

Report to the CSPNC/ July 14, 2015

Public Streetscape Design Projects

LANI(Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative) has been leading two design/improvement projects in San Pedro: the Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan and the Fierman Walkway Improvement. Our Project Manager, Kate Mayerson, left the organization on July 10th. LANI will continue to actively lead these projects under the direct supervision of Rebecca Draper, Director of Neighborhood Improvement Programs (until such time as another Project Manager level staff is appointed).

Status Updates

Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan

We commented on the draft plan by letter to Joe Busciano on May 12, 2015. Kate Mayerson told us that our comments were considered and related changes were made to the plan. The final revised plan has been submitted to CD15 and Joe's office is reviewing priorities and funding sources before releasing this plan to the public.

Apparent priorities at this time include median landscaping along North Gaffey, with a cost estimate starting at \$300,000. A "mini-median" is planned for the library block (between 9th – 10th Street), with 3 trees.

Several grant-funded solutions have been applied for or approved.

The Harbor Benefit Foundation provides \$10,000 for landscaping the northeast corner of the Gaffey Street Library (SW corner of Gaffey & 9th). A consultant will be selected by CD15 to present some design alternatives to the community for the landscaping. Due to the grant source, they are looking for a way to tie this project to the Port. A sister-port signage/statuary art piece is being considered.

(sc: The existing bus shelter and bench is non-ADA compliant - it blocks sidewalk access – and may not be relocated with this landscaping due to project constraints, but moving this seating out of the pedestrian path of travel should be considered in advance. We should consider writing to CD15 to encourage planning for this relocation in advance).

I was unable to get detailed information about the grants applications that have been made, but plans include the "Metro Call for Projects" at a level of \$1.7mil for lighting, pedestrian improvements, and bus stops on Gaffey, as well as an "Active Transportation Planning" grant at a \$1.2mil level for transportation-related improvements.

We are told that Busciano is supporting special design enhancements in the vicinity of 7th Street (but not 6th). He originally wanted to do the 8th – 9th Street block, but LANI encouraged him to focus on the 7th – 8th Street block. These locations are somewhat fungible. We had asked for a special focus at the intersections of 6th and 7th Street, as these lead directly to our downtown.

A National Endowment for the Arts grant has been applied for, for up to \$100,000 (matching funds are required). We should ask for more information from the San Pedro Waterfront Arts District.

CAL FIRE grants may also provide funding for street trees along Gaffey, pursuant to the Urban Greening Plan (not yet adopted).

Finally, over \$1 mill in Gaffey St Relinquishment Funds remain (from Caltrans' relinquishment of Gaffey Street to the city).

Fireman Walkway Improvement

The revised plan is due to be released very soon. The walkway will be paved for extra loading strength but it will still be considered a non-driveable surface. Modifications to the sidewalk in front of the walkway will be proposed to facilitate loading into the theater. A new striping and loading plan will help with loading vehicle parking. The two palm trees will be removed as requested by Steve Robbins, BID Director. He wants these removed in order to make the street more useable for filming). A BOE "B" PERMIT is required for these improvements - permit review is likely to take 4 months (standard).