



Memorandum

Date: April 10, 2018
To: Transportation Authority Board
From: Jeff Hobson – Deputy Director for Planning
Subject: 04/10/18 Board Meeting: ConnectSF Vision Document Adoption

<p>RECOMMENDATION <input type="checkbox"/> Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action</p> <p>SUMMARY</p> <p>This memo outlines the changes from the Draft ConnectSF Vision document, presented to the Transportation Authority Board on February 27, to the Final ConnectSF Vision document presented now for adoption. The Goals and Objectives outlined in the Vision document will guide Phases 2 and 3 of the ConnectSF Long Range Transportation Planning Program. The Vision document is included as Attachment 1 to this memo.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Fund Allocation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fund Programming</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Policy/Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan/Study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Capital Project Oversight/Delivery</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Finance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <hr/>
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DISCUSSION

Background

To define the desired and achievable transportation future for San Francisco, the Transportation Authority, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and the Planning Department are collaborating on the San Francisco Long Range Transportation Planning Program, also known as ConnectSF. Additional program partners include San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Mayor’s Office.

The ConnectSF program is composed of several related efforts, including:

- Subway Vision (completed 2016, to be updated every four years)
- 50-year Vision (subject of this memorandum)
- San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP) 2050 (needs assessment underway)
- Transit Corridors Study (in scoping phase)
- Streets and Freeways Study (in scoping phase)
- General Plan Transportation Element Update

These efforts will also draw on other planning and policy studies that have been completed recently or will be underway in similar timeframes, such as work related to transportation demand management, emerging mobility services and technologies, and adaptation and resilience. Combined, the efforts of the ConnectSF program will achieve the following:

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- Create a common vision for the future that will result in common goals and objectives that subsequent efforts work to achieve.
- Serve as San Francisco’s long-range transportation planning program, integrating multiple priorities for all modes based on robust technical analysis and public engagement.
- Identify current and long-term needs and opportunities to improve transportation that support key city policies and priorities.
- Identify and prioritize long-term transit strategies and investments to support sustainable growth.
- Develop a revenue strategy for funding priorities.
- Establish a joint advocacy platform, including policy and project priorities.
- Guide San Francisco’s inputs into the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy update.
- Codify policies in the San Francisco General Plan.

Changes from the Draft to Final Vision Document.

The ConnectSF team made the Draft Vision document available to the public in February and March 2018. The Vision was collaboratively developed among the Futures Task Force, leadership from City agencies, and the public. Staff incorporated comments and suggested edits if they were consistent with the overall character of the Vision and with the scale and scope of the Vision document. Overall, the changes to the final document were not substantive, however, readers will notice refinement of the text and updates to graphics. A table with comments and responses is available in Appendix E.

ConnectSF 50-year Vision.

The Vision document of the ConnectSF program answers the question “what is the future of San Francisco as a place to live, work and play in the next 30 and 50 years?” To answer this question, staff employed a scenario planning framework – a methodology used by businesses and large-scale public agencies and governments designed to help organizations think strategically about the future. This methodology identifies drivers of change and critical uncertainties, develops plausible future scenarios to understand how the city may react in those scenarios, the implications and paths for the city to navigate each of those plausible futures, and a preferred future to strive towards.

The Vision is grounded through the following goals that were codified through over a year of outreach:

- **Equity:** San Francisco is an inclusive, diverse, and equitable city that offers high-quality, affordable access to desired goods, services, activities, and destinations.
- **Economic Vitality:** To support a thriving economy, people and businesses easily access key destinations for jobs and commerce in established and growing neighborhoods both within San Francisco and the region.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** The transportation and land use system support a healthy, resilient environment and sustainable choices for future generations.
- **Safety and Livability:** People have attractive and safe travel options that improve public health, support livable neighborhoods, and address the needs of all users.

- **Accountability and Engagement:** San Francisco agencies, the broader community, and elected officials work together to understand the City's transportation needs and deliver projects, programs, and services in a clear, concise, and timely fashion.

The Vision, described qualitatively, outlines a future where San Francisco is a regionally minded city with effective governmental institutions and an engaged citizenry, both of which consider community-wide and regional effects when making policy choices. This new socio-political dynamism results in the development and implementation of key plans related to transportation, land use, and housing. Overall, the Vision see high growth focused on equity outcomes and affordability, robust transportation options for all, and faster project delivery resulting from strong civic and government alignment. Further, key tenets of this future are:

- Numerous transportation and mobility options are available, accessible and affordable for all, and there is less need for individually owned cars.
- Robust and reliable transportation funding sources exist to support maintenance and management of the existing system as well as strategic expansions of high-capacity rail and bus services.
- There are seamless transit connections to local and regional destinations.
- Public rights-of-way are dedicated to sustainable transportation modes, improving operations and efficiency
- Neighborhoods are safe, clean, and vibrant with many people walking and biking.
- Infrastructure projects are developed and built more quickly and cost-effectively.
- New mobility/private transportation services are well-regulated and integrated with traditional public transportation and active modes
- There is significant construction to meet the needs of the rising population and workforce.
- There is a large increase in funding for affordable housing at all income levels.

The Vision document is included as Attachment 2 to this memo. The entire Vision document and appendices can be found on the www.connectsf.org website.

ConnectSF Outreach to date.

All outreach activities are detailed in Appendix B of the Vision document.

To develop the Vision, the ConnectSF team has conducted several public engagement activities since summer 2016. Staff used input from these activities to guide the development of the preferred Vision for the city. The goals and objectives outlined in the Vision document will inform the next two phases of the ConnectSF program.

In summer and fall of 2016, ConnectSF staff used pop-up workshops and an online tool to ask where San Francisco should expand its subway network. Participants submitted more than 2,600 ideas.

In May 2017, seven on-sidewalk pop-ups scattered around San Francisco and an online survey encouraged public participants to think broadly about the future of transportation in San Francisco and ask what they are excited and concerned about. Collectively, the ConnectSF team collected over 1,100 open-ended responses from over 450 individuals. This feedback showed the importance of a future San Francisco that is equitable, livable, sustainable, and economically competitive.

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Additionally, starting in May 2017, a Futures Task Force was invited to three co-learning events, designed to delve into the specific topics, including impacts of development in neighborhoods, the changing future of mobility, and how work may change in the future. Then, in June 2017, the Futures Task Force participated in the Scenario Building Workshop. This workshop was designed to understand how uncertain drivers of change may influence the future of San Francisco and how the city can prepare for those possible futures. The day and a half workshop culminated with the production of four plausible future scenarios, which were further refined by staff and discussed by the Futures Task Force at follow-up webinars.

During September 2017, focus groups, also called Small Group Experiences, engaged small groups in thinking about the four scenarios and the tradeoffs between them. The project team made special efforts to meet with groups and organizations from communities of concern. Two of the focus groups were held in languages other than English: one in Spanish and one in Chinese. Additionally, an online public survey was made available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Filipino. The survey discussed the four plausible future scenarios and the inherent tradeoffs between them, and it asked for feedback about them. These efforts were designed to give both staff and the Futures Task Force insight into broader opinions about how San Francisco should react to plausible futures.

The Futures Task Force met again in October 2017 for the Scenarios Implications Workshop, where participants discussed the implications of each plausible future and provide direction for staff to develop the Vision. In December, staff presented and took feedback from the Futures Task Force on the Vision through webinars and invited members of the task force to help edit and co-author the document. The Draft Vision document was available for comment during February and early March 2018. Comments from public agencies, advocacy groups and individuals have been incorporated into the final version.

Staff is in the process of scoping and funding the technical elements and designing the outreach process for Phase 2 of the ConnectSF program. This next phase will continue to incorporate three streams of involvement: the public, the Futures Task Force, and the multi-agency ConnectSF staff team.

Next Steps.

The Vision document is available online (www.connectsf.org). The SFMTA Board and the Planning Commission are anticipated to take action on the Vision document on April 17 and April 19 respectively. Meanwhile the ConnectSF project team is beginning work on Phase 2 of the program, analyzing current and future transportation needs that will inform the Transit Corridors Study and the Streets and Freeways Study. We anticipate providing overviews for these studies in late spring 2018, once we finalize study budgets and schedules.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

CAC POSITION

The CAC will consider this item at its March 28, 2018 meeting.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

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Enclosure – Vision Document