

Priorities for Cesar Chavez East from the Community Design Meeting

On February 10, 2011 the San Francisco Planning Department hosted the first Community Design Meeting of the Cesar Chavez East Community Design project. Community members packed the auditorium at Buena Vista Elementary School to offer their perspectives on how the eastern portion of Cesar Chavez street should be redesigned so that is safe, comfortable and accessible to all. During one of the meeting's activities, community members were asked to put the three improvements to the corridor that they would prioritize most on 'sticky notes' (though some participants wrote down more than three suggestions, and others wrote fewer) so that they could be posted on a wall for others to see. In all we received approximately 150 'sticky notes,' each with a suggestion, which we then typed up and categorized. Below you will find a complete list of the improvements that participants wrote down during the activity, separated into seven distinct themes. Please note that the numbers in parentheses indicate how many times similar suggestions were written down by participants.

★ 45 of the notes discussed **Pedestrian Improvements**

- Construct or widen sidewalks along both sides of Cesar Chavez (8)
- Safe access for pedestrians and bikes all along Cesar Chavez (5)
- Improve lighting along corridor (4)
- Make the connectivity through the hairball more safe and simple for pedestrians and cyclists (3)
- Make Cesar Chavez more bike and pedestrian friendly (3)
- More sidewalks, benches, and trash-cans on Cesar Chavez (2)
- Pedestrian enhancements (2)
- More streetlights
- Better access / crossings by 101
- Pedestrian safety
- Improve crosswalks
- Pathways under freeways
- More signals for crossing Kansas, on ramp
- Less waiting for pedestrian signal at freeway
- Flashing beacon for pedestrians
- Pedestrianize Cesar Chavez
- Pedestrian comfort
- Easier way to cross on the corner of Evans and Cesar Chavez
- Connectivity for pedestrians from Potrero Hill Terrace/Annex to Skate Park (Potrero del Sol)
- Less shadows
- Connect parks
- Make moving through from Mission/Bernal to Waterfront appealing
- Re-connect Rolf Park to Bayshore South
- Connect Rolf and Potrero del Sol parks with a safe pedestrian route
- Bulb-outs

★ 28 of the notes discussed **Bicycle Improvements**

- Physically separated bikeways (8)
- Safe access for pedestrians and bikes all along Cesar Chavez (5)
- Bike improvements (4)
- Make the connectivity through the hairball more safe and simple for pedestrians and cyclists (3)
- Make Cesar Chavez more bike and pedestrian friendly (3)
- Bike connections and access through hairball
- Safe crossing where bikes meet cars
- Huge needs for north/south connections from 25th to Jerrold (this is access all the way through SSF to Silicon Valley. Genentech bike club and Google's SF2G group cycle this.)
- Connect Potrero, Bayshore, Cesar Chavez West, Illinois, 23rd/Kansas bike lanes to Bayview/Mission/Potrero
- Safe bike route – perhaps two way lane on the south side - up from the street or with a divider. This could connect Mission/Bernal to the Bay

★ 20 of the notes discussed **Greening**

- Greening along whole Cesar Chavez corridor (7)
- Daylighting the creek (3)
- Create destinations and green space (3)
- More sidewalks, benches, and trash-cans on Cesar Chavez (2)
- Develop 101 interchange as northern gateway to the Islais Creek watershed
- Greening of railroad route
- More trees
- More green space (trees, gardens) along corridor
- Sense of water and parks
- Understand that Cesar Chavez is northern most frame of Islais Creek watershed and offers many opportunities for day lighting the creek

★ 15 of the notes discussed **Public Life**

- Create destinations and green space (3)
- Street food vendors, food trucks, and carts (2)
- Lots of parking lots to rethink
- Signage to point day labor employers to designated pick-up points
- Restrooms open in the early mornings
- Save the Copra Crane
- Farms, local produce
- Active storefronts
- More cleaning
- Beautify the street
- Décor, art, etc. – create a cared-for space feel
- Create multiple opportunities in green skills, job training, stewardship

★ 15 of the notes discussed **Vehicular Improvements**

- Remove/rethink parked cars on Cesar Chavez (3)
- Car access through neighborhoods, e.g. Bernal to Potrero del Sol, Bayview, Potrero. Mission, etc. (2)
- Clean up/untangle freeway interchange (2)
- Fix car connectivity to reduce pedestrian/bike conflicts
- Stop lights
- Drop tunnel (Well lit)
- Vehicle safety signs for all
- Move as many of the Bayshore/Cesar Chavez and freeway feeder roads underground as possible at the hairball
- Surface 101 – dropping grade
- Safer driving on Cesar Chavez East – divider in middle.
- Safer turning policies for drivers

★ 13 of the notes discussed **Traffic calming**

- Calm the vehicle traffic, slowdown and quiet freeway interchange, modernize to make more safe (5)
- Reduce truck traffic during day time (2)
- Enforcement of pedestrian right-of-way at intersections
- Sunlight and access around hairball (take it out, redesign for neighborhood traffic to cross.)
- Roundabout to replace hairball
- Devices to slow traffic
- Find a way to stop cars speeding around turns
- Get rid of some on/off ramps at 101

★ 12 of the notes discussed **Public Transit**

- Improve public transit routes along Cesar Chavez corridor (10)
- Bike racks on buses that serve Potrero Hill
- MUNI service East/West Cesar Chavez 24th to Caltrain Third St.

★ **Miscellaneous**

- Manage the homeless population at the hairball and at the Islais Creek Bridge
- Fill in area under Evans
- Make it constructible, on time, and under budget.