

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 8, 2005

TO: Members of the Community Planners Committee

FROM: Samir Hajjiri, Senior Traffic Engineer, Planning Department

SUBJECT: Pedestrian Master Plan Project

INTRODUCTION

The City is in the process of hiring a consultant to produce the framework needed for a Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan (Plan) and to develop the Plan in at least one community planning area. The consultant will be working under the guidance of the Planning Department and a project working group with input from the CPC. Once the Plan's framework is completed, the consultant will develop the Plan in at least one community with close coordination and input from the respective community planning group. This project will take approximately a year to complete.

At this time, Planning staff is seeking two volunteers and two alternates from the CPC to serve on the project working group. The project working group will be comprised of representatives including, but not limited to the City, SANDAG, pedestrian interest groups, and CPC members. Beginning next month, it will meet monthly to guide the development of the Plan and to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the products produced. CPC members on the working group will be asked to serve as liaisons to the CPC by providing status reports to the CPC and bringing CPC's recommendations and comments to the working group at designated points in the process.

BACKGROUND

On June 25, 2004, the San Diego Association of Governments awarded the City a \$150,000 Transportation Development Act (TDA) grant for the initial development 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. A Request for Proposals for consultant services to develop the Plan was issued on August 20, 2004. In accordance with the City's administrative regulations, the City entered into the contract negotiation process with the firm of KTU+A in December. As of the date of this memorandum, the City was in the process of reviewing the contract prior to entering into the agreement.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Pedestrian Master Plan is to guide the way the City plans and implements pedestrian improvements by identifying and prioritizing pedestrian projects based on the community's input and expressed needs. The development of a Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan will assist in the implementation of the General Plan Strategic Framework Element to enhance both neighborhood quality and mobility options. The Plan will implement the General Plan policies by facilitating pedestrian improvement projects that will enhance and improve the

pedestrian environment, safety, and mobility options throughout the City. It will also improve the City's ability to receive grant funding to implement the identified pedestrian improvement projects.

Under the guidance of the project working group and input from the CPC, the consultant will produce a comprehensive Plan framework that will provide the methods for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing pedestrian projects within each community and for identifying the prioritization schedule by community planning area for developing the Plan citywide. In addition, the Plan's framework will also have discussions of the existing pedestrian conditions, pedestrian related City policies, and funding sources. Once the Plan's framework is completed, we will be asking the CPC for a recommendation for Council Committee approval.

Once a consensus regarding the framework as been reached, the consultant will meet and work with the community to develop the Plan in at least one of the identified community planning areas. Incorporating the methods established in the Plan's Framework, the consultant will work with the community to identify and prioritize potential pedestrian improvement project locations and provide descriptions of the types of improvements needed to improve the pedestrian environment. The Plan will have a section for each community planning area that will include the identified and prioritized potential pedestrian improvement projects.

CONCLUSION

By identifying and prioritizing potential pedestrian improvement projects, the Plan will promote an orderly implementation of pedestrian improvement projects on a citywide basis. Having a citywide document based on community input for specific pedestrian improvement projects will enhance the City's ability to receive grant funding for implementing these projects and address the community's expressed needs.

Planning staff will continue to seek additional grant funding, including the upcoming TDA grant funding cycle, to develop the Plan in additional community planning areas throughout the City.

We look forward to having the opportunity to work with you on the development of the Pedestrian Master Plan. Attached is a tentative project timeline. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tait Galloway, Associate Planner at 533-4550 or tgalloway@sandiego.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,



Samir Hajjiri
Senior Traffic Engineer

SH/tg

Attachment: Project Timeline

