



**NOTES FROM THE
JAPANTOWN TASK FORCE
LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
1765 SUTTER STREET
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Wermer, Glynis Nakahara, David Ishida

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Marutani

OTHERS PRESENT:

Karen Kai, Robert Rusky, Robert Sakai, Meeting began at 6:05 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. PRESENTATION

None at this time

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Update on Geary BRT meeting

Paul reported that the Geary BRT meeting on Monday March 7, 2016, the SF MTA and CTA staff were in favor of maintaining the Webster Street Bridge and that President London Breed spoke on the significance of the bridge to the community, including Rosa Parks students and their parents as well as the YMCA-Buchanan Branch.

Regarding the Steiner Street Bridge, there were some challenges for the SF MTA and CTA staffs on the very limited space between the sidewalk and the bridge support to include both a dedicated bus lane and vehicle traffic; further research will need to be conducted.

While the local Geary bus will still stop at Laguna Street, concerns were raised about the need to have the Rapid Geary stop there as well to benefit the Japantown merchants allowing tourists and visitors to get to Japantown via rapid bus and that with the number of seniors in the neighborhood it would be much more convenient for them to be able to board any Geary bus and arrive back in their neighborhood.

The rapid is not being scheduled to stop at Laguna due in part to the "low" number of individuals who either board or disembark at this particular location compared to the other rapid stops. It was pointed out that the other rapid stops between O'Farrell and Arguello are at locations where crosstown buses intersect on Geary adding to the higher number of users at those stops.

Another meeting has been scheduled for April 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. with the location to be determined at a later time.

- B. Face Shop Conditional Use Hearing Rescheduled to March 17, 2016
Paul reported that the conditional use hearing was postponed to the next meeting of the Planning Commission that would take place on March 17th.
- C. Update Re Design Guidelines and city action
Glynis reported that the Planning Department has come out with their design guidelines and asked if the group could meet on March 22, 2016 to compare the drafts of the Planning Department and those of the Land Use Committee.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.