

Notes from Buena Vista Avenue Community Working Group Meeting #2

Location: 5 Buena Vista Terrace

Date, Time: 3/11/09, 7:00pm

Present: Liza Finkelstein, Bonnie Fisher, Boris Dramov, Elisabeth Roberts, Molly Hooper, Richard Magary, Antonio Piccagli (SFMTA)

1. Introductions
  - a. Names
  - b. Meeting agenda
  
2. Discussion – Locations along Buena Vista Ave East and West

Location	Discussion:
Upper Terrace	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult crossing                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Poor sightlines                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Especially leaving park</li> <li>▪ Cars crest from both direction</li> <li>▪ Cars from both direction come around bend</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• High use due to good park entrance</li> </ul>
	<p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move striped crosswalk from eastern to western crossing                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ better sightlines</li> <li>○ no existing “receiving” sidewalk</li> <li>○ Would require redesign of Park and Rec project                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ P&amp;R project adds ADA parking space across from western crossing</li> <li>▪ Community personal connections could be useful in this</li> <li>▪ No strong commitment by working group to this change   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous responses by e-mail also not favorable to halting P&amp;R project</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Maintain existing crosswalk &amp; add bulbouts, remove parking on park side                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ improve sightlines</li> <li>○ requires parking loss</li> <li>○ requires sidewalk improvements/plant removal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Maintain and improve existing crossing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Add bulb-out to park side</b></li> <li>○ <b>Remove some parking on north side of Buena Vista East</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High</b></li> </ul>

Frederick Street	<p><b>Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crosswalks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Northern crossing has best access to stairs</li> <li>○ No nearby striped crosswalks</li> <li>○ Add striped crosswalk across Frederick and Buena Vista? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Across Frederick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only if solution can be found for cresting car issue</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Across Buena Vista Ave <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depends on sight distances</li> <li>• More likely</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Buena Vista Ave width <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wide enough for bulb-outs or islands</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Options:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• combination of bulb-outs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Park side bulb-outs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ improve pedestrian visibility</li> <li>▪ add landing area from steps that is not in street</li> <li>▪ physical impede parking that blocks steps</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Home side bulb-outs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ could potentially move pedestrian crosswalk farther from cresting cars</li> <li>▪ shorten crossing across Frederick AND Buena Vista Ave</li> <li>▪ require fire hydrant relocation (\$\$) on NW corner</li> <li>▪ require catch basin relocation on SW corner</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Median island just north of intersection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Narrows roadway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ forces drivers to steer, pay more attention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• slower speeds for both directions on Buena Vista Ave</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ no slowing effect on downhill drivers turning left on Frederick or on cars cresting hill</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Alerts motorists to presence of intersection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ even drivers proceeding north (downhill) on BV Ave</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Potential for planting/trees</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Preference:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Island</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>plantable</b></li> <li>○ <b>long</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High</b></li> </ul>

<p>Waller Street area (hairpin turn, playground)</p>	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• difficulty accessing playground with stroller</li> <li>• poor sightlines for pedestrians and drivers</li> <li>• parked cars on turn itself cause wide swings</li> <li>• wide roadway</li> </ul>
	<p>Options?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One-way options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Either way places increased strain on intersections of Haight with Central and Haight with Buena Vista West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ more turns</li> <li>▪ effects on MUNI</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ One-way street effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ wider roads lead to <b>HIGHER</b> speeds</li> <li>▪ fewer conflicts with oncoming traffic</li> <li>▪ diversion of cars onto nearby streets</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Close streets to through traffic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ politically difficult?</li> <li>○ parking loss?</li> <li>○ diversion onto nearby streets</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Speed Humps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Difficult to implement due to poor sightlines and relatively steep slopes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Preference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>One-way conversion</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>

Buena Vista Terrace	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cars parked near corner obscure visibility for motorists turn right onto Buena Vista Terrace</li> <li>• Parking may be short or long due to presence of mailbox near corner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Some cars park in existing red zone</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove parking on Buena Vista Terrace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improves sight lines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduces conflicts with drivers moving north (toward park) on BVT</li> <li>▪ Leads to wide open feel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can lead to higher speeds on BVT, and of cars turning onto BVT</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Widens the roadway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could increase speeds on BVT</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bulb-out into BVT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improves sight lines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduces conflicts with drivers moving north (toward park) on BVT</li> <li>▪ Leads to wide open feel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can lead to higher speeds on BVT, and of cars turning onto BVT</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Narrows roadway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ But prohibition of parking largely counters this effect</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Possible to avoid moving catch basin?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Preference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bulb-out</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>

Generally	<p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicles speed feel fast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds relatively normal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Under 30 mph</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ feel quick due to twists in roadway and visibility issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Difficult for pedestrians to judge approaching vehicle speed</li> <li>▪ Difficulty crossing</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edgelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Encourage drivers to stay toward middle of roadway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pedestrians, bicycles, and parking/exiting vehicles get slight cushion</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Can cause narrow “feeling” for drivers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May slow speeds</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Relatively inexpensive</li> </ul> </li> <li>• STOP signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ STOPS signs are generally not warranted on BV Ave <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ side streets must clearly yield right-of-way to BV Ave</li> <li>▪ low volumes on side streets</li> <li>▪ unwarranted STOP signs encourage violations where they are essential</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Preference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Edgelines</b></li> <li>• <b>STOP signs at individual locations to be pursued by individual residents</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>Priority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium</b></li> <li>• <b>Low cost may mean they can be done first</b></li> </ul>

3. Next Steps

- a. Antonio must prepare final recommendations
  - i. By March 25
- b. Working group members must read and comment
  - i. Comments due by April 1
- c. Antonio to submit revised plan
  - i. By April 8
- d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Community Meeting
  - i. At Randall Museum
  - ii. Mid-April?

4. Follow-up

- a. Antonio to send Park and Rec diagrams to group
- b. Antonio to send STOP sign request instructions to Elisabeth

**Not discussed**

Quantifiable goals