

FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)

Agenda for Wednesday, May 2, 2007



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

Approval of April, 2007, Meeting Summary

1. Service
 - NextFerry Signage Status
2. Operations
 - Larkspur AM Peak Ferries at Capacity.
 - Fuel Consumption per Mile Report
 - Update on Parking Issues
3. Other Items/Future Agenda Items
 - New Golden Gate Ferry Vessel
 - Spaulding Refurbishment Update
 - Bicycle-Ferry Coordination
4. Member/Visitor Comments
5. Committee Business
6. Next Meeting: June 6, 2007
 - Survey of members to determine if a quorum will be present

- Attachments:
1. Summary from meeting of April 4, 2007
 2. Ferry Route Performance Report for March 2007
 - All Routes
 - Larkspur Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal
 - Sausalito Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal
 - Larkspur Ferry Terminal-AT&T Park

FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)



Notes of Meeting of Wednesday, April 4, 2007

Port of San Francisco, Pier One

FPAC Members Present: Ken Eichstaedt, Frank Johnston, Robert Karfiol, Erik Selvig, Dwight Steeves, Cindy Swift

Staff Present: Jim Swindler, Deputy General Manager, Ferry Division; Harvey Katz, Senior Planner

Approval of Summary of Meeting of March 7, 2007. The notes were approved.

1. Service Issues

- NextFerry Signage Status.
Harvey Katz reported that WTA informed him that sign operations at Larkspur and the San Francisco terminal gates are on hold awaiting resolution of issues with prediction functionality and accuracy.
- Larkspur Ticket Office Hours
Committee members and staff agreed that the office is now opening at 5:20 a.m. Member Cindy Swift requested that ticket-office hours be posted on the office glass.

2. Operational Issues

- Larkspur AM Peak Ferries at Capacity
Mr. Katz related that overcrowding (passengers unable to board a full vessel) occurred only two times during March: Tuesday and Wednesday the 27th and 28th. In both cases, it was on the 7:50 a.m. departure. Both incidents left an average of 19 people on the dock.

Member Dwight Steeves reported that the 7:10 a.m. departure is also close to full with standees (*Note: It reached capacity and three people were turned away on April 5*). The committee discussed the practice of some passengers using their belongings to occupy seats, surrendering them only if directly requested and then, reluctantly. Other examples of poor manners include cell phone use in “quiet zones” or talking too loud wherever. The FPAC acted to make an official recommendation to GGF and District management as follows:

FPAC officially requests that management inform passengers of proper vessel etiquette regarding seat monopolizing and cell phone use. They suggested distributing a flyer and/or putting another “Miss Etty Kitt” article in the Golden Gate Gazette. They also requested that ferry hands be instructed to enforce these policies.

- Fuel Consumption per Mile Report
No report was provided.
- LFT Parking Issues
Members and staff both noted that lane striping was being applied to the lot exit road this very day. Members expressed continuing concern about the lack of sufficient parking at Larkspur. Staff reported that the project to add approximately 150 spaces around the

periphery of the parking lot is in its planning and design stage. Mr. Swindler reported that the project must include an amendment to Ferry's original BCDC permit, a time-consuming process. Member Ken Eichstaedt requested that staff provide parking lot plans to the Committee for its review. He also expressed support for retaining motorcycle parking in its current location. Dwight Steeves mentioned that the largest private vehicles, e.g., big SUVs, take up so much space that owners of adjacent cars have difficulty getting in or out. He wondered if something could be done about this. Cindy Swift asked if the two spaces reserved for charging electric vehicles could be used for general parking, at least temporarily. She also asked about the presence of the bookmobile, and Mr. Swindler reported that it provided a valuable service for passengers, even allowing them to request books on-line and have them delivered at the next bookmobile visit.

Staff also mentioned the new midday Golden Gate Transit shuttle bus scheduled to operate directly between the San Rafael Transit Center and the Larkspur Ferry Terminal. This service will begin operation in June 2007. Members again suggested re-establishing a Ross Valley shuttle route.

3. Other Items/Future Agenda Items

- Spaulding Refurbishment. Mr. Swindler reported that the M.V. Marin is still expected back in mid-May.
- Bicycle-Ferry Coordination Issues. Staff reported that procedures for debarking passengers to easily return to the paid area to retrieve their bicycles are ready, but ferry staff and passengers need to be informed. A sign explaining what to do will be installed at the bicycle rack.
- Ballgame Ferries and Other Issues. Mr. Swindler reported that cancellation of dedicated boat service to the nine weekday day games was due to general increased ferry ridership, meaning that even fewer parking spaces would be available midday. On April 3, the opening day weekday day game caused the auxiliary parking lot near the Marin Airpporter to fill up, even though there was no dedicated boat. Scheduled San Francisco departures at 4:25 and 4:55 p.m. were each held up 3 to 4 minutes to accommodate more ballgame passengers. The 5:20 departure carried over 500 passengers. Mr. Steeves reported that even though that boat was crowded, the Larkspur parking lot emptied relatively quickly. Mr. Eichstaedt suggested linking park-and-ride lots to the ferry for ballgames.
- KaBoom Presented by KFOG. Mr. Steeves reported that this May 12 event would no longer be free. Mr. Swindler reported that two late-night ferries would be provided for returning event-goers.
- New Golden Gate Ferry Vessel. Mr. Steeves requested that the new boat be equipped with tables, WiFi and slightly wider seats. Mr. Swindler reported that the new ferry will resemble either of the two catamarans now in the fleet. Staff is still determining specifications and will provide more detailed directions than were done for the earlier vessels. Mr. Swindler also reported that Ferry is undertaking a large project to improve landing docks at all terminals. More details will be supplied later.

4. Member/Visitor Comments

Mr. Steeves asked about fare increases and was told that a 5% fare increase would be applied July 1, 2007.

5. Committee Business

- Membership Roster. Nothing new.
- Member Recruitment. Mr. Katz confirmed that the committee's composition should follow the District Board's directions. All agreed on the desirability of getting a member who rides the Sausalito Ferry.

6. Next Meeting

Next month's FPAC meeting will be **Wednesday, May 2, 2007**, at noon in the usual location (Embarcadero Room at Pier One in San Francisco). Members were polled on their probable attendance at this meeting, and all six members said they were planning to attend. All FPAC members will be polled again before the May meeting.