

JAPANTOWN TASK FORCE
PEACE PLAZA COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021
5:00 PM

Committee Members: Jon Osaki, Sandy Mori, Doug Nelson, Michael, Glynis Nakahara, Rich hashimoto

Public Members: Alice Kawahatsu, Beverly Ng, Caryl Ito, Rosalyn Tonai,

Staff: Brandon Quan, Marien Coss, Elise Chan

1. Updates on structural analysis (led by Marien Coss)
 - A. The good news is that we are in the throes of getting a lot of information
 - B. We went to the department of building inspection to talk about how they are going to interpret the structural code and apply it to this project.
 - a. Their interpretation was slightly different than ours.
 - b. The design team calculated all the weight of all the components.
 - c. This last month, the team core drilled some of the beams inside the parking structure in order to determine the structural integrity of the concrete.
 - i. *Marien screen shared some photos*
 - ii. The results are currently out and applying it to the calculations.
 1. We will know more after they are done with the calculations and they can put it in terms we understand.
 - iii. There are structural standards that need to be met.
 1. If we add additional weight or change design to a certain percent then we would need a seismic upgrade.
 2. We currently meet the standards, we want to stay away from requiring a seismic upgrade.
 - iv.
2. Pagoda
 - A. The columns that support the Pagoda are double in size compared to the other columns.

- B. We presented the potential fixes to the Pagoda from the last meeting to the planning department.
 - a. The Pagoda is going to be finalized as a landmark.
 - b. We proposed a series of work to be done on the Pagoda to strengthen it.
- C. The planning department asked us to document the ideas that we decided not to move forward with and why we chose the specific ones we presented.
 - a. We have been working with our internal team to draft that report to present to the planning department.
 - b. That report should be turned in within the next week.
 - c. The planning department will review the report then decide which method to move forward with.
- D. The Pagoda has its own requirements because it is a historic building.
 - a. The weight added to the Pagoda will be fairly minimal.

3. Technical Design Review in December

- A. We have been meeting with Mas, Doug, and Mike, who are part of the team that are making sure we have a cultural eye on the project.
- B. In December, we scheduled 2 sessions with the team to really look at what are the elements that we will be shifting and how we will be shifting.
 - a. We must ensure these meet the 5 goals we have set in the vision plan.
 - b. Afterwards, we will be able to come and present the design and changes to you.
 - c. Once that is settled then we can receive the committee's opinion then we can present it at the town hall to the public.
 - d. The tweaks to the elements would be mainly dependent on weight issues.

4. Timeline for Community Meeting

- A. The technical review is scheduled to be in December.
 - a. We will reconvene in January.
- B. In January, Marien will be able to share the structural analysis and the tweaks.
 - a. The goal is to meet the 5 goals in the vision plan then be able to present to the committee what the structure can hold.
 - b. We're also figuring out where the utilities will go.

5. Website, Social Media and Video Updates

- A. We are planning for a March showcase so the team will be working until then to provide content on the website and videos.
- B. The public wants to know what is going on so the goal is to put

- folks on the website and videos to engage the public.
- C. The intent of the website is to modernize it and to have more updates so people will consistently visit it.
 - a. We have Elise Chan (?) who have been working on the website.
 - b. She came up with a great idea to have a community page to feature members of the community.
 - c. *Elise shares her screen to show the committee a preview of the Community Tab on the website”
 - d. Elise says that hopefully we can launch this in the next week or so.
 - D. We’ve been working with Max (Lebey) who has been putting out videos over the past few months.
 - a. *Brandon plays the video Max made about Phil Ashizawa, the owner of Soko Hardware*

1765 Sutter Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94115 - 415.346.1239 –
Fax 415.346.6703 info@japantowntaskforce.org -
www.japantowntaskforce.org