



**Services and Public Safety and Retail Theft Prevention Committee
Joint Meeting
Holiday Safe Shopper**

Tuesday, November 15, 2022
9:00am–10:45am

Westin St. Francis, 335 Powell Street, Mission Bay Room, 32nd Floor

In-Person

AGENDA

1. Welcome, introductions, & brief announcements

a. Don Thomas, Committee Chair

Director of Services, Lance Gorée introduced Services and Public Safety Committee chairman Don Thomas.

b. Introduce New Tenderloin Captain Sergio Chin

Captain Sergio Chin attended the committee meeting later.

2. Public Comment

Don Thomas called for public comment. Thomas Brock shared his unruly encounter with at the Powell Street BART station that morning along with a smashed car window scene. Don Thomas expressed his concerns for this matter and addressed the committee of the importance of reporting these incidents to advocate for change.

3. ACTION to Approve Committee Meeting Minutes

a. Services and Public Safety Committee minutes from 9/27/22

Action: The committee unanimously approved the Services and Public Safety committee minutes from 9/27/22 as motioned by Wes Tyler and seconded by Maxine Papadakis.

b. Retail Theft Prevention Committee minutes from 9/13/22

Action: The committee unanimously approved the Retail Theft Prevention committee minutes from 9/13/22 as motioned by Don Thomas and seconded by Wes Tyler.

4. September/October 2022 Operations Reports

a. Block by Block; Tinea Adams, Operations Manager



Semu One Bear, Regional Director of Operations, reported out the September Operations report. The month of September included the return of the Dreamforce convention. The overall statistics have decrease while hospitality encounters have increased. The October Operations report was not presented. All operations reports can be found on the Union Square Alliance website.

b. Legion; Ricky Soares, Manager

Legion has been focused on quality-of-life concerns due to an uptick in encampments in the district. Legion security continues training on verbal de-escalation methods rather than physical contact with individuals. The hours of operations have increased to be 24-hours. Raven Anderson, an Operations Supervisor with Block by Block, thanked Legion for their collaboration work with the Alliance ambassadors.

c. SF Retired Police Ambassadors; Joe Garrity

Joe Garrity informed the committee that the police ambassador program hours of operations have increased. They work alongside the Alliance ambassadors and SFPD to combat unruly activities in the district.

5. Action Items

a. Review, discussion, and **action** to approve Block by Block revised contract.

Deputy Director Ben Horne informed the committee that with the expansion of private security, there has also been an increase in ambassador work. This revised contract would be effective as of October 1st and will still be within budget.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the Block by Block revised contract as motioned by Don Thomas and seconded by Wes Tyler.

b. Update regarding Legion contract including providing Holiday Village security.

The Alliance has increased its partnership with Legion for 24/7 security services. This will include 24/7 services with 2 Legion security guards at all times at our Holliday Village activation at Hallidie Plaza. Discussion took place regarding the 10B program.

6. Committee updates:

a. Block by Block bonus discussion and **action** to approve bonuses.

Lance Gorée informed the committee of a new bonus structure system for the Block-by-Block ambassadors. The Alliance is emphasizing a bonus system based on the number of hours worked, as opposed to seniority. This new structure will be used as an incentive for our ambassadors to show up to work more consistently and help



minimize turnover rates. The sum of the bonus total for all members would amount to \$34.4K and \$5K for Legion respectively.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the bonuses as motioned by Don Thomas, and seconded by Russ Kyle Jr.

7. Winter Wonderland Presentation.

Marisa Rodriguez, Executive Director and Stacy Jed, Director of Marketing and Events
Marketing Director Stacy Jed informed the committee about the upcoming Holiday Village in Hallidie Plaza. The Alliance will be activating Hallidie Plaza from November 25th – December 24. There will be 32 merchants in rotation, several performers daily, and 24/7 security by Legion. SFMTA and BART have provided us with advertising opportunities highlighting our merchants and performers. Other elements introduced into the district include decoration of cable cars, and an ornament trail scavenger hunt leading up Powell St and throughout the district. The Macy's Christmas tree has been activated along with the ice-skating rink in Union Square Park.

8. Holiday Safe Shopper Presentations

a. SFPD and Leadership

i. Chief William Scott

Executive Director Marisa Rodriguez introduced SFPD's Chief William Scott. Chief Scott commends fellow SFPD officers, retired Police Ambassadors, and Alliance ambassadors for their tremendous efforts. Chief Scott announced that the Board of Supervisors passed surveillance camera legislation that gives SFPD better access to this technology. Chief William Scott announced that they are reinstating officers, a step in the right direction with regards to staffing shortages. Additionally, overtime pay was restored by the Board to compensate hard working short, staffed police officers.

b. BART

i. Lt. Yolanda Joseph; BART Police

Lance Gorée introduced Lt. Yolanda Joseph, zone commander for the BART police department. She announced that BART is increasing its civilian and sworn personal staff at all downtown stations to keep riders safe during the Holiday season. Fare inspections are enforced every morning at the Embarcadero station. In the evening service appointments are being incorporated at McArthur, Civic Center, and Bay Fair stations. These include several sworn and civilian personal officers that sweep every train to address quality of life issues and monitor criminal activities.

c. SFMTA

i. Kimberly Burrus; Chief Security Officer



The SFMTA in collaboration with Rec & Park is installing a roll down gate for the Union Square Park Garage. The implementation of this gate would prevent overnight encampments within the garage. The timeline for this gate is December 1st, 2022. Additionally, the long-awaited Central Subway Station is soon to be open and fully operational in January 2023. There will be an increased presence of ambassadors for Central Subway operation along with security at each of the three stations. Additionally, there are over 100 cameras at each of the three new stations.

ii. Enrique Aguilar; Public Information Officer

Enrique Aguilar from SFMTA shared that on November 19th there will be a soft launch of the Central Subway to help residents/visitors get familiar with the new stations. Full revenue service will be operational on January 7th in which alignments of different lines are in service.

d. Rec & Park

i. Ranger David Murphy

Chief Ranger David Murphy informed the committees that Rec & Park want to increase staffing at Union Square Alliance. Moreover, the rangers have experienced a 25% increase in staffing. They are working collaboratively with SFPD to stop homeless encampments at Union Square Park. The electrical outlets at the park have been removed and the rangers have regularly swept the park's garage to ensure a clean and safe environment for visitors. The Rangers are working on getting the marble changed at the park to prevent skateboarding any further.

e. AVS

i. Dmitri Shimolin

Dimitri Shimolin from AVS informed the committee of their services for the district. There are 463 cameras in the district and counting. The Alliance has raised over 3 million dollars through private grant funding over the years for the expansion and long-term sustainability of the AVS program.

9. Walk over to Union Square Park, Press Conference with Mayor London Breed in Union Square

10. Adjourned