

FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday, April 3, 2025



FPAC Members Present: Chuck Hornbrook, Nathan Lozier, Erik Selvig, Christopher Snell, Michael Stryker

Staff Present: Chris Bearden, Director of Ferry Operations; Joshua Cosgrove, Ferry Maritime Program Manager; John Gray, Director of Engineering and Maintenance, Ferry Division; Collette Martinez, Manager, Ferry Operations; Josh Widmann, Associate Planner

A. Call to Order. Chair Chuck Hornbrook called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.

B. Roll Call. A roll call was taken and a quorum was recognized at 12:35 p.m.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2025. Michael Stryker moved to approve the Minutes, followed by a second from Chuck Hornbrook. The minutes were approved unanimously.

D. New Updates

1. Shipyard Activity Presentation. John Gray shared a presentation on vessels and docking facilities. The M.S. *Sonoma* is wrapping up soon with underwater sea trial testing on Monday. The M.V. *Napa* will be going out for service in July followed by the M.V. *Golden Gate*. The M.S. *Marin* is scheduled to go out in February 2026. The outer San Francisco berth ramp was removed on March 24 for repairs. The floating mooring equipment will be pulled out, as well. These components will be back in service sometime in 2026. Once taken down, the Larkspur Berth 1 gangways will be rebuilt with a six-week timeline to repair the telescoping ramp roller wear and tear. John Gray then discussed the new-build vessel, *Liwa*, which will have the only approved engine of its kind in California. The construction contract will be awarded later in the year.

2. Operational Issues

a. Ridership Updates. Josh Widmann skipped the reporting of ridership statistics; however, the monthly reports were available for review. Christopher Snell and Chuck Hornbrook asked questions regarding cancelations and farebox recovery. They were informed that on some occasions the Ferry Division requires Coast Guard or other agency approval before they can resume service, and there is little advance notice, thus backup buses are provided until no longer needed. Farebox recovery varies from month to month, resulting from one-time costs landing on certain months and sometimes as a result of a three pay-period month. Chris Bearden reported weekend ridership has increased, due to the use of the fast ferries.

b. Service Updates. This item was skipped due to time constraints.

3. Updates and Other Items

- a. Vessel Updates. This item was discussed above in John Gray's presentation.
- b. Terminal Updates. This item was discussed above in John Gray's presentation.
- c. Return-to-Office Timeline Discussion. It was noted that while some workers are required to commute to work more frequently, those in managerial positions are still commuting less frequently. No other return-to-work updates were shared with the group.

E. Committee Business

1. FPAC Initiatives

- a. Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion Study. The environmental analysis continues. Currently, the consultant is gathering data on bicycle parking occupancy. The study continues, and the Draft Environmental Impact Report will be released to the public later in 2025.
- b. Sonoma-Marin Bike Share. Josh Widmann informed FPAC that a day pass is now available for purchase using the Redwood BikeShare app. First Quarter 2025 ridership will be available April 10.

2. Membership Recruitment

No prospective members were in attendance.

F. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

- G. Adjournment.** The committee agreed to reconvene on Thursday, June 5, 2025, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Port of San Francisco.