

An aerial photograph of Hallidie Plaza, showing a wide pedestrian walkway, a central staircase, and surrounding greenery. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing the title and event information.

HALLIDIE PLAZA

Accessibility Improvements

CONCEPT DESIGN PRESENTATION
August 2026
COMMUNITY MEETING #3

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Background
- Existing Conditions
- Survey Results
- Review Preferred Design Concept
- Open Q/A Session - 15 minutes
- Small Group Discussion

PROJECT PARTNERS:

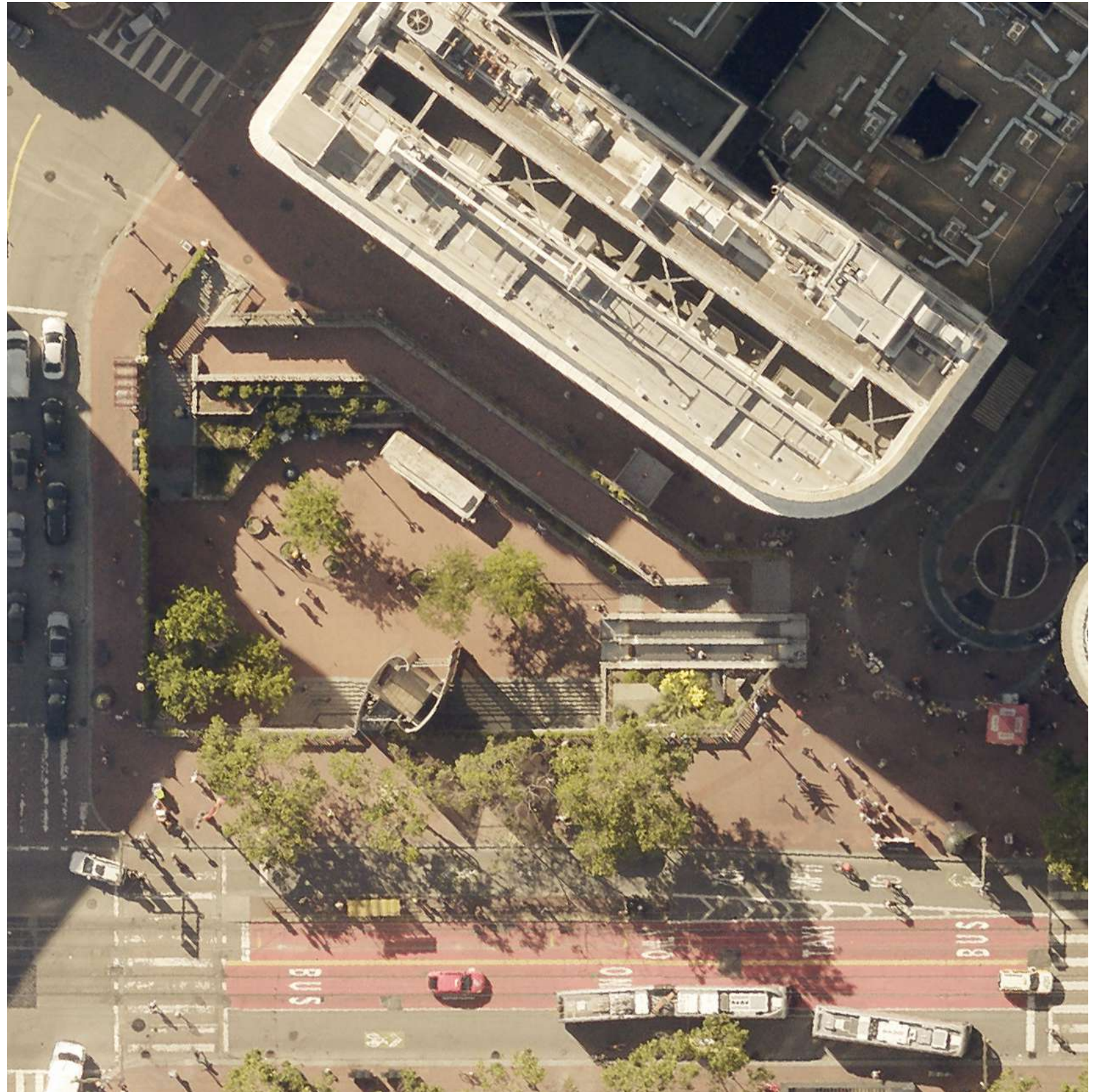


SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Office on
Disability and
Accessibility



Project Design + Development
Bureau of Landscape Architecture



Hallidie Plaza | Community Meeting #3
August 2026

OFFICE ON DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY (ODA)

- Welcome and Housekeeping
- Responding to the Advocacy of the Disability Community
- Meeting the moment



Image: Wheelchair users protesting outside of San Francisco City Hall in 1977. One protester has a hand-made “We Shall Overcome” sign on the back of his wheelchair (black and white. Credit: Anthony Tusler)

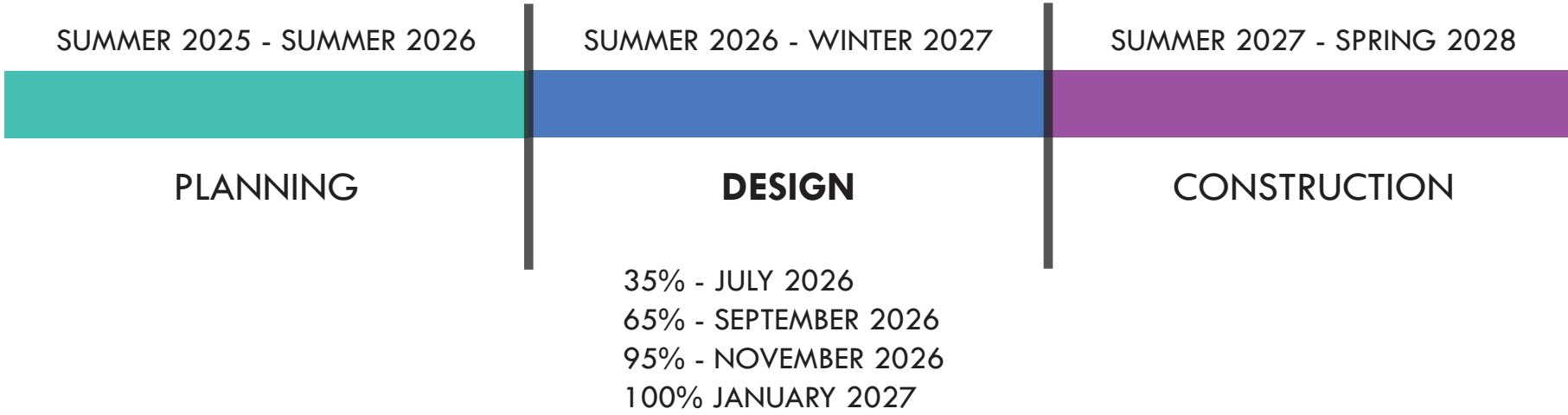
PROJECT FUNDING & SCHEDULE:

FUNDING

- November 2024 Prop B Ballot Measure – Healthy, Safe and Vibrant San Francisco Bond - \$390M
- \$41M is dedicated to “improvements to civic spaces to provide welcoming gathering spaces for the public”.
- Hallidie Plaza was specifically included in the bond measure under this category and is receiving a total of \$9M for design & construction.
- The San Francisco Office on Disability and Accessibility (ODA) and San Francisco Curb Ramp Program partnered to submit a Capital Planning Project Request to bring accessibility improvements to Hallidie Plaza. Special thanks to ODA for their support and unwavering dedication to securing project funding.



PROPOSED SCHEDULE

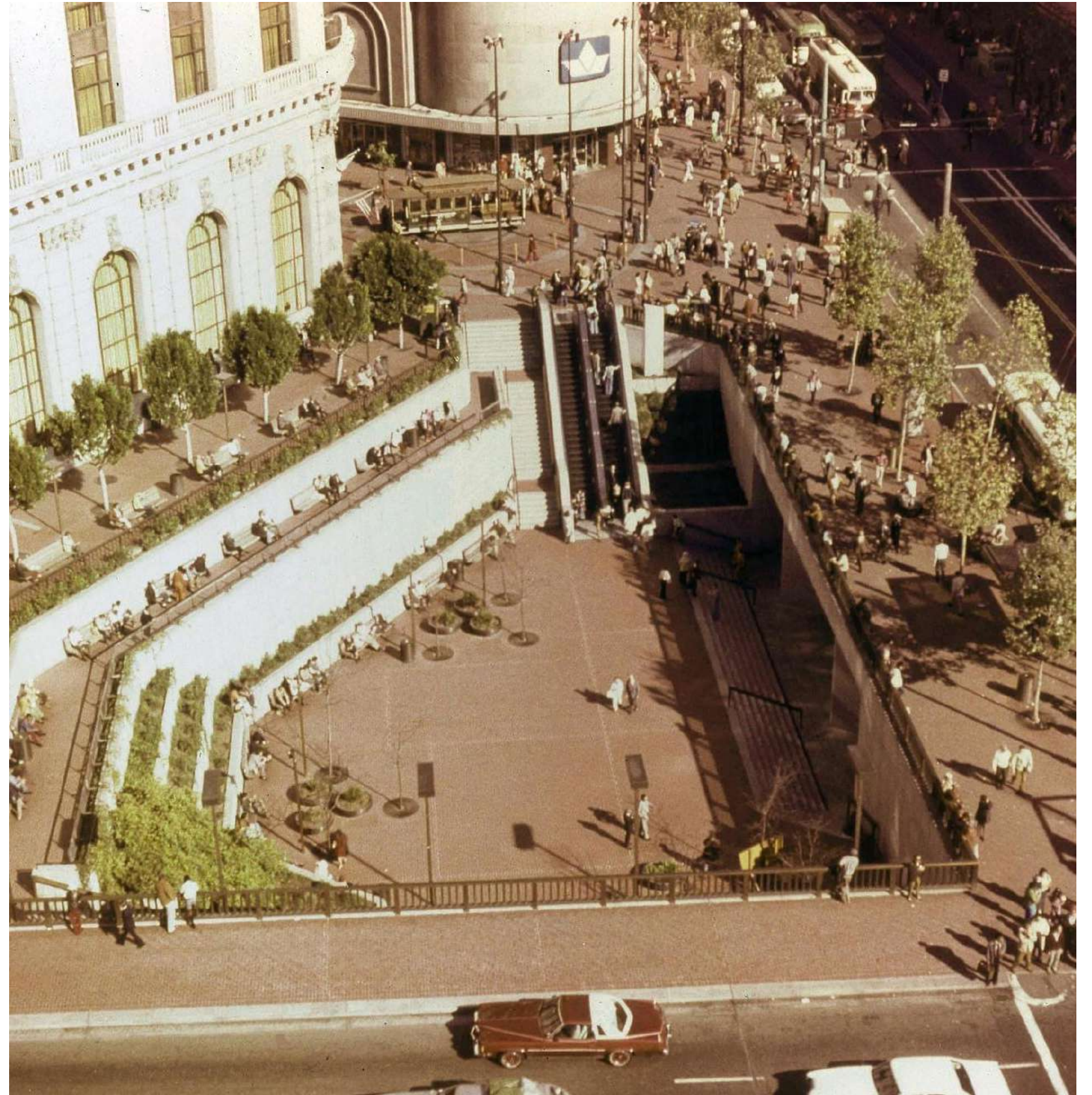


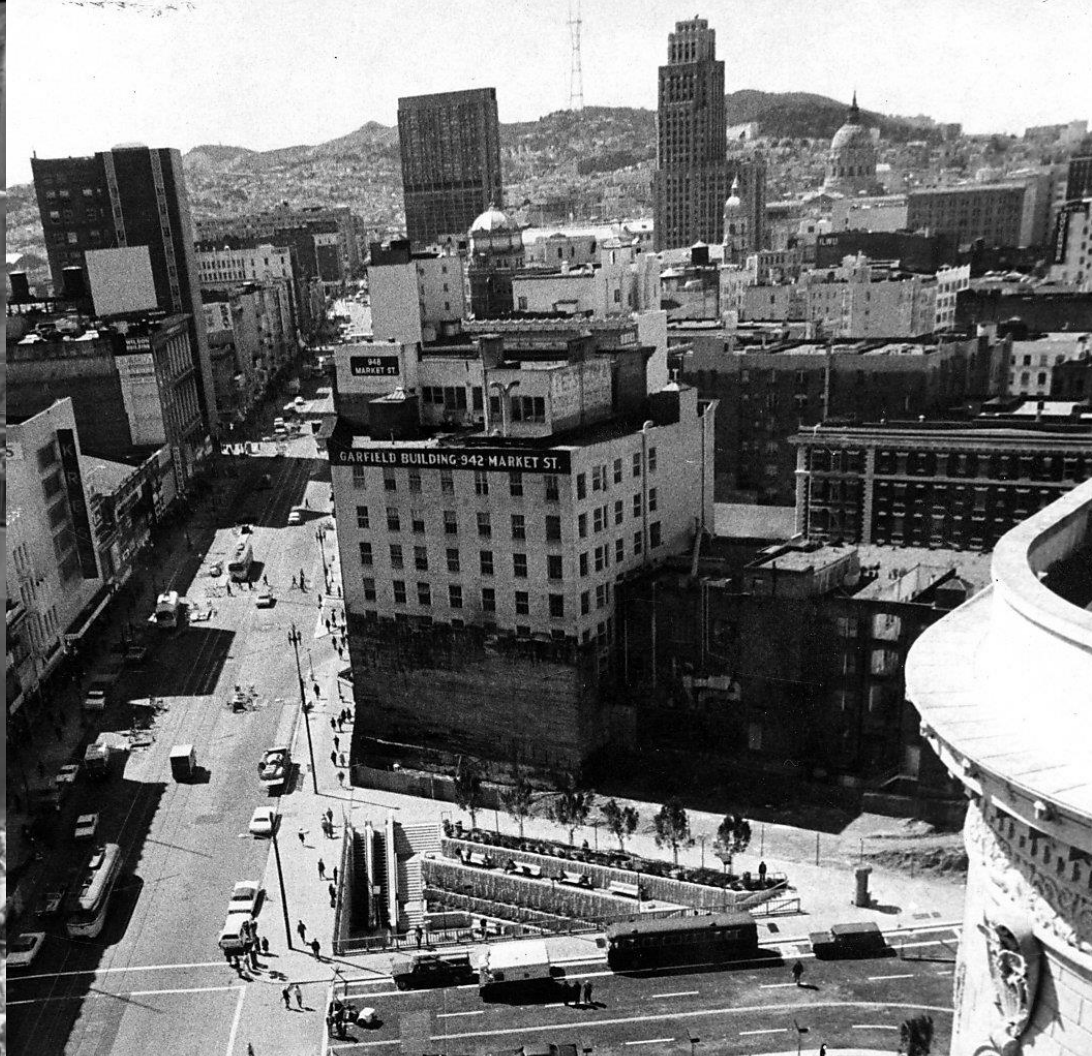
GOALS / OBJECTIVES

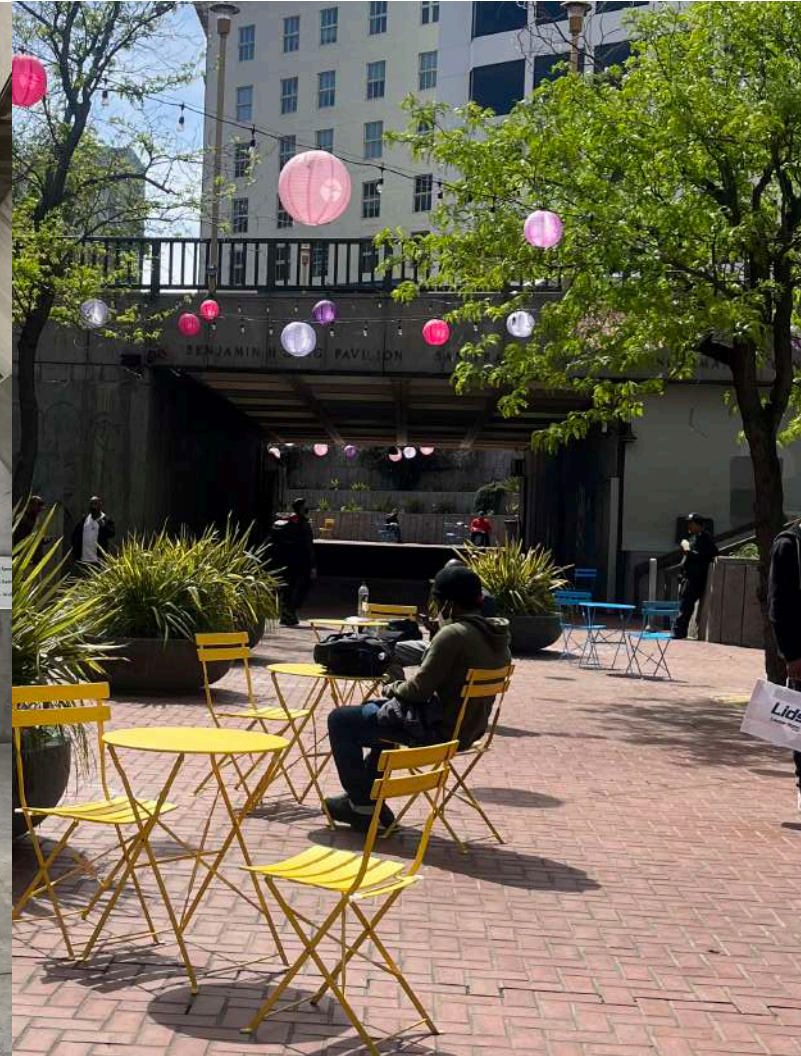
1. Recognize Hallidie Plaza as a main entry to San Francisco
2. Design for a welcoming, safe and vibrant public space
3. Improve accessibility and access to the plaza from street level and Muni/Bart stations
4. Ensure the plaza remains sociable and flexible in accommodating programs/activities
5. Consider operations and maintenance as it relates to design changes in plaza
6. Honor the legacy of the plaza design and ensure its integrity remains alongside new accessible features

HISTORY

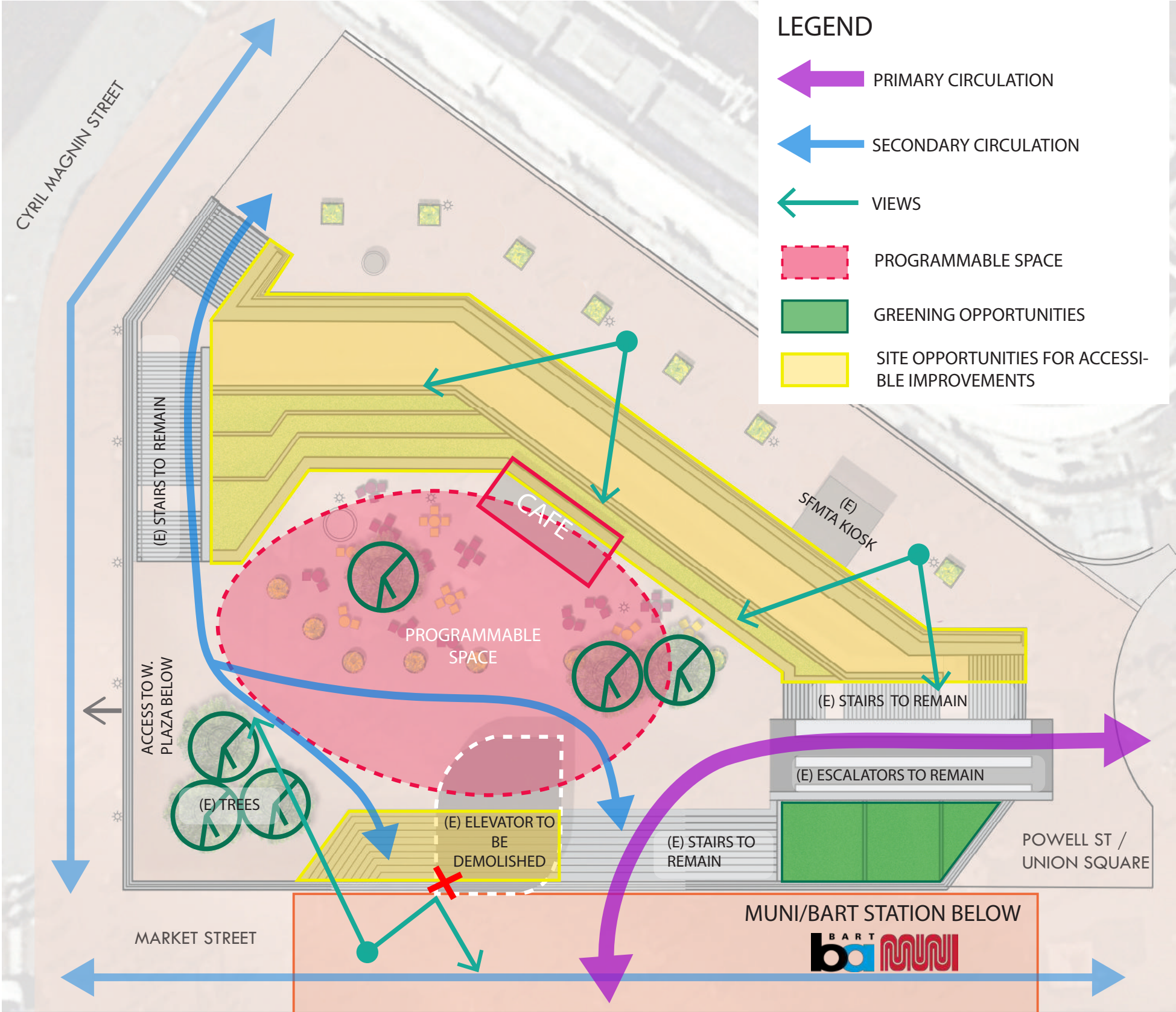
- Opened in 1973
- Named after Andrew Smith Hallidie, who developed the world's first cable car system.
- Designed by Lawrence Halprin, John Carl Warnecke, and Mario Ciampi in modernist/Brutalist architectural style.
- Key BART/Muni Powell St station was one of the first stations along Market St and serves as a front doorstep to San Francisco, near attractions and shopping districts.
- Sunken Plaza is 20' below street level, with terracing, and brick, bronze and granite elements.







SITE ACCESS



PREVIOUS DESIGN OPTIONS



BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

COMMUNITY MEETING #2



DESIGN OPTION A



DESIGN OPTION B



COMMUNITY MEETING #2



DESIGN OPTION A



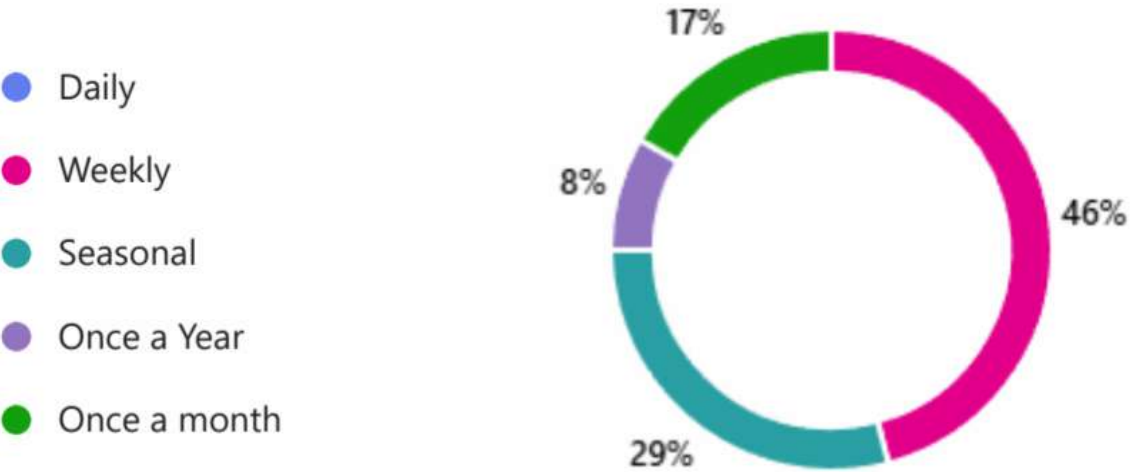
DESIGN OPTION B



SURVEY RESULTS



• How often do you visit Hallidie Plaza?



• Given the current design options, which features or amenities would you like to see prioritized as part of the Hallidie Plaza Accessibility Improvements Project? Please rank your top choices:



- In considering the two design options presented, which design option do you prefer?
- Why do you prefer one design option over the other?



"ramp looks shorter"

"more communal space"

"it seems like there is more seating in Option B"

"safer option"

"more green space"

"more space for the public"

"less conflict opportunity at the bottom of the ramp"

"more useable space"

- Please provide additional feedback for the design team to consider:

"the plaza also needs a working elevator"

"the ramps need to be big enough for wheelchair"

"add trash/recycle/compost bins"

"increase wayfinding"

"easy to enter and leave"

"more seating"

"Having the ramp be wide enough for people to pass each other easily"

"accessible for all"

"slip resistant surfaces" "easy to enter and leave"

"safer stairs or ramp from plaza on station"

"seamless entry from BART in and out of the plaza"

"use pavement patterns to help people with visual disabilities find their way more easily"

PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN





CYRIL MAGNIN STREET

TUNNEL

RAMP TO MUNI/
BART STATIONS

POTENTIAL
LOCATION FOR
FUTURE ELEVATOR*

EXISTING
STORAGE

TREES
TERRACED WALLS WITH LIGHTS
PLANTING AREAS
HANDRAIL & GUARDRAIL

EXISTING PLAZA OUTLINE
RAMP
MOVEABLE TABLES & CHAIRS

PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING
SEATING STEPS
PAVING

*Any potential future elevator at Hallidie Plaza would be subject to further evaluation, including feasibility analysis, engineering, utility coordination, stakeholder coordination, and the identification and securing of necessary funding. Implementation would also require coordination with BART and other relevant agencies, as applicable.

POWELL STREET

MARKET STREET

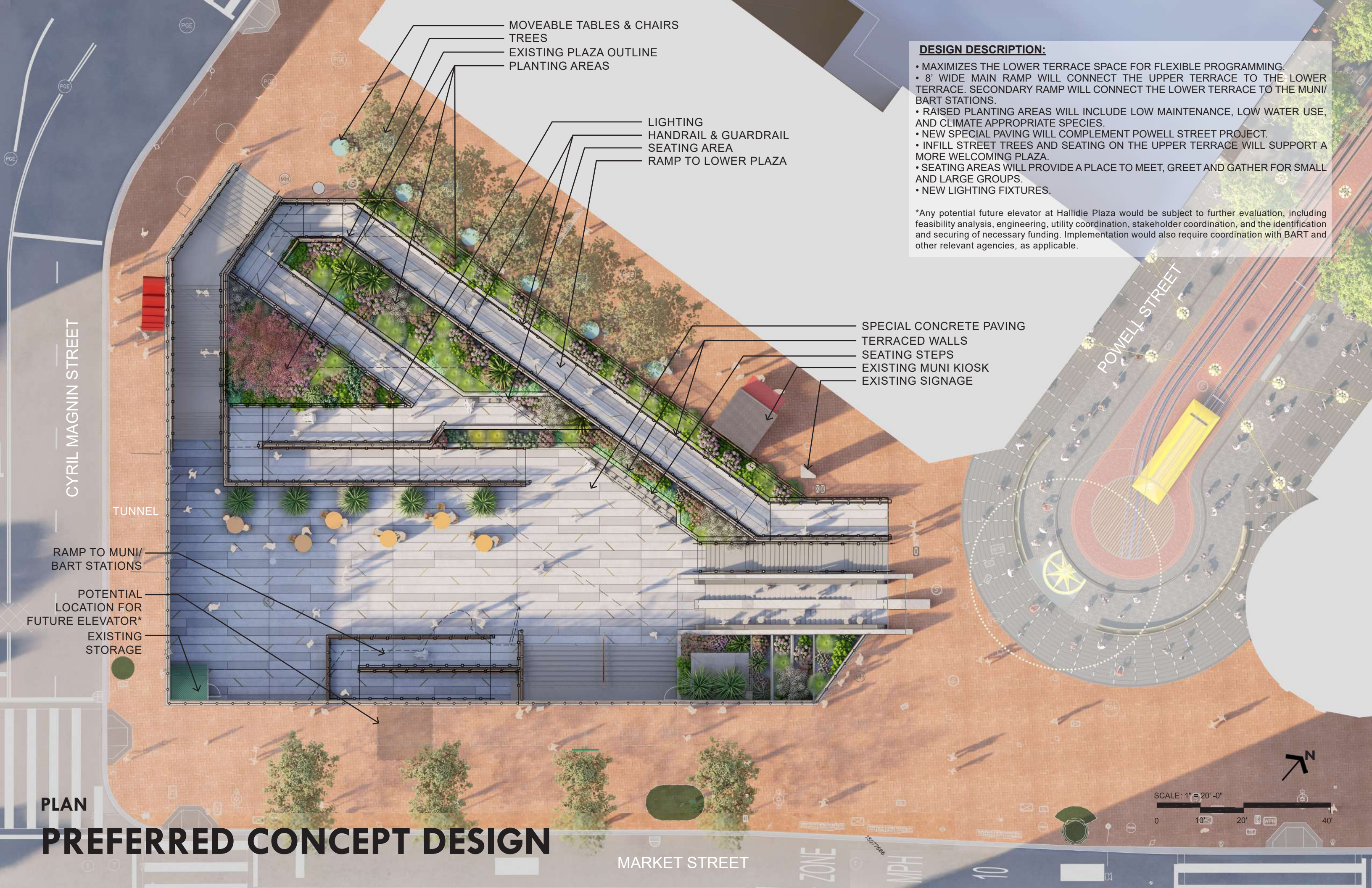
PLAN

DESIGN OPTION B

SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"

0 10' 20' 40'





MOVEABLE TABLES & CHAIRS
TREES
EXISTING PLAZA OUTLINE
PLANTING AREAS

LIGHTING
HANDRAIL & GUARDRAIL
SEATING AREA
RAMP TO LOWER PLAZA

DESIGN DESCRIPTION:

- MAXIMIZES THE LOWER TERRACE SPACE FOR FLEXIBLE PROGRAMMING.
- 8' WIDE MAIN RAMP WILL CONNECT THE UPPER TERRACE TO THE LOWER TERRACE. SECONDARY RAMP WILL CONNECT THE LOWER TERRACE TO THE MUNI/ BART STATIONS.
- RAISED PLANTING AREAS WILL INCLUDE LOW MAINTENANCE, LOW WATER USE, AND CLIMATE APPROPRIATE SPECIES.
- NEW SPECIAL PAVING WILL COMPLEMENT POWELL STREET PROJECT.
- INFILL STREET TREES AND SEATING ON THE UPPER TERRACE WILL SUPPORT A MORE WELCOMING PLAZA.
- SEATING AREAS WILL PROVIDE A PLACE TO MEET, GREET AND GATHER FOR SMALL AND LARGE GROUPS.
- NEW LIGHTING FIXTURES.

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SPECIAL CONCRETE PAVING
TERRACED WALLS
SEATING STEPS
EXISTING MUNI KIOSK
EXISTING SIGNAGE

CYRIL MAGNIN STREET

TUNNEL

RAMP TO MUNI/
BART STATIONS

POTENTIAL
LOCATION FOR
FUTURE ELEVATOR*

EXISTING
STORAGE

POWELL STREET

MARKET STREET

PLAN

PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN

SCALE: 1" = 20' -0"

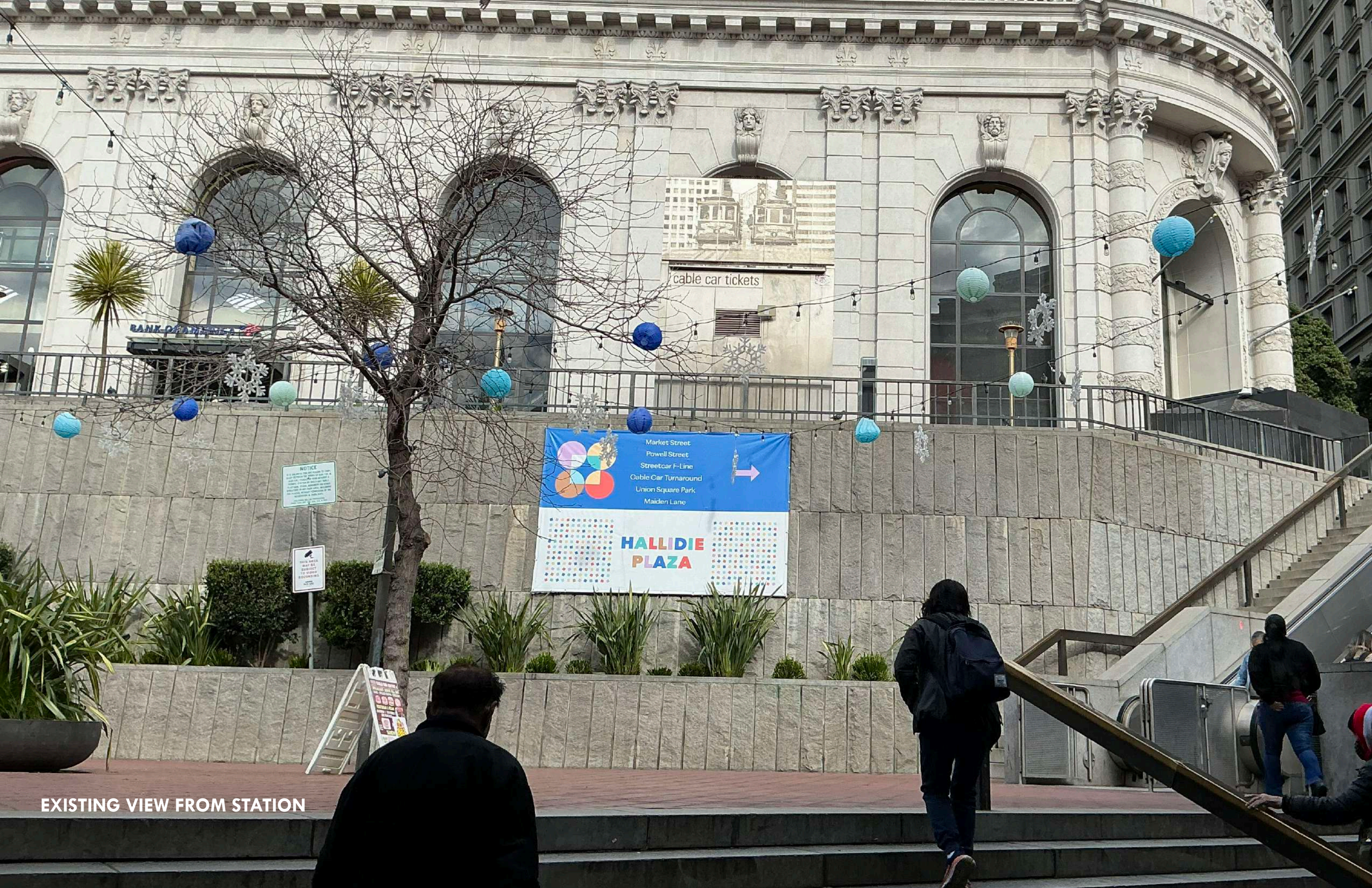
0 10' 20' 40'





AERIAL VIEW

PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN



EXISTING VIEW FROM STATION



PERSPECTIVE VIEW FROM STATION

PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN



PERSPECTIVE VIEW FROM STAIRS

PREFERRED CONCEPT DESIGN

MATERIALS/INSPIRATION

SPECIAL PAVING:



CONCRETE PAVING



POWELL STREET PROJECT

WALLS:



EXISTING GRANITE WALLS



CONCRETE WALL WITH SPECIAL FINISH



FURNISHINGS:



MOVEABLE TABLES & CHAIRS



BENCH



SEATING STEPS

PLANTING:



HALPRIN PLANTERS



RAISED PLANTING AREAS BETWEEN MAIN RAMP



RAILING:



BRONZE GUARDRAILS & HANDRAILS



SIGNAGE/WAYFINDING:



EXISTING SIGNAGE



WAYFINDING

LIGHTING FEATURES:



LIGHT PROJECTIONS

PLANTING PALETTE

TREES



Platanus × *acerifolia*
‘Yarwood’



Cercis occidentalis



Erigeron × *glaucus*
‘Wayne Roderick’



Carpenteria californica
‘Elizabeth’



Salvia clevelandii



Bouteloua ‘Blonde
Ambition’



Rosmarinus
‘Huntington Carpet’



Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var.
griseus ‘Diamond Heights’



Acmispon glaber



Agave attenuata



Salvia spathacea



Arctostaphylos edmundsii ‘Carmel Sur’



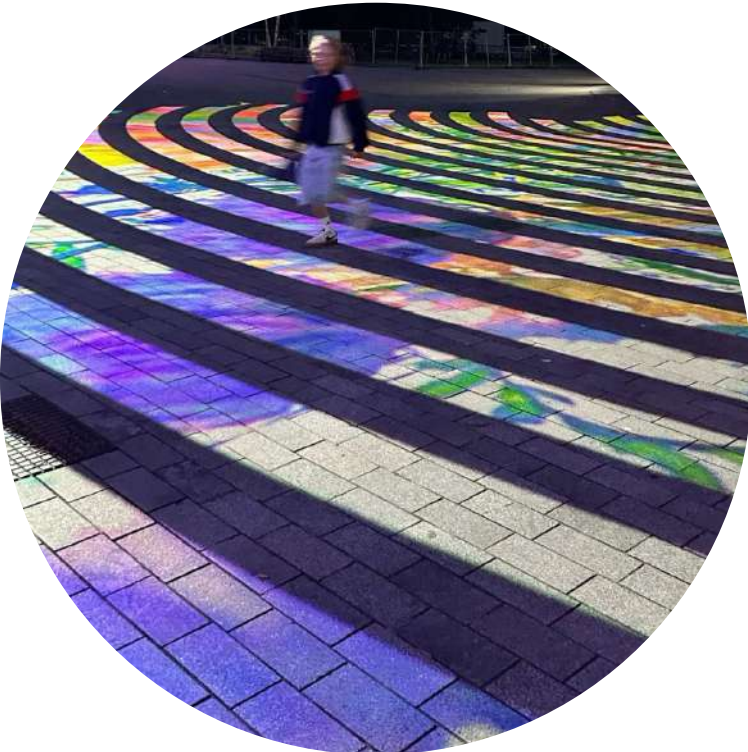
Iris douglasiana

LIGHTING PROJECTION PATTERN OPTIONS

ABSTRACT PATTERNS



Non-representational patterns/shapes/lines



NATURALISTIC IMAGERY



Representational objects/images



INSPIRATIONAL TEXT



Projection of poems/phrases/quotes



OPEN DISCUSSION



NEXT STEPS:

- Project Budget: Plan, Do, Check, Adjust.
- Continue utility conflicts and engineering coordination.
- Complete Construction Documents by January 2027



PROJECT WEBSITE:

<https://sfpublicworks.org/HallidiePlaza>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Project Manager: Anastastia.Haddad@sfdpw.org

SURVEY:

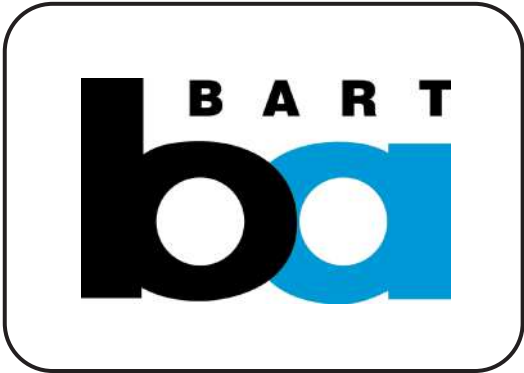
Fill out the survey by **SEPTEMBER 4TH:**
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/RGJZZFLztr>

SCAN ME



SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Office on
Disability and
Accessibility



Project Design + Development
Bureau of Landscape Architecture

THANK YOU

