A Renewed Valencia Streetscape

A Renewed Valencia Streetscape between 15th and 19th Streets will provide sidewalk improvements on both the east and west sides of Valencia Street. Improvements include: removal of the striped center median, better spaced and more accommodating curbside loading zones for trucks, improved traffic/parking and bicycle lane alignment, sidewalk widening, bulb-outs, pedestrian scale lighting, art elements, bike racks, kiosks, and new street trees. The aim is to provide residents and visitors with safe and easy access to businesses, schools, shopping and regional transit connections, enhancing the sense of place with a unified ribbon of streetscape improvements.

COORDINATING THE EFFORT

In 2004, the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) secured an Environmental Justice Grant from Caltrans to develop a Pedestrian Safety Plan for Valencia Street. The MTA held four meetings in 2004-2005 to solicit community input on potential pedestrian improvements and to identify community priorities. Through that process, the community expressed a strong desire to widen the sidewalks along Valencia Street and for more emphasis on improving the streetscape amenities along the corridor. In spring 2006, MTA, Planning and the Department of Public Work’s (DPW) Great Streets Program teamed up to create a collaborative vision for all users of Valencia Street.

COMMUNITY PLANNING & STEWARDSHIP

A series of workshops, on-site meetings and walkthroughs were held with community members, the Mission Merchants Association and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to evaluate the needs for the corridor. Incorporating feedback from the previous workshops, the final conceptual design was presented summer 2006, and received strong support from all groups. The community expressed a preference to focus the first phase of improvements between 15th and 19th Streets.

VALENCIA STREETSCAPE GOALS - Phase 1

Three major goals were identified for Valencia Street through the planning process:

- Improving the commercial corridor by providing a more pleasant pedestrian and bicycling experience
- Making Valencia Street a safer environment with more usable sidewalk space, improved bike and traffic lanes, and sidewalk amenities
- Maintaining the diversity of the neighborhood and balancing the needs of all of the community

PROJECT TEAM

SFPDW Project Manager: Kris Opbroek
SFPDW Landscape Architects: Martha Ketterer, John Dennis, Nick Ancel

Proposed, Valencia Street at 16th Street
Existing, Valencia Street at 16th Street

Project area, extending from 15th to 19th Street