



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Memo to the Planning Commission

HEARING DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2010

Date: October 7, 2010
Case No.: **2010.0878U**
Project Name: **MISSION DISTRICT STREETSCAPE PLAN**
Project Boundaries: Potrero Avenue, Cesar Chavez, Mission Street, Randall Street,
Dolores Street, Division Street
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Recommendation: **Informational presentation only**

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BACKGROUND

In 2007, the Planning Department received \$741,500 from the California Department of Housing and Community Development to develop the Mission District Streetscape Plan. Since that time, the department has held a series of public workshops to develop a plan to improve the streets and public spaces of the Mission District. The result is the Draft Mission District Streetscape Plan (the Plan), which staff will present today.

The Plan is an implementation action of the Mission Area Plan of the San Francisco General Plan, part of the Eastern Neighborhoods Planning process, which describes a vision, objectives, and policies to positively shape long-term growth and change in the Mission District. It carries out the objectives of the Mission Area Plan, including:

- **Objective 5.3.** Create a network of green streets that connects open spaces and improves the walkability, aesthetics and ecological sustainability of the neighborhood
- **Policy 5.3.7.** Develop a comprehensive public realm plan for the Mission that reflects the differing needs of streets based upon their predominant land use, role in the transportation network, and building scale.

ABOUT THE PLAN

The goal of the Mission District Streetscape Plan is to re-imagine Mission District streets as vital public spaces that serve the needs and priorities of the community. The outcome is a system of neighborhood streets with safe and green sidewalks; well-marked crosswalks; widened sidewalks at corners; creative parking arrangements; bike paths and routes; close integration of transit; and roadways that accommodate automobile traffic but encourage appropriate speeds.

The Mission District Streetscape Plan designs will improve pedestrian safety and comfort, increase the amount of usable public space in the neighborhood, and support environmentally-sustainable stormwater management.

Highlights of the plan include:

- A new flexible parking strategy for gathering and outdoor seating uses;
- New gateway plazas at key intersections and destinations;
- Traffic calming on residential streets;
- On-street designs for sustainable stormwater management;
- Road diets, greening and traffic calming at major corridors;
- Pedestrian improvements on alleys and small streets.

This plan provides a design framework for street improvement, policies to guide the improvement of the public realm of the Mission District's streets, and designs for 28 specific projects that can be built over time to realize this vision and framework. The Plan also includes a strategy for how to build and maintain these improvements over time, building on the Mission Area Plan. Many of the projects identified in the Plan are already underway, or have received funding for their construction.

REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION

This is an informational hearing only; no Commission action is requested. Staff will present official Commission actions with a Final Mission District Streetscape Plan at a future hearing.

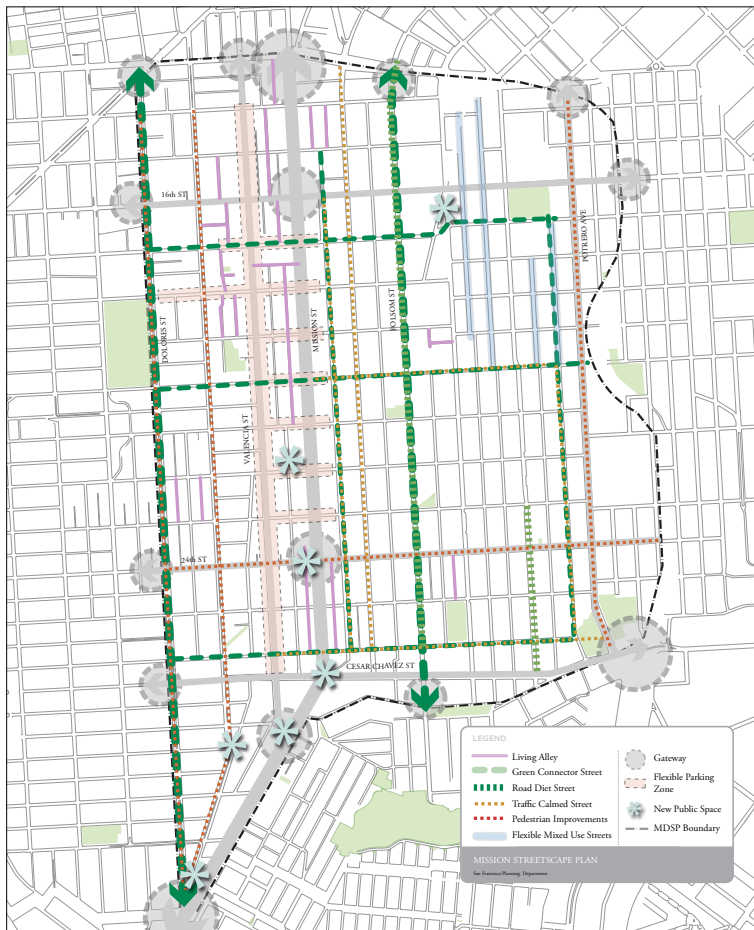
RECOMMENDATION: Informational presentation only

Attachments:

1. Mission District Streetscape Plan Fact Sheet
2. CD of Mission District Streetscape Plan



The **Mission District Streetscape Plan (MDSP)** is a comprehensive strategy to improve Mission District streets so that they are more livable, offer balanced transportation choices, and provide enjoyable public spaces for residents and visitors to the neighborhood. The MDSP addresses the unique context and needs of the Mission District: through a participatory process, residents have expressed a desire for streets that better contribute to the vitality and public life of their neighborhood. The plan builds off the community ideas and articulates a set of designs and strategies for their implementation.



Community Vision

MULTI-MODAL

Streets in the Mission District should support all modes of transportation, prioritizing walking, bicycling and transit.

GREEN

Tree planting and greenery should be maximized, incorporating sustainable stormwater management and streetscape elements wherever possible.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

Street design should prioritize community uses of public right-of-way, providing space for gathering, recreation, and local commercial uses, and minimizing the impact of through traffic.

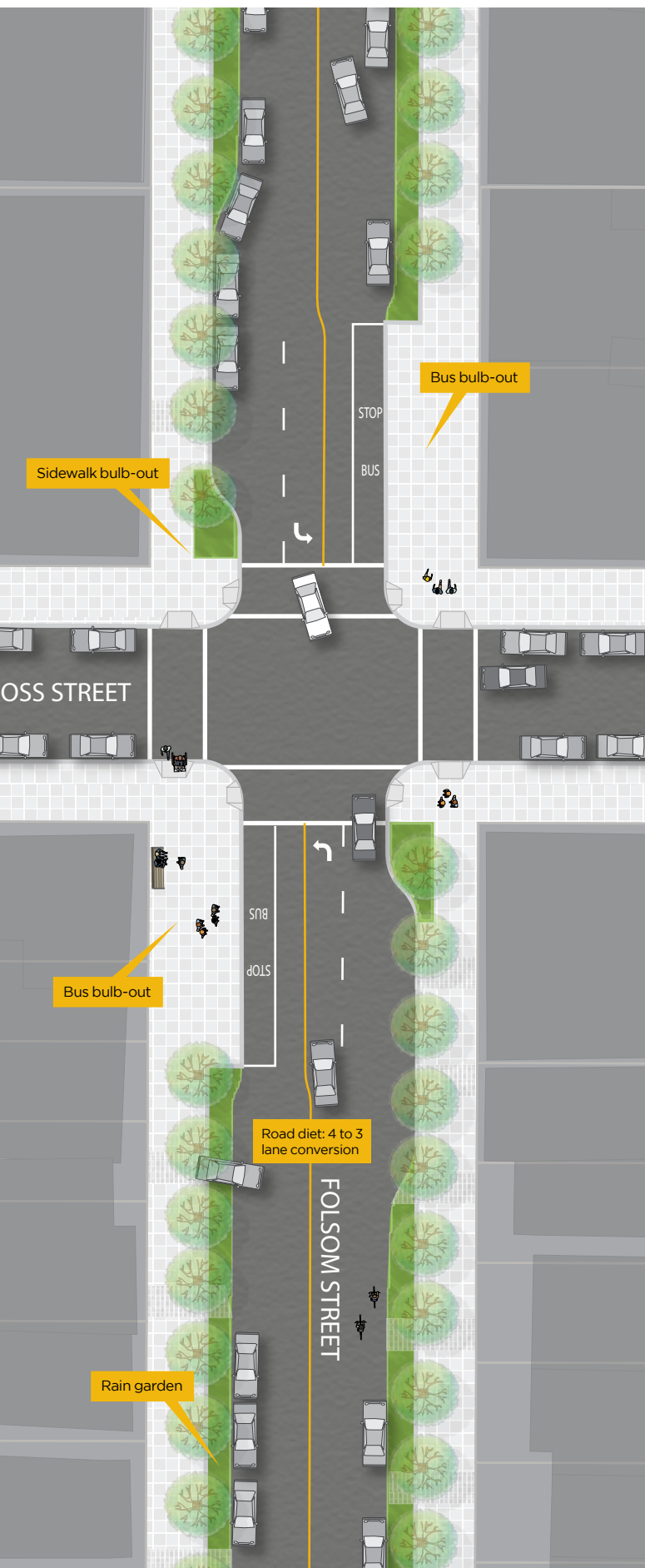
SAFE AND ENJOYABLE

Street design should emphasize enjoyment and safety for all users, providing adequate lighting and visibility as well as buffering from automobile conflicts.

WELL-MAINTAINED

Existing street amenities should be well-maintained, and future improvements should have a maintenance plan to ensure proper upkeep.

MEMORABLE: Streets should reflect and reinforce the Mission District's identifiable sense of place.



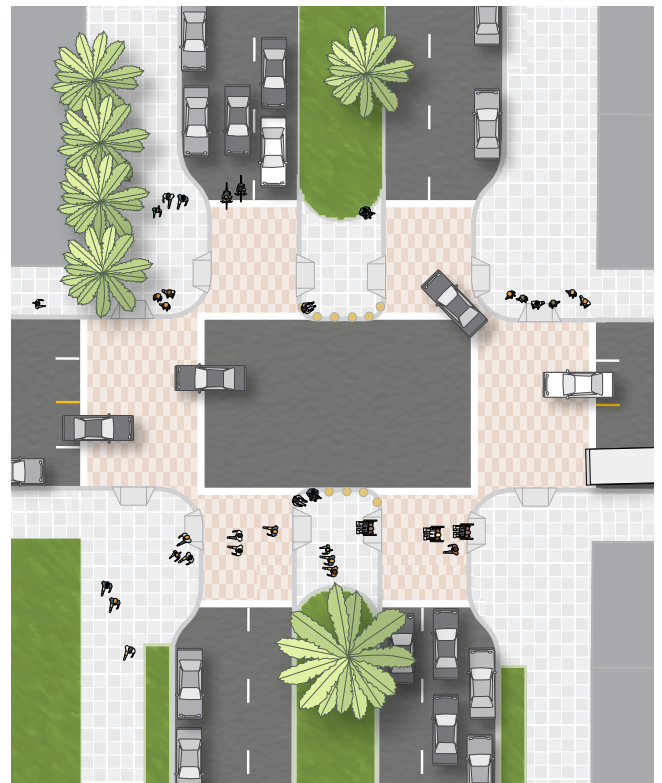
Concept design for Folsom Street (4-to-3 lane conversion)

The **Mission District Streetscape Plan** introduces designs to improve pedestrian safety and comfort, increase the amount of usable public space in the neighborhood, and support environmentally-sustainable stormwater management. Highlights of the plan include:

- Flexible space for outdoor market;
- A new flexible parking strategy for gathering and outdoor seating uses;
- New gateway plazas;
- Traffic calming and greening ideas for residential and mixed-use streets;
- A re-envisioning of residential throughways;
- A network strategy for small residential streets and alleys;
- Design review for improvements of existing public spaces.

The **Mission District Streetscape Plan** held five community workshops between March 2008 and April 2010. These workshops guided the development of a draft plan and preliminary concept designs for prioritized areas in the district. The draft plan will be available Summer 2010.

As the Mission District Streetscape Plan draft document goes to print, a number of specific projects are already moving forward towards construction – funding has been identified or applied for. The City is already actively pursuing these projects and beginning to transform the Mission District’s public realm.



Concept design for Dolores and 18th Streets intersection.