Steering Committee Meeting
July 22, 2019 7:30pm
550 Utah Street

Attending:  Dianne Bates, JD Beltran, Jean Bogiages, JR Eppler, Michael Kerbow, Sheldon Trimble
Michelle Woo (Public Works)

Excused:  April Ellis, Steven Solomon, Will Chang

Minutes

Introductions
The meeting opened at 7:30 with introductions:
- Dianne Bates:  Vermont Street, SPCA marketing
- JD Beltran:  Utah street, Arts Commission, CCA instructor, artist
- Jean Bogiages: Utah street, retired SW engineer, math teacher
- JR Eppler:  Utah Street, lawyer, Boosters President
- Michael Kerbow: Vermont Street, artist, 18th St studio
- Sheldon Trimble: Mariposa Street, interior designer

Discussions with Marcel Wilson
After SFPA gave Bionic an example of the standard terms and conditions (STC) that they would have to sign, Bionic reported that these were not any different that the previous Public Works version. They could not sign.  Bionic maintains that the terms and conditions are not appropriate for landscape design work at the cost level of the Loop project.  Jean let Marcel know that we would need to find another designer and would be talking to Jeff Miller.  Our choices would be a private designer like Jeff or public designers from Public Works.

SFPA and letter to Walton
Jean still personally wants to explore the possibility of adjusting the terms and conditions for designers of smaller projects and set up a meeting with Supervisor Walton to discuss this.

Discussions with Jeffrey Miller, Miller Company
Realizing that SFPA was not able to come up with STC that Bionic could sign, JD and Jean called Miller Company and talked with Jeff Miller on July 22.  Jeff has worked with the City and signed the STC required by the City.  Jeff, Jean and JD discussed the Phase 1 elements of the project.  JD presented an example of work that could be done under the bridge (http://dancorson.com/tag/public-art).  Jeff felt that the $2.5M budget would be appropriate for the art under the bridge and the San Bruno section of Phase 1.

Three Options for Design
We agreed that we would consider two options:
MOHCD grant with PGPL landscape designer (and an RFP) and Public Works handling grant
MOHCD grant Public Works landscape designer and Public Works handling grant
Native Plants and visit to Noreen and Eddie’s garden
Dianne talked about discussions with Noreen Weeden and Eddie Bartley about native plants and designing landscaping to support native habitat, the biodiversity approach. She reported that Eddie and Noreen are very interested in seeing native habitat supported in the Vermont Street part of the project.

Share with Michelle the important aspects of the project
Using the three Phase 1 design drawings created by Bionic on order to get funding from ENCAC, the group discussed the elements of the project that were important. There was concurrence on the importance of the following elements in Phase 1:

- Art under the bridge, a raised pathway behind the pillars connecting San Bruno and Vermont, expanded sidewalk in front of the pillars, removal of 17th St parking.
- Green Wall on the San Bruno side with native plants chosen for their sparse maintenance need to protect the neighbors from the freeway sound dust and sight.
- Bulbouts on San Bruno to improve safety for pedestrians.

Other Phase 1 ideas were greeted with enthusiasm:
- Connecting the art under the bridge with the 18th Street Overpass
- Designing the lighting art under the bridge so that it reflected the traffic patterns on the freeway above.

Other Phase 2 work discussed
- Traffic Calming on Vermont – Julie Christensen (GBD) is interested in expanding the Vermont St open space section by removing a lane of traffic and replacing it with park. This is part of the complete Loop design. It would be good to connect SFMTA work with removing the added lane in the Vermont exit and adding stop signs.
- Dianne pointed out that the Vermont St open space would be a great space for native plants supporting habitat. This would not be expensive. It could be done before opening the areas to public use.

Next Steps
- Make a list of the elements of the project that make up Phase 1 which will be sent to Jeff and Jennifer August 5 or near that date (Michelle)
- Research the money for the project to see if there are any restrictions on it. (Michelle)
- Set up a walk August 5 (or near that date) with Jennifer and Jeff and whomever can make it from the steering committee. The walk August 5 will be to go over the elements of the design that need cost estimates. (Jean)
- Set up a meeting August 23 (or near that date) to review the cost estimates that Jennifer and Jeff create. (Jean)
- Send Jeff the Terms and Conditions that Bionic would not sign and confirm that he understands ADA requirements. (Jean)

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 9:15