

Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee

Action Minutes .October 25, 2004

Meeting started at 5:35 pm

Present: Members: Shirley Bierly; Cheryl Brinkman; Ed Franklin; Helen Kwan; Jeanne Lynch; Sharon Priest; Pi Ra; Howard Strassner; and Susan Vaughn

Staff: Frank Markowitz, DPT.

1. Minutes: Approved August and September Minutes

2. Public Comment: Michael Radetsky, DPH: Public Health has funding for four each \$10,000 grants, for the next two years, for organizations to do education or planning for a pedestrian safety project. Applications are due by November 15, Call Michael at 581-2418. Chris Duderstadt, Alliance for Golden Gate Park: Copies of the bid package for the surface portion of the Concourse project show that pedestrians will have to walk further and cross more traffic

3. Designs of Southern Entrance to Concourse Garage: Staff: Geoff Adams started presentation for Michael Ellzey, Concourse Authority (CA) Executive Director: Option 1 and Option 4 are part of an attempt to meet Judge's requirement to quickly produce a plan that could meet Prop J's dedicated entrance requirement. Option 1) Increases moving portion of Martin Luther King (MLK) roadway from two lanes to four lanes from Lincoln to the Concourse. This is accomplished by removing parking lanes and some of the green space between the roadway and the paved walkway. Two lanes are partially dedicated for traffic to the garage. Plan includes pedestrian improvements at intersection to reduce walking distances. Option 4) has one dedicated lane entering garage from Lincoln while traffic exiting garage turns right on MLK. Option 10) has no garage entrance in the Park and therefore no extra lanes in the Park. All autos will enter or exit the garage at Tenth Avenue and Fulton. This may require one additional lane, at the garage entrance. The Authority has not completed their traffic predictions and will present this to the Planning Department (PD) before the CA November 9 meeting when they will select option. PD will make a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination. If the changes go too far beyond the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) than they cannot be built without major changes and review to the EIR and this could stop construction until review is completed. Frank Markowitz, DPT: DPT has not selected an Option. DPT is working on Pedestrian improvements for the Park which will come to PSAC soon. The dedicated lane where it is shared with bikes, Muni and traffic should be 14 or 16 feet wide.

3. Public Comments: Chris Duderstadt: Bulk of traffic is from the region and more thought is necessary to get cars to the garage and the Park whether there is one or two garage entrances. Sally McDonald, Sandre Tracey, Randy Fik, , Tim Hines, Larry Skankerdy; Marilyn Gadz, Mike Grendan, John Mackie, Bill Callahan, and Kristen Von Brener - All North Park Neighbors: Object to Option 10; South and North should share impacts of Park traffic; families with small children have difficulty crossing Fulton safely; endorse Option 1); EIR and entire process based on two entrances. Toby Johnson Smith, north side: wider entrance to garage for Option 10) would impact bus stop and lose bike and walking path Ellzey added: keeping path might require cutting more trees. Greg Garr, Haight Asbury Neighborhood Council, opposes widening of MLK. Ellzey added: All parking removed for traffic lanes counts toward the total required to be moved for the garage. Norm Rolfe, SF Tomorrow and Joe Speaks, Muni added garage traffic on Ninth could impact Muni operations for 6, 43, 44, N and 72 Lines. Pinky Kushner: Leah Shaum, SF Bicycle Coalition; Rich Coffin, Walk SF and Concourse CAC; John Rizzo, Sierra Club and Concourse Authority: David Miles, Roller skates; and Mary Spoor: Need more information; need countdown signals to help pedestrians; Muni and tour buses moving next to walkers is not safe; drivers will seek free parking elsewhere in Park; Option 1 traffic and turning will be difficult in Park; Option 10 with extra capacity at garage entrance will help; removing parking on MLK was not acceptable to park users in order to create a bike lane; study other options; need list of problems with each option.

3. PSAC Comments: Sue and Howard: What makes Option 1 and less congestion for cars better for pedestrians? Ellzey: Prop J has pedestrian improvements- I am not expert on pedestrian needs but I think less congestion helps. Jeanne: How about services during emergencies? E: Fire and Police were included in process. Jeanne: Not enough facts. Shirley wanted to know about pedestrian routes into the Park and about the Concourse area. Ed: The process seems rushed. E: If available to CA PSAC can have additional information five days before CA meeting on November 9. **PSAC Voted:** To schedule a Special Meeting to complete discussion of this issue for November 8, at 5:30.

4. Adjournment: At 8:00 PM