

Lower Haight Public Realm Plan

Public Workshop #1 - Open House | November 18, 2015

On November 18, 2015, over 40 people came to the first public meeting for the Lower Haight Public Realm Plan. 87% of attendees were neighborhood residents. After welcoming remarks from Supervisor London Breed and Stephanie Perez of LOHAMNA, meeting attendees were shown a brief presentation on the background and goals of the Public Realm Plan, and then broke out into an open house format to share their thoughts and ideas about the neighborhood - what they like and don't like, what concerns them, and their ideas for improvements. Below is a list of subjects that were covered over the course of the evening; the numbers in parentheses indicate how many comments or dot responses addressed that particular topic.

CONCERNS/IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Walking and Biking (74)

Pedestrian Safety (28)

9 likes/want, 0 dislikes/don't want

19 specific comments:

- To stop car running stop signs at Hermann @ Fillmore
- Divisadero & Waller: Seems like it could be safer
- Scott & Page: Lots of bike/pedestrian conflicts
- Pierce & Page/Haight: [Need] Zebra striping in crosswalks through Page St. People blow through there all the time
- Pierce & Waller: Needs some additional feature to help safer pedestrian crossing; bike coming off wiggle cruise through
- Steiner & Page: Cars blow through going south
- Fillmore & Haight: Walk across Haight very short for anyone who has challenges
- Fillmore & Hermann: Add zebra stripes. Major pedestrian crossing. Cars blow through this stop sign. Look at 24th St in Noe as example of decorative crosswalks + borders
- Webster & Waller: Cars speed through stop signs
- Steiner, Haight-Waller: Moving south + slightly downhill. All vehicles need a warning to slow down. Bumps, words, something'
- Duboce Park, at Noe: Pedestrian daylighting
- Divisadero & Haight: Bulbouts
- Steiner & Duboce: Crazy N-Judah train/auto/bike conflicts
- Church & Duboce: Bad intersection for bikes + peds
- Buchanan & Haight, Buchanan & Hermann: Intersection improvement bulbouts etc...
- Laguna & Waller: Needs crosswalk
- Octavia & Oak: Deadly for pedestrians (south side of Oak/Octavia intersection)
- Divisadero, Waller-McKinley School (line & arrow): Kids Walking to school
- Buchanan, at Rose: Midblock crossing

Bicycle Safety (20)

8 likes/want, 0 dislikes/don't want

12 specific comments:

- Better protect cyclists + pedestrians along the Wiggle – how to deal with stop signs?
- A safe place to ride a bike for kids!
- Scott & Page: Lots of bike/pedestrian conflicts
- Octavia & Market: ?? Bikes!
- Octavia & Market (no dot, line from Octavia to McCoppin bikeway): This turn is terrible for bikes! How does one turn from Octavia to East Market without dying?!
- Page, Buchanan-Laguna: A lot of bikers come down the opposing lane because cars queue up
- Page, Laguna-Octavia: Steep + feels dangerous on a bike
- Page, Laguna-Octavia: Steep + feels dangerous on a bike x1
- Duboce bikeway: Protected bike lanes are fantastic!
- Pierce & Waller: Difficult for bikes
- Church & Duboce: Bad intersection for bikes + peds
- Octavia & Market: Bikes can't turn

Pedestrian Amenities (14)

3 likes/want, 2 dislikes/don't want

9 additional comments:

- Love the idea of ped. waystations throughout Lower Haight. Solidifies neighborhood as commercial corridor & pedestrian "play space"
- Wider Sidewalks
- Better use of wide sidewalks @ Steiner and Pierce @ Haight
- Wide sidewalks
- Waller, east of Fillmore: Beautiful sidewalk!
- Fillmore & Haight: Hub; Bulbouts
- Waller, Divisadero-Webster (Line): [Waller Street]...as a walking street
- Haight Street Foot Traffic
- Waller Street Kids Walking to School

Bicycle Amenities (12)

4 likes/want, 3 dislikes/don't want

5 specific comments:

- Bike lane on Page from Webster east to Octavia
- Lots of Bikeshare pods
- Scott, at Oak: Like the bicycle infrastructure
- Pierce, at Duboce Park entry: Ramp for bicyclists!
- Wiggle Route, All (road outline tracing the Wiggle): Capture the bike energy along the 'Wiggle' – new micro-commercial uses – convert res/garages into more business that serve cyclists! Add bike amenities!

Lighting, Art and Identity (57)

Lighting (23)

11 likes/wants, 0 dislikes/don't want

12 specific comments:

- Better Lighting
- More pedestrian-scale LED fun lighting
- Street lights
- Fillmore, north of Page: Improve lighting along Fillmore
- Fillmore, Haight-Waller: Love their holiday lighting on the trees.
- Page, Pierce-Steiner: Improve street lighting
- Haight, Steiner-Fillmore: Great decorative lighting, would love more!
- Waller, east of Steiner: Needs better lighting
- Steiner & Duboce: Dark
- Church & Duboce (Multiple Blue dots): This is a highly used area, public transportation hub, and it is extremely badly lighted, maintained. Walking through this area at any time is a nightmare, moreover, nights + early mornings. Just a few blocks away, Duboce @ Pierce, there is a very nice example of how this area could be improved
- Fillmore & Hermann- Duboce: More lighting on Fillmore Street close to Muni stop. High pedestrian zone
- Church, Duboce-Market (Multiple Blue dots): Improve frontages; Dirty, crowded, safety, lighting
- northbound on Steiner between Duboce and Waller.

Signage and Wayfinding (14)

2 likes/wants, 5 dislikes/don't want

7 specific comments:

- Sign along Alamo Sq – Help the tourists!
- Local history – not just [what is shown on example image]
- “Short” people, like me, cannot read Muni maps on Muni stops because they are displayed too high
- Highlight transit connection times
- A cohesive public realm, with signage, landscaping, & wayfinding elements to unify the neighborhood
- Laguna & Haight: Love In the Lower Haight Welcome, like Fillmore St arch Gateway element
- Laguna & Haight: N’hood Gateway marker(s)

Public Art (9)

3 likes/wants, 2 dislikes/don't want

4 specific comments:

- Encourage more murals on businesses
- Public Art

- Scott, at Lloyd: Like the new mosaics
- Duboce bikeway: Love mural!

Decorative Paving (8)

1 likes/wants, 4 dislikes/don't want

3 specific comments:

- On bulbouts!
- Distracting for drivers/riders
- [Response to above]: Then slow down!

Community-Generated: WalkStops (3)

3 specific comments:

- Replicate Walkstops down Haight, especially historical timelines & compasses with art up and down Haight with bus bulbouts
- Steiner & Duboce: Walkstop area
- Fillmore & Haight: Walkstop! Bulbouts with history, spinning maps, timeline, compass, artwork

Greening (50)

Street Trees (21)

9 likes/wants, 4 dislikes/don't want

8 specific comments:

- Reduce peak stormwater flow rate
- LED globes on trees (safety + fun)
- Solar
- Too many trees have fallen and continue to fall creating a safety hazard. City seems unable to maintain trees already in neighborhood
- Decorative tree guards and more durable tree species
- Plant the right type of trees so they don't uproot/crack the sidewalk within years
- More healthy large trees
- Duboce Park, south edge (tree dots): [Add sidewalk trees]

Sidewalk Landscaping (14)

10 likes/wants, 1 dislikes/don't want

3 specific comments:

- City department be responsible for cleaning and maintaining these areas?
- The new rain gardens on Oak/Fell are great examples!
- Concrete removal

Distinctive Bulbout Paving/ Landscaping (9)

6 likes/wants, 1 dislikes/don't want

2 specific comments:

- Decorative sidewalks on Haight
- Hermann, Webster-Buchanan (fronting US Mint): Beautification/colorful pavement?

Raised Planters (6)

2 likes/wants, 2 dislikes/don't want

2 specific comments:

- Who will be responsible for their maintenance? How will be avoid [sic] this nice landscaping ideas from becoming dumpsters?
- Sidewalk gardens (Raised)

Public/Gathering Space (42)

Active Commercial Building Fronts (13)

8 likes/wants, 0 dislikes/don't want

5 specific comments:

- Remove security gates
- Church & Duboce: Should/could be n'hood retail hub with so much transit
- Haight, Pierce-Steiner: Vibrant street life
- Haight, Pierce-Steiner: Love the expression of businesses along the 600/700 area of Haight
- Church, Duboce-Market: Improve frontages; Dirty, crowded, safety, lighting

Outdoor Café Seating (11)

7 likes/wants, 0 dislikes/don't want

4 specific comments:

- Wider sidewalks + commercial seating/open spaces
- Outdoor seating at restaurants/parklets
- Waller, at Fillmore: Outdoor Seating at Café du Soleil is fantastic. More of this please!
- Waller, at Fillmore: Outdoor seating (and landscaping) nearby

Temporary Urbanism (10)

2 likes/want, 3 dislikes/don't want

5 specific comments:

- Parklets!
- I love the idea but often homeless people take parklets over
- Parklets
- Living Innovation Zone
- Fillmore, Hermann-Duboce: Make northbound lane into parklet/ped space

Benches/Seating (8)

2 likes/wants, 2 dislikes/don't want

4 specific comments:

- Yes, but not for sleeping. Brief resting spots

- Benches
- Sanchez: Outdoor seating on the street (and trees) make this the best block in the neighborhood
- Fillmore, Haight-Waller: More outdoor seating for all restaurants on Fillmore.

Innovative/Special Streets (29)

Green Connections (11)

9 likes/wants, 0 dislikes/don't want

2 specific comments:

- Page St Green Connection
- Page St Green Connection x2: Yeah!

Slow Zones (9)

6 likes/wants, 1 dislikes/don't want

2 specific comments:

- Isn't this already in practice, for the most part? This neighborhood isn't a vehicular thorough-fare, but a ped + bike destination. Design public realm infrastructure elements to help foster this unique identity – no other neighborhood is better suited in SF!
- Better access for everyone in St.

Living Alleys (6)

4 likes/wants, 0 dislikes/don't want

2 specific comments:

- Laussat, Steiner-Fillmore: Living alley
- 55 Laguna, following Laussat ROW: Pedestrian walkway? How can we activate? Cart coffee; Weekly pocket market; Dog park

Play Streets (3)

1 likes/wants, 2 dislikes/don't want

0 specific comments:

Parks and Open Spaces (14)

Parks/Open Spaces (14)

14 specific comments:

- Duboce Park: Duboce Park is amazing!
- Duboce Park, at Noe: Seating on north side of Muni! Nowhere to wait
- Duboce Park, south edge: Needs streetside rope/fence for dogs
- Duboce Park, at Scott (Arrow): Park; Maybe make a place for kids
- Duboce Park, at Scott: Underused
- Duboce Park, behind Harvey Milk Center (Arrow): Connect?
- Duboce Park, at Harvey Milk Center: After-school program

- Duboce Park: Keep dogs off no dogs parts
- Duboce Park, at Noe: Comfortable Muni stop. Good lighting, well maintained
- Duboce Park: Playground
- Koshland Park: Place where I can feel "Nature" ... get away
- Koshland Park: Recreational activity is great
- Koshland Park: Great park but it's walled off from the street
- Buchanan, Hermann-Market: Dog Park?

Private Realm (14)

Community-Generated: Businesses (8)

8 specific comments:

- Fillmore, north of Oak: Love the Church of 8 Wheels
- Haight, Pierce-Steiner: Can we get a bookstore? Or a book lending box! Leave/take a book! What about by/at park?
- Waller, at Fillmore: Love Café du Soleil
- Fillmore, at Waller: Thep Phanom Thai
- Haight, Pierce-Steiner: Stuff outside of Mickeys – Character! Meet/run into neighbors while looking
- Haight, Pierce-Steiner: More places like this, that spur interaction without purchasing something
- Haight, Steiner-Fillmore: International Café 25+ years
- Haight, east of Gough: Green Arcade – get involved in n'hood; Yes!
- Waller, Steiner-Fillmore: Daycare

Community-Generated: Safeway Site (6)

6 specific comments:

- Church & Market: Small corner building/feature to hold corner
- Church, south of Duboce, at Safeway: Please clean up this area
- Safeway parking lot: There is surely a better use of this prime transit-adjacent corner than a parking lot!
- End of Duboce Bikeway: Opportunity site?
- Corner of Safeway site, Church & Market: ?
- Reservoir Street alignment (line): Midblock Crossing

Maintenance (10)

Community-Generated: Street Maintenance-Streets (5)

5 specific comments:

- Cleaner streets
- Simple/cleaner streets + sidewalks
- Church, west side, south of Duboce: Please clean up
- Church & Duboce (Multiple Blue dots): This is a highly used area, public transportation hub, and it is extremely badly lighted, maintained. Walking through this area at any time is a

nightmare, moreover, nights + early mornings. Just a few blocks away, Duboce @ Pierce, there is a very nice example of how this area could be improved

- Church, Duboce-Market: Improve frontages; Dirty, crowded, safety, lighting

Community-Generated: Street Maintenance-Sidewalks (3)

3 specific comments:

- Power washing of the sidewalks
- Fillmore, Waller-Germania: This spot of always covered in poop and trash
- Duboce bikeway: Alley behind Safeway full of garbage & supermarket carts

Community-Generated: Street Maintenance-Dog Waste (2)

2 specific comments:

- Less poop (dogs) on the street
- Dog poop bag dispensers

Community Involvement (6)

Community-Generated: Community Assets (5)

5 specific comments:

- Webster & Page – John Muir ES: Community asset!
- Webster & Page – John Muir ES: Great school!
- Haight, Fillmore-Webster: Low-income housing – activate! Build community
- Haight, Buchanan-Laguna: Walden House great neighbor; should be activated as much as possible
- Waller, west of Buchanan: Nightingale House restored 1890s Victorian

Community-Generated: Neighbor Involvement (1)

1 specific comment:

- Get Walden, a great neighbor, & 55 Laguna involved

Human Services (5)

Community-Generated: Homeless Services (5)

4 likes/wants, 1 dislikes/don't want

1 specific comment:

- How can we improve the public realm so it's healthier/safer for those who have to live there (i.e. the homeless)? Can we link any existing homeless support services to those various public realm improvement projects? Maybe financial incentive for homeless to build/plant green infrastructure, help with litter control, etc...

Utilities (1)

Community-Generated: Underground Utilities (1)

1 specific comment:

- Electric wires underground

Zoning (1)

***Community-Generated:* Zoning Changes (1)**

1 specific comment:

- Haight, Fillmore-Webster: Fully residential, zoning here breaks up the sense of main street

Parking (1)

***Community-Generated:* Residential Parking Changes (1)**

1 specific comment:

- Buchanan, Waller-Hermann, + Laguna, Waller-Hermann: Residential parking permits(S) (like rest of 'hood)

Rooftops (1)

***Community-Generated:* Enhanced Rooftops (1)**

1 specific comment:

- How can we make better use of rooftop space in the city? Is there a way to create more public realm this way? Or at least we could incentivize better use, such as green roofs, food production, water collection, energy production, leisure space, white roofs, etc...How about a High Line/Promenade Planter that weaves across the top of buildings throughout the neighborhood, like a new layer of public space on top of private space?