File No.	241195	Committee Item No	Committee Item No.	
		Board Item No. 28		

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Board of Sup	pervisors Meeting	Date: <u>January 28, 2025</u>
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Prepared by:	Jocelyn Wong	Date: January 24, 2025
Prepared by:		Date:

1	[Preparation of Findings to Reverse the Statutory Exemption Determination - Proposed MTA Mid-Valencia Curbside Protected Bikeway Project]
2	
3	Motion directing the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings reversing the determination
4	by the Planning Department that the proposed Mid-Valencia Curbside Protected
5	Bikeway project is statutorily exempt from environmental review.
6	
7	WHEREAS, On September 30, 2024, the Planning Department determined that the
8	proposed Mid-Valencia Curbside Protected Bikeway Project (the Project) is statutorily exempt
9	from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA, Section 21080.25
10	(CEQA determination); and
11	WHEREAS, The project site consists of an eight-block section of Valencia Street (from
12	15th Street to 23rd Street) located in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco; and
13	WHEREAS, Between 15th Street and 23rd Street, Valencia Street is a
14	north-south, two-way street with one travel lane in each direction; a two-way, center-running
15	bikeway runs along this corridor with two- to six-foot buffers between the bikeway and travel
16	lanes; and
17	WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA or Project
18	Sponsor) proposes to remove the existing two-way, center-running bikeway on Valencia
19	Street and install curbside protected Class IV bikes lanes from 15th Street to 23rd Street; and
20	WHEREAS, The proposed bike lanes would be located directly adjacent to the curb or
21	weave around curbside parklets, and buffer zones would be placed between the proposed
22	bike lanes and parking and loading spaces to provide space for people to get in and out of
23	vehicles and provide more distance between people biking and parked vehicles; and
24	WHEREAS, On cross streets intersecting the project corridor, the proposed project
25	would modify the color curb designation of existing loading spaces (e.g., from passenger

1	loading to commercial loading) and would convert some parking spaces into bikeshare
2	stations. Implementation of the proposed project would result in changes to the location and
3	an overall decrease in the number of parking and loading spaces in the project corridor; and
4	changes to the location of parklets, on-street bike share stations, and bicycle corrals (on-
5	street bicycle parking) throughout the project corridor; and
6	WHEREAS, CEQA exempts from environmental review "pedestrian and bicycle
7	facilities that improve safety, access, or mobility, including new facilities, within the public
8	right-of-way" (CEQA, Section 21080.25(b)(1)), and that meet other specified requirements;
9	and
10	WHEREAS, The Planning Department determined that the Project is exempt under
11	Section 21080.25, because it proposes to implement bicycle facilities that improve safety,
12	access, or mobility, and it meets the criteria for applicability of the statutory exemption; and
13	WHEREAS, On May 30, 2024, the SFMTA filed an application with the Planning
14	Department for the purpose of obtaining a CEQA determination for the Project; and
15	WHEREAS, On November 4, 2024, the Planning Department determined that the
16	Project was statutorily exempt under CEQA under Section 21080.25 and issued a statutory
17	exemption for the Project; and
18	WHEREAS, On November 19, 2024, the SFMTA Board of Directors approved the
19	Project; and
20	WHEREAS, On December 4, 2024, Julio Ramos of the Law Office of Julio J. Ramos
21	on behalf of VAMANOS (hereinafter Appellant), filed an appeal of the statutory exemption
22	determination; and
23	WHEREAS, By memorandum to the Clerk of the Board dated December 9, 2024, the
24	Planning Department's Environmental Review Officer determined that the appeal was timely

filed; and

25

1	WHEREAS, On January 28, 2025, this Board held a duly noticed public hearing to
2	consider the appeal filed by Appellant; and
3	WHEREAS, In reviewing the appeal, this Board reviewed and considered the CEQA
4	determination, the appeal letter, the responses to the appeal documents that the Planning
5	Department and the Project Sponsor prepared, the other written records before the Board of
6	Supervisors and all of the public testimony made in support of and opposed to the appeal; and
7	WHEREAS, Following the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors
8	conditionally reversed the statutory exemption determination, subject to the adoption of written
9	findings of the Board in support of such determination based on the written record before the
10	Board of Supervisors as well as all of the testimony at the public hearing in support of and
11	opposed to the appeal; and
12	WHEREAS, The written record and oral testimony in support of and opposed to the
13	appeal and the oral and written testimony at the public hearing before the Board of
14	Supervisors by all parties and the public in support of and opposed to the appeal, including
15	the deliberations by the members of the Board, is in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File
16	No. 241192, and is incorporated in this motion as though set forth in its entirety; now,
17	therefore, be it
18	MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to prepare the
19	findings specifying the basis for its decision on the appeal.
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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquiries"
5. City Attorney Request
6. Call File No. from Committee.
7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
8. Substitute Legislation File No.
9. Reactivate File No.
The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):
☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission ☐ Human Resources Department
General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53
□ Yes □ No
(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)
Sponsor(s):
Clerk of the Board
Subject:
Preparation of Findings to Reverse the Statutory Exemption Determination - Proposed MTA Mid-Valencia Curbside Protected Bikeway Project
Long Title or text listed:
Motion directing the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings reversing the determination by the Planning Department that proposed Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) Mid-Valencia Curbside Protected Bikeway project is statutorily exempt from environmental review.
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: