

# The METNA News

Newsletter of the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association

Volume 15 Number 4

August 2015

## THE M-OCEANVIEW LINE TURNS 90 YEARS OLD IN OCTOBER

The M-Ocean View streetcar line began service on October 6, 1925, with the outbound terminal at Broad and Plymouth. The M-line traveled on Broad, Orizaba, Randolph, Worcester, 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then to the private Muni right of way to St. Francis Circle, on to West Portal Avenue, to the West Portal of the Twin Peaks Tunnel (at Ulloa Street). It wasn't until October 31, 1927 that M-service ran through the Twin Peaks Tunnel to Market Street and the Ferries, at the foot of Market Street.

The M-line was discontinued prior to World War II, on August 6, 1939, and then reestablished back to full service on December 17, 1944.

On June 6, 1948, the M-line moved its inbound terminus from the Ferry Building to the Transbay Terminal. With the completion of the Muni-Metro Subway under Market Street, on February 18, 1980, the M-line's inbound terminal moved to the Embarcadero Station.

The track extension from the outbound terminus at Plymouth and Broad was moved to the Balboa Park BART Station via San Jose Avenue on August 20, 1980.

Except for the five year hiatus (August, 1939 to December, 1944) the M-Ocean View streetcar/Muni metro line has been a workhorse serving the Oceanview-Merced Heights-Ingleside neighborhoods for 90 years, providing vital service and connecting the south-west corner of San Francisco to the rest of the City.



M Oceanview at Eucalyptus & 19<sup>th</sup> Av, February 1939

Photo courtesy of Western Neighborhoods Project

Jack Tillman's collection

## CLEAN POWER-SF IS BACK ON FOR A NEW LAUNCH

Clean PowerSF, the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, promising to bring a clean energy alternative, giving consumers the ability to choose between energy service suppliers, is predicting to launch as early as January of 2016. The on again, off again, on again program now seems to have the support of city officials. An implementation plan was filed with the CCA program and power contracting legislation was recently passed by the mayor and the Board of Supervisors. Next, Clean PowerSF will solicit offers for the program's electric resource suppliers. By October or November a final rate structure will be presented to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). If approved, a rollout could come in early 2016.

One of the controversial aspects of the CCA program is that current Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) customers would be automatically enrolled in Clean PowerSF and individuals would then have to "opt out" to return to PG&E. Just who and what part of San Francisco would be included in Phase One remains to be seen.

In April, the Rate Fairness Board approved the maximum rates for the standard program set at \$0.086 per kWh for residential customers, and \$0.092 per kWh for small commercial customers, consisting of 33 to 50 percent renewable energy. A second tier program of 100 percent renewable energy would be capped at \$0.107 per kWh (residential) and \$0.112 per kWh (small commercial).

### METNA MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2015  
7:00pm, Palmetto Meeting Hall  
640 Palmetto Avenue  
(between St. Charles and Chester)

#### Invited Guests

Norman Yee, Supervisor  
SF Board of Supervisors, District 7

John Avalos, Supervisor  
SF Board of Supervisors, District 11

Greg Suhr, Chief of Police  
City and County of San Francisco  
Denise Flaherty, Captain  
Taraval Station, SFPD

Alison Kastama,  
Regional Communications Liaison  
Jeffrey Gilman,  
Groundwater Project Manager  
SF Public Utilities Commission

Daniel Homsey, Director  
Neighborhood Empowerment Network  
City and County of San Francisco

**ALL NEIGHBORS WELCOME**

## BE SAFE ON THE STREET & CROSSING THE STREET

*METNA, SFSAFE, and the SFDPH Traffic Safety Program want all pedestrians to be safe on San Francisco streets. Here are a series of safety tips to make your walk safe as we embrace Vision Zero:*

1. Be patient. Stop! Watch out for oncoming vehicles that you may not see or that may not see you.
2. Always stop at the curb of the pedestrian walkway. Cross at controlled intersections or marked pedestrian crosswalks.
3. Before crossing a street, look both ways to ensure it is safe to proceed.
4. Keep looking in all directions as you cross the street. Do not be distracted with a cell phone or other hand held devices.
5. Walk, don't run! Do not make a sudden turn back into traffic.
6. Never dash out into the road, or chase after a bus or street car.
7. Never step out from between parked cars to cross the road.
8. When exiting from public transportation, wait until the vehicle comes to a complete stop and then look both ways to ensure it is safe to proceed.
9. Always obey traffic signs and signals. Watch out for turning or reversing vehicles.
10. Wear bright or light color clothes at night, so you can be easily seen by motorists.
11. Walk and remain on the sidewalk. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far from the roadway as possible.
12. In inclement weather, make sure your umbrella or raingear does not prevent you from seeing approaching vehicles.

*Always follow these steps when crossing a street:*

- >**Always** use a marked crosswalk when one is available. The bright white or yellow lines of a crosswalk remind motorists to look out for pedestrians.
- >**STOP** at the curb, edge of road, corner or parked vehicle before proceeding across.
- >**LOOK** left, right, then left again, and then when it is clear, begin crossing.
- >**CONTINUE** to check for traffic in all directions, especially for vehicles turning "right on red."
- >**DO NOT ASSUME** that drivers see you all the time. If there is traffic, make eye contact with the driver(s) so they see you and understand your intention.

*When crossing an intersection:*

~If there is a push button, press the button and wait for the pedestrian signal to display the "walk" indication. The "WALK" signal indicates that a pedestrian facing the signal indication may proceed across the roadway in that direction. Remember to follow the basic "crossing rules" and check for turning vehicles.

~A flashing "DON'T WALK" signal indication means that a pedestrian shall not start to cross the roadway in the direction of the indication, even though there is a countdown signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed their crossing shall finish or proceed to a safety island in that direction. *That is the law!*

~A steadily illuminated "DON'T WALK" indication means a pedestrian shall not enter the roadway in the direction of the indication. Pedestrians waiting to cross must wait for the next "WALK" signal. *That is also the law!*

~At signalized intersections that do not have pedestrian signals, pedestrians facing a green light may cross within a crosswalk in the direction of the light, but only when it is safe to do so. At signalized intersections with pedestrian signals, it is important to follow the directions of the pedestrian signal, even though the signal light is green.

~Remember, do not take those "NO RIGHT TURN ON RED" signs for granted. Always check for turning vehicles before stepping off the curb, as motorists do make mistakes.

~Do not stand too close to the curb when waiting to cross, as busses and large trucks sometimes come close when making a right turn.

~Be safe at all times. Never take chances. Your life depends on it.

## METNA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### METNA MEETING SCHEDULE

7:00 pm Palmetto Meeting Hall

640 Palmetto Avenue

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

### POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

3rd Tuesday each month

@ Taraval Police Station, 2345 -24<sup>th</sup> Avenue,

Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, September 15, 2015, 7:00 pm

\*Tuesday, October 20, 2015, 6:00 pm

\*@ M&L Ward Rec. Center, 650 Capitol Avenue

### OCEANVIEW VILLAGE HOA MEETING

7:00pm @ OceanView Village HOA Office

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

### TARAVAL POLICE STATION WEBSITE

[www.taraval.org](http://www.taraval.org)

*A partial cost of the printing of this Newsletter is being underwritten by FedExOffice, Colma*

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Glenn Rogers

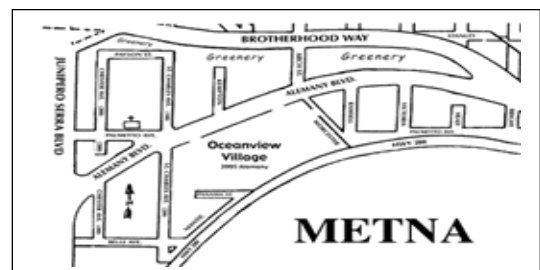
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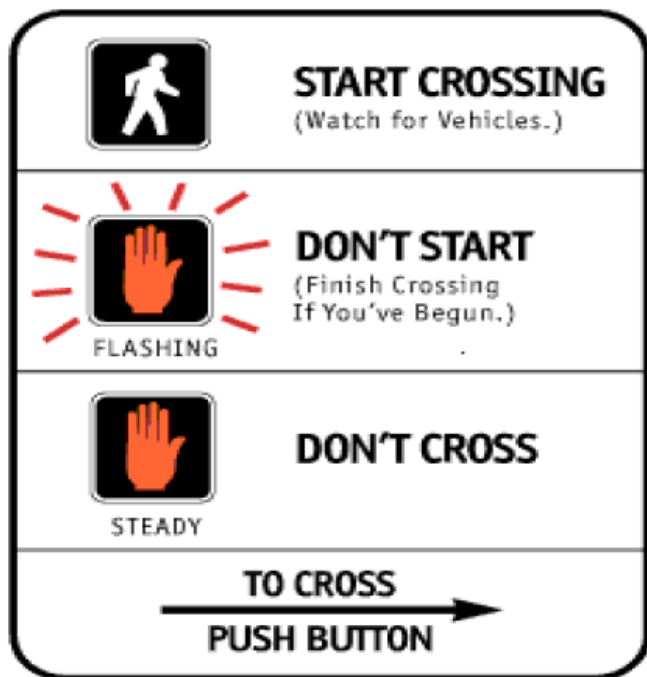
(415) 333-9317

Eric Berquist

233 Chester Ave.

(415) 939-2377





Mayor Ed Lee at the May 2015 METNA meeting.

### Coming to the METNA Meeting

On the agenda for the August 11<sup>th</sup> METNA meeting will be Alison Kastama, Regional Communications Liaison, and Jeffrey Gilman, Groundwater Project manager who will give an update on the Westside Groundwater Project and how it will integrate with the current water system.

Supervisors Norman Yee (Dist. 7) and John Avalos (Dist. 11) have been invited to discuss efforts to secure a grocery and pharmacy at OceanView Village.

Supervisor Avalos will also give an update on the Sisterhood Garden Project slated for the north side of Brotherhood Way.

METNA has invited Police Chief Greg Suhr, along with the new Taraval Police Station Captain Denise Flaherty. Chief Suhr will be introducing Captain Flaherty and discussing the new body cameras that will be worn by police officers throughout the City.

Daniel Homsey will make a return visit to discuss the Empowered Communities Program (ecp), and METNA's participation in the Resilient Brotherhood Way Corridor program that will help to ensure that the Merced Extension Triangle and surrounding communities be self sufficient in case of a major disaster. Signups will take place for volunteers wishing to work on creating a disaster preparedness plan for the neighborhood, one that will target families, the elderly and disabled persons residing in the area.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

### OCEANVIEW VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY UPDATE

Work continues at OceanView Village Residential Property on phase two of the reconstruction repairs on Building 2 and 3. The work on this phase began in February of this year and will continue at least until the end of the year. The general contractor is A.C. Enterprises. The project continues to provide waterproofing for the courtyard/podium level and for the private decks, along with the siding, windows, and other areas prone to water leaks. For time schedules and updated information on the project, contact the OceanView Village Management Office, at 650-757-9675.

### ONGOING MEETINGS REGARDING AIR & SOIL SAMPLES

A series of seven meetings have taken place involving neighborhood associations and stakeholders regarding air and soil sample testing of Parkmerced and surrounding areas. Representatives have been concerned about what measures should be taken to ensure the safety of the environment currently and during the demolition and reconstruction of Parkmerced. The San

Francisco Public Health Department will be the lead agency in monitoring air and soil.

### SISTERHOOD FARMS AT BROTHERHOOD AND ARCH

A neighborhood meeting was scheduled for the last week in July as the METNA News was going to press. The project is moving forward, beginning with a design phase. There should be more to report in the next two editions of the METNA News, and at our quarterly neighborhood meetings.

### WALKWAY ALONG BROTHERHOOD WAY

Partial funding will soon be allocated from District 7 Participatory Budgeting funds. The project will then go into a design mode for pavement along the south side of Brotherhood Way from Thomas More Way to St. Charles Avenue.

### HERTZ TO OPEN AT OCEANVIEW VILLAGE

The Hertz Rental Car Company is set to open at OceanView Village soon. No date has been given, but it appears that the site is near completion.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH cont'd

### RADAR DETECTION DEVICES ALONG ALEMANY BLVD.

MTA has been very slow in responding to METNA's request for radar detection signs along Alemany Blvd. as a traffic calming measure. The money was allocated a year ago from District 7 Participatory Budgeting funds. A recent call to MTA-traffic division assured METNA President Marc Christensen that a meeting to find an appropriate location would soon take place and that installation would be sometime this fall.

### CROSSING ALEMANY BLVD. AT ST. CHARLES REMAINS A SERIOUS SAFETY ISSUE

Pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Alemany Blvd. have had many near misses with automobiles in the crosswalks at the St. Charles/Palmetto intersection. In the last two months alone, two persons have been hit in the crosswalk and taken away in an ambulance. Within the past eight years a pedestrian was killed while crossing Alemany in the St. Charles crosswalk. METNA will turn its attention toward requesting a solar powered flashing pedestrian light that can be pressed by anyone before crossing Alemany Blvd. Stepped up traffic patrols at the intersection have also been requested while METNA waits for a response from MTA, as part of the Vision Zero Pedestrian Safety Program.

### METNA IS REQUESTING MEETINGS WITH OVV LEASEHOLDERS

METNA is asking for meetings with Albertsons and Walgreens to reopen the closed retail spaces at OceanView Village.

Working with the Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and staff in Supervisors Norman Yee's and John Avalos' offices, we need to discuss the toll the vacancies are having on neighborhood residents and the strong desire to have these spaces sublet at the earliest possible time.

### SFMTA FARES AND FEES RISE

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) raised Muni fares and other fees and fines as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Increases are tied to the Bay Area consumer price index and SFMTA's labor costs.

To ride Muni the regular fare increased to \$2.25. Discount fares for the disabled, seniors and youth increased from 75 cents to one dollar. Cable car fares went from \$6 to \$7 as of the start of the new fiscal year. The Adult "A" fast pass rose to \$83 per month, while the Adult "M" pass went to \$70. The Disabled/Senior/Youth monthly Muni pass now is at \$25.

Also increased are parking and transit fines, too numerous to mention. The annual August renewal for residential parking permits, RPP "B" and "CC" in the MET has increased to \$111. The RPP visitor/rental car permits for a limited time period has increased substantially. The fees are: \$13 for 1-5 days, \$38 for a 2-week permit, \$56 for 4 weeks, \$73 for 6 weeks, and \$95 for 8 weeks.

For a listing of all fees and fines go to: [www.sfmta.com/parking](http://www.sfmta.com/parking).

**Join METNA**

## METNA NEWS – CHINESE TRANSLATION

METNA is providing a translation of the METNA News into Chinese. The translated METNA News appears online and can be obtained free of charge by contacting METNA Secretary Terry Watson at [watsoclark@comcast.net](mailto:watsoclark@comcast.net).

## BUSINESS OF THE ISSUE

### SAILAWAY CRUISES

Cruise and Land Vacations  
3990 Alemany Blvd., Suite A  
San Francisco, CA 94132  
Phone: 415-334-3700

Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm. M-F

*Weekends by appointment*

E-mail: [info@sailawaynow.com](mailto:info@sailawaynow.com)

Dennis & Claire Sanchez, charter METNA members and longtime neighborhood supporters, are the working owners of SailAway Cruises & Land Vacations, a travel agency located at 3990 Alemany, Suite A, near the north west corner of Alemany Blvd. and St. Charles Ave.

They have expert knowledge of the cruise ship industry and of land vacation packages. Whether you are considering a trip to a place you have never been or a long-awaited return to a familiar favorite spot, let Dennis and Claire help you plan the experience of a lifetime. Dennis states, "We welcome our friends and neighbors to call and have us personalize your next memorable vacation."

As the METNA News has done for the past five issues, we have highlighted the various neighborhood businesses that we believe our residents should support whenever possible. Dennis and Claire at SailAway Cruises deserve your support. They will customize a vacation that will fit your budget and needs.

## METNA REMINDER

### GRAFFITI ON PROPERTY S.F. PUBLIC WORKS CODE, Article 23, Sec 1300-1309

**Section 1303 - Prohibition:** "It shall be unlawful for the owner of any real property within the City and County bearing graffiti to allow graffiti to remain."

(added by ord. 29-94, app. 1/14/94).

In 2004 the City Graffiti Ordinance was amended requiring private property owners to remove graffiti from their property within 30 days of a notice by the Department of Public Works. (PWC, Art. 23). Then in 2008, under the Community Preservation and Blight Reduction Ordinance, the City has enforcement powers to reduce graffiti along with other forms of blight in San Francisco neighborhoods. In accordance with the ordinance, delinquent owners get 15 days to remove graffiti and are charged an inspection fee. Fines are then levied if the property owner does not remove the graffiti. Under the Blight Ordinance, the property owner has a right to ask for a hearing.