IMPLEMENTING GREEN CONNECTIONS: THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS

HOW WILL GREEN CONNECTIONS BE IMPLEMENTED?

Projects Delivered by the City

Green Connections projects could be designed and implemented through a City-led community-based planning process. In this instance, City agencies would design and build the improvements based on community input. The City’s streetscape projects are generally built by the San Francisco Department of Public Works (DPW), the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUCC).

Coordination with Private Development

Green Connections projects could be designed and implemented through partnerships between City Agencies and private developers. In this instance, private developers would design and build the improvements based on input from community members and city agencies.

Neighborhood-led Projects

Green Connections projects could be initiated by local residents, community groups and/or business owners. These groups could design, implement and/or maintain Green Connections. This approach builds on a number of recent programs designed to leverage the creativity and initiative of individuals in the development of the City’s public spaces. A Community Resources List has been developed as part of the project and provides additional guidance on technical assistance and funding.

WHAT ADDITIONAL FUNDING IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE GREEN CONNECTIONS NETWORK IN TWENTY YEARS?

Funding for core components of the project should be identified and secured. Rough cost estimations have been developed to help articulate funding needs outside of already programmed dollars. Funding for these key Green Connections programs should be secured to implement core components of the plan that may not be part of an existing capital plan.

Need: Basic Signage and Wayfinding

Calculations:
- 115 miles
- $150,000 per design, fabrication, and installation
- $75,000 per planning and graphic design

Projected Average Annual Costs:
- Most likely the City would install the wayfinding and signage as a program rather than over a 20 year period.
- $12,000 per mile
- $5.175 Million

Need: Project Coordination

Calculated:
- $15 Million
- $135 Million
- $15 Million

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HOW WILL EVERY GREEN CONNECTION LOOK AND FEEL THE SAME?

Segments along the network will have a different look and feel. The level of intervention will vary based on existing conditions, coordination opportunities, available funding and community support.

Light Intervention

- Would include signage and wayfinding, and lower cost improvements like bicycle stencils and street murals.
- May feature basic greening like sidewalk landscaping and bike lanes.
- May feature basic traffic calming measures.

Moderate Intervention

- Would include the amenities of a light intervention.
- May include minor sidewalk enhancements, curb extensions and stormwater infrastructure, or intersection treatments that help calm traffic.
- More clearly embody the goals of Green Connections, will involve a greater level of community engagement, and may involve a more holistic streetscape design.

Showcase Intervention

- Most successfully achieve project goals.
- May feature reductions in traffic volumes and dedication of space for habitat or community gathering.
- The Design Toolkit contains elements that could be incorporated into showcase projects such as: Super Bulbs, Intersection Islands, Dwellers, Street Parks and Play Streets.

HOW WILL GREEN CONNECTIONS BE FUNDED?

Implementation of the network over the 20 year life of the plan will be achieved organically through coordination with existing initiatives for traffic calming, stormwater management, sewer repair and street repair.

GREEN Connections is a long-term planning project that sets high ambitions for 115 miles of our streets. The plan puts forward a goal of implementing the network over a twenty-year period. The scale of the Green Connections network creates opportunities to coordinate with city projects and private development. Additionally, community members and neighborhood groups will play an important role in the Network’s development.

Green Connections will not create a new program, rather, it calls for coordinating with existing initiatives for traffic calming, stormwater management, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.
IMPLEMENTING GREEN CONNECTIONS: WHAT ROLE CAN YOU PLAY?

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Across San Francisco, dedicated residents and neighborhood groups have collaborated with city agencies to organize street cleanup and beautification events, create community gardens, advocate for streetscape and traffic safety improvements, and initiate other projects that make our neighborhoods healthier and more livable. When community members take the initiative to improve our public spaces, everyone benefits – participants can help ensure that projects that meet local needs and preferences, neighbors get to know one another, and over time residents may develop a greater sense of pride in their neighborhood, paving the way for additional community-building ideas and projects.

Building on the success of these grassroots efforts, Green Connections envisions that neighborhood-led projects will be one critical mechanism to implement the Green Connections network, enabling local residents, business owners, neighborhood groups and community stakeholders to take a more active role in building out the network in close collaboration with the City.

IMPLEMENTING NEIGHBORHOOD-LED PROJECTS: WHAT ARE THE STEPS?

City approvals
The types of requirements, permits, and fees will vary depending on the project. The Better Streets website (right) details the process for a range of streetscape improvements.

Neighborhood support
Building support – presenting design ideas at neighborhood events or neighborhood group meetings can build goodwill, allow people to voice their ideas and concerns, and encourage long-term stewardship of the project.

Resources
Funding is likely to be a challenge to implementation. There are a range of City, philanthropic, and private sources that can provide funding, in-kind donations, and other resources (see Community Resource List, right).

Maintenance & stewardship plan
Project organizers should consider maintenance and other ongoing needs early on and integrate them into the design. A group of volunteers or a community benefit district (CBD) could potentially provide long-term maintenance and stewardship of the project.

BUILDING COMMUNITY FROM THE GROUND UP:

Neighborhoods develop vibrant public spaces
San Francisco has countless examples of community members coming together to create new open space projects. For example, through SFPUC’s Sidewalk Landscaping Permit program, residents have replaced swaths of barren concrete with landscaped areas that enliven their streets. Similarly, residents and community groups have organized to create and upgrade over 100 new open spaces through the SFPUC’s Streets Park Program, which allows residents to build gardens on underutilized DPW land, such as medians and utility rights-of-way.

Here are other inspiring examples where community members have organized to contribute creative, attractive, and well-used spaces to our urban landscape.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
For additional information on permitting, funding, street design elements, and other how-to information, visit

Green Connections Website
Community Resource List
http://greenconnections.sfplanning.org
SF Better Streets website
www.sfbetterstreets.org

http://greenconnections.sfplanning.org
Implementing Green Connections: Upcoming Projects

This map highlights some of the upcoming projects that overlap with the Green Connections network, scheduled for implementation over the next 5 years. These projects vary in scale and include: community-led ecological and stewardship projects, neighborhood traffic calming projects, pedestrian enhancements around schools, and complete streetscape designs. Implementing these projects is an important first step in developing a citywide network of Green Connections.

**Projects for 2024-2028**

- **Embarcadero Enhancement**
  - Embarcadero, from Fort Mason to Mariposa St.
- **Great Highway Streetscape Improvements**
  - Great Highway, Lincoln to Fulton
- **Green Hairstreak Corridor**
  - 14th Ave/15th Ave, from Moraga St. to Quintara St.
- **Holloway Buffered Bike Lane**
  - Holloway Ave., from Varela to Font Blvd.
- **2nd Street Improvement Project**
  - 2nd St., from Market St. to King St.
- **7th Street En Enchancements**
  - 7th Street, from Market St. to 16th St.
- **28th Ave Crosswalk Enhancements**
  - 28th Ave and to be determined cross-streets
- **Alamo Elementary (SR25)**
  - 23rd Ave, from Geary Blvd to Lake St.
- **Blue Greenway**
  - Various locations along the southeastern waterfront
- **Buenavista-17th/Roosevelt Traffic Calming**
  - Buena Vista/17th/Roosevelt
- **Central Richmond Traffic Calming**
  - Lake St. at 17th, 21st and 24th Avenues; Cabrillo Street at 14th Ave
- **César Chávez (SR25)**
  - Area around South Van Ness and 22nd St.
- **Embarcadero Enhancement**
  - Embarcadero, from Fort Mason to Mariposa St.
- **Folsom Streetscape Improvements**
  - Folsom St., from Embarcadero St. to 12th St.
- **Great Highway Streetscape Improvement Project**
  - Great Highway, Lincoln to Fulton
- **Green Hairstreak Corridor**
  - 14th Ave/15th Ave, from Moraga St. to Quintara St.
- **Holloway Buffered Bike Lane**
  - Holloway Ave., from Varela to Font Blvd.
- **James Denman Middle School (SR25)**
  - Cayuga Ave, from Niagara and Buena Vista
- **Longfellow Elementary School (SR25)**
  - Brunswick St between Oliver and Guttenberg
- **Mansell Corridor Improvement Project**
  - Mansell St. from University St. to Dublin St.
- **Oakdale Avenue Green Connection**
  - Oakdale Ave. from Lane St/ to Quiet St.
- **Page Street Green Connection**
  - Page St, from Buchanan St. to Market St.
- **Persia Triangle: Pavement to Parks**
  - Heart of the Excelsior at Persia, Mission and Ocean Ave.
- **Safe Passage Enhancements**
  - Jones St. and Ellis St., exact location to be determined
- **Vicente Streetscape Enhancements**
  - Vicente St, from 14th Ave to 19th Ave
- **Visitation Valley Green Nodes**
  - Exact locations to be determined
- **Washington Street Portsmouth Square Enhancements**
  - Washington St. from, Kearny St. to Walter U Lum Place
- **Wiggle Neighborhood Green Corridor**
  - Various locations along the Wiggle
- **West Portal Traffic Calming Project**
  - 14th Ave, from Vicente to Ulloa

**Legend**

- Public Health: Increase active transportation to parks
- Sustainability: Enhance urban ecology
- Livability: Support neighborhood stewardship and placemaking

[http://greenconnections.sfplanning.org](http://greenconnections.sfplanning.org)