



## **BETTER STREETS PLAN – Community Advisory Committee**

### **MINUTES**

*November 5, 2007*

*1145 Market Street*

**CAC Members present:** John Bela, Rene Bihan, Emily Drennen, Timothy Dunn, Jane Martin, Jason Patton (chair), Amy Tanner, Amy Tran

**CAC Members absent:** Rosi Bustamante, Alexandra Hernandez, Jessie Lorenz, Pi Ra, Roger Rose, Nancy Strahan

**City Staff present:** Adam Varat, Neil Hrushowy, Andres Power, Elizabeth Bender, David Alumbaugh (Planning), Rosey Jencks, Sarah Minnick (PUC), Edgar Lopez (DPW), Peter Albert, Bridget Smith, Cristina Olea, Heath Maddox (MTA), Joanna Fraguli (MOD)

#### **1. Announcements And Committee Matters**

- October meeting minutes accepted
- Adam Varat from Planning presented a project management update
  - Introduce new staff: Elizabeth Bender (Planning), Heath Maddox (MTA), Sarah Minnick (PUC)

#### **2. Institutional Update: Interagency coordination and process**

- David Alumbaugh, Peter Albert, Edgar Lopez presented on-going City efforts to improve street design and process;
  - Reiterated departmental support for the Better Streets Plan
  - Peter Albert described MTA Planning reorganization
- Committee members had the following comments and questions:
  - Will Dean Macris have a role in the Mayor's Office after leaving the Planning Department? *Yes.*
  - How can we get the Better Streets Plan to the top of the Mayor's priority list? Should CAC send a letter to the Mayor or meet with the Mayor or Board Members to describe institutional roadblocks?
  - What is meant by 'conflicting codes'? Have DPW staff seen document of code conflicts that was done early on in BSP process?
  - Need to think about how project scope has shifted. More policy and design guidance than institutional process. Need to consider spatial trade-offs from limited street space.

- Describe role of City Design Group.
- Need to consider funding for bike, pedestrian, transit projects and develop a proposal with a dollar figure to take to the mayor. Need to focus on on-going pedestrian injuries when talking to decision-makers, who are crisis oriented. Show cost-effectiveness of Better Streets Plan recommendations by avoiding pedestrian injuries
- Should re-start working group to discuss how best to reach decision-makers
- Who facilitates interdepartmental working group? *Kris Opbroek*. How are topics put on the agenda? *Discussions among staff in the meetings*.
- Should ask for new ideas from interagency outreach, not just reactions to proposals.
- Need to be clear what Better Streets mantra is. Have seen disparate pieces but no coherent story about what we are trying to achieve.
- Look at a particular example of a street (e.g. San Bruno Ave.) when thinking about institutional roadblocks. Staff should come up with a list of policy conflicts.
- What do people think about a Director of Greening? Is it an important role we want to fill?

### 3. **DRAFT Pedestrian Policies: Right Turn Movements and Crossings**

- Cristina Olea presented information on right-turn movements and crosswalk markings
- Committee members had the following comments:
  - Right turns on red (RTORs) need enforcement. Can be more dangerous where prohibited because pedestrians don't expect drivers to turn.
  - Would like to see research on effectiveness of advance limit lines
  - Show how prohibitions on RTORs effect Muni
  - Re: crossings, design guidelines should look at special paving (color, texture, etc.). Guidelines should emphasize visibility of crosswalk as a contrasting element, not just design.