



UNION SQUARE  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT  
DISTRICT

Public Affairs Committee

September 8, 2020 – 9:00 -10:30 am  
Virtual Communication System Zoom

## MINUTES

### In attendance

Committee members: Stephen Brett, Lori Coleman, J. Timothy Falvey, Russell D. Keil, Jr., Erik Murray, Kelly Powers, Spencer Sechler, Terry Lewis, Donald Thomas and, Wes Tyler.

Staff and contract service providers: Karin Flood (USBID Executive Director), and Eva Schouten (USBID Intern)

Guests: Jim Chappell (San Francisco City Economist)

### Call to Order and Introductions

Observing a quorum present, Karin Flood called the meeting to order at 9:03am. Introductions were made.

#### 1. Announcements

- Status of Union Square Businesses reopening  
Karin updated the committee that Westfield has re-opened and it seems as though there are more people downtown.
- Economic Recovery Task Force  
Karin informed the board that Chris Beynon will the first three meetings to help guide the task force.
- Union Square Park Proposal  
Karin informed the committee that the USBID will take over the services for the park. A contract is being prepared. The services could start as soon as next week. This will allow the USBID to be able to activate the park.

- Mural Projects

Karin informed the committee that the mural project is moving forward in collaboration with Paint the Void. The 100<sup>th</sup> mural will be painted on the Central Subway during which a small press conference will take place by the end of this month.

- Executive Committee Meeting – October 22, 2020 at 9am

Karin updated the committee that the next Executive Committee meeting is on October 22, 2020 at 9am and will be held through Zoom.

**2. Public Comment**

Karin called for public comment. A discussion took place about the street conditions in the city.

**3. Action to approve the August 11, 2020 minutes**

Karin directed the committee to the minutes of the last meeting and gave a summary about the presentation from Ted Egan, San Francisco City Economist Fong regarding the tax measures of the November Ballot.

**Action:** The Committee unanimously approved the August 11, 2020 minutes as motioned by Don Thomas and seconded by Kelly Powers.

**4. Presentation: November 3 Ballot Measures – Jim Chappell**

Karin introduced Jim Chappell. Jim directed the committee to his PowerPoint presentation regarding the November Ballot. There 25 measures; 12 SF Measures (A-L), 1 Regional measure, and 12 State Measures (14-25). He summarized 13 measures which are of interest or directly involve the USBID. Explanations of the ballots were provided, and discussions followed. The PAC committee took the following positions. Due to time constraint the remaining propositions will be discussed later this week.

On Friday, September 11 at 11:00am the meeting resumed with the following committee members and USBID staff; Russell D. Keil Jr., Stephen Brett, Erik Murray, Donald Thomas, Wes Tyler, Kelly Powers, Spencer Sechler, Karin Flood (USBID) and Eva Schouten (USBID)

<b>Letter/Number</b>	<b>Title of Measure</b>	<b>USBID position</b>
A	Health and recovery general obligation bond	Support
B	Department of Sanitation and streets, sanitation & streets commission and PW commission charter amendment	Support with contingency that the USBID gets a seat on both commissions
E	Police Department staffing level charter amendment	Oppose
F	Business Tax Changes Charter Amendment and Ordinance	Oppose

H	Save our small business initiative ordinance	Support
I	Transfer tax increase tax	Oppose
J	Fair wages for educator's parcel tax ordinance	Neutral
L	Tax on business with disproportionate pay	Oppose
RR	Caltrain sales tax ordinance	Oppose
15	Limits on property taxes (split roll)	Oppose
20	Criminal sentencing, parole and DNA collective initiative	Support
22	App-based drivers as contractors and labor policies initiative	Neutral

## 5. Other Advocacy Updates

- Earlier Cable Car resume service date

Karin updated the committee that she has been in contact with the director of STMFA to discuss an early return of a single cable car to spread a positive message and to have an attraction during the holiday season.

- Closure of Ellis (between Powell and Stockton) on Sundays

Karin updated the committee that through the Shared Spaces program the USBID has submitted the request to close Ellis Street between Powell and Stockton every Sunday from 11am – 8pm from September 20 – November 15. Johns grill and Tad's Steakhouse will be able to extend onto the street, provide live entertainment and perhaps collaborate with the Museum of Ice Cream for an ice cream stand.

## 6. Adjournment and Next Meeting: October 13, 2020

Karin adjourned the meeting at 10:37am.