

Agenda Item No. 1c  
For: March 13, 2008

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

***Agenda for Wednesday, February 6, 2008***

**Convene at 12:00 p.m. – Adjourn by 1:15 p.m.  
Bayside Rooms 3 and 4  
Pier One, Port of San Francisco**

Approval of January 9, 2008, Meeting Summary

1. Operations

- Larkspur AM Peak Ferries at Capacity
- Update on Parking and Access Issues
- Update on Vessel repair: drydocking or repowering

2. Other Items/Future Agenda Items

- New Golden Gate Ferry Vessel Update
- Ferry Passenger “Social Issues”

3. Member/Visitor Comments

4. Committee Business

5. Next Meeting: March 5, 2007

- Survey of members to determine if a quorum will be present

Attachments: 1. Summary from meeting of January 9, 2008  
2. Ferry Route Performance Report for December 2007  
All Routes  
Larkspur Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal  
Sausalito Ferry Terminal-San Francisco Ferry Terminal



# FERRY PASSENGERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)

*Notes of Meeting of Wednesday, January 9, 2008*



**Bayside Rooms 3 and 4  
Pier One, Port of San Francisco**

FPAC Members Present: Ken Eichstaedt, RADM Frank Johnston, Robert Karfiol, Melissa Mooney, Eric Selvig, Dwight Steeves, Cindy Swift  
Staff Present: Jim Swindler, Deputy General Manager, Ferry Division; Harvey Katz, Senior Planner  
Guests: Reinhard Ludke

Approval of Summary of Meeting of November 7, 2007. The summary was approved.

## **1. Operational Issues**

Larkspur AM Peak Ferries at Capacity. Harvey Katz provided the customary staff report. It was noted that overcrowding diminished in December but might increase again in January.

Update on Parking Issues. Jim Swindler reported that the current plan to add capacity to the parking lot will be brought to the District Board of Directors for its approval in January or February. The “90% drawings” have been prepared.

Mr. Swindler also reported on a new plan for a multi-use path into the terminal to the right of the two-lane main entrance road. The path is proposed to be 10 feet wide. District staff will discuss this concept with Marin County Bicycle Coalition representatives. The MCBC supports this concept, as does the Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

A committee member inquired about the experiment to determine if diagonal parking could be used in the terminal. It may increase parking capacity in certain applications. Mr. Swindler reported that the demonstration was inconclusive; the area may be used as a passenger drop-off zone.

Members discussed the possibility of shuttle bus service to meet commute period departures and arrivals, and noted that past shuttle service provided a guaranteed spot on the ferry. Members also voiced their support for non-motorized access to the terminal.

Mr. Swindler mentioned staff efforts to improve pedestrian safety in the terminal by installing more speed bumps and a traffic signal. This effort will involve District staff and city of Larkspur staff. Mr. Eichstaedt suggested putting speed bumps at the end of parking lanes where they join the main exit road to slow down cars making the free left turn. These changes may be implemented as soon as summer 2008. Committee discussed how parking and traffic regulations are enforced on private property, i.e., not in the public right-of-way. Members also discussed “bio-swales”, unpaved areas where parking lot storm run-off can be partially purified before it reaches the Bay.

Update on Vessel Repair – Drydocking. The *M.V. Del Norte* will undergo routine drydocking starting January 23, 2008. It will be in drydock for two weeks to undergo routine engine maintenance.

The *M.V. Mendocino* is scheduled for repowering in February 2008 and will be out of service for a minimum of six weeks. The *Mendocino* will be equipped with four new less-polluting Tier-2 engines at a cost of about \$2.5 million. The District's share is 20%.

## 2. Other Items/Future Agenda Items

New Golden Gate Ferry Vessel Procurement. Mr. Swindler reported that new ferry engines are limited in their potential use of biodiesel fuel to not more than 2%. Higher concentrations burn more fuel and cause more pollution. The procurement effort is going forward with staff addressing many issues, and several emissions items will go to the District Board on January 24, 2008. The new vessel will likely have Tier-2 engines similar to those on the *Mendocino*. These are the cleanest available now. The final RFP for the new vessel will be shared with the committee. New CARB (emissions) regulations were decided on November 15. The most stringent regulations under consideration were not adopted since no technology is available to achieve them.

Recent Ferry Passenger Survey. Mr. Katz distributed some information on the survey results.

New Security Building Update. The building has been completed but it is not in use yet. This should happen within two weeks.

Special Event Ferry Fare Increase from \$7 to \$7.50. Mr. Katz announced that the District would hold a public hearing the following day (January 10) to hear comments about increasing fares to AT&T Park to \$7.50. The new fare would take effect for the first Giants home baseball game of 2008. Mr. Steeves worried that these fares might be so high they would cause a decline in ridership. He theorized that because people often travel together to ballgames, driving a vehicle with three or four people would cost less to operate than paying round-trip ferry fares.

Ferry Passenger "Social Issues." Mr. Swindler reported that Ferry staff is close to finalizing policy and practices to deal with the so-called social issues on ferry trips. These issues include smoking, annoying cell phone use, and saving seats or occupying seats with one's belongings. The no-smoking policy will be enforced by an incognito person appearing to be another passenger. Smoking seems to occur only on the 5:20 p.m. northbound Spaulding trip. The other problems will be addressed through increased education and awareness and possibly the incognito agent. Deckhands will not be asked to enforce these policies. Ms. Swift suggested that reminders be announced on the vessel public address system. .

## 3. Member/Visitor Comments

Mr. Steeves reported that the Ferry passenger e-mail notification system worked well to inform the public of schedule changes caused by the storm of Friday, January 4. He noted, however, that the website information lagged behind.

Another member asked about problems with the *M.S. Marin's* engines. Mr. Swindler reported that they were repaired.

Mr. Eichstaedt stated that the District should prioritize non-motorized access and transit access to the terminal ahead of building parking structures.

## 4. Committee Business

It was announced that George Griswold had resigned and that he had been thanked by the District for his efforts on the committee.

Mr. Katz distributed a meeting schedule for the remainder of 2008, noting that meetings would not be held in July and December.

**5. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 6, 2008, at noon in the usual location (Pier One in San Francisco), but in Bayside Rooms 3 and 4. All members present indicated they would likely attend.