

10/26 SoMa West Improvements: McCoppin Hub Meeting Update

Wednesday, October 26th, 2011
SF Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, 4th Floor, Room 431
6:30pm – 8:00pm

On Wednesday, October 26th McCoppin Hub area residents and stakeholders met at the SF Planning Department to hear a SoMa West Improvement Projects update and to review the design plan for the McCoppin Hub space. This design was based on community input from several summer workshops and integrated many stakeholders' requests and preferences.

Summary:

- SoMa West Improvement Projects update: In response to community concerns voiced in the July 6th meeting, City staff presented a solution for the “Mini-Park” project. The challenge was to retain space for dogs to run and play while meeting the obligation of the City to pay monthly rent for this space to Caltrans.

The solution presented was to retain the dog run in its original size and to reallocate the space previously set aside for basketball courts and a small children’s’ playground to parking for City cars that will be displaced when the adjacent skatepark is constructed. (It turns out that air quality concerns would have prevented a playground in that space anyway.) This solution speaks to the request by neighbors for the retention of a dog run in their community and also meets the obligation of the City to pay rent to Caltrans.

- Design Criteria Review: The architect reviewed the design process thus far and feedback from the last meeting. There had been requests in the July meeting for more permeable paving, more greening and more flexible functionality.
- Design Presentation and Discussion: The architect described the community-input design revisions and solicited feedback. The revisions included more permeable paving in the form of “grass-crete” in the tent/truck aisles which will add more green to the design, the addition of accessible seating to meet ADA requirements, extra functionality due to increased width of the design, a public bike pump and a water fountain with a dog-watering fountain attached.
- Materials Presentation: The architect presented the proposed materials for the design and solicited feedback. Materials included pavers over a concrete bed for the paths, concrete walls that are designed to be resistant to skating, new lighting and a bollard/chain separation between the aisles and bikeway, allowing for safe pedestrian/biker use of the space.