



CANNERY DISTRICT, EC

Health Impact Assessment

Cannery HIA Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

L.E. Phillips Senior Center, 1616 Bellinger St

Wednesday April 5th, 2017 4:30-6:00 pm

Attendees: Barb Powers, Pa Thao, Barb Gosch, Ezra Zeitler, Mary Holm, David Solberg, Carleigh Olson, Audrey Boerner, Nick Zupan

1. Welcome

Update on the development in the park/trail:

City engineer, Dave Solberg, briefly presented an update on the Cannery trail. In 2017 the city will be constructing the trail from Madison St. to the High Bridge. Part of this work will include trimming and removing trees. Lighting will also be installed. A traffic model is also being developed to evaluate traffic accidents and capacity of various streets. Street improvements are not expected until at least 2018, and more likely 2019. Street design has not been finalized.

2. Update on research findings (Parks & Trails, Street & Sidewalk Design)

The group reviewed the “ideal park design” pathway diagram that shows how park designs are connected to health outcomes. The group also reviewed how street and sidewalk design impacts physical activity and social cohesion and the connected health outcomes. The research on the pathway diagrams shows the connected between our environment and health. The natural next step from a pathway diagram is recommendations that will allow the positive health benefits to be realized by community members.

3. Review, discuss, and brainstorm draft recommendations

Upon review of pathway diagrams, group was asked to review draft recommendations. These recommendations were initially drafted by the project team, and both advisory committees will be providing input. The group discussed recommendations that they felt were more immediately important, as well as recommendations that were a lower priority at this time. The group also discussed the importance of community engagement in stages of the design being important, as well as ensuring connection to public transportation, and amenities, for all people all abilities. Priority recommendations also included well-marked crosswalks/special pavers/curb extensions to promote walking, incorporate design elements that facilitate social interactions.

The group used dots to vote for the top-five recommendations (meaning higher implementation priority) and 5 low-priority recommendations (recommendations still deemed important, but not as high priority for implementation).

Highest priority recommendations determined by the group:

- Ensure connection to transportation, trails, and amenities to be accessible for people with all ability levels, following Universal Design principles
- Incorporate design elements that facilitate social interactions, such as courtyards, outdoor seating, high street connectivity, small storefront setbacks, unique building façades, shade, and informal gathering spaces
- Provide high-quality spaces for multigenerational play and recreation
- Implement “Safe Park Zones” in which traffic speeds are decreased and traffic violation fines are higher
- Include well-marked crosswalks, special pavers, and curb extensions to visually highlight pedestrians and slow traffic
- Implement all applicable crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles
- Include street trees and benches along sidewalks to provide rest for pedestrians and joggers

Lowest priority recommendations:

- Reduce the amount of land used for parking, develop necessary parking on-street and under or behind buildings; leverage shared parking opportunities where possible
- Adopt pet friendly policies and amenities near high-density housing areas
- Orient building development toward the street and sidewalk with maximum setback from the sidewalk of 0 feet (commercial) and 10 feet (residential)
- Provide formal surveillance by law enforcement in and around park
- Street lane width should be 10 – 11 feet to appropriately slow traffic and reduce pedestrian crossing distance

4. Discuss health impacts of potential housing scenarios

In order to address potential health impacts of different types of housing developments, the project team has developed three hypothetical housing scenarios to research and evaluate. The Committee reviewed these scenarios and specifically indicated the importance of mixed income and mixed age, development of natural, comfortable gathering spaces for residents, and encouraging a “Main Street” feel with small retail shops that meet resident’s needs.

5. Wrap up & next steps

The funding deadline for the project has been extended to December 2017. The Neighborhood Advisory group will continue to meet less frequently, and were supportive of a final meeting in June, and a celebration/report sharing meeting in fall.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 8th, 4:30 – 6:00 pm
Location: TBD