

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

July 12, 2021

San Francisco Port Commission
Pier 1, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111
CC: Elaine Forbes, SF Port Director

Dear President Brandon, Commissioners and Director Forbes:

I write to express my strong support for the Central Embarcadero Safety Quick-Build project.

My office has worked closely with SFMTA and Port staff to spearhead numerous community outreach sessions on this project, including in-person walkthroughs of key intersections and sections of the Embarcadero. The Embarcadero has long been a key piece of the Vision Zero High-Injury Network — the 13% of streets that account for 75% of injurious and fatal collisions in San Francisco. In just the past five years, **242 people were injured along the Embarcadero, and two lives were lost**. Unfortunately, these figures are only going up, with a 20% increase in traffic injuries in the past decade. One proven way we can prevent these injuries and fatalities is by quickly building out safety traffic improvements on our most dangerous corridors.

In 2018, I authored a revenue measure, Proposition D, with the goal of generating \$30 million annually to put life-saving pedestrian and bike safety projects onto our streets quickly. The voters approved Prop D, and last month, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority Board approved \$1 million in funds to implement the Central Embarcadero Safety Quick-Build, with the goal of commencing the project later this year. I was disappointed to hear that the Port Commission continued approval of this project at its meeting last month, and has scheduled it as an information item at tomorrow's meeting. **I urge you to approve this project at your next opportunity** and not delay these critical safety investments for San Francisco's waterfront.

The SFMTA project team has worked to optimize lane configurations and signals to keep traffic moving. Tripling the length of the two-way protected bikeway will relieve pressure on the Embarcadero promenade, freeing up space for people walking and other recreational and tourist activities on the waterfront, as well as providing space for the Ferry Building farmers' market and other business activity along the waterfront.

I will be unable to join the Commission meeting tomorrow, but my Chief of Staff will attend to express my strong support for this safety project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Peskin".

Aaron Peskin