

SF BAC minutes 08_02_2021

Monday, August 2, 2021

- **Roll Call – Determination of Quorum**

Meeting start time: 6:35 pm

Present: D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D7, D8, D10

Absent: D6, D9, D11

Announcements & Acknowledgments -

- Meeting via Zoom.

2. Support of a Pilot of the Upper Great Highway Promenade with Nearby Vehicular Traffic Improvements (Resolution) *Kristin Tieche/Sarah Boudreau* - As we approach the end of the declared Pandemic Emergency, with temporary changes that promote Active Transportation and Pedestrianized roadways, the debate over the Great Highway in review with Rec & Park, the County Transportation Authority (CTA), and the Board of Supervisors remains not solved. Last month, the CTA presented five suggested concepts for review. Members of the BAC will propose a Resolution of Recommendation to be considered by the Board of Supervisors.

- Discussion followed.
- Public comment:
 - Richard Rothman:
 - Need to have a compromise and share a roadway. Closing the great highway is adding to climate change. Am on park and open space committee.
 - I have to drive further to my house with shared spaces and restaurants. Now I'm adding more carbon output, in my opinion. Look at chain of lakes during the commute time, it's backed up all the way to Fulton and JFK.
 - We have to live in this city together, learn to share. I think this issue is dividing the city and we are working together for the common good.
 - MTA is doing a west side transportation study, supposed to be out today. That will answer some questions. If most of the people who are using the great highway live in D1, then they have to be driving out of their way to do it.
 - Fennel Doyle
 - Thank you for sticking with the facts. Speaking up on behalf of families for safe streets.
 - It's unfortunate that the city hasn't solved for vision zero, and we want to be there and support public health in this way.
 - Jay Bain:

- I understand Richard's concerns about vehicle safety. This is a yes AND solution. Let's look at the problems with data and driver's lived experiences. I drive the area frequently to see what my neighbors are complaining about. The chain of lakes is backed up during rush hour, it may have been backed up before the pandemic. I hope we can keep the great highway closed for the 2 year pilot, see what the traffic data is like during those hours.
 - Please do something for the great highway that is once in a generation.
- Dave "Alex" Alexander:
 - Calling in to support the resolution, it's a time to look at how we're not building housing on the west side and how that is affecting the commute. This is the long term future, must look at the Ocean Beach master plan. During high tide the water is extremely close to the highway already, in 5 years it could be right there.
- Luke Bornheimer:
 - Thank you for reconvening again tonight, Kids Safe SF, we have heard from thousands of people who support this resolution and people love this full promenade. The full promenade is more popular than the other compromised. In 2023 are already the extension will be closed. This gives us an amazing opportunity to give us a great start.
 - I'm very curious about more CO2 emissions from the highway being closed, haven't seen any data to back this up.
 - With so many people loving this space, the car impacts are very minimal. The chain of lakes is seeing a 2-4 minutes longer commute. We shouldn't sacrifice a 17 acre park for the convenience of 4 minutes in a car.
- Public comments from form sent in prior to the meeting.
 - Al Hawley:
 - I support the resolution it is vital that we control covid, and one of the positives we found during covid, a car free public space. Let's offer SF a safe alternatives to cars. They are the leading cause of childhood death, damage ecosystems, and I hope it becomes a permanent new park.
 - Sacha Ielmorni:
 - In full support of keeping greath highway car free. We need space
 - My disabled mother and I are now able to enjoy a bike and scooter stroll together. This park has been lovely.
 - Brian No last name provided:
 - In support of the resolution. This is inline with transit and sustainability policy we've passed int he city
 - Heidi:
 - Please support a full car free pilot. I live in D4 and cused to commute by car, now with a car free space i finally . we sold our 16 year old car, and now i commute via ebike. There's a euphoria to hearing the ocean without vehicles. Having this safe space has created the conditions for my family

to create a clean, green commute. This can help us also achieve our vision zero goals.

■ (need to get this comments since my computer is freezing)

- Additional committee comments:
- D2:
 - We have a lot of data to support that this does help the most amount of people, and data doesn't show that ...
 - I really like the yes/and idea. That's why we wrote the resolution the way we did.
- D10:
 - To Richard's point, i do agree with him that there will ultimately be compromises. We are backing the 2 year option, and the only way to find out the data is to do the pilot. We have no idea how much the seas will rise and when it'll be happen. Sometimes we have our own agendas up before the unintended consequences of our good intentions. The future is not our decision, we do know we are not able to unbreak what was broken by ride shares.
 - I'm not as mobile as i once was. I also take care of someone who is wheelchair bound. It's important to keep the big picture in mind, i do think this is a good resolution, we need to give it a chance to see what happens.
- D1:
 - Sea level rise data: <https://sfplanning.org/sea-level-rise-action-plan>
 - More sea level rise data: <https://sealevelrise.org/states/california/#:~:text=The%20sea%20level%20off%20California's.and%20it's%20causing%20major%20issues.>
- D3:
 -
- D4:
 - I enthusiastically support this resolution. I support it as a parent and as a neighbor. I have had a lot of arguments with my neighbors who don't support this, but supporters far outweigh those who do not support it.
- Melyssa moved to approve the resolution, and Paul Wells seconded.
- D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D7, D8, D10: Unanimously approved
- D6, D9, D11 Absent

3. Agreed to Adjourn

- No objections to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.