

**UCSF Real Estate** 

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SFMTA Board 1 South Van Ness San Francisco, CA 94103-6701

Via email to: MTABoard@SFMTA.com

## RE: Comments on 2022 Muni Service Network Planning

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) has reviewed the options outlined in SFMTA's 2022 Muni Service Network Planning and has the following comments.

UCSF supports sustainable travel modes and understands the importance of frequent and reliable transit service in San Francisco. We support SFMTA's continued efforts to increase and restore Muni service to pre-pandemic levels, and in particular restoring service on the 6 Parnassus to provide increased frequency and direct service downtown via Market Street to access regional transit.

Driven by its commitment to patient care and education, UCSF has a role to advocate and ensure that its patients, visitors, patient care workers, staff and students have reliable and frequent access to public transportation to our campus sites. UCSF is one of 10 campuses in the University of California system and is the only UC campus devoted exclusively to health sciences. UCSF is San Francisco's second largest employer (22,800 staff and 3,400 faculty), with Medical Centers located at Parnassus Heights, Mission Bay and Mount Zion. In addition, through an affiliation agreement with the City, UCSF faculty and physicians provide all of the medical care at Zuckerberg San Francisco General. Having frequent and reliable transit to UCSF Medical Centers and facilities is critical to our mission.

A large percentage of UCSF's population relies on public transportation within the City of San Francisco and from regional transit providers to access jobs, education and health care. UCSF has a robust Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program. Based on our 2019 Annual Commute Survey, only 24% of our population commutes by single-occupancy vehicle, while 35% of our population commutes via transit. Based on our 2018 Patient/Visitor survey, about 15% of our patients and patient visitors arrive to campus via transit.

UCSF's 2014 Long Range Development Plan provides the basis for physical planning across all UCSF campus sites. In 2020, UCSF completed a reenvisioning process for its Parnassus Heights campus and developed the Comprehensive Parnassus Heights Plan (CPHP) with input from a robust community engagement process. The CPHP provides the basis for development at the Parnassus Heights campus over the next 30 years and projects that the Parnassus Heights campus will grow by 2 million gross square feet by 2050, including a new 336-bed hospital which will open in 2030. This growth will increase the overall campus population at Parnassus Heights and is projected to increase demand on public transit.

UCSF is committed to growing responsibly and to promoting neighborhood mobility. As part of that commitment, and in connection with the implementation



of the CPHP, UCSF and the City entered into an MOU in January 2021, in which the City committed to targeted transit improvements and expansions of frequency and reliability of SFMTA service lines and stops serving the UCSF campus community, and UCSF committed to mobility improvements and transportation contributions that would help support SFMTA's effort.

While the 2022 Muni Service Network options evaluate changes to several Muni lines that provide service to UCSF's campus sites, we would like to focus our comments on the 6 Parnassus. SFMTA suspended service on the 6 Parnassus during the pandemic. Recently, service on the 66 Quintara resumed and was extended to serve a portion of the former 6 Parnassus route along Parnassus Avenue and the upper Haight.

UCSF supports restoring service on the 6 Parnassus to provide increased frequency and direct service downtown via Market Street to regional transit such as BART, SamTrans, the Ferry, and AC Transit. While the majority of UCSF's transit riders at Parnassus Heights use the N Judah, based on pre-pandemic data provided by SFMTA, there were an average of 180 on-and-off boardings at the three stops along UCSF's frontage on Parnassus Avenue during the AM and PM peak periods. Relying solely on the N Judah or requiring multiple transfers from downtown and other regional transit providers would limit and/or reduce transit access for our patients, patient visitors, patient care workers, students and employees. The UCSF Helen Diller Medical Center at Parnassus Heights operates 24/7. Many of our essential workers, patient care workers and students do not arrive or leave campus during traditional peak commute hours so having frequent, reliable and complimentary service is important. A good portion of our patients are accompanied by companions or caregivers, and requiring multiple transfers is not convenient for those with mobility constraints.

UCSF will continue to coordinate with SFMTA and other local and regional agencies to advance San Francisco's Transit First policy, and will continue to implement our comprehensive TDM programs to ensure we minimize congestion and provide viable transportation alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.

UCSF understands the importance and need to evaluate the Muni Service Network. We look forward to our continued partnership with SFMTA to ensure UCSF campus sites are well-served by frequent and reliable transit for our patients, patient visitors, essential workers, students and employees.

Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Tammy Chan at tammy.chan@ucsf.edu

Sincerely,

- DocuSigned by:

Kevin Beauchamp

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