

LOWER POLK STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

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The Lower Polk Streetscape Improvements Project improved streetscape conditions on Polk Street from Sacramento Street to O'Farrell Street. The original condition of the streetscape included sub-sidewalk basements, mixture of existing lighting types, and various existing tree species. Through the collaborative community planning process, the Polk Street neighbors and residents agreed that a greener, cleaner, and well-lit Polk Street would greatly contribute to overall quality of life and aesthetic of the street.

A COORDINATED EFFORT

In early 2006, the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, the Planning Department, Department of Public Works, and the Mayor's Office of City Greening conducted community workshops to determine the needs of Lower Polk Street. These workshops were used to establish a vision for the Lower Polk Street corridor. Economic strategies to maintain a broad mix of jobs were also discussed. Additionally, this project was part of Major Gavin Newsom's Greening Initiative, which strived to make San Francisco carbon-neutral by 2020.



Queen Palms on Polk Street at Cedar Street



New planters with Southern Magnolia trees



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Planted new street trees including Queen Palms at the intersections, a small variety of Southern Magnolia at the mid-blocks, and Kwanzan Cherries in the alleys
- Replaced cobra head lights with fixtures to replicate the historic fixtures
- Installed sidewalk planters with trees where sub-sidewalk basements prohibit street tree planting in the sidewalk
- Installed new trash receptacles to help maintain a cleaner environment

Project Cost: \$1 Million
Project Team: Project Manager: Kris Opbroek
 Landscape Architects: Martha Ketterer, John Dennis
Schedule: Construction Completed: Fall 2009



Kwanzan Cherries in the alleyway