

Palou Complete Street Combined Community Meeting comments

August 28 and September 4, 2014

Bayview Library

The following is list of statements, comments, and concerns raised at the two community meetings for the Paulo Streetscape project. The project related comments will be explored and presented at a future community meeting.

1. Pedestrian Safety statements comments and concerns:

- a. Pedestrian accidents- statistics compiled by SFMTA has identified Palou as a high injury corridor.
- b. 5 way intersection at Quint/Silver: confusing to drivers, no one knows who should go next at the stop signs. Can you make it more human scale? Or add areas of cover for pedestrians?
- c. High travel speeds occur on the wide lanes.
- d. Can traffic lights be installed?
- e. Can we install a median island?
- f. Thumbnails are a great solution for Palou. Cars go in the wrong lane to get around the buses, even at Lane and Keith where it is 2 lanes wide.
- g. Cars are parked to the intersections which make it so hard to see, what can help? I live between 3rd and Crisp. Bulbouts help create visibility and shorten crossing distance for pedestrians
- h. At 3rd Street, the pedestrians don't abide by traffic lights- they just run across the street to catch their buses without paying attention. A serious jay walking problem here. Can buses wait a few minutes for people? They don't run very often here. Or can we get more enforcement to help with this problem?
- i. Can buses sport a countdown mechanism on the outside of them (like a cross walk) so people can see how much time they have prior to the bus leaving?
- j. Even where it is 2 lanes wide currently, the roadway feels too skinny.

2. Community Connections statements comments and concerns::

- a. Is there an opportunity connect Phelps Mini Park by the bus stop with the community garden across the street? It is a good opportunity to "make" something at this location.
- b. The community garden has a wide sidewalk. Can we add a little paving to make an "entry" to the community garden?
- c. Does Rec and Park have plans to update the park? It is looking a little tired
- d. There is an opportunity at a vacant parking lot, currently it is an eyesore and dumping ground. It is adjacent to 1306 Palou and Jennings (no street address). SF Unified School district hasn't decided what to do with it. It has great potential along with the smaller vacant lot on Palou.
- e. There is a smaller vacant lot located between 1326 and 1318 Palou. (no street address)
- f. Can you help us to do outreach to them? Send us information contact information so we can contact or contact your Supervisor's office for help.

3. Greening Opportunities to break up the pavement statements comments and concerns:

- a. Who is maintaining the greening for Palou? The goal is for DPW to maintain for 3 years, and then is turned over to property owners.
- b. There are trees at the street corners that impair visibility
- c. What is the overall length of the project?

4. Traffic Issues statements comments and concerns:

Newhall to 3rd (1600 block) –

- a. How to make this block more functional and help with queuing buses and vehicles
- b. One this 1 block, there are two lanes each direction and 4 bus lines. This location bears the load of pollution, noise and rumbling of buses and traffic.
- c. We need extra effort in greening to offset all this traffic and pollution from buses and cars.

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- d. It is really hard to pull out of driveways here. Possible striping patterns could help.

Jennings to Ingalls (1200 block):

- a. Can we have speed bumps to slow traffic?
- b. This has a blind crest at the top, which creates many close calls. We need a speed bump to slow traffic down.
- c. Cars parking on sidewalks: my neighbor is in a wheel chair and the cars on the sidewalk make it difficult to get around and force everyone to walk in the street, including kids.

3rd to Jennings (1300 block):

- a. The residents voted for speed bumps awhile back. However, installing speed bumps were not allowed.
- b. We need to slow down the traffic here.

3rd to Lane:

- a. How can we stop people from parking on the sidewalks? It makes it hard to get around the cars, sometimes you have to walk in the street to get around. This is an enforcement issue.

Nearby Newcomb Project:

- a. I like the Newcomb project; can it be replicated on Palou?

5. Bike Lane statements comments and concerns::

- a. Bike Lane question: What is the difference between bike lane and sharrows?
 - i. If you have a bike lane you lose parking
 - ii. If you have a sharrow you don't lose parking
- b. What sort of parking loss is anticipated for new bike lane? Currently, there is no parking loss, but don't know until the design is worked on.
- c. What is width of legal bike lane? 4' minimum. 5-6' is better. Driving lane is 10-12' wide. Buses prefer 12' width.
- d. I don't like dedicated bike lanes. Debris gets into them, they aren't cleaned and it pops a hole in my bike tires. It's happened more than once.
- e. Keep the sharrow symbols on Palou to remind vehicles about bikes, even if the bike lane is rerouted.
- f. I support the bike lane reroute
- g. I already use Quesada; it is easier and safer than Palou.
- h. The existing lane is about 18' wide, what are the striping options?
- i. The proposed bike lane's grades are similar to the existing on Palou.
- j. 3rd to Oakdale: do we get sharrows or bike lanes? Fill out your questionnaires.
- k. Lane is very narrow, it would be a sharrow
- l. Don't put bike route on Lane, it is too narrow.
- m. Quesada is wide enough for bike lane or sharrow.
- n. Keep the bike lane on Palou; add an official bike lane to keep cars from sideswiping buses or other parked cars.
- o. Add a bike lane from Silver that connects to Palou
- p. Can we remove 1 lane of traffic from Palou? Would like to see a dedicated bike lane on Palou that is safe for older people and kids to ride on with any type of bicycle.

6. Bus Route 23:

- a. What kind of fuel does the bus use? It is a diesel bus
- b. Will there be more buses added to the route? Would like more buses.

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7. Maintenance:

- a. I like the idea of sidewalk improvements, but who will be maintaining it? My biggest concern is the new street trees. The goal is for DPW to maintain for 3 years, and then is turned over to property owners.
- b. Who maintains the thumbnails? Who maintains them on Quesada? Trash gathers in them if not maintained.
- c. Sewer work was done, my tree was removed. Now the tree pit just collects debris.

8. Air Quality:

- a. My daughter and I have respiratory issues; will industrial traffic be routed on Palou? How will traffic be rerouted during construction?
- b. Does DPW do air quality analysis? Air quality analysis is required. There is less pollution due to better regulations, newer equipment, improved fuels and filters, etc.
- c. There was an overall analysis on Bayview- general industry is showing air improvement.
- d. I have lived here 50 years and it's currently the best air we've had here. Getting the hybrid bus was a big improvement.
- e. There are designated routes for trucks coming and going from the shipyard.

9. Construction:

- a. How will traffic be rerouted during construction?
- b. How long does it take to do block by block construction? See FAQ sheet on website.

10. CP-HPS BTI future improvements:

- a. Will our improvements be torn out by HPS future development? There is a 5 year moratorium to protect recent work. Utilities are given notice of a future project in the area so projects can be coordinated to minimize impact on residents.
- b. If HPS future development will be shrinking the sidewalk width on each side by 3 feet, will our new trees be torn out? The project is taking this into consideration and plans to install trees in the 2nd flag so if the sidewalk does get narrower, the trees won't be damaged.
- c. With future growth there will be more houses, traffic and buses; can we get permitted parking for local residents? See next comment.
- d. Frank, MTA commented:
 - i. Have a process to add residential parking area. It should be online. Check MTA's website.
 - ii. The need to shrink sidewalk width will be determined by monitoring future MUNI traffic and if the need is there, may trigger travel lanes and sidewalk loss.
- e. Reviewed existing street versus proposed street section.
- f. Thumbnails may not fit in the shipyard scheme, however, they aren't a lot of structure to build or remove, and it would be worth it to improve Palou until the Shipyard gets built.

11. Other adjacent projects:

- a. PGE came by and are laying new pipes from Palou to Evans in 2015 (DPW will find out what this project is) When will this project be done?

12. Oakdale:

- a. Who made the decision for doing the Palou project rather than Oakdale project? Planning's Green Connection study was explained. More street bond programs are needed to raise money for more projects. Work with your Supervisor to get this into action.
- b. Possible greening for Oakdale could be thru getting trees planted through Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF). This would require property owner participation.