



Streetscapes & Public Realm Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 22, 2024 - 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

Minutes

In attendance

Committee members and guests: Evan Kaizer, Jim Chappel, Darcy Brown, Manuela King (Chair), Rick Laubscher, Russ Keil Jr., Yann Taylor, Karin Flood, Tammy Brock, Veronia (Field Operations)

Staff members: Ken Rich (COO), Liza Bernard (Events Associate), Melanie Medina (Executive Assistant), Kristina Ghishan (Intern).

Call to Order & Roll Call

Observing a quorum present, Manuela King called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Project Updates:

a. Stage Improvement Project

Ken shared that the Alliance has signed the agreement with OEWD and can begin working on the Stage Improvement Project. This includes creating and providing a project plan by August 1 after which we can start the process of hiring a design firm.

b. Union Square in Bloom

Ken announced that Union Square in Bloom will continue to run until its closing event on August 17th. He noted the success of the Mother's Day event and the next Bloom related event being the Blooms & Bubbles Bar Crawl in July.

c. Lighting Project

Ken reported that the lighting project in Campton Place has been installed, with lights scheduled to be on from 6:00am to 6:00 pm. Due to technical issues the lights have been off and the issue is being resolved.

d. Maiden Lane

Ken shared that the community process for creating a plan for Maiden Lane will begin in June, with the city providing funding for improvements.



e. Statue

Manuela informed the committee that the R-Evolution statue has a chance of returning to Union Square. She shared the history of the statue scheduled for installation in 2022 but due to a few delays, the statue was located elsewhere. There is now a potential funder who would like to have the statue, either permanent or temporary, in Union Square Park. The temporary location would be where the Christmas tree is typically located, from January to May 2025. The donor has a desire to place the statue in Union Square due to their ties to San Francisco.

3. Presentation: Field Operations- Powell St. Improvement Project

Veronica from Field Operations presented information about the Powell Street Improvement Project, detailing its concepts, furnishings, and the three phases of the project. The phases include a pavement strategy, which involves removing trash cans and newspaper stands and implementing a new red-painted roadway. She also discussed the lighting strategy and programming, which includes mobile shops like push carts, branding allowances, hoarding, and art on empty storefronts. Veronica highlighted the golden lantern canopy light fixture, estimated to cost \$6 million. Additionally, she covered furnishings and plantings, including custom fixed benches, in-ground street trees, sidewalk parklets, and a new roadway. The discussion touched on utilities, sidewalks, trip hazards, and finishes. Veronica emphasized enhancing architecture through building repainting and uplighting. She concluded by sharing the next steps: a Stakeholder meeting on June 10 and the Powell Open House on June 12.

4. Upcoming meetings and events:

- a. Union Square Alliance Annual Board meeting: May 23, at 9:00a.m. at the Marriott Union Square
- b. Powell St. Improvement Project: Stakeholder Meeting 3: June 10, 1pm at the Marker Hotel
- c. Powell Open House: June 12, 4-7 pm at 111 Powell (former Uniqlo space)
- d. Streetscapes & Public Realm Committee: July 11, 2024

5. Adjournment: 10:44am