

FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday, September 10, 2026



FPAC Members Present: Mike Ghaffary, Chuck Hornbrook, Jordan Jaffe, Nathan Lozier, Michael Stryker, Emerson Wyper

Staff Present: Chris Bearden, Director of Ferry Operations; John Gray, Director of Ferry Engineering and Maintenance; Collette Martinez, Manager of Ferry Operations; Carlena Natouf, Supervisor of Customer Relations; Katie Turner, Ferry Operations Specialist; Josh Widmann, Planner

Guests Present: Gabe Mikulich, Port of San Francisco

A. Call to Order. Chair Chuck Hornbrook called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call. The chair took roll call and recognized a quorum.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2026. Chuck Hornbrook made a motion to approve and Emerson Wyper seconded. All were in favor and approved the minutes at 1:07 p.m.

D. Liwa Vessel Updates. John Gray presented photos of the first *Liwa* class vessel under construction. Some of photos were as recent as two weeks old. Large aluminum sheets were shown before and after pieces were cut, which are then assembled and welded. Sheets of various thickness were shown for the vessel hull construction. Michael Stryker asked how many vessels we were in contract for currently and Mr. Gray said two vessels. Color-coated CAD images were also shown, to illustrate aluminum panel thickness. Also presented were full cross-section diagrams, full hull mock-ups, and the eventual completed vessel mock-up.

E. New Updates

1. Operational Issues

a. End of Sail and Rail. All existing unused purchased Sail and Rail tickets will expire November 30. New tickets will be sold and are valid through September 30. The recently implemented Clipper card free-and-reduced-transfers program allows for a \$2.85 discount on inter-operator transfers, which provides a similar discount as Sail and Rail for many ferry-to-SMART trips, depending on the SMART station used.

b. Ridership Updates. Katie Turner, Ferry Operations Specialist, presented recent ridership trends. July total ridership surpassed 200,000, with year-over-year growth continuing. The committee discussed the differences between Sausalito weekday and weekend ridership patterns. Michael Stryker inquired when we would return to 2019 levels. Chris Bearden noted that in 2019 we were utilizing an extra vessel, which we do not have now. Katie Turner reported that Sausalito reached 700 patrons on a recent trip.

- c. Service Updates. The current schedule is effective through January 10, 2027, with potential minor timing changes coming in the winter.

2. Updates and Other Items

- a. Vessel Updates. John Gray reported the M.V. *Del Norte* should be back in the water by September 30 for trials and then put into service in October. In the winter, the M.S. *Sonoma* will undergo pier-side work in Larkspur.
- b. Terminal Updates. San Francisco outer berth work continues through the end of the year.

F. Committee Business

1. FPAC Initiatives

- a. Larkspur Ferry Service Expansion and Parking Study DEIR. Josh Widmann stated the DEIR release date is September 17 with a September 22 public meeting at Drake's Landing Community Room. Both of these dates were later changed. Questions and comments can be submitted to lfep@goldengate.org. The latest information can be found at www.goldengate.org/larkspurferrystudy.
- b. Redwood Bikeshare Updates. Josh Widmann stated the Transportation Authority of Marin's September 14 Board packet contained information on the future of Redwood Bikeshare funding. The governor has until September 30 to sign the legislation that will provide the funding.
- c. Clipper 2.0 Updates. Carlena Natouf reported that 64 percent of trips are on Clipper 2.0. Fifteen percent of trips are on credit and debit cards

2. Membership Recruitment

Josh Widmann reported that no completed applications had been received.

G. Public Comments

No public comment.

H. Adjournment

The committee agreed to reconvene on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Port of San Francisco. This meeting time was later changed to 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. due to Port availability.