



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MEMO

DATE: June 15, 2017
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Susan Gygi – (415) 575-9194, susan.gygi@sfgov.org
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RE: Update on Connect SF

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BACKGROUND

Led by the Planning Department in partnership with SFMTA, SFCTA, and OEWD, Connect SF is a collaborative effort to create a long-range transportation vision for San Francisco. The process is intended to ensure better coordination among City agencies as we work to develop an effective, equitable, and sustainable transportation system. The initiative will result in:

- Future scenarios that help San Francisco better prepare for change;
- A 50-year transportation vision to align efforts between City agencies;
- A prioritization framework to help San Francisco turn its transportation vision into actual projects; and
- Greater public and political support around key choices and trade-offs ahead for transportation and land use investments.

Connect SF will be launching significant public outreach events and activities involving our Task Force in June through September. The partner agencies involved are informing our Commissions and Boards of this process and deliverables. This memo provides an update as we launch the public phase of this project.

PAST AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Outreach in May 2017 – Initial public outreach began in May through several on-street pop-ups and an online survey, where members of the public were asked big-picture questions about the future of transportation in San Francisco, i.e., general assessment, conditions, and desired improvements. These initial public outreach activities will inform the Connect SF Task Force’s scenario development process, which is discussed in the next section of this memo.

On-street pop-ups were held on the following days and neighborhoods:

- Saturday, May 6, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, Persia Triangle (with Spanish interpreter)
- Sunday, May 7, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Western Addition
- Tuesday, May 9, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Embarcadero
- Wednesday, May 10, 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Chinatown (with Cantonese interpreter)
- Tuesday, May 16, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Tenderloin
- Saturday, May 20, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, Inner Sunset (with Cantonese interpreter)
- Tuesday, May 23, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Visitacion Valley

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An online survey in English, Spanish, Filipino, and traditional Chinese was available from May 1st to 31st. One hundred and thirty-six responses were received. Our team is currently compiling and analyzing the responses.

Scenario Planning – The Connect SF team has convened a Task Force consisting of 110+ individuals from across the City to identify possible directions the future of transportation in San Francisco could take. The Task Force includes Planning Commissioners, transportation and land use decision-makers and advocates, business leaders, subject matter experts, and members of the general public, including seniors and youth.

Task Force members will participate in a two-day scenario-building workshop on June 20th and June 21st to co-develop potential scenarios on the future of San Francisco with implications for transportation and land use. The workshop will use scenario planning techniques – a proven, participatory approach to visioning that combines research on future trends with imaginative new possibilities.

To date, Task Force members have had the opportunity to attend three field trips and panel discussions on the topics below. These sessions served as co-learning events to present critical issues facing the City today and in the future and will also aid in guiding discussions during the two-day workshop in June.

- May 18th: Tensions of Change – Attendees visited the Bayview neighborhood and Hunters Point Shipyard development and joined a discussion with community leaders about the interactions between growth, change, improvement, and preservation.
- May 25th: Future of Mobility – Attendees learned about future travel modes and discussed with transportation experts about what these new mobility choices could mean for San Francisco and the region.
- June 9th: Future of Work and Regional Economy – Attendees toured two innovative work environments and talked with panelists about key economic drivers that will shape the future of work and the regional economy.

Outreach in August 2017 – These diverse scenarios of possible futures developed in June will be presented to the public during town halls (open houses) and other outreach activities in August. Public feedback will be provided to the Task Force when its members draft a “preferred future” scenario during a strategic implications workshop on September 12th. The “preferred future” scenario will form the basis for the transportation vision, which will reflect San Francisco’s values and guide City agencies on our long-range transportation planning efforts.

The attached figure provides an overview of the anticipated schedule for the work underway.

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CLIENT PROJECTS

Connect SF will serve as the City's guiding framework for creating or updating the following transportation plans and projects:

- Update of the Transportation Element – San Francisco's General Plan serves as the City's guiding planning policy document, and the Transportation Element is intended to guide all transportation-related planning decisions in San Francisco.
- Subway Vision – This effort establishes a framework for expanding the City's subway network.
- San Francisco Transportation Plan 2050 – This blueprint guides investments for San Francisco's transportation system investment to 2050.
- Transit Modal Concept Study – This technical study will identify and prioritize initial major public transportation investments within San Francisco.
- Freeway and Street Traffic Management Strategy – This effort will examine improvements for the City's streets and freeways.

Staffing – Connect SF is a joint-agency effort managed by the Planning Department in partnership with SFMTA, SFCTA, and OEWD. Doug Johnson joined the Connect SF team as its project manager in early June. Doug most recently held the position of Principal Transportation Planner with the Metropolitan Planning Commission.

SPRING '17

SUMMER '17

FALL '17

PUBLIC



Pop-ups and Surveys



Input on Scenarios



Input on Key Findings

FUTURES TASK FORCE



Co-Learning and Futures Primer



June 20-21
Scenario Building Workshop



September 12
Strategic Implications Workshop



Long-Range Vision

CONNECT SF STAFF



Conduct Research



Develop and Refine Scenarios



Study Technical Implications



Transportation Plans and Studies

ConnectSF