



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

REPORT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

DATE ISSUED: February 3, 2006 REPORT NO. PC-06-085

ATTENTION: Planning Commission
Agenda of February 16, 2006

SUBJECT: Information Only
Pedestrian Master Plan Workshop

SUMMARY:

The City of San Diego is developing a Pedestrian Master Plan (Plan) to identify and prioritize pedestrian improvement projects based on technical analysis and community input. By identifying and prioritizing pedestrian improvement projects, the Pedestrian Master Plan will promote their orderly implementation on a citywide basis and will enhance the City's ability to receive grant funding. The Planning Commission will be given a presentation on the Plan progress to date and will be asked to provide input on the Plan development process, the community and project prioritization methods, and the preliminary draft Pedestrian Master Plan document (Attachment 1) developed by the consultant.

BACKGROUND

In order to use the region's transportation funding most effectively, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) recommends, and in the future will require, that each local agency in the region have a Pedestrian Master Plan in order to compete for and receive funding for pedestrian projects. Local agencies may apply for funding to develop their pedestrian master plans through SANDAG's annual TDA/*TransNet* Claim cycle for pedestrian and bicycle project funding.

On June 25, 2004, SANDAG awarded the City a \$150,000 Transportation Development Act grant for the initial development (Phase 1) of a Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan, which consists of the Plan's framework and development of the Plan in at least one community planning area. On April 4, 2005, the City entered into a contract with the consultant team of KTU+A along with sub-consultants Stepner Design Group, M.W. Steele Group, Katz Okitsu & Associates, Moore Iacofano Goltsman, and WalkSanDiego, to develop the first phase of the Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan.

Planning staff continues to seek additional grant funding for this purpose. The City has been awarded another \$150,000 from SANDAG for the Fiscal Year 2006 Transportation Development Act grant cycle to continue development of the Plan in community planning areas throughout the City.

DISCUSSION

The consultant team is working under the guidance of the Planning Department and a Pedestrian Master Plan Project Working Group (PWG). The PWG consists of the consultant team, City staff, and representatives from the Community Planners Committee (CPC), the Subcommittee for the Removal of Architectural Barriers (SCRAB), the Community Planners Advisory Committee on Transportation (COMPACT), the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), walk advocacy groups, and interested members of the public. The PWG has been meeting monthly since April 2005, to guide the development of the Plan and to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the work products. Members on the PWG also serve as liaisons to their respective departments and organizations.

In addition to obtaining input from the PWG, public input was solicited through the project website (www.sandiegopmp.org), a pedestrian questionnaire (sent to community planning group board members and available on-line), two mass emails to over 2,000 addresses on the Planning Department's email interest list, a public open house, and a presentation to the COMPACT. In addition, the project team made two presentations to the CPC to get their input on the project including a project update in October 2005 where the CPC voted (18-2-0) to approve the recommended pedestrian priority model for ranking communities. Additionally, input will be sought from the Subcommittee for the Removal of Architectural Barriers, the Business Improvement District Council, and Land Development Code Technical Advisory Committee.

The Pedestrian Master Plan is intended to be an implementation document of the General Plan. The Plan will enable the City to implement projects that are consistent with and further the General Plan goals. The consultant team produced the first draft of the Plan framework (Volume 1 of the Pedestrian Master Plan) that includes the following:

- pedestrian-related goals and policies (Chapter 1),
- Plan context (Chapter 2),
- citywide existing conditions, issues, and recommendations (Chapter 3),
- pedestrian route types and treatments (Chapter 4),
- a pedestrian priority model and method for prioritizing the community planning areas for developing the Plan citywide (Chapter 5),
- a process for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing pedestrian projects within each community (Chapter 6),
- potential project funding sources (Chapter 7), and
- maintenance issues (Chapter 8).

The City can not develop the Plan in all the community planning areas at once, so we developed the pedestrian priority model (PPM) which utilizes geographic information systems (GIS)

technology to apply weighted factors to areas of the City for various pedestrian attractors, generators, and detractors. The pedestrian priority model resulted in Greater North Park as the top ranked community for testing the project identification process and prioritization criteria. Greater North Park will serve as the pilot community to refine the processes in Volume 1 of the Plan. Volume 2 of the Plan will eventually have a section for each community planning area in the City that will list and prioritize the identified project needs in that community.

The project team is just beginning development of the project prioritization criteria which will be covered in Chapter 6 of the Plan. This will involve review of the pedestrian project prioritization criteria used by other agencies that have developed pedestrian master plans. In addition, in order to position the City to receive funding for pedestrian projects from SANDAG, we will consider the SANDAG FY 2007 Pedestrian Project Selection Criteria Matrix (Attachment 2). Another consideration will be consistency with the categories used in the City's CIP prioritization process that is currently being developed. The draft categories for prioritizing CIP projects are shown in Attachment 3.

DIRECTION AND INPUT

To help guide the development effort of this Plan, the Planning Commission is asked to provide a cursory review of the draft Plan and provide direction and input on the following:

1. Plan format and outline
2. Plan goals
3. classification of pedestrian facilities and respective treatment levels
4. pedestrian priority model
5. pedestrian project prioritization criteria (to be developed)
6. nexus for off-site pedestrian improvements by developers and from residential property owners, including infill
7. other issues that should be addressed in the Plan

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy McCullough, AICP
Acting Planning Director
Planning Department

Keith Greer
Deputy Planning Director
Planning Department

MCCULLOUGH/MPG

Attachments:

1. Preliminary Draft Pedestrian Master Plan Volume 1
2. SANDAG FY 2007 Pedestrian Project Selection Criteria Matrix
3. City of San Diego Draft Categories for Prioritizing CIP Projects