

**NOTES FROM THE
LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE JAPANTOWN TASK FORCE**

1765 SUTTER STREET
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT:

Paul Wermer, Glynis Nakahara, Judy Hamaguchi, Alice Kawahatsu

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Marutani

OTHERS PRESENT:

Karen Kai, Robert Rusky, Ann Williams, Steve Spellman, Liz Brisson, Kim Le, Nicholas Ancel, Dan Mackowski,

The meeting began at 6:05 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Geary BRT Landscape Update

Staff from the SF Metropolitan Agency (SFMTA) reviewed three possible ways in which they could utilize the available funds based on the discussion from the previous meeting.

The first would be to enhance the capacity of the lamp posts that would be installed at the Buchanan median crossing to be able to handle an extra load should something like the “origami” cranes be created and funded from another source of funds raised by the community, but noted the downside of this option would be the funds would be expended but no special art project would be hung.

The second would be to design metal panels that could be installed along the median railing that reflected Japantown and possibly the Longshoremen’s for St. Francis Square and/or the Fillmore. The challenge would be to come up with a “design” or motif that would not require going through the SF Arts Commission (SFAC) as this would require a number of meetings and approval before the project could be completed and potentially increase the cost of the project.

Glynis offered to check with the SFAC to see what their procedures are regarding “art” design.

It was suggested that Kaz Naganuma, who has been involved with many of the design projects in Japantown, be asked if he would be willing to look at possible designs for the panels that would reflect a Japanese motif that would not require the approval of the SFAC.

It was mentioned that there may be a possibility of extending the median model to the Webster Street median as well.

The third option was median plantings but would require maintenance by community. It was noted that there is currently an irrigation system in the median that may or may not be operational as it has been turned off since the drought was in effect some years ago.

Whatever option is selected, it was recommended that JTF organize two community meetings; the first in early August would be informational while the second would have design presentations for comments sometime the second week of September so a final design could be given to SFMTA to finalize for their planning process.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the JACL HQ.