

FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)

Minutes of Meeting of Monday, June 5, 2023



FPAC Members Present: Chuck Hornbrook, Jordan Jaffe, Maryline Lewett, Michael Stryker

Guests Present: Bert Hill, GGBHTD Board of Directors; Carlin Long, prospective member; Christopher Snell, prospective member; Anita Yao, Port of San Francisco

Staff Present: Michael Hoffman, Deputy General Manager, Ferry Division; Collette Martinez, Manager of Ferry Operations; Carlena Natouf, Customer Relations Supervisor; Josh Widmann, Associate Planner

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2023. Minutes were reviewed and approved with no edits.

2. Operational Issues

A. Ridership Updates. Josh Widmann reported weekday ridership for all routes are averaging 3,000 unlinked daily passenger trips in January through March on non-rain days, and 4,000 to 4,500 in April and May on non-rain days. Larkspur average weekday ridership was around 2,000 unlinked passenger trips in January through March and 2,500 to 2,700 in April and May. Jordan Jaffe questioned whether these averages were the entire week or just Tuesday through Thursday higher demand days. He was informed these were the mid-week average numbers. Sausalito service has been carrying around 500 riders per day in January and February, 1,000 in March, and 1500 to 2,000 in April and May. Tiburon has been averaging up to 300 to 400 unlinked passenger trips in January through March, and 400 to 500 on good weather days in April and May. Unlinked daily passenger trips for Angel Island are also weather-dependent, averaging around 100 to 200 on weekdays in January through March, and 400 to 500 in April through May, sometimes exceeding 600 to 1,000 on warm weather days.

B. Service Updates. The next ferry schedule changes will take place June 26. Tiburon will operate one less trip in the afternoon as a result of the triangle schedules. The SMART transfer window will be adjusted for some trips allowing a 25-minute inter-agency transfer window. Mr. Jaffe inquired about the Route 25 Larkspur ferry shuttle route and was informed this is not likely to return in the near future. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission has been encouraging regional schedule change coordination, and as a result the next ferry schedule change will occur on August 14, 2023.

3. Updates and Other Items

A. District Strategic Plan Discussion and FPAC Comment Summary. The committee discussed their top District Strategic Plan concerns. The group stated they were in favor of the high-speed

catamaran vessel replacement plan, the plan for ferry berthing at San Quentin, a new shared ferry slip in Mission Bay, and the San Francisco and Larkspur gangways and piers projects. The committee was also in support of the Larkspur parking and service expansion project. A discussion of future vessel emissions occurred and the committee was informed the emissions reductions goals can be achieved through a combined look at both bus and ferry vehicle improvements. The FPAC comments were later submitted to the Board of Directors on June 12, 2023 and are attached to the meeting materials.

- B. Vessel Updates. The M.V. *Golden Gate* has been out for servicing since April 8, 2023. This is part of the Coast Guard requirement for small passenger vessels to receive inspection every two years. The M.V. *Napa* will be the next boat to go out for servicing when the M.V. *Golden Gate* returns. After this the M.V. *Del Norte* will go out for inspection, followed by the M.V. *Mendocino*. There is a minimum of 30 days out for servicing, however, additional time may be needed if vessel hull pitting and if corrosion are discovered.
- C. Terminal Updates. Collette Martinez informed the committee that more service is being moved to the main San Francisco berth (Gate C) to take the pressure off Gate B. Electric bikes were discussed, as some vessels require moving bicycles up steps from main (lower) deck to upper deck at the main San Francisco berth. Deckhands are limited to assistance with bicycles 50 pounds and lower according to the MOU. New ferry vessels in the future will allow for bicycle storage on both upper and main decks.
- D. Return to Office Timeline Discussion. Chuck Hornbrook stated that Meta will require employees to return to the office five days per week starting in the fall of 2023. Mr. Jaffe noted that law offices near his office are trending toward more days per week however, not all five days. Maryline Lewett stated the Bay Area Council monitors this information.

4. Committee Business

A. FPAC Initiatives.

- a. Approval of Bylaws. Chuck Hornbrook made a motion to approve the FPAC Bylaws discussed at the February meeting, Jordan Jaffe seconded the motion, and the committee voted unanimously to approve.
 - b. Larkspur 42 Crossings/Parking Needs Environmental Review. Josh Widmann reported no major updates were available on this item, but the study is continuing. Michael Hoffman noted a preliminary report of wake wash analysis was under review.
 - c. Sonoma-Marin Bike Share. Mr. Widmann reported that the prior vendor Bolt Bikes was in violation of the contract back in the fall of 2022 and currently there is a procurement for a new vendor selection process, which will take place after the June 12 Sonoma County Transportation Authority meeting.
 - d. Future Vessels Discussion. This item will be discussed at the August 14 meeting.
- B. Membership Recruitment & New Member Vote.
- a. Updates on Recent Outreach. Mr. Widmann reported four applications have been received. The Bylaws state the committee shall have between nine and 11 members. Outreach will continue.
 - b. Prospective Member Introductions. Two prospective members were in attendance. Chris Snell resides in San Rafael and bikes to the Larkspur ferry three days per week for a job in Rincon Hill. Carlin Long bikes to the Sausalito ferry for employment in Mission Bay.

5. Member/Visitor Comments

District staff will be attending a zero emission ferry conference, including Engineering Department representatives and Capital and Grants Department representatives.

6. Next Meeting: August 14, 2023. The committee agreed to reconvene on August 14, 2023 from 11:00 p.m. to 12:15 p.m.