



Doyle Drive Environmental and Design Study

Doyle Drive Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting #1

Meeting Summary

date of meeting: 3/28/00

location: SFCTA

subject: Doyle Drive Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

Doyle Drive Subcommittee

Gene DeMartini
Max Dellese die
Carlota del Portillo
Redmond Kernan
Jack Foss
Norman Rolfe
Vera Gates
Gloria Fontanello
Anthony Imhof
Becky Evans
Roger L. Peters
Patricia Vaughey
Janette Barroca
Jack Kaus
Jackie Sachs
Joan Marie Girardot
Paul Epstein
Bill Alich
Michael Marston

attendees: San Francisco Transportation Authority

Lee Saage, Andrew Nash

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Mike Davis, Dina Potter

Montoya Communications

Pilar Montoya

Public Affairs Management

Kay Wilson

Halimah Anderson

Jennifer Lingo

Other Participants

Jennifer Gridley, Cow Hollow Associates

Rick Foster, NPS

summary:

I. Review Agenda, Ground Rules and Facilitator Role -- Pilar Montoya

Pilar Montoya, Montoya Communications, gave a meeting overview and asked the attendees if they had questions regarding the agenda. No questions were raised at that time. Pilar Montoya defined her role as the facilitator and discussed the meeting goals and objectives.

The meeting goals were introduced as the following: to work toward consensus building on project issues, to encourage open discussion, to disseminate project information to key members of Doyle Drive community organizations, and to identify community concerns regarding the Doyle Drive Environmental and Design Study.

II. Welcoming Remarks / Introduction -- Lee Saage

Lee Saage, San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) welcomed the attendees and lead group introductions.

III. Project Overview Presentation -- Dina Potter

Dina Potter, Parsons Brinckerhoff, made a presentation that identified the project's purpose and need. The presentation made reference to the three studies on the project: the Doyle Drive Intermodal study, the Caltrans Project Study Report, and the Report of the Doyle Drive Task Force to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Prior studies concluded that the aging infrastructure should be replaced. Doyle Drive was built in 1936 and has nonstandard features including narrow lanes, lack of a barrier separating opposing traffic flows, and lack of shoulders for use by disabled vehicles, maintenance crews, and emergency vehicles. The deteriorating infrastructure may be structurally unsafe and highly vulnerable to earthquake damage. Prior studies also identified that the replacement of Doyle Drive would be an aesthetic improvement.

The Doyle Drive Intermodal document proposed to replace Doyle Drive with a scenic parkway that would provide direct access from Doyle Drive into the Presidio, among other improvements (see Doyle Drive Intermodal Study - Executive Summary).

Dina Potter identified the project's challenges, including the high viaduct, and access to the Presidio and Marina, among other issues. The key environmental issues of the Doyle Drive project are its national historic landmark status, as well as archeological sites, hazardous materials, rare plants, and historic forest located in the project area. In addition, Doyle Drive is located in a noise sensitive area.

IV. Background and Project Process / Scoping Process -- Lee Saage

Lee Saage, SFCTA stated that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead agency in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The act requires the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). SFCTA filed a Notice of Preparation to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on February 25, 2000. The environmental process is targeted to be completed in 18 months. The EIS/EIR process will include the evaluation of several project alternatives and SFCTA is asking for community input throughout the process. The SFCTA is accepting public comments during the scoping period that extends to the end of March.

V. Description of Subcommittee and Roles -- Pilar Montoya

The role of the Subcommittee members will be to provide input, review the project, and make recommendations on behalf of their organizations. Subcommittee members will also develop an understanding of the project and inform the community to broaden the information base.

VI. Guiding Principles Discussion -- Pilar Montoya

A form that proposed guiding principles, goals, and time commitments for the Subcommittee was distributed to members for signature. The Subcommittee was asked to commit to the successful completion of the project on time and to work toward consensus building on project issues. The members declined to sign the form, but stated that they are willing to actively participate in the process.

VII. Key Issues Identification / Q&A -- Pilar Montoya

Pilar Montoya, Montoya Communications asked each Subcommittee member to identify three key issues regarding the project. The following issues were raised during Subcommittee discussion: safety, traffic, parking, aesthetics and environmental issues.

Safety

The speed limit should be reduced and monitored more efficiently in the area. A signal light at the intersection of Richardson and Doyle Drive should be installed to improve safety.

Traffic and Parking

Traffic needs have grown beyond the capacity of the current transportation system. Several Subcommittee members stated that incentives should be developed for the use of public transportation instead of vehicles as the primary means of travel. An attendee suggested that bike lanes should be added along Marina Boulevard and a long-range transportation plan should be developed for the Doyle Drive area. Concerns were raised about several major hotels that are opening in the area and will have an impact on traffic growth. There is a need for more access to the Presidio, the Letterman site, and Crissy Field. It was also noted that more efficient access roads should be developed from the Presidio to Doyle Drive.

Another issue raised in the discussion was limited parking on the Presidio and the surrounding neighborhood. An attendee stated that there should not be more than six lanes on the Doyle Drive roadway. An attendee stated that the vehicle capacity of Doyle Drive should be studied. The traffic impacts of buses, taxis, and limousines traveling on Doyle Drive should be considered during the environmental process. An attendee stated that Doyle Drive should be designed as a covered tunnel.

Environmental / Aesthetics

There is a need to preserve cultural resources including the national park and other historic sites surrounding the Presidio. An attendee stated that Doyle Drive should be built to benefit the surrounding neighborhood and open space should be preserved in the area. Several suggestions were made, including installing movable barriers on the Doyle Drive replacement. The aesthetics of arrival and departure to all surrounding roads should be enhanced.

Doyle Drive should be designed with "timeless architectural eminence." Close coordination should be maintained with the Lucas Digital Arts Center.

Question and Answer

A member of Subcommittee asked, what is the timeline needed to obtain federal funding for the project? SFCTA staff responded that the targeted schedule for completion of the environmental process is 18 months. SFCTA will conduct a multi-year campaign to achieve the funding necessary for the project.

A Subcommittee member asked how much will Doyle Drive cost? Until the design is finalized detailed costs estimates will not be available. SFCTA staff responded that prior estimates for the project costs were an estimated \$250 million.

A member of the Subcommittee asked what are the project boundaries? SFCTA staff responded that the project boundaries are not official yet, however several project alternatives will be evaluated during the environmental process.

A member of the Subcommittee asked if public scoping comments will be taken into consideration? SFCTA staff responded that comments are being accepted during the scoping process that extends to the end of March. Public scoping comments will be considered.

An attendee asked to whom should comments be addressed? SFCTA staff responded that comments should be addressed to Andrew Nash at SFCTA.

An attendee asked if members of the Presidio Trust and Lucas have been invited to attend the Doyle Drive Subcommittee meetings? SFCTA staff responded that members of the Presidio Trust and Lucas are being consulted within other technical meetings.

An attendee asked what is the occupancy rate of drivers on the bridge? SFCTA is currently updating the data on the vehicle occupancy rates.

ACTION ITEM: Andrew Nash, SFCTA, stated that he will find out the most recent occupancy rates and present that information to the Subcommittee.

An attendee asked if meeting minutes will be distributed to Subcommittee members? SFCTA staff responded that minutes will be taken at all Subcommittee meetings and the minutes will be distributed to all meeting attendees.

An attendee asked if the Doyle Drive Subcommittee is bound by the Brown Act?

ACTION ITEM: Andy Nash will check with a City attorney and advise on the Brown Act and its applicability to the Doyle Drive Subcommittee at the next Subcommittee meeting.

An attendee asked how will the Subcommittee make decisions if a consensus is not reached? SFCTA staff responded that a majority vote will be used to determine the Subcommittee's views and suggestions for the project. The Subcommittee's recommendations will be forwarded to the SFCTA Citizens Advisory Committee for consideration.

VIII. Public Comment

An attendee stated that the community would like the project timeline to be clearly defined.

ACTION ITEM: Lee Saage, SFCTA requested that the critical milestone schedule should be put in the project information binder and distributed to the Doyle Drive Subcommittee members.

An attendee requested a list of Doyle Drive Subcommittee members.

ACTION ITEM: A list of members of the Doyle Drive Subcommittee including the citizens at large will be provided to Subcommittee members.

An attendee requested a copy of the summaries of the prior three studies.

ACTION ITEM: A summary or the actual report of the previous studies will be provided.

IX. Future Meeting Dates / Upcoming Agenda Items

Doyle Drive Subcommittee Meetings will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2000 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and July 12 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the SFCTA.

distribution:

All Subcommittee Members

Carmen Clark
Lee Saage
Andy Nash
Dina Potter
Pilar Montoya
Kay Wilson
Michael Painter

Doyle Drive Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Committee

ACTION ITEM TRACKING CHART

| MEETING DATE | ACTION DESCRIPTION | RESPONSIBLE | DATE DUE | DATE COMPLETED |
|--------------|--|------------------|----------|----------------|
| 3/28/00 | Andrew Nash, SFCTA, stated that he will find out the most recent occupancy rates and present that information to the Subcommittee. | Andy Nash, SFCTA | 6/14/00 | Pending |
| 3/28/00 | Lee Saage, SFCTA requested that the critical milestone schedule should be put in the project information binder and distributed to the Doyle Drive Subcommittee members. | Dina Potter, PB | 4/28/00 | 4/28/00 |
| 3/28/00 | Andy Nash, SFCTA, will check with a City attorney and advise on the Brown Act and its applicability to the Doyle Drive Subcommittee at the next Subcommittee meeting. | Andy Nash, SFCTA | 6/14/00 | Pending |
| 3/28/00 | A list of members of the Doyle Drive Subcommittee including the citizens at large will be provided to Subcommittee members. | Kay Wilson, PAM | 4/28/00 | 4/28/00 |
| 3/28/00 | A summary or the actual report of the previous studies will be provided. | Lee Saage, SFCTA | 4/28/00 | 4/28/00 |