



BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Ben Matranga

Candidate for: Board of Supervisors, District 7

PERSONAL WALKING EXPERIENCE

1. Please describe what role walking plays in your life.

I walk everywhere, everyday. I walk to maintain a healthy physical lifestyle, and most importantly, because it allows me to engage in my community and with my neighbors everyday.

BIG PICTURE

2. Describe your vision of a healthy, safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation system for the city and the role that walking plays in that vision.

Walking is foundational to a healthy, safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation system. A wise community leader once said every trip – MUNI, bicycle, or vehicle – is the middle leg of a walking trip. I completely agree.

VISION ZERO

3. If elected, what steps would you take to ensure the implementation of Vision Zero projects? In your answer, please explain whether you pledge to prioritize safety improvements that narrow crossing distances and slow traffic (bulbouts, “road diets,” etc.) over other competing demands for street space, including parking or automobile lanes.

The implementation of Vision Zero projects along high-injury corridors is critical to achieve Vision Zero. Project delivery must be prioritized and I will hold agencies accountable to ensure they are implemented. I have a strong track record of implementing Vision Zero projects and will clearly prioritize implementation. A key aspect of Vision Zero is the data driven approach and I believe it is important that we address any trade-offs with this proven approach.

4. What would you do to ensure there is enough funding for pedestrian safety improvements and Vision Zero projects?

During my time in City Hall, I worked to pass Proposition A which was the 2nd largest bond in San Francisco’s history and dedicated over \$300 million for projects to reach our Vision Zero goal. I will no doubt be a champion of funding for needed Vision Zero projects including all areas of Vision Zero that need funding including engineering, education, enforcement, and evaluation.

POLICY/LEGISLATION

5. The most dangerous transportation behavior in the city is speed, as it exponentially increases a victim's risk of injury or death. Two key strategies that have effectively reduced speeds in other states and countries are automated speed cameras and decreased speed limits. Unfortunately, the State of California doesn't permit automated speed enforcement and only allows speeds lower than 25 mph in school zones. Do you support these strategies? If so, how will you work with your community and State legislators to change these (and similar) laws so the City can use these strategies to save lives?

During my time in City Hall, I worked directly with elected officials, City Departments, and community groups to expand the tools available for sensible speed management including automated speed enforcement near our most vulnerable populations, schools and senior centers. I would certainly continue this work as Supervisor and ensure San Francisco has the tools needed to save lives.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

6. Approximately 41% of San Francisco elementary school students live within walking distance of school. Unfortunately, only 25% take the short journey by foot. Studies have shown that children who walk to school enjoy key health benefits and academic advantages, as well as getting more quality bonding time with parents. What would you do to increase the number and safety of children walking and biking to school?

Walking is essential to a healthy lifestyle and it is important that we instill this in our children early. Safe Routes to Schools is an important program providing needed education and building awareness. It must be fully funded to cover more schools across San Francisco and be paired with engineering to ensure that are children are able to walk and bicycle safely to school.

WALKABILITY/WALKING MODE INCREASE

7. The City has established a goal to steadily increase the percentage of all walking trips and walking trips for commuting in the next 5 years. Do you support this goal? If yes, what would you do to help the City realize it?

Yes, I fully support this goal. I will support this by ensuring implementation of the Vision Zero Action Strategy and ensure necessary funding is secured.

8. Walk San Francisco believes that everyone deserves equal access to enjoyable places to walk, and that our street space can be better used by shifting excess street right-of-way from private automobiles to places for people to walk and gather. How do you feel about projects like these that improve our public realm, and how will you support them?

Public realm projects are an important part of building and enhancing community. I will support them with funding and accountability for project delivery.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

9. Have you championed or strongly supported any other initiatives that are in line with Walk San Francisco's mission of making walking in San Francisco safe, so that our community is healthier and livable?

During my time in City Hall, I co-wrote the Vision Zero Action Strategy and managed the Vision Zero Steering Committee that brought together 14 different City departments to implement our Vision Zero programs. There is still considerable more work to be done, and I am proud to have worked alongside community leaders like Walk SF to advance our shared goal of a safe, healthy, livable San Francisco.

10. Is there anything else you'd like to share with the people of San Francisco, all of whom walk or travel with an assistive device at some point?

I will champion Safe Routes for Seniors and ensure the program has the needed support to enhance walkability and ensure San Francisco is walkable for people of all ages and abilities.