

The METNA News

Newsletter of the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association

Volume 22 Number 2

Visit us at: metna.org

February 2022

SFMTA TO RETURN MUNI SERVICE TO SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) has announced service restorations for the Southwest corridors of San Francisco. The timeline for restorations was announced in late December. The target dates are scheduled for March and June according to public statements made by SFMTA.

In March the 23-Monterey will return to Sloat Blvd. serving Sigmund Stern Grove, Lakeshore Plaza, the Janet Pomeroy Center (one block to the south), the San Francisco Zoo, and Ocean Beach. Also in March the 57-Parkmerced currently in service will be extended back to serving West Portal and the Twin Peaks Tunnel at West Portal and Ulloa connecting to the K, T, and M Muni Metro lines and the L-Taraval temporary bus line.

The 58- Lake Merced will be rerouted to serve 800 Summit and the schools and churches along Brotherhood Way, then south along Lake Merced Blvd. to John Muir Drive around the west side of Lake Merced with a stop on Skyline northbound (and on Herbst southbound) serving the Janet Pomeroy Center, then around the north side of the lake to Stonestown via Lake Merced Blvd. and Winston Drive. On its outbound route, the 58 will go up Brotherhood to Arch, then stop at Oceanview Village on its way to John Daly Blvd. via the Alemany Bridge (same as the 57 Parkmerced), and then up past Daly City BART to the Top of the Hill Daly City. The 58 will no longer serve the Westlake Shopping Center in Daly City. The 122 SamTrans bus line will continue to serve Lake Merced Blvd. from

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS VOTES TO SPLIT PUBLIC WORKS

In November 2020, San Francisco voters approved a ballot measure, Proposition B, to split the Department of Public Works into two entities. On December 14, 2021 the Board of Supervisors acted on the ballot initiative.

The Board of Supervisors voted to create new commissions—the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the new Department of Sanitation and Streets (DSS)—by July 1 and the new department by October 1st.

The Department of Public Works will continue to provide services such as maintaining city streets, sidewalks, curb ramps, bridges, tunnels, stairways and plazas, plus building design and infrastructure construction.

The Department of Sanitation and Streets will be responsible for street sweeping, cleaning sidewalks, graffiti removal, maintaining the network of sidewalk trash receptacles, removing illegally dumped items and waste, and maintaining street trees.

Interim Public Works Director Carla Short stated at the Board of Supervisors meeting in December, "The law is going to cost the City a significant amount of money and not result in cleaner streets."

METNA contacted Carla Short for response: "A chief concern with splitting San Francisco Public Works into two is that the change will result in significantly more administrative costs that come with operating two separate departments - with no guarantee of cleaner streets. We also are likely to see added hurdles in coordinating and delivering public infrastructure improvements that rely on both the capital and operations teams to succeed, for example, Vision Zero street safety projects. That said, we are working closely with the City Administrator's team to implement Proposition B, as prescribed by City voters and the Board of Supervisors." The administrative costs of splitting DPW and implementing DSS was first estimated (in 2020) to cost city government an additional \$2.5 million to \$6 million annually. The current 2022 cost for administration of the new commission is now projected to be between \$6 million and \$9.3 million a year.

The Board of Supervisors has not finalized its plans as the METNA News goes to press.

SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022

All voters will have the opportunity to vote in the three School Board recall contests and voting for the Assessor-Recorder city position. Passage of AB 37 made permanent the automatic mailing of ballots to all voters as well as universal access to counties' accessible vote-by-mail systems and also mandated the operation of official ballot drop boxes during a 29-day early voting period.

Local City Ordinance No. 210961 made permanent Proposition N's non-citizen registration and voting in local School Board elections including the upcoming School Board recall election.

Precinct #9738/9756

St. Thomas More Church

1300 Juipero Serra Blvd., (enter betwn. J. Serra & Thomas More Way)

Provisional voting sites:

Precinct #1115

IT Bookman Community Center

446 Randolph St. (at Arch)

Precinct #1125

Firehouse #33

8 Capitol Ave. (at Sagamore)

METNA MEETING

Tuesday February 8, 2022
7:00pm, Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Invited Guests

Mayor London Breed
City & County of SF

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

Rodd Lee, Asst., General Manager
Molly Burke, Public Relations
Bay Area Rapid Transit

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

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

Contact METNA Vice President
Glen Hatakeyama by February 5th
for a link to the meeting

RESILIENT MET LOOKING TO EXPAND ITS BLOCK CHAMPIONS PROGRAM

METNA Is in the process of ordering emergency supplies to be used in the community in case of a catastrophic emergency. Resilient MET, part of the Neighborhood Empowerment Network of community organizations, was formed to provide community support.

Resilient MET is looking to add to the team of ten current Block Champions (Block Captains) that will be trained to serve their immediate and surrounding blocks in case of an emergency. Block Champions will coordinate emergency services by locating neighbors, setting up a block content map, build connections with neighbors, inventory vulnerable neighbors who may need help in an emergency, coordinate translation services if needed, create a block center to store emergency supplies to support all neighbors.

If you would like to volunteer to be a Block Champion to support Resilient MET's efforts, please contact Vice President Glen Hatakeyama at 415-333-0197.

When you join the team you will be given access to supplies for your immediate neighbors when needed.

GAS SHUTOFF VALVES A KEY TO SAFETY IN AN EMERGENCY

Do you know where your safety shutoff valves are in and outside of your home? If not, now is the time to familiarize yourself with all shutoff valves.

Inside your home (if you have the following):

- *gas hot water heater *gas furnace
- *gas stove *other gas appliances

Those shutoff valves are right near the appliance. DO NOT turn them to check, however have an easy way to reach them with a shutoff tool, (keep handy) if you need to use it.

Inside or outside your home, next to your gas meter is a shutoff valve. The position of the valve is in-line to the pipe when gas is flowing through the line. A ¼ turn, when the valve is horizontal (across the pipe) means the gas is shut off. Again, do not test the valve or you may inadvertently shut off the gas supply.

There is also an "outside/sidewalk valve" located either on the sidewalk or planted area in front of your home. The cover is round and has the word "Gas" on the lid. Down in the ground, 18" to 24" (in most cases) is that valve on the line. That valve is important to access if there is a major disaster. In many cases people do not check that access valve annually which everyone should do. In some cases the cover is either buried under plantings or if on the sidewalk, it is possibly sealed shut.

Within the next week find the cover, loosen it, and see if the shutoff valve is easily accessible or buried under dirt or debris. Clear the area without disturbing the valve, so that in an emergency you have easy access to the shutoff valve. DO NOT touch the valve when checking. Sometimes a little lubricating oil can help keep the valve from turning easily when it is needed to be shut off.

Preliminary steps, now, can make it easier for you and/or PG&E to access these important safety valves.

If you smell gas, call 911 and report the problem. Also call PG&E at 800-743-5000 to report the problem. Open windows and leave the immediate area.

Once a line is shut off. DO NOT TURN A SHUT OFF LINE BACK ON. Call PG&E and a trained service technician will come to your home to safely turn the line(s) back on and check each appliance.

KNOWING WHAT TO DO NOW, CAN SAVE PRECIOUS TIME IN ANY EMERGENCY.

METNA HAS A NEW TREASURER

After 21 years as Treasurer of METNA, Rich Zerga is resigning his position effective February 1, 2022. We sincerely thank Rich Zerga for his loyal service as treasurer and wish him well in his personal endeavors. Sue Harless has graciously volunteered to serve as Treasurer. To join METNA send a \$20 check to Sue Harless (Officers).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

METNA MEETINGS

7:00pm on the following dates

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, via Zoom

Tuesday, May 10, 2022, TBA

Tuesday, August 9, 2022, TBA

Tuesday, November 15, 2022* TBA

* (3rd Tuesday in November, as 2nd Tuesday is Election Day)

SISTERHOOD GARDENS' BUILD DAYS

10:00am - 1:00pm on the following dates

Saturday, February 12, 2022

Saturday, March 12, 2022

Saturday, April 10, 2022

Saturday, May 14, 2022

MET COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

There are daily on-line classes. Go to:

www.sfcommunityliving.org

To receive your own monthly copy of classes,

Contact Laura Atkins:

laura@communityliving.org

or call 415-341-4713

RESILIENT MET

To sign up as a Block Champion contact Glen Hatakeyama at 415-333-0197

JOIN METNA

METNA OFFICERS

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Marc Christensen
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415 585-2465
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Vice President
Glen Hatakeyama
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415 333-0197
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Secretary
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233 Chester Ave
415 939-2377

Treasurer
Sue Harless
79 Kempton Ave
415 347-7361

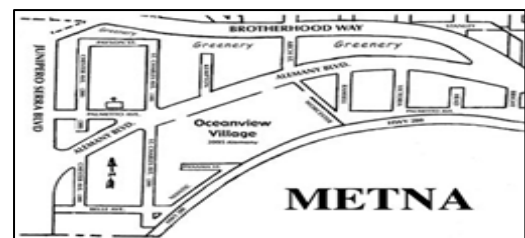
Sergeant at Arms
Neil Hunt
239 St. Charles
414 308-3486

Neighborhood Improvement
Steve Heide
306 St. Charles Ave.
650 991-0463

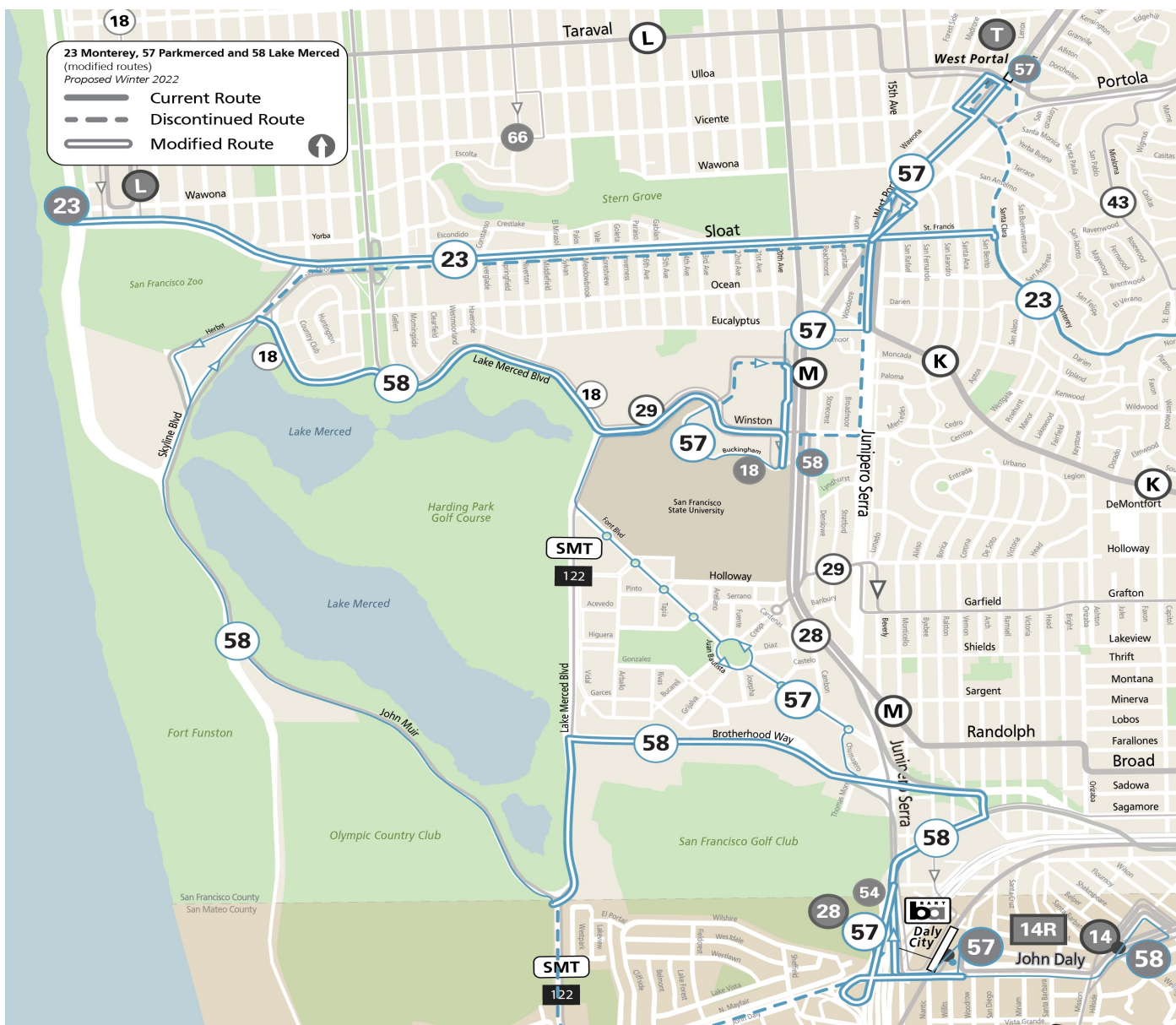
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Joan Broer
3981 Alemany Blvd.,
#108
415 347-3188

Claire Sanchez
3990 Alemany Blvd.
415-334-3711
Claire@sailawaynow.com



Partial map of southwest San Francisco

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Westlake to Stonestown. The 28R- 19th Avenue will return again with a stop at Arch & Alemany serving OceanView Village and the MET on its way to 19th Avenue to the north and to Balboa BART to the north-east, but not until June.

The 28-19th Avenue and the 54-Felton will continue on their routes to Daly City BART as will the 14R- Mission line. The M-Oceanview Metro line will continue along 19th Avenue serving San Francisco State, and Stonestown, and on 19th Avenue, Randolph, Broad, and San Jose Avenue on its outbound route to Balboa Park, and return.

The 29-Sunset line will continue its route serving Stonestown and beyond. All in all, when service is restored the southwest neighborhoods will see improved service. We thank SFMTA for listening to the voices of individuals, our Supervisor, and neighborhood associations including METNA.

NEW SECURITY CAMERAS FOR OCEANVIEW VILLAGE RETAIL PARKING LOT

The retail property owners at OceanView Village have installed new high resolution security cameras on a trial basis. Two security agencies patrol portions of OVV retail, Forbes Security in the parking lot and Freedom Security within and around Hmart.

New security signs have been posted throughout the parking lot stating, "Prevent Theft. Lock your car. Take your keys. Hide your belongings. It takes 30 seconds for thieves to rob your car."

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

LATE OCTOBER STORM TAKES ITS TOLL ON SAN FRANCISCO & THE MET

The severe storm that hit Northern California on October 23, 24, and the early hours of the 25th, brought a deluge of rain and wind to San Francisco and the Merced Extension Triangle. Rain and wind damaged approximately 900 trees, toppling many throughout San Francisco. Four large trees fell in the MET, two in the Alemany-Brotherhood Way Dog Park, and two along the Head Street Stairs at Alemany, one blocking the stairs, and one blocking the sidewalk below. Another tree was uprooted on the lot at Upper Palmetto and Oceanview Terrace, as winds reaching over 35 mph added to the 6.3 inches of rain that fell in a 36-hour period that weekend in the MET.

Other tree limbs broke off on Alemany and Junipero Serra and a few in neighborhood back yards. The 3900 block of Alemany was shut down for more than six hours on the morning of Monday, October 25 as power lines to at least four houses were felled by the wind, blocking the thoroughfare. PG&E was quick to respond and had the street opened after repairs to the south side power pole.

The storm with a strong low pressure system off the northwest coast, known as a "Cyclone bomb," combined with a subtropical "atmospheric river" brought 4.02 inches of rain to San Francisco on one day, Sunday, October 24, a single day record for October, the fourth wettest day ever recorded in San Francisco, going back over 150 years of record keeping. Downtown San Francisco recorded 5.50 inches of rain for the storm. The wettest day ever in San Francisco was 5.54 inches of rain on November 5, 1994.

For the month of October, the MET received 6.3 inches of rain. November was relatively dry with just 0.95 (less than an inch) of rain from November 1 to the 18th. Mid-December 12-13, 14, 15 saw 5.2 inches of rain, while from December 22 to the 30th, an additional 4.1 inches fell, for a total of 8.95 inches of rain in December.

Seasonal rain totals (July 1-December 31) showed 19.6 inches, for a very strong start to the rainy season.

Despite the amount rainfall so far this season, we are still in a severe drought condition, due to minimal rainfall over the past two years. Conservation measures remain in place.

LAKE MERCED SAFETY PROJECT

The Lake Merced Pedestrian Safety Community Based Transportation

Plan (CBTP) in which two METNA members participated on last year in a series of virtual internet community meetings with SFMTA planners, will bring needed improvements to Lake Merced Boulevard between Skyline Blvd. and John Muir Drive on the east side of the lake. The plan includes safety enhancements for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. The Quick Build Project is in the planning stages. Marc Christensen (METNA president), and Hans Wu (800 Summit HOA president, and METNA member) participated in the community input planning phase. For questions and information regarding the project, contact Adrienne Heim, Transportation Planner at SFMTA: Adrienne.Heim@sfmta.com, or at 415-646-2546.

NEW CONCRETE SIDEWALKS ON 3900 BLOCK OF ALEMANY

In early December, Public Works replaced sections of sidewalk on both sides of the 3900 block of Alemany where street trees roots had lifted the sidewalk creating a tripping hazard. Work was performed by Public Works after a request from METNA to alleviate the safety issue.

SPEED BUMP TO BE INSTALLED ON PALMETTO AVENUE

The 600 block of Palmetto Avenue, a one-way street heading west between St. Charles and Chester, will soon receive a speed bump.

Neighborhood residents on the 600 block of Palmetto requested the speed bump more than a year ago. The SFMTA approved the traffic calming measure last spring, and we are waiting for it to be installed.

METNA MEETING

7:00pm, TUESDAY, February 8, 2022, 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 2022), who wish to join the meeting. A complete list of "Invited Guests" appears on page one. To join the meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7:00pm, contact Vice President Glen Hatakeyama by February 6th 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

Security cont'd from page 3

There are existing security cameras in and around the parking areas, and the new cameras will augment the security. Car break-in have occurred in the parking lot since Hmart has opened. The San Francisco Police Department responds quickly, however, the car thieves are quick to break in and leave the area. As everyone is aware, these crimes happen all over San Francisco and the Bay Area.

Posted signs in the retail establishments say, "Park Smart! If you love it, don't leave it. Car thieves only need seconds to break in and steal your valuables." The same holds true for the streets of San Francisco.

SFPUC TO CITY RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES: CUT WATER USE BY 5%

As originally reported in the August 2021 METNA News, "SFPUC Requests Water Conservation," and as stated by SFPUC's Steven Ritchie, Assistant General manager of Water, at the November 9, 2021 METNA Zoom Meeting, water conservation is being requested.

On November 23, officials at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) asked city residents and businesses to reduce water use by 5% and asked the more than two dozen communities that buy water from the city to reduce water use by 14%. The goal is a cumulative savings of 10%.

Under the new target of water use reduction, currently it is just a request, there is no penalty attached. However, at the November 23rd SFPUC Board meeting, a surcharge of 5% was enacted that will go into effect on April 1st to offset the loss of revenue from the water conservation measures.

SFPUC's new General manager, Dennis Herrera stated, "We are in a drought with far reaching consequences, and it has become clear we all need to do even more to address it."

In a complicated set of circumstances regarding water storage the PUC is unable to use some of its "water bank" due to the greater state's extreme drought conditions as a last gap conservation measure.