

Potrero Gateway Park / The Loop Workshop 1

June 26th, 2013

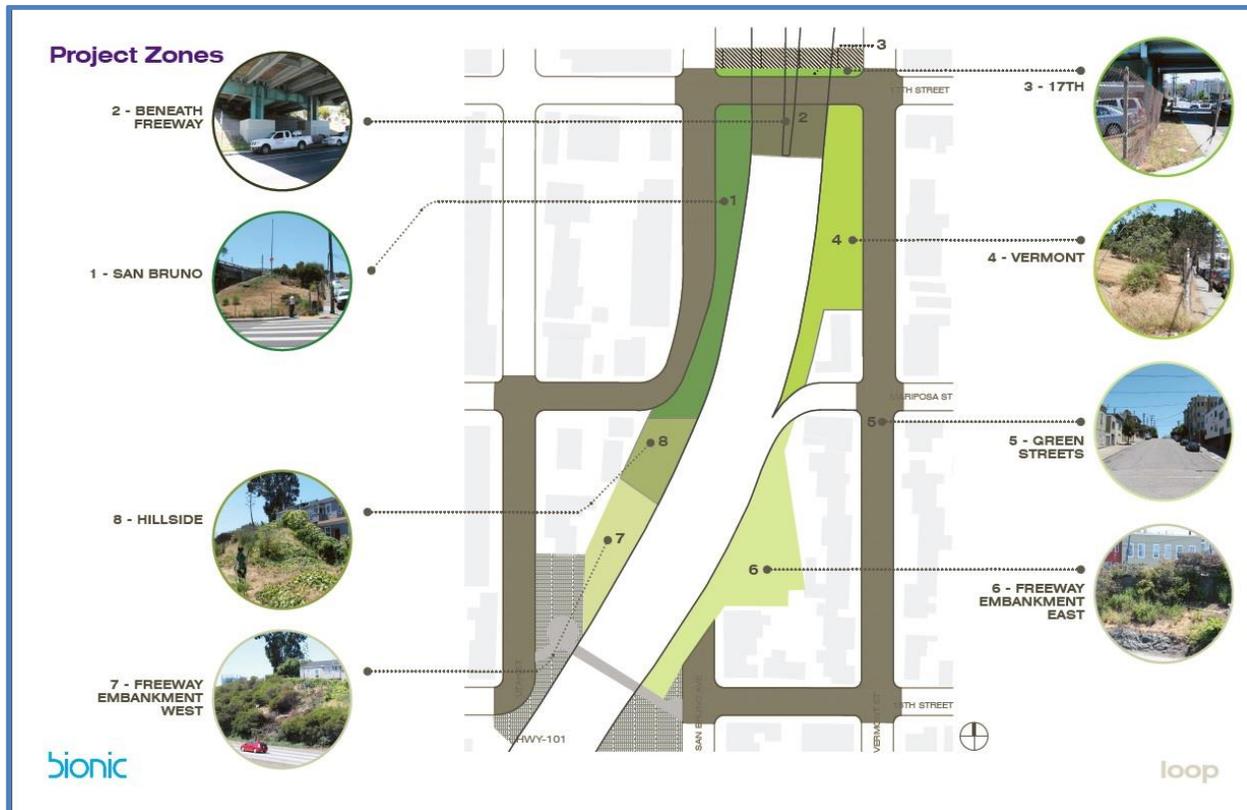
The first of 3 planned community workshops conducted by Marcel Wilson and Sarah Moos of Bionic Landscape Company was held at the Russian Gospel Church on June 26th. The objectives were to discuss the project area, observe and listen. This meeting is the beginning of the process and will help prioritize the community's inputs and create a coherent idea that can be used to communicate to agencies and funders about how the landscape should change.

Bionic presented a visual overview of the site character and discussed neighborhood scale (topography and routes) and city scale (location of amenities and work centers) point out "The Loop" is a central part of transportation patterns. In summary: all activity goes through the 17th street and that's why it's important on a larger scale.

Bionic pointed out that The Loop is located at the point where people enter the city and the impression given by that entrance can be greatly improved.

In coming up with a design Bionic considers safety, circulation, and precedents done in similar areas. One important concept discussed is CPED, crime prevention through environmental design.

The project was divided into 8 zones and ideas for each zone were discussed.



Project Zones for "The Loop"

Zone 1 and 2: San Bruno and 17th intersection: bike lane, fences, 4ft pathway, odd conditions (sidewalk ends) steep. Note narrow site. Potential solutions:

- Screen freeway: Wall, fence or tree screen
- Planting

Zone 3: 17th under the freeway: Steep, eastern sun hot, 10% grade change from San Bruno to Vermont. Parking up on the curb makes for a sketchy sidewalk situation. Potential solutions:

- Increasing access
- More light
- Making north sidewalk wider (plant, screen off parking)
- Art and lighting

Zone 4: Vermont Slopes: Fast traffic, mature trees, and hidden spaces behind buildings. Potential solutions:

- Access to slopes
- Create habitat – native habitat
- Fitness and health
- Dog run

Zone 5: Green streets: The avenues that make the loop possible

- Green the streets, more pervious pavements, more street trees.

Zones 6 and 7: Freeway embankments, landscaping from 1950, degraded, fire danger, homeless encampments.

Possible solutions:

- Caltrans re-landscape with ground cover instead of bushes

Zone 8: Mariposa/San Bruno Slopes: Concerns for safety, litter/ homeless, appearance ecological. Possible solutions:

- Access, view and open
- Replanting
- Clear up dangerous areas

The presentation was followed by a question and discussion period and finally neighbors were asked to fill out a questionnaire in order to give their opinions on the zones in the project.



Workshop 1: Marcel Wilson presenting



Neighbors review scale model of project area

Workshop 2 will be held August 22 at the Russian Gospel Church.