

The METNA News

Newsletter of the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association

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Visit us at: metna.org

November 2021

BE PROUD OF THE MERCED EXTENSION TRIANGLE *Volunteer Neighborhood Residents Keep It Safe & Clean with Pride*

Take a look at your Merced Extension Triangle and take pride in the way it looks—most of the time. Yes, there is dumping—most of it from people who drive into the neighborhood and dump items, and people (some who live here and some who do not) who litter as they pass by. And yes, there is the occasional graffiti as taggers from outside the MET leave their unwanted marks on public and private property.

Yet, there is a group of more than ten neighborhood residents who have plastic nitrile gloves, a metal picker, and orange Giant Sweep trash bags who at least once a week (and several who pick up trash several days a week) keep our neighborhood looking respectable. There are a group of (currently) four individual volunteer graffiti removal residents who try to paint out graffiti as soon as it appears. We thank each volunteer for their efforts and pride in neighborhood beautification.

METNA Board members, Sue Harless (new Neighborhood Improvement chair), Glen Hatakeyama (vice president), Marc Christensen (president) and Steve Heide (Board member) head up the cleaning effort. If you would like to be a part of the "Clean Team Crew," please contact one of the officers and they will help you get the supplies needed to join the clean team effort.

There are several things that each resident can do to help in the effort. If trash appears in front or near your home, pick it up and dispose of it properly. Also, clean your sidewalk and curb area of weeds once they appear. If someone has dumped excessive amounts of trash in an area, public or private, call 3-1-1 to report its exact location, giving a description of the items. Depending on the items, Public Works or Recology will come to the site to pick up the items. Always ask for a tracking number and follow it until the items are picked up.

If you have unwanted items that you wish to discard, Recology has a free service to pick up unwanted household items. Call Recology at 415-330-1300, to arrange for a pickup.

Working together, everyone can take pride in our wonderful neighborhood.

SFMTA'S PLAN FOR MUNI SERVICE IN AND AROUND THE MET FOR THE COMING YEAR NOT SET YET

The 54-Felton bus line began service on St. Charles 40 years ago, in January, 1982. Residents on the 200 block of St. Charles have for years asked SFMTA (Municipal Transportation Agency) to reroute the bus off of St. Charles and on to the Alemany Bridge, via Junipero Serra and John Daly Blvd., to Daly City BART. The last request was denied in December, 2012 in a 7-page letter to METNA detailing SFMTA's denial for moving the bus line.

In July of this year, SFMTA noted plans to bring the 57-Parkmerced line back into service, after a one-year layoff due to the coronavirus pandemic, on August 14th. Their plan rerouted the 57-line in numerous segments. One route change, a positive move, was to bring the southbound 57 bus from Junipero Serra, up Brotherhood to Arch, right on Arch with a stop at Arch and Alemany to serve Oceanview Village and specifically Hmart. The plan after that was to have the 57 bus turn right on to Alemany, and then left on the St. Charles, following the path of the 54-Felton to Daly City BART, more than doubling the number of buses per hour on the narrow 30-foot wide St. Charles. That is considered a negative move.

Once residents were informed about the planned move in mid-July, just a month from the planned return of the 57, a letter writing campaign began protesting the St. Charles route of the 57. Emails and letters were sent to SFMTA executives and transportation planners, as well as to District 7 Supervisor Myrna Melgar stating their opposition to the 57-Parkmerced traveling southbound on St. Charles.

Both the northbound 54 and 57 had previously traveled (and still do) from Daly City BART on John Daly, to Junipero Serra, and then to the Alemany-St. Charles intersection.

A petition drive by residents on St. Charles and two surrounding blocks, Belle and Niantic, "Do not run the 57-Parkmerced bus on St. Charles Avenue" was circulated and signed by 95% of the residents living on St. Charles. The petitions were given to SFMTA and to D7 Supervisor Myrna Melgar in mid-July. SFMTA listened, and rerouted the 57 off of St. Charles on September 18th. SFMTA is now looking at a METNA request to have the 54-Felton also rerouted off of St. Charles. That request is looking at the space constraints of multiple bus lines stopping at the Daly City BART eastern bus loading areas. No decision has been made to date.

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METNA MEETING

Tuesday November 9, 2021
7:00pm, Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Invited Guests

Dennis Herrera, General Manager
Steven Ritchie, Asst. General Manager,
Water, SF Public Utilities Commission

Myrna Melgar, District 7 Supervisor
S.F. Board of Supervisors

Nick Rainsford, Captain
Taraval Police Station, SFPD
Rani Singh, District Liaison
District Attorney's Office

Noelle Duong, Community Relations
Waymo

THE VIRTUAL ZOOM METNA MEETING
IS OPEN TO CURRENT METNA
MEMBERS ONLY

Contact METNA Vice President Glen
Hatakeyama by November 7th for a link to
the meeting

In the November 2007 (Vol. 8, No. 1) and the November 2014 (Vol. 15, No. 1) editions of the METNA News we highlighted a pictorial review of twelve projects that METNA had been involved with over a seven year period. In this issue we continue that tradition by highlighting twelve of the many projects that METNA has worked on in the past seven years to improve safety, security, and quality of life issues for our neighborhood residents. Here is a partial list of the many projects that METNA has worked with and advocated for our neighborhood triangle, and beyond.



New Brotherhood Way Sidewalk

completed: October 2015



Guard rail John Daly Blvd exit off I 280

June 2016



Radar Speed Signs on Alemany Blvd.

Installed: July 2016



200 Block Head St. new pavement.

Installed : November 2016



Brotherhood Way Tunnel Lighting Project.

Installed: March 2017



Sisterhood Gardens.

Grand Opening: April 2018



Radar Speed Signs on Brotherhood Way *installed: February 2019*



Lake Merced/Brotherhood walkway *Completed: February 2019*



Bus shelter at Alemany & Arch

Installed: August 2019



Repaved Palmetto/other blks.

Completed February 2021



Chester Mini Park New Benches

Installed: July 2021



Renovation of Alemany-Brotherhood Dog Park

Ongoing

METNA will continue to work with various public and private agencies to provide the same guidance, leadership and service to the community. Thank you for supporting METNA—your neighborhood organization that has worked for 21 years to make quality of life issues and safety a top priority. To those of you who have not joined our unique Association, we urge you to join us, and attend our quarterly neighborhood meetings, whenever possible. Together we will provide a positive influence to our community and the City.

SFMTA Plans cont'd from page 1

On August 14th, the 57-Parkmerced was no longer traveling up and down Brotherhood Way, west of Chumasero, on Lake Merced Blvd., nor on John Muir Drive, Skyline Blvd. and Sloat Blvd. This removal no longer has the 57-line directly serving 800 Summit, the schools and churches along Brotherhood Way, Lake Merced Hill, the Lakewood Apartments (on John Muir), Harding Park, the Janet Pomeroy Center (on Herbst at Skyline), the San Francisco Zoo, and the Lakeshore Shopping Plaza, home to many retail businesses, including Lucky Supermarket, and our local U.S. Postal Service Center. To the north, the 57 Parkmerced stops at Ocean Avenue and Junipero Serra, no longer serving West Portal. METNA officers, and other community members have requested the 57 be restored to its previous service route and locations.

NEW LEADERSHIP AT PUBLIC UTILITIES & PUBLIC WORKS

New leadership is emerging at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and at San Francisco Public Works. A new search is under way for the Directorship of Public Works, while former San Francisco District Attorney Dennis Herrera is set to take over the SFPUC position on November 1st. General Manager Dennis Herrera has been invited to attend the November 9th METNA Zoom meeting. Three topics of discussion are Herrera's vision for the PUC, water conservation measures for San Francisco, and a progress update on the new Lake Merced recreation site, formerly the Pacific Rod & Gun Range on the south-west side of the Lake.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**MOSIAC TILED STAIRS COMING TO RAMSELL ST. ALONGSIDE SISTERHOOD GARDENS**

A tiled mosaic design has been approved by stakeholders and neighborhood residents associated with Sisterhood Gardens, for the Ramsell Steps just to the east of the gardens. The concrete steps that connect Ramsell to Brotherhood Way will contain a mosaic design on the façade of the stairs by artist Kim Jensen. The 24-steps will feature California native plants and pollinators with a theme, "Together We Grow—Ramsell Street Tiled Steps." Funded by a community grant, the mosaic design went through an approval process with the SF Arts Commission, regarding the Public Works stairs. The mosaic tiles will be installed in early 2022.

BART WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

BART has begun a Wireless Technology Program to bring next-generation connectivity to the BART system. A pilot program along the trackway from Balboa Park BART station to the Daly City BART station will feature the installation of four low-profile poles, starting in November. Installation of the poles will take place over two weeks, and for safety reasons must be installed during overnight hours when trains are not in service. Construction noise will occur during installation. One pole will be located near the Alemany-Brotherhood-Sagamore intersection on the south side of 280, and another pole located across from OceanView Village on the south side of 280, both on the BART right-of-way.

The project will improve cell phone connectivity on BART trains and will provide better Wi-Fi coverage at both stations. As an added bonus some neighbors living up to a half-mile from the poles may enjoy expanded 5G cellular coverage, better connectivity to audio and video streaming, and experience less network congestion during emergencies and disaster situations. For more information go to: bart.gov/wireless.

DOG OWNERS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO PICK UP THEIR DOG'S EXCREMENT

Public Health Code 40 states: "Dogs to be controlled so as not commit nuisances. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of a dog who permits said dog to defecate on public or private property, or who walks a dog without carrying a container suitable for the removal of dog excrement."

This public health code applies to all sidewalks, streets, vacant lots, public parks (including dog parks), and all property, including one's own backyard. Please be a responsible pet owner and a good neighbor and always pick up after your pet while disposing of it properly in a bag in your household's BLACK trash bin.

BE FIRE SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

METNA and the San Francisco Fire Department want all neighborhood residents to practice safe fire procedures year round, but especially during the holiday season. It is good to have a family discussion about good safety practices, and to check your CO2 and smoke detectors to make sure they are working properly.

Best wishes for a very happy and safe holiday season from METNA.

METNA MEETING

7:00pm, TUESDAY, November 9, 2021, via Zoom, for current METNA members only. The Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association (METNA) again will present a virtual Zoom meeting over the internet. This meeting will be open to current METNA members (those who have paid dues for 2021), who wish to join the meeting. A complete list of "Invited Guests" appears on page one. To join the meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 7:00pm, contact Vice President Glen Hatakeyama by November 7th for a link to the meeting. Glen will send the link out to METNA members who have a valid e-mail address on file.

JOIN METNA**METNA OFFICERS**

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