matt Chamberlain – Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association
 - o Approved Letter Supporting Neighborhood Traffic Calming Application
- Jon Winston – Friends of Monterey Blvd.
- Christina Tang – Kearny and Jackson
- Neal Patel – SFMTA Update

October

- Ryan Greene-Roesel – SFCTA – Senior Transportation Planner
 - o San Francisco Transportation Plan and Early Action Program
- Sgt. Eric Mahoney – SFPD Update
- Monique Porsandeh – Hit-and-Run Victim
- Inspector Clifford Cook – SFPD (Case #130159581)
- Carla Johnson – Mayor’s Office on Disability –
 - o Better Market Street Project, DPW’s Complaint Process and Refuge Zones
- Neal Patel – SFMTA Update

November

- Sgt. Eric Mahoney – SFPD Update
- Rebecca Prozan – District Attorney’s Office
 - o Updates on Cases Involving Tania Madfes and Becky Lee
- Phil Ginsburg (Mr. Kerns) – Rec and Parks Department
 - o Fatality of Christine Svanemyr at Holly Park
- Chester Fung – SFCTA – BRT Projects
- Monique Zmuda – Deputy Controller – Controller’s Office
 - o Mayor’s transportation Task Force Draft
- Approved Letter in Support of Lowering Speed Limit on Monterey Blvd.
- Neal Patel - SFMTA Update

December

- Mr. Jason Henderson – Professor and Author - SF State
- Neal Patel - SFMTA Update

2013 PSAC Annual Report Recommendations

- **Provide funding for the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee.** The Administrative Code states that the SFMTA is requested to provide staff and funding resources to PSAC. However, we requested a modest amount of funding from the SFMTA on two occasions (only \$300) and were denied.
- **Provide funding for the Mayor's Pedestrian Safety Strategy independent of the Mayor's Transportation Task Force 2030 funding recommendations.** Even if the proposed ballot measures are passed, only 51% of the Pedestrian Safety Strategy would be funded.
- **Require the SFPD to distribute pedestrian injury collision information as part of their daily crime summaries released to the press.** The SFPD continues to refuse to include pedestrian collision information in their police daily crime summaries because they claim it would be too difficult or too much work. Pedestrian collisions are not accidents and deserve to be treated as such.
- **Request that SFMTA always involve PSAC towards the beginning of projects that involve pedestrians.** As a means to ensure that pedestrian related projects can be vetted early in the process and to avoid last minute modifications or “surprises”, the SFMTA should involve all potential stakeholders early in the process.
- **Embrace *Vision Zero* and direct the SF Municipal Transportation Agency to create a Strategic Street Action Team** to deliver at least two dozen on-the-ground improvements within the next two years at high-injury locations, particularly in SoMa and the Tenderloin, by day-lighting intersections and adding safer crossings for pedestrian safety and adding protected bikeways for the growing number of people bicycling.
- **Require the SF Police Department to prioritize their Focus on Five policy** to target enforcement on the most dangerous locations and behaviors on the streets, particularly driving at unsafe speeds and failure to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk; to properly cite and investigate traffic crimes; and to ensure all police officers receive ongoing training in pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- **Commit funding to and implement a robust frequent driver education program** for the growing number of commercial drivers, including those working for City agencies, rideshare companies such as Uber and Lyft, employer shuttles, and all companies doing business in and with the City of San Francisco.
- **Lower the Speed Limit on Monterey Blvd. to 25 miles per hour.**