

Agenda Item No. 1c  
For: August 4, 2006

## **FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)**

***Agenda for Wednesday, July 12, 2006***



**Convene at 12:00 p.m. - Adjourn by 1:15 p.m.  
Embarcadero Room  
Pier One, Port of San Francisco**

### Approval of May 3, 2006, Minutes

1. Service Issues

- NextFerry Signage Status

2. Operational Issues

- Larkspur AM Peak Ferries at Capacity & New High-Speed Vessel
- Ballpark Service Update  
Also: Backpacks on Ballpark Ferry:
- "Spare the Air Day" promotion
- TransLink/Route 97

3. Other Items/Future Agenda Items

- East Sir Francis Drake BI Widening Project & Signal Timing Project
- Bay to Breakers Service Update (Sunday, May 21)

4. Member/Visitor Comments

- Attachments: 1. Minutes of May 3, 2006
2. Ferry Patronage since July 1999: LFT Weekday  
LFT Weekend  
SFT Weekday  
SFT Weekend
3. Tables with AM overcrowding from Ferry Div. emails  
Spare the Air Days ridership  
Bay to Breakers ridership

# FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)



*Minutes of Wednesday, May 3, 2006*

## **Embarcadero Room, Port of San Francisco, Pier One**

FPAC Members Present: Frances Barbour Hayden, Ken Eichstaedt, George Griswold, Robert Karfiol, Lee Kleinecke  
Staff Present: Harvey Katz, Senior Planner; Karyn Paulson, Administrative Assistant; Jim Swindler, Ferry Division Manager  
Visitors Present: Dwight Steeves

Approval of Minutes of April 5, 2006. The minutes were approved.

### **1. Service Issues**

#### Bus Route 66 to Muir Woods Status

Harvey Katz said the information from last month remains current. Brochures containing bus schedules were distributed. Frances Barbour Hayden requested signage at the Sausalito Ferry Terminal explaining how ferry riders could connect with Route 66 (taking bus Route 10 or 22 to Marin City). Riders departing the ferry can use a free transfer to Routes 10 or 22 but must pay the \$2 fare for Route 66. She believes this transfer information should be in the brochure.

#### NextFerry Signage Status

The WTA continues with the permit process. The inter-agency agreement between the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District and Water Transit Authority was recently finalized.

### **2. Operational Issues**

#### Larkspur AM Peak SB Ferries at Capacity (7:10, 7:50, 8:20)

Jim Swindler reported that since early April, usually at least one of the vessels reaches capacity every day and passengers (maybe 10 or more) must be turned back. Some days two boats may reach capacity, and once they fill up, they leave, perhaps 10 minutes prior to scheduled departure. That means even more potential passengers we cannot be aware of may be unable to board. Mr. Katz said he would email an Excel spreadsheet with passenger count to FPAC members. The capacity of the M.V. Mendocino is 450 passengers, the M.V. Del Norte, 390. Mr. Swindler said a 500-passenger vessel would better accommodate our current traffic. Robert Karfiol suggested lowering ferry fares during off-peak hours and charging premium fares at peak times. This is contrary to the current structure of commuter ticket book rates.

It was noted that, adding to the LFT parking problem, many people drive there, park their cars and do not board ferries.

#### Ballpark Service Update

The temporary overflow parking lot above the Marin Airpporter has been completed. Yesterday 178 cars filled it to capacity for the Giants ferry, but ferry ridership is off. Signs and the web site advise patrons to arrive well before ferry departure and be ready to park off-

site, necessitating a long walk to the ferry. We pay the Marin Airporter \$1 per car to pass through their lot to ours.

### **3. Other Items/Future Agenda Items**

#### Ferry Passenger Survey Results (see attached stats and comments)

Surveys respondents numbered 1,027, with 76% of them traveling 4 to 5 days per week to work. There are 180 new riders, 75 former drivers, 37 former bus riders, and 72 brand new travelers to San Francisco. 94% drive alone to LFT, and 99% of respondents reported finding parking as well as seats on the ferries. Once in San Francisco, 94% are able to walk to work, but 27% reported taking other public transit in San Francisco to work. 60% said they would take a free shuttle bus to the ferry if provided, but one committee member commented that with only 3 or 4 shuttles evening and morning, a passenger could be left unable to get home if in the City too late. Mr. Swindler mentioned that adding 15 to 20 minutes of shuttle time to the ferry commute was not brought out. Ms. Hayden suggested offering guaranteed ferry boarding first for shuttle riders. Other notable statistics were 25% willing to carpool to LFT if preferred parking were available, 27% willing to ride bicycles if bike paths were improved, and 12% willing to walk if pedestrian paths were improved.

#### East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Widening

This project has been delayed due to weather, but work began the week after Easter. Weather permitting, it will take only four weeks to complete. This project will add one more left-turn lane on WB East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and restore the third WB lane below the US 101 structure for traffic heading SB on US 101.

#### Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Signal Timing Project

Nothing new. This project, which entails retiming 12 traffic signals, can only be done after East Sir Francis Drake Blvd. is widened, and timing must be set while schools are in session. Project will be completed either just before Memorial Day or as late as Thanksgiving.

#### Kaboom! Service Update

Mr. Swindler reported that on Saturday, May 13, after the 9:15 fireworks in San Francisco, a special ferry will depart SFFT at 10 p.m.

#### Bay-to-Breakers Service Update

Four early morning ferry trips will be added from LFT to SFFT on Sunday, May 21, to transport passengers for the annual race.

#### Special Events

Mr. Swindler informed FPAC that GG District special event procedures have been set up so he can authorize additional ferries without Board approval, which should enable the District to provide immediate service when crowds exceed expectations.

### **4. Member/Visitor Comments – No comments.**