



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego Breaks Ground on First of Six Downtown Promenades

PROJECT WILL TRANSFORM UNDERUTILIZED STREET INTO AN ENHANCED PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY, IMPROVING SAFETY AND ADDING GREEN SPACE

SAN DIEGO – In an effort to create more green spaces in urban areas, the City of San Diego this week began work on the first of six promenades planned throughout downtown. The 14th Street Promenade will run 11 city blocks, from C Street to Commercial Street.

Despite the effects of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the City is continuing to honor its commitment to create walkable neighborhoods and continue investing in neighborhood improvements that residents will enjoy for decades.

“These promenades will create a more welcoming, open and walkable downtown while planning for the population to more than double there over the next 20 years,” said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. “Providing more mobility options and access to parks and green space helps us achieve our climate action goals and supports the economic vitality of this prominent neighborhood and our entire city.”

Construction on the 14th Street Promenade will begin between G and Market streets to extend the existing sidewalk by removing a vehicle travel lane and eight parking spaces on the east side. Additional improvements include better lighting, a double row of trees and landscaping to create a safety buffer between pedestrians and vehicle traffic. The Promenade will feature industrial artifacts donated by the family of late East Village pioneer Bob Sinclair and panels showing historical images of the iconic San Diego neighborhood.

The loss of existing on-street parking will be offset by the creation of additional angled spaces replacing parallel parking on several streets. A 185-space underground parking garage is also planned for the future East Village Green park.

Additional portions of the 14th Street Promenade are currently being designed. Construction between F Street and Island Avenue is anticipated to be completed by 2022. The next phase of work will begin on the blocks between K and L streets and Imperial Avenue to Commercial Street.

“Promenades, when designed thoughtfully, can increase economic activity and public opportunities within our communities,” said City Councilmember Chris Ward. “These promenades are a central feature of the Downtown Mobility Plan and overall efforts to invest in walkable neighborhoods connected to our open spaces and parks.”

The [Downtown San Diego Mobility Plan](#) was approved by the City Council in 2016 to create active transportation networks and transform downtown San Diego into a world-class urban center while supporting the City's Climate Action Plan. By 2040, downtown's population is expected to grow from about 38,000 to 90,000 people, with a majority of residential units planned for East Village.

"After much public input, we learned these promenades satisfy the great desire for additional open space and greenery for existing and future residents," said Brad Richter, Deputy Director of the City's Urban Division. **"It helps fulfill their social and recreational needs in an urban environment."**

Construction on the first block of the 14th Street Promenade is funded by developer fees and a grant from the San Diego Association of Governments. This is a joint project with Civic San Diego which led the design work and will oversee construction. Five additional promenades planned for downtown will be located along Eighth Avenue, Cedar Street, E Street, Island Avenue and Union Street.

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