

Corbett Heights Neighbors

SFMTA's Flag Stop/Red Zone Bus Stop Plan For Lower Corbett Avenue - Background and Fact Sheet

Issue. As a part of the electronic ballot to be provided to all paid members in advance of its September 11, 2023 Annual Meeting, CHN is asking its members if they agree or disagree with SFMTA's plan to eliminate the 14 lower Corbett Avenue "flag" bus stops where parking is permitted, and to replace them with standard MUNI "red zones" where parking is prohibited. You will be given the opportunity to vote "yes" I agree or "no" I disagree. The CHN board of directors has not taken a position on the matter.

Background. "Flag" bus stops are those, such as many on Corbett Avenue, where a bus — in our neighborhood, the number 37 — will stop for a passenger but where parking is permitted. The patron "flags down" the bus. By contrast, standard MUNI stops have red paint on the curb, signifying "no parking." In November 2021 the Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution urging SFMTA to upgrade "flag" stops so that pedestrians have unobstructed access. In December 2022 the SFMTA Board adopted a resolution that would require every bus stop to be a standard 20' red zone "no parking" stop. Accordingly, SFMTA began that process in March (Phase I) with "high priority" stops; to be followed in Phase II next year. The Corbett stops are in Phase II. The reasons for these changes, in SFMTA's words, are to promote accessibility, safety, and transit speed. You can read more about the program and the reasons for it here: <https://www.sfmta.com/projects/flag-stop-conversion-program>

In our neighborhood on lower Corbett Avenue, the execution of this plan would eliminate 14 flag stops on Corbett Avenue between Douglass and Clayton Streets, which means the removal of approximately 28 parking spaces. (See the attached chart for a list and location of the 14 stops.) Although not part of this particular plan, SFMTA also has plans to install a stop sign at the lower, south side, of Mars Street at its intersection with Corbett Avenue, which would eliminate another 40 feet of parking. Because this issue has been periodically covered in the CHN newsletter, we have heard from a handful of neighbors both pro and con. In response to SFMTA's reasons, opponents argue that the benefits of the program on the relatively (compared to other City routes) lightly used 37 bus route, running on a residential street, are outweighed by the detriment to the general neighborhood, not simply Corbett Avenue residents, of eliminating so many parking spots in a densely populated neighborhood where street parking is limited.

With this background, the electronic ballot will ask: Do you support the removal of the 14 flag stops on lower Corbett Avenue? Yes or No.

CHN 8/13/2023

Attachment: List of Corbett Avenue Flag Stops.

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The following is a list of the 14 flag stops on Corbett Avenue. Odd numbers are on the south side, even numbers on the north side.

Corbett & Douglass	14176
Corbett & Ord	14185
Hattie & Corbett	14179
Hattie & Corbett	14180
210 Corbett	14162
211 Corbett	14163
Corbett & Danvers	14175
Corbett & Danvers	14174
Corbett & Mars (299 Corbett)	14183
Corbett & Mars (306 Corbett)	14184
328 Corbett	14164
341 Corbett	14165
Corbett & Clayton	14171
Corbett & Clayton	14172