



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MEMO

Memo to the Planning Commission

DATE: March 1, 2018
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Doug Johnson – (415) 575-8735, doug.johnson@sfgov.org
RE: Draft Vision for Connect SF – Information Item

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

BACKGROUND

To define the desired and achievable transportation future for San Francisco, the Planning Department, San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA), and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) are collaborating on the San Francisco Long-Range Transportation Planning Program, also known as ConnectSF. Additional program partners include the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) and the Mayor's Office. The efforts of the ConnectSF program will achieve the following:

- Create a common vision for the future that will result in common goals and objectives that subsequent efforts work to achieve.
- Serve as San Francisco's long-range transportation planning program, integrating multiple priorities for all modes based on robust technical analysis and public engagement.
- Identify and prioritize long-term transit strategies and investments to support sustainable growth.
- Develop a revenue strategy for funding priorities.
- Establish a joint advocacy platform, including policy and project priorities.
- Guide San Francisco's inputs into the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy update.
- Codify policies in the City's General Plan.

The ConnectSF program is composed of several distinct efforts, including:

- Subway Vision (completed 2016, to be updated every four years)
- 50-year Vision (nearing completion)
- Transit Corridors Study (in scoping phase)
- Streets and Freeways Study (in scoping phase)
- San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP) 2050
- General Plan Transportation Element Update

FIFTY-YEAR VISION (2065)

For the last year, the Planning Department in partnership with SFMTA, SFCTA, and OEWD, led ConnectSF's collaborative effort to create a long-range transportation vision for San Francisco. The draft Vision of the ConnectSF program answers the question "what is the future of San Francisco as a place to live, work, and play in the next 30 and 50 years?" To answer this question, staff employed a scenario planning framework – a methodology used by businesses and public agencies and governments designed

Memo to Planning Commission
Hearing Date: March 1, 2018

to help organizations think strategically about the future. This methodology identifies drivers of change and critical uncertainties, develops plausible future scenarios to understand how the City may react in those scenarios, the implications and paths for the City to navigate each of those plausible futures, and a preferred future to strive towards.

The draft Vision is grounded through the following goals that were codified through over a year of outreach:

- **Equity:** San Francisco is an inclusive, diverse, and equitable City that offers high-quality, affordable access to desired goods, services, activities, and destinations.
- **Economic Vitality:** To support a thriving economy, people and businesses easily access key destinations for jobs and commerce in established and growing neighborhoods both within San Francisco and the region.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** The transportation and land use system support a healthy, resilient environment and sustainable choices for future generations.
- **Safety and Livability:** People have attractive and safe travel options that improve public health, support livable neighborhoods, and address the needs of all users.
- **Accountability and Engagement:** San Francisco agencies, the broader community, and elected officials work together to understand the City's transportation needs and deliver projects, programs, and services in a clear, concise, and timely fashion.

The draft Vision outlines a future where San Francisco is a regionally minded City with effective governmental institutions and an engaged citizenry, both of which consider community-wide and regional effects when making policy choices. This new socio-political dynamism results in the development and implementation of key plans related to transportation, land use, and housing. Key tenets of this future are:

- Numerous transportation and mobility options are available and affordable for all, and there is less need for individually owned cars.
- There are seamless transit connections to local and regional destinations.
- Public right-of-way is dedicated to sustainable transportation modes, improving operations and efficiency
- Neighborhoods are safe, clean, and vibrant with many people walking and biking.
- Infrastructure projects are developed and built more quickly and cost-effectively.
- There is significant construction to meet the needs of the rising population and workforce.
- There is a large increase in funding for affordable housing at all income levels.

HOW THE DRAFT VISION WAS DEVELOPED

To develop the draft Vision, the ConnectSF team actively engaged in several public engagement activities since the summer of 2016. Staff used this input to guide the development of the preferred draft Vision for the City. The goals and objectives outlined in the draft Vision document will inform the next phases of the ConnectSF program.

In the summer and fall of 2016, ConnectSF staff utilized pop-up workshops and an online tool to ask where San Francisco should expand its subway network. Participants submitted more than 2,600 ideas.

Memo to Planning Commission
Hearing Date: March 1, 2018

In May 2017, seven on-sidewalk pop-ups took place around San Francisco, and an online survey encouraged public participants to think broadly about the future of transportation in San Francisco and asked what they are excited and concerned about. The ConnectSF team collected over 1,100 open-ended responses from over 450 individuals. This feedback showed the importance of a future San Francisco that is equitable, livable, sustainable, and economically competitive.

Additionally, starting in May 2017, a Futures Task Force was invited to three co-learning events, designed to delve into the specific topics, including impacts of development in neighborhoods, the changing future of mobility, and how work may change in the future. Then, in June 2017, the Futures Task Force participated in the Scenario Building Workshop, designed to understand how uncertain drivers of change may influence the future of San Francisco, and how the City will prepare if those futures come to fruition. The day-and-a-half workshop culminated in the production of four plausible future scenarios that were further refined by staff and discussed by the Futures Task Force in follow-up webinars.

During September 2017, focus groups, also called Small Group Experiences, were organized to engage small groups in thinking about the four scenarios and the trade-offs between them. The project team made special efforts to meet with groups and organizations from communities of concern. Additionally, an online public survey was made available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Filipino and discussed the four plausible future scenarios and the inherent trade-offs between them. These efforts were designed to give both staff and the Futures Task Force insight into broader opinions about how San Francisco should react to plausible futures.

The Futures Task Force met again in October 2017 for the Scenarios Implications Workshop, where participants discussed the implications of each plausible future and provide direction for staff to develop the draft Vision. In December, staff presented and took feedback from the Futures Task Force on the draft Vision to the through webinars and invited members of the Futures Task Force to help edit and co-author the document.

NEXT STEPS

The draft Vision document is now available online (www.connectsf.org). Staff will bring the draft Vision to the Planning Commission for approval in April 2018. The SFMTA Board and SFCTA Board will also be taking action in early spring. Meanwhile, the ConnectSF project team is beginning work on Phase 2 of the program, identifying how the City will meet the goals and objectives of the Vision through the Transit Corridors Study and the Streets and Freeways Study. Our three agencies are also collaborating on a submittal for the Caltrans Planning Grant and Priority Development Area Planning Grant to help fund Phase 2 work.

ATTACHMENT

Information Sheet for ConnectSF

ConnectSF

WINTER 2018

FACT SHEET

ConnectSF is a multi-agency partnership to build an effective, equitable, and sustainable transportation system for San Francisco's future.

GOALS

These goals, crafted with the help of thousands of San Franciscans, shaped the ConnectSF vision and will form the basis for the city's long-range transportation planning:



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY. The transportation and land use system support a healthy, resilient environment and sustainable choices for future generations.



EQUITY. San Francisco is an inclusive, diverse, and equitable city that offers high-quality, affordable access to desired goods, services, activities, and destinations.



SAFETY AND LIVABILITY. People have attractive and safe travel options that improve public health, support livable neighborhoods, and address the needs of all users.



ECONOMIC VITALITY. To support a thriving economy, people and businesses easily access key destinations for jobs and commerce in established and growing neighborhoods both within San Francisco and the region.



ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT. San Francisco agencies, the broader community, and elected officials work together to understand the City's transportation needs and deliver projects, programs, and services in a clear, concise, and timely fashion.

THE VISION FOR SAN FRANCISCO



Over the last year, thousands of San Franciscans crafted this vision for the future of the City's transportation system. Read more about the input on the next page.

San Francisco is a regionally minded city with effective governmental institutions and an engaged citizenry, both of which consider community-wide and regional effects when making policy choices.

This new socio-political dynamism results in the development and implementation of key plans related to transportation, land use, and housing.



1 Numerous transportation and mobility options are available and affordable for all, and there is less need for individually owned cars.



2 There are seamless transit connections to local and regional destinations.



3 Public right-of-way is dedicated to sustainable transportation modes, improving operations and efficiency.



4 Neighborhoods are safe, clean, and vibrant with many people walking and biking.



5 Infrastructure projects are developed and built more quickly and cost-effectively.



6 There is significant construction to meet the needs of the rising population and workforce.



7 There is a large increase in funding for affordable housing at all income levels.

Below is a summary of our outreach that led to the formation of the vision.



A The goal of the focus groups was to collect in-depth community input on the future scenarios and to also broaden outreach to the communities under-represented in the Futures Task Force. People of color were the majority of the focus group participants.

B ConnectSF also engaged the public via three different online surveys: one for the Subway Vision and two for the vision process.

C ConnectSF staff reached out to over sixty organizations to invite representatives to join the Futures Task Force or provide feedback on the vision-building process. In addition, staff hosted pop-ups to collect input from people who are less likely to participate in online platforms as well as non-residents commuting into San Francisco.

NEXT STEPS

The development of the vision is the first phase of the ConnectSF program. The vision’s content, goals, and objectives will guide of the rest of the program’s efforts, which will provide a path to our preferred future.

Development of the transportation network that supports the vision will follow in Phase 2 with the **Transit Corridors Study** and the **Streets and**

Freeways Study. Phase 3 will include the **San Francisco Transportation Plan 2050** that will identify an investment plan to prioritize projects for funding. The update of the **Transportation Element**, which is a component of the City’s General Plan, will codify the policies and transportation projects for San Francisco’s future.

For more information, visit:

connectsf.org

ConnectSF is four City agencies working together:

