



BETTER STREETS PLAN – Community Advisory Committee

MINUTES

September 10, 2007

1145 Market Street

CAC Members present: John Bela, Rene Bihan, Rosi Bustamante, Timothy Dunn, Jessie Lorenz, Jane Martin, Jason Patton (chair), Pi Ra, Roger Rose, Nancy Strahan, Amy Tran

CAC Members absent: Emily Drennen, Alexandra Hernandez, John Hirten, Amy Tanner

City Staff present: Adam Varat (Planning), Neil Hrushowy (Planning), Andres Power (Planning), Rosey Jencks (PUC), Kris Opbroek (DPW), Joanna Fraguli (MOD)

1. Announcements And Committee Matters

- July meeting minutes accepted. (August minutes not ready yet).
- Adam Varat from Planning presented an update on the Better Streets Plan
- Committee members had the following comments:
 - Request for adding institutional analysis item to future agenda.
 - Request for pedestrian safety tools to be on a greater number of upcoming agendas.
- Gail Stein from MTA presented an overview of the MTA bus shelter selection process. She passed out a list of upcoming public hearings where the bus shelter designs would be discussed.
- Committee members had the following comments:
 - Will the NextBus technology include an audio component? *Yes.*
 - Audio features can be an annoyance to adjacent neighbors.
 - How will shelter locations be selected? *Existing shelters will be replaced*
 - Bus shelters should be integrated within a larger system of streetscape elements. Should be thought of as a whole. There is a concern that we are not thinking of them in concert with the Better Streets Plan.
 - Concerns about light levels: should be enough for security, but not too much to be distracting to drivers or annoying to adjacent land uses. Should also be security cameras.
 - Need to have enough clearance for access; ADA minimums are often inadequate.

2. Draft Stormwater Design Guidelines

- Rosey Jencks of the PUC described the relationship of the Better Streets Plan, the Stormwater Design Guidelines (Port/PUC), and the Sewer System Master Plan (PUC)
- Ken Kortekamp of Sherwood Design Engineers presented Draft recommendations for stormwater design elements in public rights-of-way.
- Committee members had the following comments:
 - What level of native plantings are appropriate?
 - What percentage of volume should have best practices to prevent combined sewer overflows? *San Francisco currently meets regulations for allowable combined sewer overflows. Best practices would be additional benefit.*
 - Don't show images from Portland-should show images more appropriate to San Francisco's climate.
 - Stormwater facilities should be performance based. Are they based on modeling? *PUC is doing modeling, but is not complete yet. BSP will recommend a range of strategies that could be employed based on modeling.*
 - Swales and runnels have implications for accessibility.

3. DRAFT Sidewalk zone/Streetscape layout guidelines

- Greg Pasquali of Community Design and Architecture presented Draft proposals for sidewalk zone and streetscape layout guidelines
- Committee members had the following comments:
 - Will these guidelines be set in stone? *Some will be codified and others will be guidelines.*
 - Will Better Streets Plan describe minimum lane widths? *No, Better Streets Plan is focusing on pedestrian realm of sidewalks and crossings.*
 - Need to enforce people who build sidewalk structures without getting encroachment permits
 - Opportunity for more creativity with alleys; could do 'woonerfs'.
 - Opportunity for bulb-out improvements if you can't afford to widen the sidewalk.
 - Look at Florida studies about pedestrian flow and pedestrian comfort.
 - How will Better Streets Plan prioritize the opportunities for pedestrian and streetscape improvements?