

Marjan Philhour

Meet the candidates, week 23: “Do you support the Geary/19th Subway?”

Residents of the Richmond District deserve safe and reliable transit corridors that connect them to all parts of our city, whether for work, school, or fun. The Geary/19th Avenue Subway project is a critical opportunity to expand transit options in the Richmond District, giving residents better access to parts of our city that currently take too long to reach via MUNI. The MUNI 38/38R line, which connects the Richmond District with Downtown, serves over 55,000 residents daily. Richmond District residents who commute downtown or need to connect with BART or Caltrain deserve a direct underground rail stop, enabling smoother connections to these regional transit partners.

I also appreciate the economic benefits this project could bring. Our incredible small businesses, which offer crucial goods and services to all of San Francisco, are still recovering from the pandemic. This project has the potential to breathe new life into our community, creating a transit corridor that connects small businesses with residents and visitors. This increased accessibility can boost customer traffic and support the local economy, allowing residents to live, shop, and travel conveniently.

We are in the very early stages of this potential project. Even if approved, construction would not start for at least 15 years. The Richmond District needs a supervisor who will be a collaborative partner in the planning and review stages of this project. The district deserves a supervisor who will proactively listen to residents, families, and small businesses, addressing any concerns during the planning process. I understand that construction may have negative impacts on our neighborhoods. As supervisor, I will ensure that residents have a seat at the table and that concerns are addressed. It will be critical to meet with every community partner to mitigate concerns and ensure all perspectives are heard throughout this process.