

CID Framework and Implementation Plan

Work Group 5 - Public Realm

February 22, 2018 Meeting

Time: 4:00-5:30 pm

Location: Hing Hay Co-Works 409b Maynard Ave S

MEETING SUMMARY

Work Group Members Present

Sonny Nguyen; Andrew Tran; Jeff Hou; Jamie Lee; An Huynh; Betty Lau; Kathleen Johnson; Ziyi Liu; Gordon Padelford; Lizzie Baskerville; Kelsey Mesher

City Staff

Janet Shull (OPCD); Gary Johnson (OPCD); Aaron Hursey (OPCD); Aditi Kambuj (SDOT);

Notes:

Workgroup Chair Sonny Nguyen opened the meeting and led a round of introductions.

Aditi Kambuj of SDOT presented an overview of the existing conditions which was illustrated by a series of maps prepared by OPCD that showed: areas where there are existing plans and initiatives; existing pedestrian lighting, street trees and locations of proposed future development projects; existing parks and open spaces; and existing transit stops. Additional public realm elements not currently mapped include: plazas and public-private spaces, public art, character elements such as brick paving and decorative tree grates, and seating.

Aditi introduced a group exercise where the workgroup divided into two smaller groups and, considering the existing conditions information, had a conversation around the following prompts:

- Identify public realm needs (what and where?)
- Identify elements/improvements to address needs (how?)
- Develop phasing (near, mid, long term) for these desired improvements (when?)

Group Exercise:

Here are the notes from the two break out group discussions:



CID Framework and Implementation Plan

Work Group 5 - Public Realm

February 22, 2018 Meeting

Group 1:

- Bring feel of Hillclimb down 10th Ave. S to Jackson St.
- Improve and connect extended area under I-5 and connect to Danny Woo Garden; Help clean up and activate the area
- More placemaking at 12th Ave and Jackson
- Increase time amount to cross Jackson St at almost every intersection, but specifically at Maynard; Possibly include heritage crosswalk
- Explore Crosswalk scramble at 12th Ave and Jackson
- New development should incorporate garden space
- Activate street ends with gardens/p-patch
- Jackson and Rainier is a transition between two neighborhoods. Create sense of place, stitch together identifies at this node.
- Improve pedestrian realm of Jackson St. east of I-5
- Fill gap in bike connections between Dearborn and 2nd Ave Ext bike facilities
- Mark greenway and green street on base map
- What can be done with area under I-5 near Danny Woo Garden?
- Which streets have paving (old brick) under asphalt?
- How do we fill street tree gaps? What is the process for areas not under redevelopment?

Group 2:

- Increase pedestrian signal timing across Jackson
- Tree maintenance is an issue
- Litter on sidewalk; graffiti removal support
- Minor Upheaval – Canton Alley and with Chinatown; minor flooding in Canton Alley
- Assess and Repair broken sidewalks
- Lighting – Public safety concern, business environment, SCIDPDA project is in procurement phase; covers all CID
- Guerilla garden – gravel area on Main near I-5; Tactical opportunity?
- Maintenance – graffiti; city is paying for enhanced cleaning, more support is needed
- Shade and street trees in Little Saigon
- Address blank facades; Active uses in Little Saigon
- Need for places to sit, eat, and enjoy the Little Saigon Neighborhood. Potential for POPS
- 5th Ave and Jackson feels unsafe at night

Next Steps discussion: The next steps are for the workgroup to begin focusing discussion on development of preliminary recommendations



CID Framework and Implementation Plan

Work Group 5 - Public Realm

February 22, 2018 Meeting

and then will consider the prioritization of those recommendations. There was question about the workgroup members prioritizing without broader community input. Janet Shull responded by noting that there will be broader community input during this process and opportunity for the community to respond to initial recommendations which will help the workgroup determine what they think should be prioritized in public realm improvements.

It was suggested that WILD youth leaders be engaged, and that Kevin Lee, President of Chong Wa Benevolent Association be reached out to. The need for coordination of the Public Realm and ISRD Workgroups was also recognized.

The group also discussed some of the public realm related projects underway which are referenced here:

- Jackson Street Connections Project which is an evaluation of connecting the CID neighborhood to the waterfront – the study area stretches from 12th to the waterfront. Kathleen Johnson provided a link to the Jackson Street Connections project webpage – here:
<http://www.historicsouthdowntown.org/projects/past-projects/jackson-street-connections/>
- Jackson Hub Project which builds on the South Jackson Street Connections report to focus on the Union/King St Station area and associated street frontages. The goal of this project is to make the area more welcoming and better connect Pioneer Square with the CID.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Shull

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 1, 4:00 to 5:30 PM

