

Neighborhood Focus Group Meeting Notes

2/19/2020 Claremont Elmwood Neighborhood Association (CENA)

Streets
Bike Paths
Potential new park in area

2/20/2020 Friends of Strawberry Creek

- Bike/Pedestrian infrastructure
 - Ohlone Greenway pathway, especially near El Cerrito
 - Cedar Rose crossings and pathway through park
 - Bike path from West Street path, once you hit Strawberry Creek park on Addison. Needs wayfinding or dedicated path or something...cyclists don't know where to go, and go through park on narrow path.
 - Need bike boulevards; there's not enough west of Milvia.
- Streets: their interest in street paving was tied to bike boulevards. They said that climate goals of City should steer our focus to prioritizing those streets.
 - Channing, west of MLK (a bike boulevard)
 - California (a bike boulevard): chip seal recently done has made pavement condition worse not better for bikes.
 - Bolivar (Aquatic Park)
- Streetlights (Matt Freiberg noted that there is dedicated funding for this, so T1 probably not the best source)
 - Channing, west of MLK
 - Bonar
- Traffic lights/signs
 - Signal needed at Curtis and University
 - Signal needed at Virginia and Sacramento
 - Stop sign needed at Allston and Browning
- Parks
 - Discussion about how they liked idea of destination parks, including Marina, Strawberry Creek, San Pablo, Cedar Rose, Aquatic Park. T1 should help prepare them to be destinations: restrooms are key. Access for kids is also important, so consider bike or walking paths to those parks. And would like more swings and play structures in those parks. Would like good bike parking in parks, including for cargo bikes.
 - Side comment: People love the small parks, but lack of bathrooms are a problem. One person said that even a clean porta-potty would be helpful.
 - Would like more adult athletic equipment: pull-up bars, monkey bars, etc. Like the idea of multi-generational features in parks and multi-generational models of health.
 - Would like to have remediation of bowling green added to T1 list

Separately, people were interested in figuring out how to acquire land, specifically the parcel next to BYA. They asked who they could brainstorm with in the City about this.

2/21/2020 Friends of Rose Garden/Amigos de Codornices

Euclid Paving
Berkeley Pier (multiple times)
Codornices Restroom Replacement
Bike Paths
Paving

2-26-2020 Friends of Ohlone Park

Meeting Notes

Ohlone Park Lighting (Multiple times)
Ohlone Park Restroom (Multiple Times)
Sidewalks (several times)
Bike Friendly paths and streets
Streets
Waterfront (Cesar Chavez Park)
Aquatic Park

Meeting notes

1. HAWK signals at Virginia/Sacramento and California/Dwight
2. Adequate street lighting/pedestrian lighting in and around the neighborhood, park, and on the way to BART
3. Bathrooms at Ohlone Park
4. Hearst Street bike corridor improvements
5. Park improvements such as benches, drinking fountains, and trash cans
6. Improve University Avenue
7. Harriet Tubman Building improvements
8. Ohlone bike path between Sacramento and California
9. Sidewalk improvements citywide
10. Improvements to Aquatic Park

The top three items of interest included: sidewalks, street lighting, and bathrooms in Ohlone Park.

3/5/ 2020 Curtis Street Neighbors

Repave Curtis street
Paving everywhere
Sidewalks
Bike Paths
Follow up Letter from constituent

3/10/2020 Friends of James Kenney

1. Streets/Paving (8th and 9th streets)
2. Street lighting
3. Storm water infrastructure improvements
4. Seismic retrofits

5. Address sidewalk gaps/needs around center
6. Improve bike paths
7. Permanent restroom in James Kenney Park
8. University Avenue.

8/11/2020 Marina Berthers

University Avenue
Camera's (Not a T1 Project)
Guard Shack on University

8/11/2020 Sports Field Users

Restrooms/Field house at Tom Bates

- Security Cameras at Tom Bates (Parking Lot)
- Synthetic Turf and Lights on East and West Fields at Tom Bates
- Synthetic Turf at Harrison Park Gabe's East and West
- Synthetic Turf at Live Oak

8/19/2020 Aquatic Park Stakeholders

1. Replace Tide Tubes/Storm drain garbage collectors
2. University Avenue
3. More native habitats and nature-based living systems, e.g., a pollinator habitat (Pam Young / Elaine Baden/Claudia).
4. More paving of East side trail (Claudia).
5. East side culverts are clogged – need cleaning out. (Jonathan Braidman, Disc Golf).
6. New restroom at South side instead of portable (Jonathan B)

8/20/2020 Berkeley Path Wanderers

Top Priority: Paths
Paths lighting
Paths hand rails

8/28/2020 Live Oak Codornices Creek Neighborhood Association

- Berkeley Pier Plan? (Peggy M)
- Climate Change Projects? (Peggy M)
- Groundwater from SLR? (Peggy M)
- Sidewalks (many) need bad repairs; 50/50 split; Waiting List? (Edna Friedman email)
- Bulbouts / swales (many) need maintenance; e.g., Circle@Spruce/Vine? (Edna)
- Paint House numbers on curbs? (Edna)
- West and South Berkeley Senior Center? (Carol Norris)
- I-80 Gilman Interchange, City role? (Carol N)
- I-80 Gilman – next steps? (Emilie Raguso)
- Bike Lane curbs at Hopkins/Alameda (Dangerous for drivers!) (Margot Smith)
- Repaving needed at Arch/Cedar (Valerie Bach)
- Repaving needed at Rose/MLK/Sacramento (Valerie Bach)

- Repaving needed Spruce/Eunice/Los Angeles (Valerie Bach)
- San Pablo Ave – dangerous for pedestrians to cross (Elizabeth Shaughnessy)
- Traffic Light out of sync at Trader Joe’s @ MLK (Margot Smith)
- Traffic Light out of sync at Ashby @ 7th (Margot Smith)
- Ferry – three types of boats? (Emilie R)
- Ferry – hydrofoils have large environmental impact (e.g., Potomac River) (Margot Smith)

9/1/2020 Traffic Circle Group

Redesigning Bollards/dividers to landscaping beds

Traffic Safety Improvements

Funding for 4 way stops at Traffic Circles

Add tree’s to south Berkeley

Fund additional Circles

Funding water hookups for Traffic Circles

9/9/2020 Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association (TONA)

Feedback from Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association meeting. Highlights are specific feedback for Phase 2. The rest is comments/questions.

- Many in TONA are interested in the Berkeley Pier
- Noted that story map shows that no T1 work happened in Thousand Oaks area; and that the “dots” stop at King.
- Said that most work they see in their neighborhood now is related to sewers
 - They hear complaints from neighbors that sewer work goes on and on, and seems to be continually dug up.
 - They’d like to know if there is any communication on the sewer work process, and why/when/which streets get dug up.
- Asked about what “complete streets” means; Ray Yep was there and noted that the Commissions have tried to promote a “dig once” policy.
- Noted that their members heavily use the North Berkeley Senior Center and Live Oak Community Center (so will benefit from those improvements).
- There’s a small park a Peralta & Solano where a car accident took out some benches and the small play structure needs work.
- Would like to see a change in configuration of Solano: less street, more bike lanes, more sidewalk.

9-10-2020 Marin Circle – Friends of the Fountain

Landscape Medians

Fix streets

Renovate Fountain walk and Marin Circle (several people)

Improvements to Live Oak Arts Center

Repave Holly Street

Repave parts Sacramento

[Measure T1 – Neighborhood Meeting - Marin Circle \(FOFW\)](#)

Notes:

- Diana (Jack Damonte):
 - Rose Garden got a lot of money a few years ago, why give more?
 - Is there a plan for any maintenance in Berkeley?
 - The Circle bioswale is a disaster.
 - Can we replace the Median Strip dead grass with groundcover?

- Michael Gray:
 - John Hinkel Park
 - Street repaired
 - Solano Ave plantings
 - More pools (indoor)
 - Fountain Walk – fix balusters
 - Overhaul of Fountain Walk: replace sidewalks, staircase, new handrail, lighting, new plant beds and irrigation, reinforce balustrades.
 - Landscaping at perimeter.
 - Too many invasives.
 - Irrigation not working.
 - Ariling St – weeds & ivy, needs new planting.
 - San Mateo Rd off Indian Rd, needs fixing.
 - Holy St (Cedar/Rose) is a disaster and is dangerous.
 - Arts Ctr at Live Oak: needs work at Ctr, (see Daniel Nevers at Ctr).

- Christina & Dan McIntyre
 - Fountain Walk
 - New planting die. Is irrigation broken?

- Karen
 - Steps have too much slope, dangerous, need railings.

- Diana (Jack Damonte)
 - Streets in disrepair and need more attention.
 - Trees on Marin St are diseased and mutilated by PG&E, the sycamores/London Planes.

- Christine McIntyre
 - Kensington residential streets are all repaired. Why can't we have that in Berkeley?

- Note: Send link to Michael Gray re: Oct 8 large T1 meeting.

--R

9-12-2020 McGee- Spaulding Neighbors In Action

Public Restrooms- Build them and staff them (several people)
Include Public Showers
Redo Civic Center/old City hall
Redesign traffic barriers into planters
Aquatic Park Tide tubes

9-14-2020 San Pablo Park Neighborhood Group

- Ariel
 - Berkeley Pier! / Rose Garden / Senior Ctr.
- August Fern:
 - Need competitive pool for swimming and water polo at San Pablo Park. Small pool is waste of money.
- Cari Rybczynski:
 - Support new pool.
 - Green infrastructure like Ward St. Pedestrian connectivity and safety needs to be better.
 - Need smoother streets for bicycling.
- Ariel:
 - 100% bike/jogging infrastructure.
 - Big pool at San Pablo Park.
- Charlene Washington:
 - Enclosed pool.
 - Never have a dog park at San Pablo Park.
 - Pave Park St at park.
 - Need nicer clubhouse.
- Rachel D:
 - Pool would be great.
 - Covid-closed roads have been great.
 - Bring the Berkeley Pier back.
 - Need better bike and walking
 - Bayer: can they fund better connection to Aquatic Park at South End?
- Alex Ambrose:
 - Large pool.
 - New Ctr at Albrier with better architecture and character.
 - Santa Fe ROW park?
 - A new Community Orchard.
 - A new Arsenic Uptake Project.
 - More biking infrastructure to King School, to UC Berkeley.
- Joni Spears:
 - Pool.
 - Ped xing on Ward (its too dangerous). Speed bumps are gone.
- Erica Ryan:
 - 20 yr resident.
 - Traffic Study/ped study for parking if new Center at Albrier?
 - Irrigation problem at San Pablo.
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- Louis Gambates:
 - Splash pad and water slide.
 - Repave Oregon St.
- Curtis Draves:
 - 13 yrs in neighborhood.
 - Tennis!
 - Fix the tennis court foundation? Not needed?

- Brodie Jasper:
 - Big Pool. E.g., El Cerrito water pool.
- Casey Rybcznksi:
 - Aq Pk as ecosystem.
 - Tide tubes.
 - Marina. paving needed.
- Ariel
 - Bike repaving (Acton St).
- Carrie R:
 - Albrier Ctr! (I have daughter).
 - Ctr needs more rooms, more afterschool, weekend programs.
- Zoe:
 - How do we get updates on decisions on T1?
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- August:
 - Bathroom at Tom Bates fields!

9-16-2020 Walk Bike Berkeley (Jim, Gordon, Maria, Jackie)

1. Sidewalks
2. Accelerating the paving program
3. Ohlone Greenway, widening areas along the pathway

9-16-2020 Friends of 5 Creeks (Jim, Paul, Claudia, Jackie)

Maintenance (attachment)
Restrooms

9-17-2020 African American Wholistic Resource Community

African American Wholistic Resource Center

9-22-2020 Downtown Group

Irrigation repairs on Shattuck
Turtle Island Project
Medians

9-23-2020 Berkeley Better District Network

Berkeley Pier

9-28-2020 South/West Berkeley Pastors (Erin, Jim, Maria, Claudia)

Homeless Facilities
AAWRC

YAP –MLK Jr Resource Center
South Berkeley Senior Center

9-28-2020 Friends of Adeline (Gordon, Jim, Erin and Maria)

City ROW into Park
Leak at Shattuck and MLK
AAWRC
YAP
Letter Coming?

9-30-2020 ASUC

Telegraph Slow streets Plan
Piedmont Median Development
Cross Walk/Stop signs on Piedmont
Gillman/80 intersection Dangerous
More Trees in downtown
Lighting on Bancroft way

Participating Commissions Meeting Notes

9-17-2020 Transportation Commission

Feedback from the Transportation Commission re: Phase 2 of T1:

- Berkeley Pier
- Telegraph Slow Streets
- Best Plan: choose projects, e.g. top 2, from that plan
- Ohlone Greenway improvements

They asked Anthony Bruzzone, their liaison to the Public Works Commission to represent Transportation interests in this process.

9-23-2020 Civic Arts Commission

Berkeley Pier
Letter coming?

10-14-2020 Fire and Disaster Safety Commission

11-5 -2020 Landmarks Commission