

Showplace Square Open Space Planning Process Comments from Meeting 2 – September 23, 2009

This document represents a summary of the information received on the comment sheets and drawn on the posters, as well as emails received by the Department. The number in parentheses represents the number of times this comment appeared (if only once, there are no parentheses).

If you have any more comments, please send them to Steve Wertheim at steve.wertheim@sfgov.org.

I. Comments on Specific Sites

A. Daggett Street

General Comments

- This will be a good space if/when surrounding lots are developed and freeway noise can be moderated/buffered (3)
- Like design (3)
- Develop Daggett right-of-way in concert with adjacent developer's plans (3)

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Program for site should relate to adjacent uses.
- Provide access to coffee stand or other food service to activate site
- Bad location for children's playground
- Like children's playground
- Consider community garden
- Exercise course impractical
- Include a sport court
- Like gateway element
- Vegetated swale only if usable open space
- Outdoor movie
- Adjacent development requires vehicular drop off/pickup from Daggett St. – integrate into plans (2)
- Provide outdoor seating close to retail (2)
- Like art elements
- Consider alternate ways to buffer noise from freeway / train, i.e. use film screen, etc.

B. Townsend Circle

General Comments

- Like design (5)
- Circle works well as is - limit changes (2)

- Seating would encourage more use, not consistent with its use as traffic circle, as this could create pedestrian safety hazards (2)
- The larger circle will calm traffic
- Signalizing circle would ruin ambiance
- Mission Bay EIR requires Townsend/8th St. intersection to be signalized – thus, unclear that the proposed design could be implemented
- Establish process to determine appropriate focal point

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Add fountain
- Add trees and landscaping
- Landscaping at perimeter to reduce sound from and views to vehicles (3)
- Seating facing center
- Consider as site for temporary art installations relating to District
- Consider providing pedestrian access to circle from pedestrian refuge island instead of from sidewalks (2)
- Observe how people move into and through circle when establishing crosswalks and other pedestrian safety and traffic calming elements
- Make pedestrian crosswalks colorful
- Sidewalk bulbs not a priority
- Provide seating on corner bulbs
- Encourage neighborhood-serving retail around Circle

C. Hooper Street

General Comments

- Good park design (3)
- Hooper is the best connector street
- Better if no cars allowed through street (2)
- Little traffic on Hooper now.
- If CCA acquires property both sides Hooper, convert street to campus mall

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Suggest dog run or exercise route like Lake Merced.
- Design more straightforward architectural plan, i.e. street tree grid
- Make it green

D. Wisconsin Street

General Comments

- Like design (2)
- Good green connector to increase pedestrian access to Jackson Playground
- Do adjacent property owners agree with this?
- Close street to cars (2)

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Like traffic calming measures
- Several events on Wisconsin St. annually
- Street connects to major park – thus, don't need small open spaces, but just frame view to park
- Consider more of a design statement on Wisconsin Street without establishing small park-like areas
- Use Patricia's Green approach (lane on either side of park)
- Provide active uses
- Require setbacks on west side of street in lieu of open space fee
- Perhaps develop a dog run on Wisconsin Street instead of on Jackson Playground park extension

E. Jackson Playground Extension - Arkansas Street

General Comments

- Put all the open space on Arkansas or Carolina to maximize additional space
- Keep Arkansas as it is
- Arkansas is better than Carolina for open space improvements
- Fewer landowners on Carolina Street to complain about proposed on-street parking loss
- For this process, provide street sections to more accurately determine how much of public right-of-way can be converted into public open space resource while still accommodating vehicular use.

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Relocate fence outside of Park to capture sidewalk and parking in Arkansas Street
- Consider moving fence inside tree line along 17th Street
- More trees
- Seating (2)
- BBQ grills
- Picnic tables
- Consider adding Boomerang Golf Course
- Keep simple design – architectural tree planting
- Make accessible from 17th St
- Separate dog run from park area.
- More public use near the recreation center (Arkansas at Mariposa)

F. Jackson Playground Extension - Carolina Street

General Comments

- Like design (3)

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Like stormwater management features because rainfall floods the area.
- Investigate further using stormwater to irrigate open space (2)
- Like community garden concept

- Like extending pedestrian realm
- Dog run should be outside of fenced park area
- Keep simple design – architectural tree planting
- Design is mostly sidewalk, with too much concrete – use more of street right-of-way to add to park
- Remove back-in angled parking

G. 7th & Berry

General Comments

- Good idea (4)
- Proposed open space area seems small
- Good for 888 7th street residents
- 7th Street not best location for park
- Consider reconfiguring Berry Street over this site, and then utilizing a portion of the (then closed) area into public open space. This would allow reduce conflict between Berry and the proposed bike route

Comments Specific to the Proposed Programming

- Add trees
- Add tables.
- Provide thick vegetation on 7th Street side as barrier to noise, traffic.

II. Other Comments

A. Systematic

- Create system wide plan for stormwater management and low-impact development plan for the entire neighborhood instead of just for the seven specific sites
- Create urban forestry plan for the neighborhood
- Focus more on system improvements rather than individual sites (2)
- Use common “gateway” elements for Showplace Square (2)

B. Site-Specific

- Prepare open space plans for Berry Street
- Give part of Berry Street to Norcal in exchange a connection from Carolina/Channel to De Haro and Berry Street. This would fill in a hole in the street grid
- At Wolfe’s Café, less traffic is good but existing structure is unattractive
- On 7th St., consider moving both bicycle lanes to the north side and developing a multi-use trail (off-street) for the bike lanes and pedestrian sidewalk
- On 7th St., consider requiring setback for development on the south side instead of in lieu fees
- Consider Plan for Channel Street as open space (2)
- 9th Street at Division – intersection too large. Expand Sidewalk into Plaza adjacent to Dolby Bldg.