

San Bruno Avenue – 17th Street – Vermont Street Improvement Project

Potrero Gateway Park
17th San Bruno Vermont Project
120 Rickard Street, August 14, 2012 at 10am

Notes from the Meeting

Attending: Chris Balingit (Caltrans), Raul Herrera (Caltrans), Jerad Weiner (DPW), Julia Brashares (SF Parks Alliance), Dianne Bates (MUNA), Karen Bauer (MUNA), Jean Bogiages (MUNA)

The purpose of the meeting was to meet the new Caltrans and DPW folks, Chris and Jerad, to review the progress the community committee has made to date, and to make sure that Caltrans, DPW and SF Parks Alliance had no problems with the direction the community is going.

Caltrans owns the property and currently does all the maintenance. Our plan is to work with DPW and SF Parks Alliance Street Parks program, get a landscape plan and neighborhood agreement and have DPW take out an encroachment permit enabling the property to be improved and maintained by the community and DPW.

Raul gave us information and ideas related to what we want to do:

- Caltrans can remove stumps and take down trees if they are dangerous.
- Caltrans can remove existing fence as long as they (or someone else with an encroachment permit) put in fence that secures the freeway. There needs to be fencing that keeps animals and people from getting on the freeway.
- Caltrans is happy to give maintenance of right-of-way property to DPW and the community as long as Caltrans restrictions are followed and an encroachment permit is approved.
- In order to get an encroachment permit, DPW needs a landscape plan from the community and needs to fill out an application.
- It is very important to have support of all the community stakeholders. We need to have a solution that no one will be objecting to.
- The SF Urban Forrest group might be a good resource for trees.
- Lorena Wong is the new head of Caltrans Landscapers, as Mariko Roberts has retired.

Julia said that this project is part of the Street Parks program which she (SF Parks Alliance) and Jerad (DPW) are responsible for. They will try to attend meetings we have with landscape architects.

Our plan is to speak to landscape architects and, based on RFPs that they give us, select one to work with. We want to take the selected RFP and use it to solicit funding for the actual landscape plan. Once we have a plan, we will raise money to accomplish the plan, after working with DPW to get an encroachment permit.

Julia re-emphasized that it is important to get buy-in from all the neighbors. We will work to that end.

Jerad offered to show us a copy of the encroachment permit for Progress Park so we could see what is needed.

Raul said they will work on pruning up bottom of the shrubs and trees on the Vermont side so that the area is clear. This would mean removing the bottom 3-4 feet of growth. Jean mentioned that some of the San Bruno houses have a problem with dirt being blown in from the freeway where there is no vegetation separating them from the freeway. m They would like a temporary solution if possible.

Action Items:

- Call SFMTA to find the status of the island that was planned for Vermont street in the 2008 traffic calming plan (Jean)
- Find copies of previous encroachment permits (Jerad-Progress Park), (Jean –Fallen bridge Park)
- Talk to Steve about possible EEMP funding. (Jean)
- Contact Larry Stringer to see what his ideas were for making the area directly under the freeway on the south side inaccessible.(Jerad)
- Prune up bottom of the shrubs and trees on the Vermont side (Chris/Raul)