



Doyle Drive Environmental and Design Study

Doyle Drive Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting #14

Meeting Summary

date of meeting: 4/30/02

location: San Francisco County Transportation Authority

subject: Doyle Drive Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

attendees:

Doyle Drive Subcommittee Attendees:

Michael Alexander
William Alich
Janette Barroca
Max DelleSedie
Paul Epstein
Becky Evans
Gloria Fontanello
Joan Marie Girardot
Tony Imhof
Redmond Kernan
James Maxwell
Ronald Mulcare
Norman Rolfe
Jackie Sachs
Jack Spring
Patricia Vaughey

Doyle Drive Subcommittee Absentees:

Lindy Beasley
Rich Coffin
Gene DeMartini
Vera Gates
Leo Paul Koulos
Michael Marston
Roger Peters
Kate Sears

San Francisco County Transportation Authority (the Authority)

Leroy Saage
Paul Ward

Other Participants

Dick Tilles, Presidio Trust
Rick Foster, NPS
Jared Goldfine, Caltrans
Nidal Tuqan, Caltrans
David Newcomb, Dept. of Veteran Association, National Cemeteries
Mrs. DelleSedie

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Dina Potter
Susan Killen
Scott Danielson
Gary Kennerley

Public Affairs Management

Kay Wilson
Kristy Ranieri

MPA Design

Michael Painter

summary:

I. Meeting Purpose/Agenda Review and Meeting Summary Approval

Lee Saage reviewed the meeting agenda and purpose, and asked if there were any changes to the meeting summary.

Michael Alexander provided more details to his comment regarding level of service on page 4 of the January 31, 2002 meeting summary. He also added a sentence as follows, "In a national park the pleasant experience of non-auto users should be maximized."

Gloria Fontanello requested that her comment from the last meeting be changed to an action item. Dina Potter, PB, should provide the Subcommittee with the total collected revenues from the Golden Gate Bridge toll, and the counts for the number of vehicles going through the toll booths for the past three years.

Patricia Vaughey noted that she heard that Caltrans is conducting a separate study and plan for Doyle Drive. She suggested that Caltrans should do a presentation to the Subcommittee focusing on what Caltrans is doing on Richardson Avenue, Lombard Street and 19th Avenue. Lee Saage said that Caltrans is not doing a separate Doyle Drive study. Nidal Tuqan, Caltrans, confirmed Lee Saage's answer and said he would check if work is planned for Lombard Street and will send the information in writing to the Subcommittee.

Lee Saage approved the meeting summary with the noted changes.

Action Items:

- *Check Caltrans projects for any planned projects in the Lombard Street area and provide the Subcommittee with an update. - Nidal Tuqan, Caltrans*
- *Provide the Subcommittee with the collected revenues from the Golden Gate Bridge toll and the counts for the number of vehicles going through the toll booths for the past three years. – Dina Potter, PB*

II. Overview of Remaining Study Process

Kay Wilson, PAM, provided an overview of the remaining study process and passed out a study process roadmap. Kay Wilson, PAM, highlighted some of the proposed outreach including small group meetings to identify key environmental issues and address questions from the Subcommittee members. The project team will provide more details about the outreach in the upcoming months.

Redmond Kernan asked when the comments from the National Park Service staff would be available. Lee Saage said that the agencies will provide formal comments at the end of the review process.

Redmond Kernan asked if construction information would be included in the Draft EIS/EIR. Lee Saage answered that construction information will be in the Draft EIS/EIR but not in the summary of impacts that will be distributed prior to the release of the Draft EIS/EIR.

Michael Alexander asked what the difference between design and engineering is. Dina Potter, PB, replied that the two elements are linked in this project. The design elements have informed the engineering process and engineering process has informed the design process.

Patricia Vaughey requested that the Subcommittee be informed about the discussions from all of the small group meetings.

III. Project Status Report

Dina Potter, PB, reported that the technical studies have been finalized and then she displayed a model of the proposed Park Presidio Interchange new slip ramp. The grade-separated off-ramp from Doyle Drive has been developed to alleviate congestion by directing Doyle Drive traffic to the Visitors Center before the Park Presidio merge separating the conflicting traffic from Doyle Drive. The Merchant Street intersection with Doyle Drive would be re-stripped and have improved directional signs for traffic to access Merchant Street. The slip ramp could be incorporated into Doyle Drive Alternatives 3a, 3b, 4a and 4b. Michael Alexander asked the length of the slip ramp. Gary Kennerley, PB, answered that the slip ramp would be about 2000 feet or less than half a mile. The slip ramp would be one 12 foot lane with standard shoulders.

IV. Review of Design Guideline Concepts/Aesthetics

Susan Killen, PB, provided an update on the design framework/guidelines with examples to obtain feedback from the group. She noted that a separate public/agency review process would be conducted during the final engineering design phase that may incorporate a Citizens Advisory Committee and public workshops.

Michael Alexander asked the importance of the view corridor of historic Halleck Street. Susan Killen, PB, answered that the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust have identified this as an important feature in the cultural landscape and it is a functional connection as well.

Redmond Kernan asked if the design of the viaduct is high enough for trucks to pass under. Gary Kennerley, PB, replied that the height is 14.6 feet and is sufficient for trucks to pass under.

Michael Alexander noted that the design team should not focus on maintaining the current features of the low viaduct. He does not like the high viaduct footings because they are too solid and would block views. The roadway should look lighter and less intrusive.

Redmond Kernan said that the design feels more like a freeway. Instead, it should be slender and graceful. The details for incorporation should be considered but a less intrusive design is important.

Gloria Fontanello said that she prefers Alternative 1- the No Build Alternative or Alternative 2- the Retrofit and Widening Alternative. The road should not be changed but ivy could be planted around it.

Michael Alexander said that the proposed structure looks 50% wider than it is presently which makes it feel more like a freeway. He felt that it is a different design than what was studied in the 1993 Report of the Doyle Drive Task Force to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. This report presented a design that felt, looked and operated like a parkway. Lee Saage said the original Doyle Drive sketches that Michael Painter prepared for the 1993 Report are the same ones used for the present Doyle Drive. The difference is that his sketches have now been converted to engineering drawings.

Joan Girardot said that there were no tunnels under Halleck Street proposed in the 1993 Report of the Doyle Drive Task Force. Lee Saage replied that there were tunnels in the 1993 Report, however.

Max DelleSedie said that the views should be shown from within the Presidio and from the neighborhoods.

Redmond Kernan said simple glass enclosures for the bus shelters should be considered.

Gloria Fontanello said that the entrance into the Presidio should be at Lincoln Street. Lee Saage said that this option will be in the environmental document. Redmond Kernan said that he did not favor the Lincoln Street entrance into the Presidio.

Michael Alexander asked who defines the boundaries for the historic district. Susan Killen, PB, replied that historians define the boundaries. Michael Alexander said that the design team should focus on an entry to the National Park that is distinctive from the surrounding neighborhoods. The entryway should be a place of beauty and importance.

Redmond Kernan said he does not favor the hill in the design detail of Alternative 4b.

Redmond Kernan said that the design guidelines are not strong enough and asked that a better mix of possible solutions be provided.

Lee Saage said that the purpose of the guidelines is to capture the heart and soul, or the design intent that will inform and guide the design details. It is a mistake to make the guidelines too detailed because it would limit the ultimate design. He reminded the group that there will be options in addition to the actual alternatives, such as mixing and matching the

retrofit alternative with the tunnel alternatives to provide Presidio access. He added that the selection of the alternative should be made and then the design process will be developed.

Tony Imhoff asked if the Draft EIS/EIR will look at other options besides the impact of these six alternatives. Lee Saage said that the preferred alternative may include elements of more than one alternative. This can be discussed in more depth after the release of the environmental document.

Michael Alexander said that the slip ramp model is helpful.

Joan Girardot requested a summary of the cost estimates for each alternative. Gary Kennerley, PB, said that in upcoming work he will summarize the major cost items for the alternatives.

Action Item:

- *Provide a one page summary of the major cost items for the alternatives. – Gary Kennerley, PB.*

V. Report on Action Items

There were no pending action items from the previous Subcommittee meeting.

VII. Upcoming Meeting Dates

The Subcommittee will be contacted when the next meeting is scheduled.

VI. Public Comments

Mrs. DelleSedie said she is concerned about the Art Deco concept in the design guidelines. She would like the Subcommittee to have the opportunity to see a range of 6 or 8 samples of design and the Subcommittee can select the style that is favored.

ACTION ITEM TRACKING CHART

MEETING DATE	ACTION DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE	DATE DUE	DATE COMPLETED
4/30/02	Check Caltrans projects for any planned projects in the Lombard Street area and provide the Subcommittee with an update.	Nidal Tuqan, Caltrans	Next Meeting	September 23, 2003
4/30/02	Provide the Subcommittee with the collected revenues from the Golden Gate Bridge toll and the counts for the number of vehicles going through the toll booths for the past three years.	Dina Potter, PB	Next Meeting	September 23, 2003
4/30/02	Provide a one page summary of the major cost items for the alternatives.	Gary Kennerley, PB	Next Meeting	September 23, 2003

Distribution:

- All Subcommittee Members
- Leroy L. Saage
- Jose Luis Moscovich
- Susan Killen
- Kay Wilson
- Kristy Ranieri