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TARAVAL STREETScape COMMUNITY MEETING #3

Thursday, April 4, 2013, 6:00-7:30 pm
Congregation B'nai Emanuh - 3595 Taraval Street

Attendees:

DPW: Fuad Sweiss, Meghan Tiernan, Marci Camacho, Martha Ketterer, Tony Esterbrooks

MTA: Maurice Growney

OEWD: Jorge Rivas

BOS: Supervisor Katy Tang, Ashley Summers (Liaison for Supervisor Tang)

See sign in sheet

Meeting summary:

The evening's presentations included information on the Invest in neighborhoods Program as it relates to Taraval Street and a presentation and discussion of the proposed Taraval Streetscape Improvements. Group consensus was gained for the final concept plan.

Invest in Neighborhoods Program:

Jorge Rivas of the Mayor's Office of Economic and Work Force Development (OEWD) provided information regarding the Invest in Neighborhoods Program. Taraval Street is part of an Invest in Neighborhoods corridor and is eligible for funding to improve building facades. For more information about the program visit OEWD's website: <http://sfgov.org/site/frame.asp?u=http://www.oewd.org>

Taraval Streetscape Presentation and Discussion:

Martha Ketterer summarized prior meeting information for first time attendees. The following is a summary of the design presentation and community questions and comments. Italicized text represents city staff responses to public comments or questions:

New sidewalks versus Permeable Paving:

It may be possible to include new sidewalks in the project depending on final cost estimate for construction. However, if it is not possible for the project budget to support both new sidewalks and permeable pavers, what is the community's preference? Sidewalks are 10' wide and the permeable paving strips are 7' wide. It was proposed that the new sidewalk will be a light sand color with a light glitter to go with the project's beach theme.

1. Why can't we get new curbs too? Won't it look weird with a different color concrete? *Unfortunately, curbs are very expensive to replace, about \$50LF, so they only get replaced in a section where they are damaged. The majority of Taraval's curbs are in good shape. For example: Valencia Street has the original gray curb/gutter with new colored paving and it looks great.*



2. Would prefer new sidewalks
3. Can you replace / repair the new colored concrete sidewalks? *You would generally repair/replace by number of flags (3x3') that cover the damaged area. You would use the same concrete color and specifications for the glitter and finish. However, each batch of concrete is always different but it should blend in fine.*
4. Spend the budget on the sidewalks, as that is what we walk on and see every day.
5. Several people commented that the existing sidewalks are old, broken, and unsafe to use.
6. The existing sidewalks aren't uniform or consistent.
7. Who repairs the sidewalks? *The sidewalk inspector makes a determination that a repair is needed. Property owners are responsible for repairs. If the property owner doesn't repair the sidewalk, then the City will do it and send the property owner a bill.*
8. Permeable paving is the only item really needed because it's good for the environment.
9. What happens when cars parked on the permeable paving leak fluids on it? *The permeable pavers and the soil below can actually help filter/clean the water.*
10. Is it possible to replace/repair permeable pavers? *You would just replace the damaged tiles, so they are repairable.*
11. Where are the permeable pavers located? Are they installed on top of the street? *The permeable paving strip is adjacent to the curb/gutter and extends into the existing street by as much as 7'. The permeable pavers are in place of the asphalt and are level with the adjacent asphalt paving.*
12. Can we make the permeable paving strip narrower to save cost, so we can have both? *Yes, we can reduce the width of the permeable paving from 7' down to 3' or 4' wide depending on available budget.*
- 13. Group consensus was for new sidewalks as a priority and then as much permeable paving as the project can afford.**

Gateways Concepts, Materials, and Locations:

Two options for the gateway locations and materials at the west end of Taraval were reviewed.

Option A: Horizontal gateway concept located in planting median to the south of Taraval.

Option B: Vertical gateway concept in roundabout in center of intersection of Taraval and 48th Avenue. The roundabout is like an intersection, it will slow traffic down a bit.

1. For A: it would be a marker along the Great Hwy.
2. For A: I like the corten, shape of the object, and the names (Taraval) on it on both sides. It is an iconic element: at sea, ocean, seen as a ship's bow. B is too modern (looking). Add more ship themes to it: rope or anchor. Keep it Nautical. I walk my dog by there every day.
3. For A: Wouldn't have to see it all the time
4. Can we take A, and place it in B's location? (Roundabout).
5. Does Gateway A preclude any other use for this location? *Currently only use is as a planted median.*
6. For B: Unhappy that "we" stopped the project at 46th, it should go all the way to the beach. We have the worst access to the beach- can we do anything about that? *Yes, you must contact Mohammed or Fuad to let them know. It had been noted at previous meetings that the beach is not DPW property.*
7. For B (3 comments): it would also be a marker along the Great Hwy and people could see it driving or walking on the beach promenade.
8. For B: I like it in blue tile better, it is indigenous to the ocean
9. For B: can we also somehow add the words Taraval in it? *Will be considered and looked at including that.*
10. For B: like it more like a surfboard on end idea.
11. For B: the house across the street from A's location is known as the boat house: A looks too much like a boat so this would be too much, so I like B.



12. Can we light the gateways? *We don't have access to electrical power at either location. Solar isn't advanced enough yet because we would also have to have battery backup. We will investigate solar to see if there's anything we can do. But right now, neither gateway will have lighting.*
13. I worry about corten steel durability in the sea air? *We will do further research to see how it holds up.*
14. Want material that is easy to maintain
15. Want material that can hold up to graffiti and graffiti etching
16. Tile might be a better choice
17. Corten rusts- it would be ok, if it is durable to the salt air
18. Do we have to worry about someone stealing the gateway? *It will be set in a large footing, so it is unlikely to get stolen*
19. Our area has a blighted look: rust, am worried using corten steel will highlight our rust/blight
20. Can you select tile to resist graffiti?
21. Which material is less expensive? *Martha: probably corten is more expensive*
22. Can you use the dollars saved to get lighting for the gateway?
23. Since we are not doing gateway location A, can we use this location for something else, like a parklet or have benches there? *Katy Tang spoke about the history of this part of the median (Option A), it used to be concrete, and it has been replanted 3 times so far, due to lack of maintenance.*
- 24. Group consensus was for Gateway B location in the center median on axis with Taraval Street and that the gateway feature to be made with tile.**

Street Trees:

Several options were reviewed. California palm is a native, however, a hybrid, Washingtonia, has a narrower trunk. It would be planted at about 11-12'.

1. Want trees with well behaved roots, like they have on Castro Street
2. Can you plant palms at Gateway Location A site? *We will look into it*
3. I vote for the palm trees, because it reminds me why we live in California
4. Don't want palms, but would like cordylines. *The cordylines will be in the planting beds.*
5. Are cordyline leaf tips sharp? *They will be in a planted area so you wouldn't be brushing against them.*
6. How much does it cost for the homeowner to maintain palms? *Palms are fairly maintenance free. You can trim the old palm fronds if you want, or leave them overlapping each other. It's a person preference. It doesn't harm the tree either way. After the palm is installed, there is usually a 1-3 maintenance contract by the general contractor, which gets the new tree established.*
- 7. Group consensus for palm trees.**

Parking:

The plan showed 90° parking on both dies of Taraval with a total loss of 2-3 parking spaces. The 90° is wonderful compromise: you get planting areas and get to keep most of the parking.

1. Will we have 30 minute limited parking? *No*
2. Will we have a handicap parking space? *Yes, it will be reviewed by the city's ADA coordinator.*
3. Are we getting signage or parking striping? *No*
4. We're not suggesting parking meters, but is there a way to limit or have some parking spaces for short term use? *MTA we could consider 1-2 spaces with time limit, but it wouldn't be enforced other than someone reporting it.*
5. We need some short term parking spaces so people can buy milk for example. Now, the cars are parked all days, so we double park to run a short errand and end up with a parking ticket. *Merchants can apply to get 10-15 minutes limited parking signs for in front of their shops, or maybe a green curb.*
6. What about bikes racks? *They were low on the community priority list- the 2 round ones, which will be re-installed.*

