



Policy and Voice Committee Meeting

April 9th, 2025 5:00 pm

48 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA

Meeting Minutes

DRAFT*

*Minutes are subject to change, and not official until approved by the Board

Present:

Policy & Voice Committee

- Kristin Villalobos, Chair, Policy & Voice Committee, Business Owner Seat
- Mark Puchalski, Business Owner Seat, TNDC

TLCBD Staff:

- Justin Bautista, TLCBD Staff
- Alison Joseph, TLCBD Staff
- Esan Looper, TLCBD Staff
- Enrique Ovando, TLCBD Staff
- Isis Sainz, TLCBD Staff
- Cyntia Salazar, TLCBD Staff

Absent:

- Nafy Flatley, Vice Chair, Business Owner Seat, Teranga
- Paula Hendricks, Resident Seat, 600 block of O'Farrell
- Diana Pang, Property Owner Seat, CCDC

Guests:

- Ruqaiyah Angeles, CCDC

1. **Welcome & Call to order**

The meeting came to order at 12:02 pm

2. **Review of the minutes**

MOTION: Review and approve the draft minutes of March Meeting of the Policy & Voice Committee.

Moved by: M. Puchalski

Seconded by: C. Salazar

Abstained: R. Angeles

Passed: Yes

3. **Spotlight**

Strategic Plan Overview:

-Policy & Legislative Leadership: A stronger Voice for Change

Establishing a dedicated kids' zone to improve safety in the neighborhood. Address the concentration of social service that doesn't serve the youth by creating a more thoughtful strategy—making every development intentional. In addition, making progress on building the TLCBD Center which is a part of the Capital Campaign that will serve for workforce training, small business support, family support center, etc.

C. Salazar emphasized the need for a stronger voice advocating for change, particularly through the lens of geographic equity within the Central Business District (CBD). This includes ensuring that the right businesses and supportive services are brought into the area. He also highlighted the importance of establishing a designated Kids Zone, noting that making spaces safe for children inherently makes them safer for everyone. Salazar reinforced that the Tenderloin is an integral part of downtown and should remain central to strategies for securing grant opportunities. Efforts are also underway to beautify the Tenderloin, including the installation of custom iron gates for local businesses.

M. Puchalski asked for more details about the gates.

C. Salazar explained that the new gates are being designed for businesses on Larkin Street to deter break-ins. Unlike traditional security bars, these gates will feature smaller openings that prevent individuals from reaching through to access or damage storefront windows.

K. Villalobos asked whether the initiative is limited to Larkin Street.

C. Salazar confirmed that the pilot is starting with three businesses on Larkin, with plans to expand to Leavenworth Street and eventually other corridors in the area.

K. Villalobos then asked whether this type of initiative is being implemented in other neighborhoods or if it's a pioneering effort.

C. Salazar confirmed that this is a pilot program unique to the area, and that funding has already been secured for the next fiscal year.

4. Program Updates

E. Ovando shared updates on the Clean Team's fee-for-service model, which provides janitorial services to local businesses. The program is self-sustaining and currently generating a profit margin, with the capacity and resources available to scale up operations.

C. Salazar suggested integrating the Workforce Readiness Program with the janitorial team, creating a pipeline for employment opportunities within the CBD and supporting workforce development in the community.

Safe Passage:

E. Ovando mentioned that other Community Benefit Districts (CBDs) have expressed interest in the Safe Passage program. He is currently sharing information on how the program functions. The group discussed whether to begin charging a consulting fee for this guidance or to develop a comprehensive startup packet that could be sold to other CBDs interested in replicating the model.

Small Business:

The SF Shines grant is currently pending. Eight businesses located in the Tenderloin have submitted applications.

Block Groups:

The team remains focused on being intentional with programming and continuing to foster positive impact by building connections and linking residents, businesses, and stakeholders within the community.

5. New Businesses/Agenda Setting
 - Adding a 5th block group
 - Policy and Voice Resources
 - Funding Challenges
 - Contingency Plans

6. Announcements

This item was skipped

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm

Next Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 14th, 12:00 pm | 48 Golden Gate Avenue