


# STREETSBLOG

---

## Police Union to Muni: Drop Dead

Cops tell Muni to "lose our number"

By Roger Rudick | Jun 10, 2020 |  12 COMMENTS





From SFPD's twitter feed.



Advocates and protesters [documented how the SFMTA has been providing charter buses to take riot cops to police brutality protests around the city](#). Responding to pressure from lawmakers and the public, on Tuesday/yesterday, the agency announced it has discontinued this practice.



The San Francisco Police Officers Association (POA), the union for the city's cops, had this reply:



Streetsblog has requests in for a response from SFMTA and Mayor London Breed's office. Cat Carter of the San Francisco Transit Riders told Streetsblog she's glad the agency is no longer diverting buses and tasking operators with ferrying police: "Providing better transit for riders is always the critical need, especially during times when we have [bare-bones service](#)."

And to differentiate between the police union and the police brass, Adam Lobsinger, an SFPD spokesperson, had this to say:





The San Francisco Police Department stands for safety with respect for all, and we at SFPD know that means respecting the views of all those we serve. We recognize we are all in the midst of a difficult, emotionally charged time as we come to terms with painful truths about the kind of policing that took George Floyd's life in Minneapolis. We respect and honor the actions SFMTA is taking to advance the cause of racial justice and equity. SFPD's commitment to the safety and First Amendment rights of those we serve remains undiminished, of course, and we've adjusted our transportation and operations accordingly.



“In regards to the tweet put out by the SFPOA, I'll refer you back to them,” he added.



A still from [a video posted June 1](#) of a chartered Muni bus offloading cops in riot gear.

The POA had this in a [followup tweet](#): “As city leaders demand cuts to SFPD, it needs to be clear what SFPD will no longer do. If a ride on an out of service bus to ensure peaceful protests is too offensive, then don't send us in to provide ‘security’ services to catch fare jumpers.”





THIS POST IS SUPPORTED BY GJEL ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS

## SFMTA Helps Crowd Control/Riot Police

By Roger Rudick | Jun 1, 2020

Is this ever a proper role for Muni?

## SFMTA Suspends Muni Fare Inspection Stings

By Michael Rhodes | May 12, 2010

SFMTA transit fare inspectors. Flickr photo: Troy Holden The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has announced an abrupt change to its Muni fare enforcement program. Starting immediately, transit fare inspectors (TFIs) and the San Francisco Police Department will suspend high-profile "saturation" stings in which groups of TFIs and uniformed police officers descend on buses in [...]

## Proposition G and the Fix Muni Syndrome

By Matthew Roth | Oct 14, 2010

As the November election draws near and the bunkers are dug on either side of San Francisco's Proposition G, the Fix Muni Now ballot measure spearheaded by Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, the rhetoric is escalating, with Mayor Gavin Newsom, the San Francisco Chronicle's Editorial Board and Elsbernd on one side decrying Muni operators for taking raises [...]

## SFMTA Hones Enforcement, But Minority Rights Groups Still Leery of Stings

By Matthew Roth | Aug 16, 2010

Flickr photo: Troy Holden. Enforcement of laws on Muni has been a balancing act for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), as safety fears and controversy over work orders with the



SFPD have led politicians and advocates to complain the police are charging for services they don't deliver. At the same time, saturation enforcement [...]



## Op-ed: We Need Police Visibility on Muni

By Andy Bosselman | Apr 25, 2017

Over the weekend, 40 to 60 teenagers swarmed a BART station and train, robbing seven people. The story grabbed the headlines because it was so out of the ordinary. But several disturbing crimes have also hit Muni over the last few months. At 9:40 p.m. on April 12, a mob of about 10 teenagers beat [...]

## Report: SFPD's New Approach to Crime on Muni "Promising"

By Michael Rhodes | Jun 15, 2010

The Ingleside station district saw the greatest spike in Muni crime of any police station district in the city during the last several years. Image: City Controller's office. Until a year ago, there was no written agreement between Muni and the city's police department specifying what services Muni was paying for and how much, despite [...]

About Us / Contact Streetsblog SF / Our Funders /  
 Comment Moderation Policy /  
 Streetsblog San Francisco Editorial Independence Policy /  
 Donor Transparency Policy

FOLLOW US:





# STREETSBLOG





Muni union president Roger Marenco found that to be more a reflection of current conditions than a threat. “SFPD likes taking their time when operators call for assistance.” He said he’d like SFMTA to contract with another law enforcement agency, or even hire its own officers who are dedicated to patrolling transit.



He also supports many of the ideas behind the “[defund the police](#)” movement. “More safety workers, more guidance counselors... the root of the problem is to have more resources, not more police officers.”

“Better transit means riders and operators must feel safe while using Muni. While this may include SFPD support, it is not the only option,” added Carter.

---

Filed Under: Muni, SFMTA, Transit, Promoted

---

Subscribe to our

## DAILY EMAIL DIGEST

Enter Email

SIGN UP

---

### MOST RECENT

Legislative Update: Housing Bills Still in Play

Top Mayors Pledge to Build 15-Minute Cities For COVID-19 Recovery

How Boston Drivers Stole a Public Playground

Today's Headlines

Walk SF Urges City not to Allow Return to Pre-COVID Traffic Violence

---

12 Comments   StreetsblogSF   Disqus' Privacy Policy

Login ▾

Recommend   Tweet   Share

Sort by Newest ▾



Join the discussion...





LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS ?

Name

**Christopher Sanders** • 2 months ago • edited

Well if they aren't going to protect the SFMTA... cut the pay all the way down and save some money. Less work being done less money being paid to police. Also take their weapons away.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Henry22** • 2 months ago

This is awesome.  
Love it.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**lxchunchan** • 2 months ago • edited

The POA is being insubordinate to civilian authority as the latest in a string of crimes in a decades long spree. This management union needs to be busted posthaste and the leadership prosecuted under California's racketeering code.

The MTA pays the SFPD \$5m/yr still, I think. That work order should have been torn up \$50m ago. It needs to be abrogated posthaste.

3 ^ | v 1 • Reply • Share ›

**the\_greasybear** • 2 months ago

When in the world has SFPD ever gone after a fare evader or problem passenger?  
BULLSHIT!!!!

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**George Joseph Lane** • 2 months ago

"Shouldn't be an SFPD officer's job anyway."

Completely agree. We don't need cops for far enforcement. We should have specific transit police with limited powers.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Mark** • 2 months ago

"More safety workers, more guidance counselors... the root of the problem is to have more resources, not more police officers."

Good f-ing luck. Clearly spoken by someone who hasn't ridden Muni in a really long time.

2 ^ | v 3 • Reply • Share ›

**p\_chazz** ➔ Mark • 2 months ago • edited

Apparently, the people who cast the down votes on this comment haven't ridden Muni in a really long while either





a really long while either.

2 ^ | v 1 • Reply • Share ›



**Bill Murray** • 2 months ago

I feel safer when there are police around.

1 ^ | v 3 • Reply • Share ›



**Mark** ➔ Bill Murray • 2 months ago

Last fall I spoke with a SFPD officer stationed outside the emergency exit at Balboa Park. Sure enough, 5 minutes into our conversation about how BART has done absolutely nothing over the years to address safety concerns of its riders (because they have to raise fares to pad their pensions, of course) he nabbed someone using the emergency exit after robbing a passenger's phone.

And the idiot quoted in the article wants "safety workers and guidance counselors" who have zero authority to do anything other than wag their finger (assuming they are paying attention and not playing on their phones which current BART and Muni "security" does).

1 ^ | v 1 • Reply • Share ›



**Ixchunchan** ➔ Mark • 2 months ago

I do not think that the enforcers on the Paris Metro and RER are armed. They come at you 8 strong, surrounding you, demanding proof and you've got nowhere to go. It was nothing short of pure chance that a cop happened to be where a crime was being committed.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**david vartanoff** • 2 months ago • edited

Your severance checks will be in the mail.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Vooch** ➔ david vartanoff • 2 months ago

exactly - time to defund the stormtroopers

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

[Subscribe](#) [Add Disqus to your site](#) [Add Disqus](#) [Add](#) [Do Not Sell My Data](#)

ALSO ON STREETSblog

