

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 7



City and County of San Francisco

MYRNA MELGAR

April 29, 2024

JOINT STATEMENT FROM SUPERVISOR MYRNA MELGAR, AND DEIDRE VON ROCK, PRESIDENT OF THE WEST PORTAL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION ON TRAFFIC CHANGES IN WEST PORTAL

West Portal should be a safe, welcoming, and vibrant neighborhood for residents, merchants, and visitors alike. We share a common vision of thriving small businesses, efficient transit, and plentiful spaces for San Franciscans from all walks of life to gather and connect. By creating a more welcoming West Portal, we can pave the way for our City's economic recovery and make meaningful progress on our goals to make all streets safer.

In order to see this shared vision become a reality, we must work collaboratively to welcome necessary changes that we agree will improve the neighborhood. This includes meaningful opportunities for public input, robust analysis of the tradeoffs involved in the changes to our streets, and thoughtful compromises that lead to the greatest good.

Today, we announce our commitment to collaborate on the West Portal Safety Improvement Project. This collaborative effort marks a significant milestone in our shared vision for the revitalization and enhancement of the West Portal neighborhood.

We recognize the importance of transparent communication, active engagement, and inclusive decision-making processes throughout the duration of the project. That's why, together we announce the formation of a new joint committee to analyze the proposal and identify both areas of consensus and areas for improving the proposal. The Welcoming West Portal Committee will consist of merchants, neighbors, and other community members who live in, work, do business in or engage regularly with the West Portal neighborhood. Over the coming weeks, this committee will meet to discuss traffic impacts and parking issues and come to a consensus that works for all parties.

Below, we have outlined some of the initial feedback we received from the community as well as issues that we kindly request the forthcoming committee to address.

We look forward to this collaborative effort and bringing the entire West Portal community together to forward our shared goals of a safe, welcoming, and vibrant corridor.

Supervisor Myrna Melgar, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Deidre Von Rock, President, West Portal Merchants Association

WELCOMING WEST PORTAL COMMITTEE

Supervisor Myrna Melgar and Deidre Von Rock, President of the West Portal Merchants Association were glad to hear consensus on many elements of the proposal, including increasing enforcement, and disembarking the L-Taraval within the tunnel instead of on Ulloa Street. However, there remain areas that require more consideration in the current proposal and opportunities to improve the design for the greater community. Supervisor Melgar and Deidre Von Rock, President of the West Portal Merchants Association, request that the Welcoming West Portal Committee address the following primary concerns and develop a second proposal for improving safety and mobility in West Portal:

- Traffic safety at the intersections surrounding West Portal Avenue & Ulloa St., including but not limited to Ulloa & Wawona, Claremont & Portola, 14th & Vicente, and Wawona & Vicente
- Assessment of loading and passenger drop off zones on Ulloa between the West Portal station and Claremont
- Traffic impacts on Vicente Street, 14th Avenue, 15th Avenue, and Taraval Street
- Review the number and location of bus stops on Ulloa

The Welcoming West Portal Committee will consist of merchants, neighbors, and visitors to West Portal who share our vision of safety, mobility, and vibrancy for West Portal.

The Welcoming West Portal Committee will meet at least three times over the coming months and develop a second proposal for consideration by the SFMTA Board and for implementation in coordination with the return of the L-Taraval in Fall 2024.