

# CID Framework and Implementation Plan

## Work Group 5 - Public Realm

### July 5, 2018 Meeting

Time: 4:00-5:30 pm

Location: Hing Hay Co-Works 409b Maynard Ave S

#### MEETING SUMMARY

#### **Work Group Members Present**

An Huynh, Andrew Tran, Betty Lau, Brien Chow, Clara Carter, Kathleen Johnson, Sonny Nguyen, Tom Im, Vicky Clarke, James Lee, Natalie Bicknell

#### **City Staff**

Janet Shull (OPCD); Aditi Kambuj (SDOT); Ching Chan (SDOT); Lauren Wong (OPCD)

#### **Notes:**

Sonny Nguyen opened the meeting and led a round of introductions.

#### *Bike Route Update*

Ching Chan reported out on the June 18 bike route tour. There are many bus layover spaces on 5<sup>th</sup> that are highly used; King County Metro will need to be consulted as 5<sup>th</sup> and Main transit would be highly impacted if there were to be a bike lane constructed there. It was noted that the group was not in favor of a main bike route from Main to 6<sup>th</sup> as there is a significant uphill. A protected lane on 4<sup>th</sup> could be useful as it connects to the International District station. The King Street Neighborhood Greenway, from 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, has options for cycling. There was a question about a left turn on King to Maynard which Ching will follow up on. The goal for construction is by the end of 2019.

#### *Little Saigon Street Concept Plan*

Aditi provided an overview of the Little Saigon Street Concept Plan. Two handouts were distributed: Draft Little Saigon Street Concept Plan and Landscaping Guidance. The concept plan is a series of voluntary improvements to the right of way that represents community-supported improvements. Because it goes above baseline SDOT street standards, it isn't a requirement for developers to implement. This plan is something that would reside in the City's street improvement manual.

Streets included are Jackson east of I-5 to Rainier; King east of I-5 to Rainier; Weller east of I-5 to Rainier; and 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. 12<sup>th</sup> is not included because it's a major arterial; improvements on major arterials tend to be organized through capital projects.

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Recommended street design features include safe and comfortable streets; well-lit sidewalks; landscaping; breaks in landscaping (seating, exercise equipment, gardening opportunities); active streets; sidewalk design (such as stamped pavement); gateway features; space for community events; street and transit amenities; continuity and cohesion.

Adivi asked the group for input on special character elements: stamped pavement, gateways, and types of seating that would be appropriate in this context. There was interest in having seating that would foster gathering and group activities, as seniors are often observed sitting together. There was also interest in having shade over seating, whether by tree canopy or umbrellas.

King St from 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Ave was considered a good space for street closure to hold festivals and events. Cars are going at lower speeds and it is already used by the community. Community can get an SDOT permit to hold multiple events throughout the year.

There were questions regarding the relation of this concept plan to ISRD guidelines, and how there could be more city or public support for these ideas to be implemented especially given that new developments on Jackson are potentially market rate. There is currently no capital money available to support but there is potential in other opportunities, such as Urban Forestry, other partnerships, or BRT project which includes a percentage of funds for arts.

There were questions about maintenance of street furniture and street trees, especially keeping the trees from obscuring light poles. An internal conversation would be needed with Urban Forestry regarding regular maintenance of tree canopy.

#### *ISRD Guidelines for Public Realm*

Suggestions for additional consideration in the public realm:

- Curblines
- Culturally responsive design – streetscape should represent/reflect the historic district
  - Example 1<sup>st</sup> and Pike at Pike Place
- Alley activation
- Mid-block connections
- Uses along mid-blocks
- Maintenance of landscaping
- Parklets and placemaking
- Bike parking opportunities
- Public signage identifying the historic district
- Consider lighting study recommendations

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There were comments about alleys in regards to grease and making them dumpster free, as well as a bathroom in Hing Hay that could be especially valued by seniors.

There was concern expressed about the treatment of wood window restoration and replacement options and in interest in discussion about transparency requirements.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August \_\_, 4:00 to 5:30 PM