



Potrero Gateway Park – Moving Forward

Why the need for this Project?

The Potrero Hill corridor of 17th Street has become a major East-West thoroughfare for the city, given the rapid development over the past 5 years of Mission Bay and Dogpatch and soon, the upcoming Chase Center. One of the major points of passage is where 17th Street passes underneath the 101 Freeway. San Francisco Public Works has accomplished great work in resurfacing the surrounding streets and adding bike lanes, and CalTrans/CHP has overseen regular maintenance of the area underneath the freeway, but the constant rotation of homeless choosing to camp under the overpass remains a serious and unending problem, and the road and ancient sidewalk underneath the freeway has suffered from the tenfold increase in pedestrian and car traffic. The resulting streetscape has become dangerous for pedestrians and 200+ bicyclists using 17th Street daily, a designated SF Bicycle Coalition Bike Route and an SF Planning Department Green Connector. The Potrero Hill neighborhood, witnessing the evolution of this area and recognizing the need for an overhaul of this critical passageway, has spent the past five years developing an urban renewal plan, and has even raised over \$2.5M to accomplish it.

How can we make a Change?

Potrero Gateway Park is an urban design proposal including the Caltrans right-of-way between 17th and Mariposa, bordered by San Bruno Street and Vermont Avenue. The project addresses neighborhood concerns of public health and safety by transforming the neglected right-of-way into accessible public spaces that offer a range of programs and experiences not offered elsewhere in the area. Some of the issues in this area have been ameliorated since the GBD has been maintaining the Caltrans right-of-way under a DPW permit, but there is more to do to make this open space a neighborhood asset.

What are the Goals of the Project?

In 2011, the neighborhood formed the Steering Committee to address the existing conditions. Through community meetings, an ideas competition, and 6 years of previous efforts, the Committee identified 3 main objectives:

1. Promote public health, safety, and welfare by creating open spaces, improving accessibility, and providing maintenance around the freeway.
2. Provide a range of program, park amenities, art and recreation spaces for the neighborhood and the city.
3. Improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation below, and around the freeway.

What have We Accomplished?

The Potrero Gateway Park Steering Committee, working together for over 5 years has:

- Raised money, created an RFP, interviewed prospects and hired Bionic Landscape company to create a conceptual design.



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- With Bionic, involved City agencies, worked with the community and generated a conceptual design for Potrero Gateway Park-the Loop.
- Were assigned a Public Works Project Manager to help with the project.
- Held a fundraiser attended by over 150 neighbors.
- Applied for and received a Complete Neighborhoods Grant from MOHCD.
- Had Public Works take out an adopt-a-highway permit so that GBD could maintain the landscape.
- Asked for and received funding for Phase 1 of the project from ENCAC/IPIC, Prop AA, AHSC.
- Worked with Public Works to create and announce a Phase 1 RFP which was awarded to BIONIC.
- Complete a Scope of Work with Bionic and Public Works.
- Failed to create Standard Terms and Conditions that Bionic could Accept.
- Continued working with a new Public Works manager.

What are our Current Plans?

- The Steering Committee will work with Public Works to re-issue the RFP for Phase 1
- The Steering Committee will choose the designer/architect/landscape architect for Phase 1
- The Steering Committee, Public Works and designer/architect/landscape architect will hold a community meetings to get input on the updated Phase 1 plan.
- Caltrans, Public Works, the designer/architect/landscape architect and the Steering Committee will work to ensure that the plans meet Caltrans requirements.
- The Steering Committee and Public Works will meet with GBD to ensure that the project maintenance needs are met.
- The Steering Committee and Public Works will monitor development of the plan by the designer/architect/landscape architect though the design stages up to Construction Design and then work with the chosen designer, Caltrans, Public Works, and any other participating agencies to oversee and complete the projec