

Agenda Item No. 1.c.  
For: December 11, 2009

## **FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)**

***Agenda for Monday, November 9, 2009***

**Convene at 12:00 p.m. – Adjourn by 1:15 p.m.  
Bayside Rooms 3 and 4  
Pier One, Port of San Francisco**



Approval of Summary of Meeting of October 19, 2009

### **1. Operational Issues**

- Ridership Report on Bay Bridge Closure Service Additions
- Update on *M.V. Mendocino* Engines

### **2. Other Items/Future Agenda Items**

- Discussion of Sausalito Ferry 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Potential Celebration
- Concession RFP Criteria Discussion

### **3. Member/Visitor Comments**

### **4. Committee Business**

- Vote on New Members
- Membership Guidelines
- 2010 Meeting Schedule

### **5. Next Meeting: January 11, 2010 (FPAC does not meet in December)**

- Survey of members to determine if a quorum will be present

Attachments: 1. Summary from meeting of October 19, 2009  
2. Ferry Route Performance Reports for September 2009  
All Routes  
Larkspur Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal  
Larkspur Ferry Terminal-AT&T Park  
Sausalito Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal

# FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)



## *Notes of Meeting of Monday, October 19, 2009*

### **Bayside Rooms 3 and 4 Pier One, Port of San Francisco**

FPAC Members Present: Chas Blackford, Ken Eichstaedt, Robert Karfiol, Richard Smith, Dwight Steeves, Karen Taylor

Staff Present: Jim Swindler, Deputy General Manager, Ferry Division; Josh Widmann, Associate Planner

Guests: Wayne Baker, Prospective FPAC Member; Ken Kramarz, Prospective FPAC Member, Bill Peterson, Prospective FPAC Member

Approval of Summary of Meeting of September 14, 2009. The minutes were approved as written.

#### **1. Operational Issues**

Report of Larkspur A.M. Peak Passengers Left Behind. Josh Widmann reported that on September 29 the 7:50 a.m. Larkspur trip sold out, leaving 17 patrons behind. Jim Swindler said he noticed an increase in use of the parking lot. Karen Taylor asked if Doyle Drive construction would cause additional overloads, and Mr. Swindler explained that ferry service may be added to alleviate auto congestion. Ken Eichstaedt asked if the District was considering ferry shuttle service and was informed of a recent unsuccessful effort to apply for Air District grant money. Ken Kramarz was interested in knowing whether commuters or casual riders were causing recent overloads. Mr. Widmann said he could provide data that indicates TransLink use per ferry trip to estimate how many riders might be commuters.

M.V. Del Norte Repower Project. Mr. Widmann reported that \$2.3 million for initial work was awarded by the District Board of Directors on September 24 to Ice Floe (dba Nichols Brothers Boat Builders). Mr. Swindler said the vessel left three weeks ago for their Seattle yard and will return in six months. The scope of the project covers new engines, refurbished reduction gears, and new water jets. The vessel will be faster and significantly more powerful. Mr. Swindler said \$450,000 has already been spent on the engineering package.

Mr. Karfiol asked the total cost of the *M.V. Del Norte* project and Mr. Swindler reported \$5.8 million. He indicated the funds would be provided by state Air Resources Board Carl Moyer funds and Federal Transit Administration grants.

Mr. Swindler also took a moment to explain the recent *M.V. Mendocino* problem, which was located in the port aft engine cylinder. The problem is likely due to a material defect during manufacture, and all defective parts have been replaced. The other three engines are scheduled for weekend maintenance. Robert Karfiol asked where the boat was when the power went out and was told it was at the dock.

Code of Conduct Update. Mr. Widmann reported that, due to enforcement language revisions, presentation to the Board of the Code of Conduct was delayed until the November Rules Committee meeting. FPAC members requested an email copy of the draft so that new members could become familiar with the document.

Report of *M.V. Napa* and *M.V. Chinook* Refurbishment/Repower Project. Mr. Swindler reported that the *M.V. Chinook* remains in Seattle in case the bid is awarded to a contractor in that region. The project goes out to bid by December and award to a contractor is anticipated in January. The Ferry Division anticipates that improvements to the *M.V. Chinook* will take six months. In response to Chas Blackford's question about a replacement name under consideration for the *M.V. Chinook*, Mr. Swindler reported that *M.V. Golden Gate* was an option, but Board members are also considering *M.V. Sonoma* if the current *Sonoma* is taken out of service. Wayne Baker asked what would be upgraded on the *M.V. Chinook*. Mr. Swindler responded that the vessel would appear to be brand new after refurbishment, complete with new seating, new paint, a new interior, and a two-gangway loading configuration. Mr. Eichstaedt suggested that wing walls would protect bicycles against water. Mr. Swindler noted the *M.V. Napa* is scheduled for refurbishment in 2010 but might be delayed if it is needed for service during Doyle Drive closures.

Status Report on New Gangways and Pier Engineering Effort. Mr. Swindler informed the committee all three terminals and all vessels will be upgraded to accommodate main deck loading, which will eliminate hydraulic equipment. The contract has been awarded to Moffatt and Nichol. The first phase will replace the Sausalito float and create a second loading ramp for bicyclists. The project also calls for adding a maintenance slip in Larkspur. Mr. Swindler said Moffatt and Nichol will make a presentation to FPAC in the upcoming months. The feasibility and design stages occur first. The project is mostly funded by the FTA and, by the end of the 3-to-5 year construction period, the total project cost is estimated to be \$30 to \$40 million. Mr. Swindler mentioned that MTC-funded ferry electronic fare collection will also be coming in the near future, which will operate using TransLink readers and disposable Smart Cards.

## **2. Other Items/Future Agenda Items**

Toll Plaza Construction Update. Mr. Widmann reported upcoming Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza area closures from Saturday, October 24, at 6 pm to Monday, October 26, at 2 pm. The northbound U.S. Highway 101 curb lane at the Toll Plaza will be closed. The 101 northbound on/off ramps at the southeast side visitor area parking lot will also be closed.

Discussion of Sausalito Ferry 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Potential Celebration. Mr. Widmann reported that discussion of the potential Sausalito Ferry 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration will have to be postponed until November due to the absence of Colman Mullen. August 2010 marks the anniversary, and the District Public Affairs Director would be interested to hear any FPAC-generated ideas.

Input on Transit Guide Redesign. The quarterly Golden Gate Bus & Ferry Transit Guide was passed around and the committee was asked for input on the possibility of scaling back the front matter. Ms. Taylor asked if those who use the bus rely upon the printed guide more than on the online location. Further discussion noted that many bus riders probably do not ride multiple unfamiliar lines and questioned how many guides are printed and how often

those who are new to the system pick up a Transit Guide. Had the passenger survey addressed any transit guide design issues?

Concession RFP Criteria Discussion. Mr. Swindler briefed the committee on the Request for Proposals for Concession Services onboard District Ferries. He explained that Ferry doesn't have staff to regularly monitor concession quality and would like to restructure the contract to include such a responsibility. He expected a low number of bids for a new concession vendor, in part because of the requirements for contracting with a public agency.

Modification of Muni Fare Agreement. Mr. Widmann reported that an MTA-directed transfer agreement modification between Muni and Golden Gate Transit will take effect in 2010. A 25-cent discount off Muni rides each way will replace the existing Muni-Ferry coupon pair. This discount will only work for TransLink users. Bus riders will get this Muni credit as well. At November Board meetings, a 50-cent discount applied from Muni to GGT will be considered. Ms. Taylor thought the District should not be obligated to take a financial hit themselves, especially considering the current fiscal situation. She warned that such a move could set expectations for future discounts that increase when Muni fares increase.

Special Thanks to Karen Taylor for Red and White Fleet PUC Hearing Contributions. Karen Taylor was acknowledged for speaking out at the PUC Hearing in opposition to Red and White Fleet ferry service in Sausalito. Mr. Widmann noted that Colman Mullen submitted a letter in opposition to Red and White's proposal.

**3. Member/Visitor Comments.** Nothing to report.

**4. Committee Business**

New Member Recruitment. Due to the overwhelming response from prospective members, new member outreach efforts will be halted. One prospective member, Bill Peterson, was approved as a member of FPAC. The committee was informed the minimum membership is eight and now there are nine members. A quorum requires five members in attendance.

Membership Guidelines. The guideline revision discussion will be tabled until November.

**5. Next Meeting: November 9, 2009**