

Youth Commission  
City Hall ~ Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



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July 15, 2024

San Francisco Youth Commission  
City Hall, Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: San Francisco Youth Commission Supports the West Portal Project

Dear SFMTA Board of Directors Chair Eaken, Director Heminger, Director Henderson, Director Hinze, and Director Tarlov,

On behalf of the San Francisco Youth Commission, I would like to express our support for the Welcoming West Portal Project. The improvements are critical to improving pedestrian and traffic safety, following the tragedy on March 16, 2024. San Francisco's public safety is at risk with motor vehicle collisions being the second-leading cause of death for young people behind firearms. The proposed project was developed through a community input process and will increase safety for pedestrians, and slow traffic in needed areas.

The Youth Commission is a body of 17 youth from San Francisco between the ages of 12 and 23. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter, the Commission is responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that would primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

The West Portal Station is a focal point of San Francisco transportation; ten bus routes and rail lines converge to serve 50,000 daily commuters. Public Safety and transit has been a long-standing issue for Youth Commissioners, a challenge we have worked on since 2000. Youth heavily rely on West Portal station as it is the most accessible train station for students attending West Portal Elementary, Hoover Middle School, Waldorf High School, and St. Brendan's Parish among many others. The Commission asks that SFMTA remains in active contact with West Portal Elementary as many of the traffic changes could impact school drop off and pick up policies. Please see Resolution No. 2324-AL-17 for more details.

Thank you for your work on this important issue.

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Best,

Ewan Barker Plummer  
Chair, San Francisco Youth Commission