IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT AND IMPROVEMENTS

HOW COULD GREEN CONNECTIONS BE INCORPORATED INTO EXISTING CITY DOCUMENTS AND PROCESSES?

GENERAL PLAN
The City’s General Plan serves as a basis for decisions that affect all aspects of our everyday lives including how we get to parks and how we maintain our streets. It is both a strategic and long-term document, broad in scope and specific in nature. It is implemented by decisions that direct the allocation of public resources and that shape private development. In short, the General Plan is the embodiment of the community’s vision for the future of San Francisco.

CITY’S CAPITAL PLAN
The Capital Plan recommends projects based on the availability of funding from various sources and the relative priority of each project. Programs that serve the general public (such as streets and fire stations) rely primarily on funding from the City’s General Fund and debt-financing programs.

THE BETTER STREETS PLAN
The Better Streets Plan creates a unified set of standards, guidelines, and implementation strategies to govern how the City designs, builds, and maintains its pedestrian environment. The Plan seeks to balance the needs of all street users, with a particular focus on the pedestrian environment and how streets can be used as public space. The Plan reflects the understanding that the pedestrian environment is about much more than just transportation – that streets serve a multitude of social, recreational and ecological needs that must be considered when deciding on the most appropriate design.

The Green Connections project could be included as an additional street typology in the Better Streets Plan. As the city pursues infrastructure work on streets on the Green Connections Network, the Better Streets Plan would link planners and engineers to the Green Connections design toolkit.

COMMUNITY TOOLKIT
Community members can access all the documents discussed above, however, there could be a toolkit specifically for community members.

HOW COULD A GREEN CONNECTION BE IMPLEMENTED?

COMMUNITY LED INTERVENTIONS
Green Connections projects could be initiated by community groups. Community groups can design, build and/or maintain Green Connections interventions.

NEIGHBORHOOD & CITY PARTNERSHIPS
Green Connections projects could be implemented through partnerships between community members and City Agencies.

CITY LED COMPLETE STREETScape DESIGNS
Green Connections could be designed and implemented through City led community-based planning processes. In this instance, City agencies would design and build the improvements based on community input.

HOW MUCH FUNDING IS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE GREEN CONNECTIONS NETWORK?
The project team will develop high level cost estimates to implement the Green Connections network. This cost estimate will assume minimal intervention for the entire network, standard interventions for a significant portion of the network, and demonstration level interventions for a small portion of the network.

HOW WILL THE 140 PLUS MILES OF GREEN CONNECTIONS BE PRIORITIZED OVER THE 20 YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD?

- Coordination with city other projects such as the Capital Plan and the Sewer System Improvement Program
- Community generated ideas and community support
Year two of the Green Connections project will have two major components: A refinement of the draft network and design toolkit which apply citywide, and a community planning process for streetscape designs in six neighborhoods.

**CITYWIDE GREEN CONNECTIONS NETWORK & DESIGN TOOLKIT**

**NEXT STEPS**
- Collect public feedback through January 2013
- Revise the draft documents by May 2013
- Develop a planting palette which includes climate appropriate plants that enhance urban ecology August 2013
- Complete transportation analysis by August 2013
- Develop an implementation document by August 2013

**STREETSCAPE DESIGNS IN 6 FOCUS NEIGHBORHOODS**

Developing streetscape designs for a segment of the Green Connections Network in each of the 6 focus neighborhoods will provide an opportunity to work with community members to design a Green Connections, test the Green Connections toolkit and prepare portions of the network for implementation.

**COMMUNITY BASED PLANNING PROCESS (OCTOBER 2012 - MARCH 2013)**

Throughout next year, the Green Connections team will develop streetscape designs for six focus neighborhoods. City staff will collaborate with community stakeholders to establish a vision and a design for segments of the network over three community meetings.

- Outreach Event #1: Project overview (Fall)
- Outreach Event #2: Circles design options (Winter)
- Outreach Event #3: Detailed design, stewardship, implementation (Spring)

The process will:
- Get community input on prioritization for street improvements
- Build on the information gathered as part of the PEQ observational survey (Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index)
- Analyze and evaluate design opportunities and constraints along with the community's priorities for each of the six focus neighborhoods
- Develop and refine design alternatives (site plans and street cross sections)

- Select a preferred design alternative
- Develop stewardship and implementation strategy.

This process will be similar to other streetscape design processes undertaken by the City like the Masonic Street Design Study, Chinatown Broadway Street Design and Cesar Chavez Street Design.

http://greenconnections.sfplanning.org