



Executive Directive 23-03
Supporting Owners of Stolen Vehicles

October 11, 2023

San Francisco should be doing everything it can to help victims of crime. This responsibility should be demonstrated not only by our public safety departments, but by all departments in San Francisco, including the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). Unfortunately, our well-intentioned and important efforts to keep our streets free and clear, safe, and accessible to all, including for our Muni buses, pedestrians, and drivers, sometimes fail to adequately consider the needs of victims. When someone's car is stolen, our priority should be to help reunite that car with its owner. Today, when someone's car is stolen, an owner often has limited recourse to identify where that car is. What's worse, once the car is returned to its rightful owner, the victim may be faced with the burden of parking citations the car received when it was stolen and parked illegally or abandoned. It is our responsibility to do better to serve our residents.

Both the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) have enforcement responsibilities to keep our streets safe and accessible. The San Francisco Police Department takes these cases of theft seriously, and the SFMTA enforces parking rules to keep streets and sidewalks clear and safe. By working together, the SFMTA and the Police Department can support our transportation system, address crime, and support victims of crime. We have work to do to ensure that these three goals are better advanced together. A victim of theft should not have to worry about unpaid citations.

That is why I am putting forward this Executive Directive to expediate our current processes and remove unnecessary burdens. I am directing the SFPD and SFMTA to 1) work together to identify a solution to ensure stolen vehicles are not unnecessarily ticketed, and that owners are notified, and 2) Identify a technological solution to automate reviewing of license plates to identify stolen vehicles before issuing a ticket, and 3) Develop any necessary legislation to override existing prohibitions on the use of technology for this purpose, including Chapter 19B of the Administrative Code.

Directives:

Through this Executive Directive, I hereby direct the following:

- I. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) shall work together to identify a solution that ensures stolen vehicles are not unnecessarily ticketed, and that owners are notified.



- II. The SFMTA and the SFPD shall identify a technological solution to automate reviewing of license plates by Parking Control Officers before issuing a ticket.
- III. The SFMTA and the SFPD shall develop any necessary legislation to override existing prohibitions on the use of technology for this purpose, including Chapter 19B of the Administrative Code.
- IV. The SFMTA and the SFPD shall report back to me within 45 days.

This Executive Directive takes effect immediately and will remain in place until rescinded by future written communication.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "London Breed".

London N. Breed
Mayor, City and County of San Francisco