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April 2010- SFMTA Pedestrian Program Quarterly Report to the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)

Compiled by the SFMTA Pedestrian Program Staff

A. PLANNING

1. BETTER STREETS PLAN: Pedestrian Program Staff coordinated review of potential code changes related to the future approval of the Better Streets Plan. It is not being recommended that the Transportation Code be amended. However, the Administrative Code (along with other codes that are not in SFMTA's direct purview) will have some suggested amendments. The Better Streets Plan will most likely be up for adoption within the year, the code changes mentioned above have increased delay

2. BETTER STREETS CONTROLLER STUDY TO IMPROVE STREETSCAPE PLANNING: The Controller's Office released the final version of the recommendation to improve streetscape project planning, design, review and approval. It can be found at: <http://co.sfgov.org/webreports/details.aspx?id=1018>

3. BETTER STREETS LIFE CYCLE COST STUDY: Comments regarding life-cycle costs for crosswalk maintenance have been vetted by staff and Paint Shop and submitted to the Controllers office.

4. PEDESTRIAN COUNTING PROJECT: Pedestrian Program Staff submitted a work order and detailed instructions for the sign shop to install automated pedestrian counters at 6 locations within the City. Staff is working with Fehr and Peers to create an exposure model for pedestrians. This model will also feed into a pedestrian demand model used by the SFCTA and could be used for larger pedestrian volume projections and benchmarking studies

5. CROSSWALK GUIDELINES FINAL DRAFT: After conferring with the City Traffic Engineer and relaying discussions with national recognized leaders in Pedestrian facilities designs, the final draft should be ready for review by May. Policies such as Continental Crosswalk and "No Parking" or "Red Zones" at intersections are among the items discussed within the draft guidelines.

6. ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL (APS) GUIDELINES: Staff is on track for an April 20th presentation to the SFMTAB meeting. The current APS policy is being

recommended for minor updates. The current guidelines can be viewed at www.sfmta.com/aps Staff presented an overview of APS to MAAC on February 18th.

B. FACILITIES

1. CONTINENTAL CROSSWALK CONVERSION (PROPK AMENDMENT):

Pedestrian Program Staff submitted an amendment to the current Continental Crosswalk Conversion Project to include advance yield lines “shark teeth” and the “yield here to pedestrians” signs. The request has generated a series of additional clarifications from the TA as the scope has triple the work in the initial project and hence far fewer locations. Staff is proceeding with a recommendation for yield lines to be 25’ back from crosswalks.

2. 24th STREET AND MISSION BART PLAZA – SAFE ROUTES TO TRANSIT:

Pedestrian Staff is developing a work authorization request along with budget, scope, project deadlines to DPW to develop construction plans and build the bus bulb on the southeast 24th Street BART Plaza, 13 curb ramps, and installation of a new culvert and storm drain on Osage Street. This work, and particularly the work on Osage Street is related to the TLC grant being submitted by the BART and Planning. It is proposed that the crosswalk at Osage Alley be raised.

3. REOPENING CLOSED CROSSWALKS: Staff has been analyzing closed crosswalk locations and has been gathering background data. This includes aerial photos, signal timing cards; signal inventory diagrams, information about ramps, turn restrictions, type of crosswalk, ped generators, paving schedule, construction moratorium, and collisions. PSAC input was sought in October 2008 and April 2009, and is being sought again.

4. REOPENING CLOSED CROSSWALK AT GEARY AND STEINER: The interest to re-open the west crosswalk is increasing. Both DPW Electrical and DPW Civil have been tasked to submit a detailed cost estimate to re-open this crosswalk which features a pedestrian bridge over Geary. Staff met with DPW Civil in the field about the proposed changes needed to re-open in addition to discussing the signal modifications with DPW Electrical. The cost for construction only is about \$260,000.

4. MARKET STREET AND VALENCIA – BIKE “JUG HANDLE”: The proposal is to narrow the sidewalk and install a “Jug Handle” for bicyclists to facilitate their left turn. Currently in order for bicyclists to proceed to the Valencia Street Bike lane one either turns from the left turn lanes by obliquely crossing the Muni rails or utilize the pedestrian crossing. Pedestrian Program Staff issued a work order to have the Signal Shop inspect the conduits, pull-boxes and poles for additional equipment and

wires needed to install a bike signal for westbound Market Street bicyclists turning left onto Valencia. Pedestrian Program Staff are also preparing the sidewalk legislation for Streets and Mapping and the General Plan Referral for the necessary sidewalk and median changes.

5. 14th AND MARKET: Staff met with DPW Landscape Design to discuss improvements to the southeast corner of 14th and Market. 14th Street is now one-way eastbound therefore the westbound right turn pork chop will be filled in and adorned with small shrubbery, benches, tables etc.

C. Funding

1. ECONOMIC STIMULUS I: Pedestrian Staff submitted an application for \$322,000 for funds remanding in Economic Stimulus I. Program was denied funds.

2. ECONOMIC STIMULUS II- JOBS FOR MAIN STREET: Pedestrian Program submitted preliminary information for a Jobs to Main Street (Stim II) procurement projects. I

3. OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY (OTS) GRANT- A joint (DPH, Planning and SFMTA) OTS grant was denied.

4. 24th STREET AND MISSION BART PLAZA - TRANSPORTATION OF LIVABLE COMMUNITY (TLC) GRANT: Pedestrian Program Staff met in the field with BART, Planning, DPW and the architects for the TLC Grant due 4/22/2010 redesign of the southwest BART Plaza and the adjacent Osage Alleyway. Several design themes for the Plaza were shown including small retail stands, an art wall, new and varying amounts trees and shrubbery, and removal of between 20 and 40 feet of fence along Osage. The multiple themes will need to be reduced prior to a community meeting scheduled on April 14th.

5. SFCTA PROP K: Staff is beginning to develop applications for the next call of Prop K projects.

D. Miscellaneous

1. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSAC): Pedestrian Program Staff have been coordinating with various PSAC task forces

2. WALK21: Staff submitted two abstracts for the next WALK21 conference, which will be held in November 2010. Both abstracts were partnerships, one with the San Francisco Injury Center, and the other with the Planning Department.