Agenda Report



Date: March 14, 2017

To: Jeffrey W. Collier, City Manager

From: Conal McNamara, Director of Community Development

Subject: Uptown Whittier Streetscape Beautification Plan

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the City Council provide input on the Uptown Whittier Streetscape Beautification Plan, specifically the three geographical approaches discussed at the community and joint commission meetings as well as the pros and cons of the individual streetscape components.

BACKGROUND

The Uptown area is the City's historic central business district. It includes an area of about 185 acres and 35 city blocks, with each block measuring about 300 feet by 600 feet.

Uptown has the potential of becoming an even brighter jewel in Whittier as it is a source of pride for its citizens, has a sense of identity from its historic roots, and is a place of great character and attraction due to its unique urban form and diversity of activities. Uptown possesses a number of valuable assets. First, it is highly walkable due to its compact size, mix of land uses, and relatively small scale of its buildings and streets. Second, it is filled with numerous locally owned stores, restaurants and services. Third, it contains or is in close proximity to many churches and civic institutions which serve as anchors of the community. And fourth, Uptown is known for a number of historic buildings and houses which have been restored and are in active use. The goal of the City is to leverage these assets, and shape the area into a destination and urban experience.

In order to achieve this goal, the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan was adopted in November 2008. It intends to implement the following eight principals for design and future development: 1) Pedestrian orientation, 2) Mix of land uses, 3) Infill development, 4) Interconnected street system, 5) Quality of the public realm, 6) Distinct character, 7) Housing choice, and 8) Smart transportation and parking.

Over the last 50-year period, the City and Uptown stakeholders have implemented many special tools to affect positive change in the Uptown area. A summary of those tools is presented below and a map depicting the boundaries related to the tools is shown in Exhibit 1, while Exhibit 2 contains an aerial photograph of Uptown.

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- Parking District #1 was formed in 1963 to fund construction and operation of a 223-space parking structure. The total property tax assessment is fixed at \$6,850 per year. In addition, the district generates an estimated \$98,000 in annual parking revenue.
- Parking District #2 was formed in 1965 to fund 599 spaces in 10 off-street parking lots and six public galleria walkways. It generates about \$90,000 per year in revenues.
- III. <u>Uptown Whittier Business Improvement Area</u> requires that business owners pay a fee annually with their business license renewal. The fee is based on the square footage of gross leasable area or is a set fee determined by the specific benefit zone and business type. The Whittier Uptown Association oversees the Business Improvement Area programs consisting of special events, services, and advertising. The annual assessment totals approximately \$115,000.
- IV. <u>Uptown Whittier Specific Plan (UWSP)</u> was adopted by the City Council in November 2008 after many public meetings. It provided for mixed-use densification of the 185-acre Uptown Area through the installation of parking structures and redevelopment or development of vacant or underutilized parcels and City surface parking lots. This New Urbanist vision has anticipated up to 1,035 new dwelling units and 900,000 square feet of new retail/commercial space and aims to create a "park-once" walkable community. A summary of the implementation schedule related to the UWSP is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- V. Uptown Whittier Parking Management Plan (PMP) was approved by the City Council in December 2010 after review by both the Planning Commission and Parking and Transportation Commission. Under Ordinance No. 2963, the PMP has directed the installation of meters, established specific parking fees, set forth the goal of 15% parking vacancy. Many items were explored in the PMP and much public input was gathered. The document and its implementation schedule will likely guide some of the future actions in Uptown. Two implementation schedules from the Parking Management Plan are included herewith as Exhibit 4.

Implementation of the UWSP and PMP were financially reliant on private developer investment and property tax increment funding generated by the former Whittier Redevelopment Agency. Unfortunately, even though large scale development capacity exists under the UWSP, precious few projects have been built. This is due in part to the "Great Recession" which significantly slowed development activity under the UWSP and the subsequent dissolution of the Whittier Redevelopment Agency on February 1, 2012, which cut off the future tax increment cash flow and stymied the anticipated public/private partnership investment opportunities.

However, at the time of its dissolution, the Whittier Redevelopment Agency had significant bond proceeds on hand. After consulting a specially formed bond stakeholders group, on February 26, 2015, the Whittier Redevelopment Successor Agency, City of Whittier, and Whittier Housing Authority entered agreements for the expenditure of the remaining bond funds. About \$12.5 million was allocated for Uptown to: install parking meters (\$500,000), build a parking structure on Comstock Avenue that could accommodate up to 400 cars (\$9.2 million), construct sewer/water upgrades that would eliminate bottleneck impediments to new development (\$1.6 million), and develop a streetscape beautification plan and construct its first phase (\$1.2 million). The expenditure of bond funds was conditioned by the City Council on the approval of a new special assessment district in Uptown that would allow for the continued revitalization of the area absent future redevelopment agency dollars. Formation of this "Community Benefit District" (CBD) is underway and the petition and balloting process to establish the CBD is anticipated to occur in the next three to five months. A map showing the proposed boundary of the CBD is attached as Exhibit 5.

The City Council hired SWA group, a landscape architecture, planning, and urban design firm in February 2016 to assist with preparation of the Uptown Whittier Streetscape Beautification Plan. Their scope of work began in earnest in the Fall of 2016. To date, SWA and City staff have conducted many staff level meetings, field investigations, and three Streetscape Workshops for the public on November 30, 2016, January 11, 2017, and February 8, 2017. About 2,900 flyers were mailed to Uptown property owners, businesses, and tenants on November 9, 2016, that announced the entire Streetscape meeting schedule and encouraged stakeholders to be involved in the planning process. Announcements were also distributed via e-mail. About 55 persons attended the first meeting, 75 attended the second meeting, and 44 persons attended the third meeting. The Planning Commission, Parking and Transportation Commission, and Design Review Board met jointly on January 23 and February 21, 2017, and provided the input summarized in Exhibits 6 and 7.

Environmental Review

A formal environmental evaluation will be made once plan details have been identified. At that time, a review will be conducted to determine whether the Streetscape Beautification Plan meets the definition of a project and therefore subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

DISCUSSION

As part of this effort, the consultants have attempted to take ideas generated by the community and commissions and synthesize them into design concepts that could be used along the various streetscapes in Uptown. Rather than submit a "plan" to the Council, the consultants were directed to provide options that the Council could review and provide direction to staff for further refinement. These options include concepts such as parklets, planters, outdoor dining, tree placement, lighting, street crossing treatments, paving, and lighting, to name but a few. The consulting team has attempted to assign rough costs to various design concepts and treatments but these costs are not sufficiently detailed enough to suggest the programming of any funds at this point. Further analysis by the City's Public Works Capital Projects Administrator would be a logical step to determine more precise costs.

It is also important to note that the Streetscape Beautification process must be phased in over an extended period of time primarily due to the very limited budget available for implementation. Aspects of possible phasing are further described below and in the Exhibits.

This City Council report provides the City Council Members the opportunity to comment and provide input on the Uptown Whittier Streetscape Beautification Plan. The attached presentation (Exhibit 8) will be used during the meeting to inform and solicit input from the members.

The Exhibit 8 presentation reviews the following:

- 1) Project team, purpose and objective of the Streetscape Beautification Plan
- 2) Uptown's competition, current site conditions, and guiding principles
- 3) A review of material covered and input received during public workshops 1 and 2, including:
 - a) Pop quiz input/streetscape experience
 - b) Programming Uptown spaces
 - c) Tree selection and phasing
 - d) The basic Uptown Streetscape framework
- 4) A streetscape palette that includes: street crosswalk paving, sidewalk paving, site furnishings, signage and wayfinding, lighting, and landscape.
- 5) Conceptual plans, renderings, and preliminary cost estimates of six improvement zones, including: intersection, streetscape, parking planter, mid-block, parklet, and parallel parking. These component parts are, later in the presentation, layered together to form four distinct streetscape concepts.
- 6) General discussion of phasing and potential implementation strategies including: broad area, light touch; key nodes and intersections; and one block.
- 7) Significant details about four distinct streetscape concepts that could be implemented in Uptown. There are many comparative metrics incorporated in each scenario including:

- a) a written summary of the concept
- b) quantification of the planting area, gathering space, tree count, and parking count
- c) plan views, street sections including critical dimensions, and multiple renderings of the concept
- 8) The four presented concepts include: 1) Parklets and Planters beginning on Slide 147, 2) Diamonds of Uptown beginning on Slide 156, 3) Gardens of Uptown beginning on Slide 164, and 4) Gathering in Uptown beginning on Slide 173. A summary slide comparing the metrics of all four concepts can be found on Slide 181.
- 9) Finally, the presentation includes a review of material covered and input received during public workshop 3 held on February 8, 2017.

It is recommended that the City Council provide feedback on pros, cons, and comments on the streetscape concepts and other presentation materials. This feedback would then be integrated into the plan concepts and brought back to the City Council in a Streetscape Plan subsequent meeting.

As previously mentioned the costs currently included in the presentation are conceptual in nature and could increase from 20% to 100% as many additional items are included. Actual cost would not be finalized until construction drawings are completed and contractors actually bid the job. Staff requests that the City Council help to prioritize the scope of the streetscape beautification program and select a preferred concept or concepts for further evaluation.

One option on which the Council could focus is the scope of the geographical improvements. Specifically, does the City Council prefer a (1) broad area, light touch, (2) nodes and intersection approach, or (3) a one block with full improvements concept? Some members of the joint commission preferred the one block approach, while other felt it unequitable to not improve a larger area of Uptown. With the limited resources available for the project, strategic prioritization and phasing could become increasingly important.

Plan Implementation

Under the agreements approved in February 2015, approximately \$900,000 remains from the bond proceeds for actual design and construction of phase 1 of the streetscape beautification efforts. As the specific location and extent of improvements planned under phase 1 have yet to be determined, more complete cost estimating should be undertaken before the streetscape beautification program is approved. The \$900,000 balance is insufficient to complete full beautification of Uptown and no other funding sources currently exist. However, it may be possible to cobble together partial funding for future incremental phases of implementation with funding from the following sources: Community Benefit District, parking meter revenue, new development fees or exactions, parking district revenue (applicable to parking lots and paseos), transportation funding

(including Measures R and M, Proposition C, and Gas Tax), and potential outside grant funding.

Conclusion

Staff is seeking input on the various options in the Uptown Whittier Streetscape Beautification Plan. Once finalized, the plan will assist the City in the revitalization of Uptown Whittier in conjunction with the previously approved Uptown Whittier Specific Plan and Uptown Whittier Parking Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for the streetscape consultant was previously allocated by the City Council from the former Redevelopment Agency bond proceeds and this action before the City Council will not have additional fiscal impact.

Submitted by:

Conal McNamara

Director of Community Development

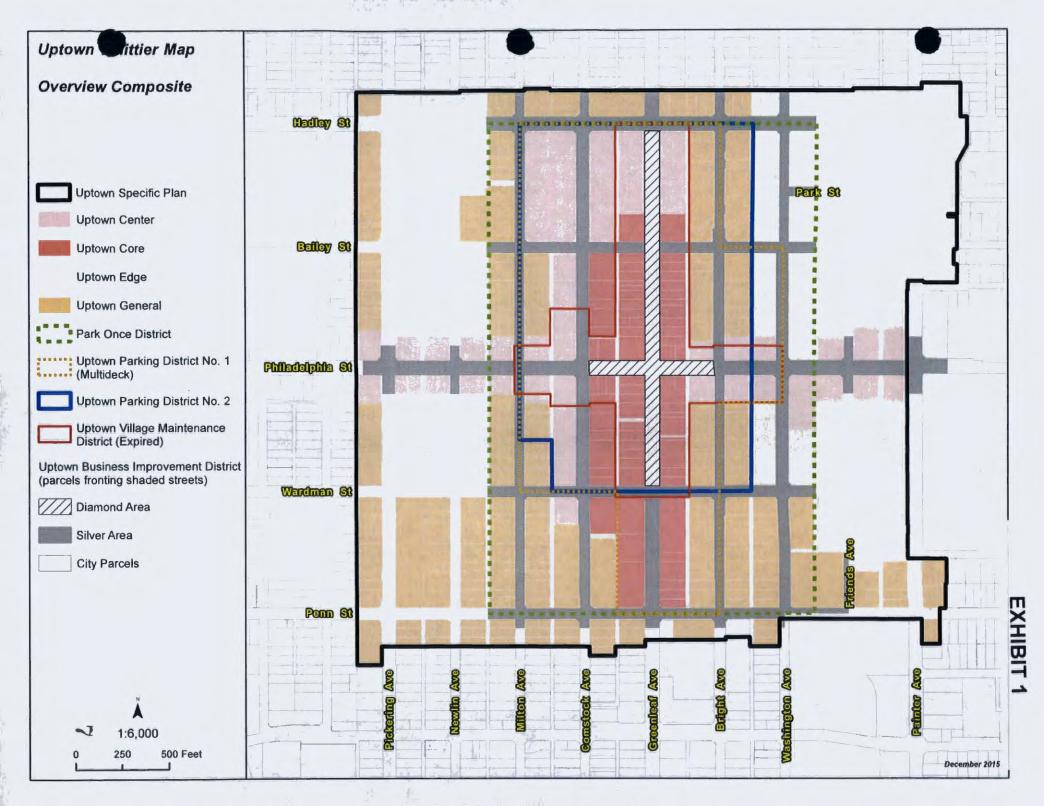
Prepared by:

Benjamin Pongetti

Development Project Manager

Exhibits:

- 1 Uptown Whitter Map Overview Composite
- 2 Uptown Whittier Aerial
- 3 Uptown Whittier Specific Plan Implementation Schedule
- 4 Uptown Whittier Parking Management Plan Implementation Schedules
- 5 Draft Community Benefit District as approved by City Council
- 6 Summary of discussion from January 23, 2017 Joint Commission Meeting
- 7 Summary of discussion from February 21, 2017 Joint Commission Meeting
- 8 Presentation Slides for March 14, 2017 presentation to City Council



Uptown Whittier Map Uptown Specific Plan 1:6,000 8 Aerial

CHAPTER 3: IMPLEMENTATION 3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.2 Phasing

A general sequencing of the various items is indicated by the order in which they appear within each phase. Many implementation measures may occur simultaneously and appear in sequence for organizational purposes alone. Adjustments to this strategy are inevitable and subject to the needs and priorities of the community over time. These components should be reevaluated and updated annually. Because of the numerous individual ownerships in the plan area, the phasing identified below is less tied to geography within the plan and more concerned with the prioritization of key components necessary for success. The general phases are:

A. Phase 1: Immediate Term (1 month - 1 year)

- · Clean or paint over graffiti 1
- Replace etched storefront windows with film-covered ones³
- · Power wash all Uptown sidewalks on a weekly basis 4
- Strictly enforce all on-street parking regulations, especially for short-term parking ¹
- Light storefronts until at least 10:00 p.m. every night, and maintain consistent hours among different stores
- Remove or repair all signs at gateways to Uptown, and establish newly designed signage, including on Interstate 605¹
- · Establish Park Once District and fees 1
- Commence intensive planting of trees around the periphery of Uptown prior to commencing the tree succession plan on Philadelphia and Greenleaf.

B. Phase 2: Short Term (1 - 5 years)

- Revisit or expand façade improvement program to facilitate existing small businesses and property owners to upgrade storefronts and building façade ¹
- Establish incentives for renovation, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse of historic buildings¹
- Workwith Uptown Association and Chamber of Commerce to establish business merchandising education program for small businesses to make them more effective and profitable⁴
- Work with professional retail consultant to attract national retailers to serve as anchor destinations in Uptown, including a boutique food store, bookstore, and clothing stores³
- In conjunction with tree succession plan, remove excessively large planters, widen sidewalks, and permit small outdoor seating areas to enliven sidewalks and attract more visitors.
- Promote development of former Bank of America building at Greenleaf/Philadelphia²
- Issue RFP for first residential project located on the site at Wardman and Bright ²
- · Establish a property-owner-based BID
- Issue RFP for Park Once structure at Philadelphia/Bright as a Liner building type with retail and commercial uses ³
- Issue RFP for mixed-use development on site bound by Hadley/Comstock/Bailey/Milton: ²
- Option A: Anchor retail and parking structure, with smaller neighborhood retail and housing as liner uses
- Option B: New public library with residential, retail on Hadley, and public park
- Install up to 32 electronic parking payment machines ¹
- · Upgrade sewage lines in phases
- · Upgrade water supply pipes in phases
- Work with cable company to upgrade cable network and Wi-Fi in phases in conjunction with infrastructure upgrading?
- Refurbish parking garage on Bright, between Philadelphia
 and Pailou²
- Design and build monumentation to mark gateways to Uptown at key intersections ¹
- Implement mid-block crossings¹
- Design and build park as part of development on the block bound by Hadley, Comstock, Bailey, and Milton¹
- Begin implementation of tree-planting plan in Section 2.2.2 (Street Trees) of the Plan prior to commencing tree succession plan on Greenleaf and Philadelphia¹
- Begin tree succession plan on Greenleaf and Philadelphia¹

C. Phase 3: Medium Term (5 - 10 years)

- Design and build park in southwest quadrant of Uptown¹
 Design and build up to 4 new Park Once structures ¹
- Explore potential to develop church properties into affordable housing and mixed-use (such as commercial and
- social services) in partnership with non-profit developers
 Completion of first residential projects with new residents increasing safety with "eyes on the street", providing an enlarged customer base for local businesses, and fulfilling increased housing choices 5
- Continue tree succession plan on Greenleaf and Philadelphia ¹
- Completion of new tree planting on all streets¹

D. Phase 4: Long Term (10 - 20 years)

- . Design and build park in southeast quadrant of Uptown 1
- Design and build 2 new Park Once structures²
- Aim for full build out, including:
- Up to 1,035 residential units in all 10 building types, from single family dwellings to apartments and lofts in liner buildings 5
- approximately 800,000 square feet of new retail, including national brands to serve as anchor destinations
- approximately 700,000 square feet of new commercial, including offices and services ⁵
- o approximately 6,000 total parking spaces, with about 2,500 of those in Park Once structures 1, 2,5
- 3 new neighborhood parks, including one each serving the northwest, southwest, and southeast quadrants of Uptown 1
- o fully operational property-owner based BID, with operating costs and parking ticket revenues accruing to the City of Whittier. Any additional parking revenues accruing to BID for regular cleaning and power washing, extra safety patrols, landscape maintenance, improved lighting, events, and continuing education programs for small businesses to remain competitive over time.⁸
- fully functioning Park Once district with up to 8 parking structures, including the refurbished structure on Bright just north of Philadelphia 1
- full involvement of Whittier College in Uptown, including commercial partnerships with the City of Whittier and Uptown Association, and property investment and mixeduse development?

Lead organizations:

- City of Whittier
- Whittier Redevelopment Agency
- ³ Property Owners Association
- (property-owners business improvement district PBID)
- Merchants Association
- (Uptown Association / business improvement district BID)
- ⁵ Private Property Owners
- ⁶ Churches and Social Service Organizations
- ⁷ Whittier College





Before and after images of additional space on sidewalks after removal of excessively large planters and addition of more openings on the street.



3.1.3 First Steps and Tasks

Promote private sector interest in Uptown Whittier

The vision and benefits of the Specific Plan need to be communicated to the private sector and potential investors. This will fully enable the ability of each property owner to realize the individual economic and land use potential of their property while contributing to the overall revitalization effort.

[7] Improve public realm through public investment

A major element of Uptown's identity and future is its public. realm, especially its landscape-street trees, plantings, and sidewalks. Smaller, phased investments will attract more visitors and retail customers for more frequent and longer visits, and create an attractive physical environment for private investment. Prior to commencing the tree succession plan, the City will commence the planting of street trees around the periphery of Uptown.

Establish Park Once District

The Park Once concept is crucial to the success of Uptown, and needs to be established early on. Park Once structures make more effective use of surface parlung lots and vacant lots, share parking needs among different land uses, and make Uptown friendly to both automobiles and pedestrians.

Strengthen the Role of Retail in the Revitalization of Uptown

In addition to private investment, public realm improvements, and a Park Once strategy, the fourth crucial first step is the role of retail strengthening local retail through storefront improvements, consistent hours, better lighting, and more effective merchandising, and attracting national retail, especially an anchor food store, book and music store, or a dothing store

S11F 1 · Visit major stakeholder and

- community groups to communicate adopted plan
- Prepare cable TV interview with Mayor/City Council and Director of Community Development discussing the plan

Sar 2

- · Convert Uptown Association from tenant-based Business Improvement District (BID) to property-owner-based BID
- Advertise and promote the plan among industry groups

STEP 3

· Enhance appearance of Uptown via graffiti removal, cleaning of sidewalks, replacement of etched storefronts. strict enforcement of short term parking regulations, keep storefronts lit until at least 10 p.m. every night, and maintain

consistent store hours

SHE 4

and fees

- Establish Park Once District

· Ongoing public planning process and Untown beauty fication process generates momentum demonstrating that implementation of Plan

COMMENTS

has already started

door seating areas

COMMENTS

S 1 2 0 1

 Prepare streetscape plan identifying tree replacement species, tree planting design, hardscape treatments, etc.

Identify first blocks on Greenleaf and/or Philadelphia for aging/damaged trees for replacement in tree succession plan. Begin planting replacement trees on select blocks of Greenleaf and Philadelphia

Stee 2

· Identify first set of excessively large planters on Greenleaf and Philadelphia for removal to widen sidewalks, and in appropriate places, provide small outdoor seating areas for restaurants and cafes

Step 3

· Remove all large planters on Greenleaf and Philadelphia

Ster 4

- Establish permitting process for outdoor seating areas at eating establishments
- · Begin implementation of street tree replacement planting plan
- Complete tree bulb outs on in diagonal parking on Greenleaf and Philadelphia
 - · Work closely with community groups interested in street landscape and street tree issues, and with Uptown Association for providing out-

Ster 1

- . Strictly enforce existing parking regulations, and increase revenues from parking
- · Establish Park Once district and fee structure

Step 1

· Use existing surface lots and city-owned vacant lots as temporary surface parking lots with fees to accommodate parlung while construction of new parking structures begins

Step 2

· Purchase land for future Park Once structures

· issue RFP for mixed-use devel-

opment-including Park Once structures bried with residentral, retail and/or commercial uses-on former Alpha Beta site and/or on Bright Avenue just south of Philadelphia street

Step 3

 Fund, design and construct at least one city-owned Park Once

Stip 4

· Introduce parking machines for high-demand on-street diagonal parking in the retail core area surrounding the Greenleaf/Philadelphia intersection and adjust parking fees to reach the 85% parking occupancy rate

STEP 5

COMMENTS

- Based on the recommendations of the Specific Plan. Uptown Whittier will require a fully developed and detailed Park Once strategy, including regulations, fees, and professional management

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- Work with Uptown Association, Chamber of Commerce and retail consultant to initiate small business education program in Uptown. beginning with simple, effective measures to improve storefront visibility, lighting, and hours
- · Strengthen, or revisit, existing retail facade program to help new local retail and assist existing retail with improvements such building facades. storefront redesign, and outside lighting
- Work with Uptown Association, Chamber of Commerce, and retail consultant to convert existing tenantbased Business Improvement District into property-owner based BID and reap benefits of improved property values, higher profits, and over time, increased rents
- Work with Uptown Association, Chamber of Commerce and retail consultant to revisit existing national retail recruitment strategy, modify approach, and target a retail anchor based on vision of Specific Plan, strong regional housing demand, and ongoing improvements in Uptown
- · Establish financial arrangement for Park Once revenues (after operating costs and parking ticket revenues accruing to City of Whittier) to be utilized by BID for ongoing cleaning, safety, landscape maintenance, events, and continuing merchandising education
- · Retail strategy needs a systernatic and sustained effort with assistance from the most accomplished national retail consultants to help transform the economic vitality of

COMMENTS

Phasing	Approach		Improvement	Purpose	Time Horizon	Staff Resources	Costs	Revenue	Action/Implementation Options
	Policy	a	Required Approvals and Actions	Establishes Parking Management Plan	0-2 Months	Community Development; Public Works	N/A	N/A	Recommendation from Planning/Parking & Transportation Commissions; Approval by City Council
		ь	Consolidate Existing Parking Districts to One Parking/Maintenance District	Defines District and Maintenance Programs	3-6 Months	Public Works; Community Development	N/A	Revenues from existing Districts are approx \$190K annually.	Recommendation from Planning/Parking & Transportation Commissions; Approval by City Council Work with property owners/participants to reassess fee structure
Step 1		С	Parking Code Requirements	Defines Parking Requirements for Developers	3-6 Months	Community Development	N/A	N/A	Recommendation from Planning/Parking & Transportation Commissions; Approval by City Council amending the Parking Code; Design reviews (in-lieu; shared parking requirements; parking credit program)
		d	Parking Revenue Fund	Establishes Revenue Fund for Uptown Whittier	3-6 Months	Public Works	N/A	N/A	City Council Resolution or Ordinance authorizing collection and expenditure of funds
		e	Amendment to Specific Plan	Incorporates PMP requirements into Specific Plan	3-6 Months	Community Development	N/A	N/A	City Council Resolution or Ordinance authorizing collection and expenditure of funds approving amendment to Specific Plan
		а	Revised Parking Time Limits	Increases parking turnover Encourages long term parkers to use off-street lots	0 - 9 Months	Public works	Signage	N/A	Option 1: 2-hour limit for on-street parking; 4 hour limit for lots and structures Option 2: 1-hour limit for on-street parking in commercial core; 2-hour limit for on-street parking outside core; 4-hour limit for lots and structures
Step 2	Parking Management	ь	Increased Parking Enforcement	Ensures adherence to time limits	0 - 12 Months	Increased parking control officers (PCOs); customer service staff	PCOs {approx \$50K/year} Customer service staff salaries (approx \$32K/year) New handheld parking devices	Parking violations (tickets)	Authorization and hiring of PCO and customer service staff Provide new hand-held parking occupancy devices (allows for more accurate determination of parking duration violations)
		С	Expanded Employee Permit Program	Reduces demand for on-street spaces by encouraging employees to park in designated off-street facilities	0 - 12 Months	Community Development /Public Works Increased PCOs; Customer service staff	PCO and customer service staff salaries (approx \$82K/year)	Permit fees; Parking violations (tickets)	Marketing/Outreach for Employer Programs Authorization and hiring of PCO and customer service staff



Phasing	Approach		Improvement	Purpose	Time Horizon	Staff Resources	Costs	Revenue	Action/Implementation Options	
Step 2 continued	Customer Service		а	Valet Parking	Improves efficiency of off-street parking facilities Uses available parking outside of core area	6 - 12 Months	Community Development Public Works Program administrator	Program set-up and management Insurance	Shared parking fees with valet operator and private lots	Marketing of area retail business owners Solicit/contract with valet parking firms Dedicate parking areas in public off-street parking lots, or reach agreements with private suppliers (with shared revenues and liabilities)
		b	Signage/Wayfinding Program	Directs parkers to off-street facilities, primarily those outside of core area Reduces demand for on-street spaces	6 - 12 Months	Community Development; Public Works	Signage Wayfinding program development	Potential increase in parking fees	Commission study to develop wayfinding program Procurement, installation, integration Provide wayfinding information on city website and websites for area business owners Long-term: Install variable message signs providing real-time occupancy information for off-street facilities	
	Parking Pricing	a	Parking Meters	Encourages higher parking turnover Increases the availability of prime parking spots Supports improvements within Parking District Encourages carpooling and alternative travel modes	9 - 15 Months	Public Works	\$8K - \$10K for each multi-space meter; operational/ maintenance costs \$2.1K per month \$500 - \$700K for single head meter; operational/ maintenance costs \$350 per month Marketing/PR/Communications {1.5% of total costs} Full Time Employee costs (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$1/hr; 50-60% occupied 12 hours per day (10AM to 10PM including Sundays) = approx. \$165-\$500K/year (both phases) Other cities with recent installation of multi space meters anticipate pay back in two to five years	Multi-space Meters (approximately 22 for Phase 1 recommendation; 21 for Phase 2 recommendation) = \$220K Phase 1; \$210K Phase 2 Single Head Meters (approximately 175 for Phase 1; 155 for Phase 2) = \$122K Phase 1; \$108K Phase 2 Additional amenities - Accept credit/debit cards; city-issued debit cards (allows credits to be purchased by businesses); pay by phone; real-time sensors for enforcement and availability; variable pricing Recommend an ordinance to establish meter rates based on the fair market and eliminate time limits. This will allow variable pricing to be set by staff based on a target occupancy rate of 85% with a minimum meter rate of \$0.50/hour and a maximum meter rate of \$1.50 per hour.	



Phasing	Approach		Improvement	Purpose	Time Horizon	Staff Resources	Costs	Revenue	Action/Implementation Options
Phasing Step 3	Approach	а	Improve Existing Structure	Provides upgrades to encourage usage Serves as a more attractive parking supply during new structure construction (current peak occupancies are at 40%)	0-6 months	Public Works	Existing District #1 approx \$62K/year Assumes \$25K for cosmetic improvements such as new lighting, paint and other minor improvements Assumes \$25K for cosmetic improvements Existing District #1 approx Existing District Existing Distri	Existing District #1 approx. \$100K/year Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 cccupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx. \$200K/year	Assessment of revenues from Parking District/other parking charges for temporar improvements Public Works program improvements as paid of maintenance district
	Parking Supply	b	New Parking Structure - N of Philadelphia/East of Comstock (Location 7)	Provides additional parking supply to address future development in Uptown Whittier's core area Provides additional parking supply on large parcel of existing parking lot; May be necessary if existing structure is removed Located near key activities along Comstock Consolidates/manages parking supply for long-term and employee parking	1-2 years	Community Development; Public Works	Estimated capital cost based on 3 level (388 spaces) or 4 level (495 spaces) structure \$7.0 to \$8.9M Operational/maintenance approximately \$190K/year Two part-time employees cost (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 % occupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx. \$520K/year	 Financial assessment Environmental clearance Permits/approvals Funding and financing Design and construction

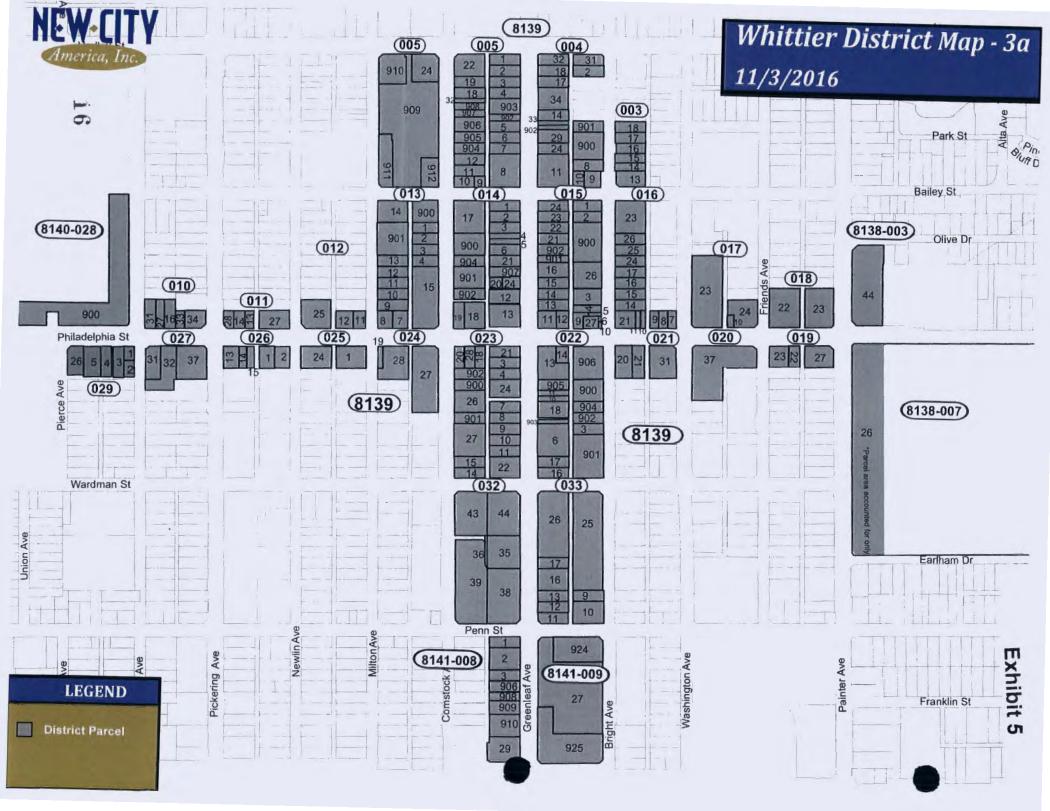


Phasing	Approach		Improvement	Purpose	Time Horizon	Staff Resources	Costs	Revenue	Action/Implementation Options
Phasing Step 4	Additional Parking Supply	а	New Parking Structure - S of Philadelphia/W of Bright (Location 2)	Provides additional parking supply to address future development in Uptown Whittier's core area Encourages developers with ready built parking supply Consolidates/manages parking supply for long-term and employee parking	3 -5 years	Community Development; Public Works	Estimated capital cost based on 3 level (448 spaces) or 4 level (570 spaces) structure \$8.2M to \$10.4M (includes inflation rate) Operational/ maintenance approximately \$660K/year (includes debt service) Two part-time employee costs (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 % occupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx. \$644K/year	Parking Code requirements in place Financial assessment Environmental clearance Permits/approvals Funding and financing Design and construction
		b	New Parking Structure - N of Philadelphia/East of Comstock (Location 5)	Provides additional parking supply Located near key commercial activities especially if more parking capacity is needed N. of Bailey	5 years +	Community Development; Public Works	Estimated capital cost based on 3 level (378 spaces) or 4 level (482 spaces) structure \$7.4M to \$9.4M (Includes inflation rate) Operational/maintenance approximately \$1.1M/year (includes debt service) Two part-time employee costs (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 % occupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx. \$572/year	Parking Code requirements in place Financial assessment Environmental clearance Permits/approvals Funding and financing Design and construction



Phasing	Approach		Improvement	Purpose	Time Horizon	Staff Resources	Costs	Revenue	Action/Implementation Options
Step 4 continued	Additional	c	Replace Existing Structure N of Philadelphia/West of Bright Ave with New Parking Structure (Location PS)	Provides additional parking supply Located near key commercial activities serving Philadelphia St/Bailey St and Bright Ave	5 years +	Community Development; Public Works	Estimated capital cost based on 3 level (236 spaces) or 4 level (298 spaces) structure \$5.1M to \$6.5M (includes inflation rate) Operational/ maintenance approximately \$767K/year (includes debt service) Two part-time employee costs (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 % occupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx.	Parking Code requirements in place Financial assessment Environmental clearance Permits/approvals Funding and financing Design and construction
	Parking Supply	d	New Parking Structure – N of Bailey 5t/West of Bright Ave (Location 10)	Provides additional parking supply Located near key commercial activities especially south of Philadelphia	10 years +	Community Development; Public Works	Estimated capital cost based on 3 level (189 spaces) or 4 level (248 spaces) structure \$4.4M to \$5.8M (includes inflation rate) Operational/maintenance approximately \$732K/year (includes debt service) Two part-time employee costs (approx. \$82K/year)	Assuming \$5/day and \$0.75/hour with first 90 minutes free, average 70 % occupied and average duration of 2 hours per vehicle (from existing data) = approx.	Parking Code requirements in place Financial assessment Environmental clearance Permits/approvals Funding and financing Design and construction





Joint Meeting of the Whittier City Planning Commission Parking and Transportation Commission and Design Review Board January 23, 2017 Meeting Notes

Public speakers:

Charlie Shaduck (spelling?) – Bright and Comstock, remove planters and save money, deal with window graffiti, save water with artificial grass.

Rick Elias – 6736 Greenleaf. Parking structure on Comstock may not be necessary; money could go to something else. It is very costly. Additional lighting in existing structure may help. More pedestrian traffic would help solve some of Uptown problems. Turn on light for parking structure sign on Greenleaf. Parking meters and parking enforcement will be necessary over time. 150 events per year use/close portions of Greenleaf too often.

Closed public comments

Conal McNamara's introduction

Andrew Watkins with SWA begins presentation

Comments from members during presentation:

Design Review Board Member comments during presentation:

Enrique Diaz: Tree input and decisions will be important. Alley utilization should also be looked at. Budgets are going to be most important.

Stephen Flanders: How old are the existing ficus? According to Chris Magdosku, they were planted in the 1960s or 70s and the sidewalks were done in 1982. Pasadena operates a valet that could help to alleviate the parking issues. This is something the CBD has discussed and could provide.

Wes Murray: Type of trees and why they were selected. How is city anticipating uses changing over time? As a result of driverless cars parking may be obsolete overtime. All cars may be moving all the time.

Parking and Transportation Commissioner comments during presentation:

Yvonne Simon: Outdoor dining is important. City should look at cost of tree maintenance vs. replacement. To make final decisions the City Council will likely need cost/benefit understanding for each item in the streetscape plan. Cost of each component will be important.

Tiffany Givens: Does staff have crime statistics for Uptown? Is it real or perceived? What about closing the street to obtain more pedestrian space? Andrew Watkins felt that could possibly happen in 20-25 years but not now due to lack of pedestrian/residential density.

Al Martinez: Who attended the public workshops? Hodgepodge of small and large trees may not be preferred for uniformity of aesthetic. Decreasing the number of species is a good idea. City should try to create space at Philadelphia and Greenleaf. Consider cost and budgeting of capital construction costs in addition to maintenance costs.

Planning Commissioner comments during presentation:

Charles Claver: Ensure the streetscape beautification plan integrates into the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan and Parking Management Plan directives. Which trees are impacted by disease? City needs to understand the disease impact on phasing strategies. Perhaps it would make sense to target removal of diseased trees as a first priority.

R. D. McDonnell: Tree concept needs to look at shade, aesthetic, and hardscape. Whittier has love/hate relationship with ficus trees. Replace with multiple in kind trees per tree manual. Large quantity of tree species makes maintenance more difficult. Is the feedback from the workshops from Uptown users (customers) or business owners? On tree species height statistics, how long until maturity and that listed height? How large a box tree will be used as replacement? Andrew Watkins suggested 60" box, but many thought 24 to 36" box would be more cost effective. How many years between phasing of replacement trees? This needs to integrate into cost estimates. Gathering spaces are critically important in the blossoming restaurant/dining location. Sidewalks are too narrow, but eliminating parking may hurt merchants.

Individual Members closing summary comments:

Design Review Board Members:

Patrick Craig: All these are good ideas. He is an arborist and landscape architect. Trees should be moved away from façade of buildings. Bigger planters can go into the parking spaces and off of the sidewalk to avoid bottlenecks at sidewalks even at the price of less parking. No 3'x3' planters instead look for 10'x5' planters.

Enrique Diaz: Implementation of improvements is at the top of list. Do something sooner rather than later. Parking improvements, ficus phasing is critical. He likes paving at intersections, sidewalk dining, paseos, and public art.

Stephen Flanders: If City changes to one way streets, make sure they lead to a place to park. Integrate car charging stations somewhere. Funding will be the critical component and City should forecast and plan for both capital and maintenance expenses.

Patricia O'Toole: Loves trees and City must recognize that all trees make some mess. She took a field trip to Victoria Gardens to look at the project. She would like some evergreen trees so

wintertime still has green on Greenleaf. Look at connecting Uptown with Nelles for easy access to both.

Wes Murray: Uptown needs to get ready for Nelles, they are different environments, but may compete at some level. Perhaps parking on Philadelphia could be eliminated to provide wider sidewalks. Structure parking in Eugene, Oregon is nicely done. Murals could perhaps be funded and organized through the Art in Public Places program and committee. Trees- light quality, dense cover, honey locust is good. Provide different quality of light than ficus. Use trees strategically in such a way to make it work and build character of Uptown.

Parking and Transportation Commissioners:

Al Martinez: Would like to see something happen now, perhaps lighting of parking sign. Closing streets or utilizing one way streets could create space. On street ambiance should be Whittier's priority. Traffic- be smarter about how City manages it, develop smart stop for Uber/Lyft. Have an information kiosk at valet stop, similar to airports/malls. One lane, one direction would create a lot of space.

Tiffany Givens: Plan should be pedestrian centric, but appears to be parking focused. Why? City should be looking at bringing in some larger business, too. Safety is apparently an issue, so objective police data should be gathered from Police Department. Homeless are an issue in Uptown. Existing parking is not fully utilized. Existing trees are an issue and planters are very narrow.

Yvonne Simon: Nelles will be competing with Uptown. An article from 1951 showed that the Broadway and Quad shopping center had a negative impact on Uptown. Utilize Philadelphia as the access between Nelles/Whittier Blvd. and Uptown. Investment must be made in Uptown to compete with newer projects like Nelles.

Planning Commissioners:

Todd Borzi: Budget is most important. Open space in front of parking garage could be better utilized and ideas presented were good ones. Maintenance budgets should also be explored. Identify opportunities for specific improvements.

Charles Claver: Great presentation with many great examples from Uptown's competition. Kurz worked for Altoon and Porter who designed Victoria Gardens based on Uptown Whittier. Budget understanding will be most important as will prioritization of improvements. Lighting is important to feel safe, the LED retrofit is brighter. Look to integrate old and new. Maintenance must be ramped up; we can no longer defer maintenance of Uptown. Work to maximize return on investment.

Eduardo Hernandez: Other surrounding areas don't know about Uptown Whittier even though it is a foodie and entertainment destination. Needs next level of streetscape improvements. Structure closing at 10pm is an issue as is cash only for payment. Other items in structure are also not modern. Need signage, branding, and wayfinding in Uptown and Whittier. Attract folks from other locations. Look at examples in Long Beach, Alhambra, and Riverside. Open

Uptown to outside markets in surrounding cities. Some items may not be a part of our budget in the end, but up to private market or other programs, such as murals and outdoor dining. How does Uptown Whittier Specific Plan influence streetscape and vice versa.

David Lara: One way street could provide very wide sidewalk. Project needs to be incrementally implementable. Parking – one might need to look for 15 minutes on a Saturday before finding a spot. Open space in front of existing structure should be enhanced. Tree removal should be prioritized based on hardscape damage inflicted by tree. Traffic studies and specific plan may need tweaking. Wayfinding to and within Uptown. Need an economically driven, phased approach.

R.D. McDonnell: Since the 2008 specific plan adoption folks have been restless at long wait to see something happen in Uptown. Specific Plan provides for building and massing, but projects have been lingering and not readily developing even though Uptown is a growing dining and entertainment area. City need to build on that momentum. Like a mall City needs anchors and complementary retails stores with different goals and motivations. Find common ground in how to proceed. Retail is changing and many brick and mortar stores are waning. City must anticipate that change and create experience that people want. Sidewalks are too narrow, which makes for an uncomfortable environment. City needs to attract customers to come and linger in Uptown. Management and operation of streetscape will be important over long term. New structure should have an auto pay kiosk. Trees should be both deciduous and evergreen. Move trees away from buildings and place in parking stalls. Parklets are good. Phasingperhaps a pilot project for outdoor dining at a premium location could pioneer change. Focus projects on those with the highest impact and lowest cost; Uptown needs a wow factor. Designate and advertise Uptown at primary points of interest, such as, Greenleaf, Philadelphia, Hadley. McClay in San Fernando has some nice entrance monuments with ornamental iron and large pilasters.

Miscellaneous Comments:

Need to cost out improvements and maintenance.

Lighting wiring and conduit may be important.

Wayfinding signage and monument signage would help "brand" Uptown.

February 8th public workshop will present some physical concepts for specific locations and show several options to choose from.

Joint Meeting of the Whittier City Planning Commission

Parking and Transportation Commission and Design Review Board

February 21, 2017 Meeting Notes

Public speakers:

<u>Rick Elias</u> – Businesses can grow in Uptown, ficus trees hurt image, pending PBID could help, \$900,000 will only finish one block, streetscape project is underfunded, but \$9 million is programmed for parking structure. Parking study says we have enough parking, moving more budget dollars to streetscape makes more sense, otherwise the streetscape improvement will take place over a period of 15+ years.

<u>Kandi Mash</u> – Washington Ave. - Excited for potential improvement, she attended all three public meetings, Understands one block improvement then later roll out to other areas, thinks \$900,000 budget should be spread from Hadley to Wardman, and along Philadelphia from Washington to Comstock, perhaps \$300,000 could be spent on each block then layer on items as needed, silly to paint just one wall of house, ficus trees are costly to remove all, every 3rd or 2nd tree may be better.

<u>Andrea Belami</u> - College Ave — Use planning meeting to determine best use for limited first phase funding, painting part of house is not great, but one block approach could be good, ficus are a problem and they create a gloomy streetscape, improved lighting, especially along Bailey Street is needed, there are many trip hazards.

<u>Leann Tyler</u> – Ficus are beautiful, but she tripped and sprained ankle and did not sue city, people must really watch there steps in Uptown.

Kathy Goldman – Uptown was a ghost town at one point, but now many new merchants/restaurants, she is a concerned historic neighborhood representative, suggests restoring green wrought iron railings, loves Whittier, but it needs to be cleaned up like Home Depot by a zambonee like machine, buy machines for cleaning, Bright Avenue is up and coming, flowers and hanging plants on light fixtures could enhance area, like Santa Monica plants on light posts, it denotes locations of interest and tells patrons where the fun starts, at Disneyland, Disney digs up sidewalks where roots are a problem and puts in pavers, plant flowers, hire maintenance, spend low cost to restore, no more asphalt patch, cleaning/Flowers will go a long way.

<u>Carol Anne Bellgard</u> - 7035 Greenleaf Ave. Trees keep people cool with shade, without trees people will bake, empty lots and buildings should be developed first before streetscape.

Marc Anthony Portino – Cares about trees but would like to see them replaced.

<u>Edward Lopez</u> – Dines and shops in Whittier, glad it is a Tree City USA, Fullerton trees look great.

<u>Francis Guida</u> – Save ficus trees, they are large and established, research any new trees thoroughly, sidewalk can be accommodated.

<u>Jeff Tyler</u> – Horticulture major in college, ficus are a cancer on urban landscape, recommend new trees.

Closed public comments

Ben Pongetti's introduction

Sean O'Malley and Andrew Watkins with SWA begin presentation

Introduction to Plan, Phasing and Costing, Based on Uptown Whittier Specific Plan concepts, Streetscape framework, discussion of highlighting important areas like gateway items on Philadelphia/ Whittier Greenleaf/Whittier, cost comments regarding conceptual zones for costing, three geographical extents for potential improvement. Four concept plans for one block model.

Comments from members during presentation:

Design Review Board Member comments during presentation:

<u>Patrick Craig</u> - It may be possible or impossible to redo hardscape around existing ficus trees due to the roots. Are the new planters 6' x 6'? while the existing planters are 5' x 3'?

<u>Enrique Diaz</u> – Biking to Uptown should also be considered, there is a published bike plan that the streetscape plan should connect to, gateway signage in Uptown should be include in the plan.

<u>Stephen Flanders</u> - Does the one block concept stop at Bailey? Yes. ADA parking in parallel may not function properly, but Chris Magdosku indicated there is a Caltrans standard for ADA parallel parking that can be used to make it function properly.

Parking and Transportation Commissioner comments during presentation:

<u>Tiffany Givens</u> – Maintenance costs at each zone need to be considered, Uptown needs more maintenance, wanted to know where parallel or angled parking is being proposed.

<u>James Becerra</u> – Asked clarifying question on tree totals, SWA clarified that some existing trees in Uptown are not ficus.

<u>Al Martinez</u> — Wayfinding signage may be lower down the list of priorities. 20-25% reduction in parking stalls and more ADA parking is a concern, don't do more ADA stalls than required by the applicable codes.

<u>Yvonne Simon</u> – What is the parking structure fee for future implementation? Based on Parking Management Plan directives and Ordinance adopted by City Council.

Planning Commissioner comments during presentation:

R.D. McDonnell – Soil in Uptown is not good for infiltration so planters to accept storm water will be more like bioswales than retention zones.

<u>Charles Claver</u> – 1 Parking planter, 1 block, What are the costs for tree trimming? historic lights are important to retain, LED lights now installed brighten things up, will they stay or be moved? can the historic lights be reused for lower expense?

<u>David Lara</u> - Drive through for existing parking structure is important from Greenleaf on existing City owned lot, stopping the one block idea short of Bailey Street would be a mistake, it should be carried through Bailey intersection. Consider the impact on parking if applied to the whole Uptown area.

<u>Wes Murray</u> – Temporary parking and parking stall planter in sample photograph is based on a one way street, this is not like Uptown. Will there be consideration of existing land use for parallel vs. angled parking? Not as proposed, it is based on pattern and cross streets not land use.

Individual Members closing summary comments:

Design Review Board Members:

<u>Patrick Craig</u> - Concept 4 is preferred as costs appear close enough to others and it provides significant change/renewal. Likes that it pushes trees out several feet, extends sidewalks, and removes ficus. Ficus have to go. Concept 4 is the best value.

<u>Enrique Diaz</u> - Parklets can be reused or switch location, this could become a competition between businesses over time. Perhaps, the long term maintenance of parklets could be up to individual restaurants over time. Completing one block with all the kit of parts will be a catalyst. Concept 3 preserves some ficus trees and creates some visual interest with two parking types parallel and diagonal. Temporary parklets could be interesting and entice people to visit Uptown to see: What is coming this summer?

Stephen Flanders - Go up to Bailey Street with sidewalk, don't stop short. Concept 4 is best due to boldness of plan. Also likes Concept 3 because you can ease in. Buildings should be washed and painted. Ficus have made a mess. Perhaps City should look at corporate sponsorship, such as the "Pepsi Gate" for gateway signs? Storefronts need some improvement and perhaps that could be incentivized at the time of the streetscape improvements. Restaurants should maintain outdoor tables.

<u>Patricia O'Toole</u> - 5' planters now 6' planters in new paradigm. List of guiding principles – for example, maintain 5 minutes walking distance in Uptown. Bailey Street is in bad shape and needs improvement. Historic lighting is a historic item that needs to be retained, focus on restoring and renewing it. Loves all the concept designs and wishes there were more money to implement. She would vote to do more than one block. Improvement should be spread out over larger area. Dislikes the idea of a chosen area and "stepchild area." \$900,000 could go a long way with less work even though such work would lose the "wow" factor. Completing one

street and waiting 10+ years for the next is an issue. "Can't love one kid more than another." A light canopy over Philadelphia and Greenleaf existed at one time and may be attractive. Focus on doing simple things with highest impact. Nelles project needs to connect to Uptown, so Philadelphia corridor is important, too. Concerned about ongoing maintenance and maintenance of the parklets in particular.

Wes Murray - Uptown went through a similar process after 1987 earthquake. Wearing the DRB Hat each concept has something special. Concerned that first two concepts have outside dining on the other side of the sidewalk from buildings, this may not function properly. How do you make it a unified space? Like concepts 3 and 4, but believes concept 4 is the best. Plan 3 has a mix of parking which may be good and bad. What businesses get which public gathering space will be a political football and a method may be needed to deal with it. Plan 4 allows for the most gathering space. Small contained play areas near restaurants could be very attractive for parents, so they can watch kids. Uptown has many activities that close streets; how will streetscape work with closures?

Parking and Transportation Commissioners:

Al Martinez - Likes concept 4. Suggests a bike facility of some kind at the mid-block crossing. Sees electric charging as needed in parking structures but not necessary on street. Maintenance cost should be evaluated. Don't repurpose funding allocations. Concept 4 offers the most dramatic change in uptown and parallel parked vehicles block gathering spaces to protect patrons eating/gathering outside. With wider sidewalks for gathering spaces more street venders may move in to Uptown area, which would then require a separate ordinance and enforcement issue. When City issues an RFP for construction work, consider including ongoing maintenance in the contract.

<u>James Becerra</u> - Greenleaf and Philadelphia block is important. Alley improvements are also important over time. The one block strategy is probably the way to go. Likes concept 4 - gathering in Uptown, as it has no temporary parklets, but permanent gathering space. Broadway is an example. Concept 4 gathering in Uptown will give us flexibility over time.

<u>Tiffany Givens</u> - Look carefully at decision to invest in parking structure. Seek to incentivize parking in structures. Top choice is Concept 4 gathering in uptown because it provides much more wide open gathering spaces and walkability. Very large planters may be too big and waste space. Property owners in the PBID may want more. Patrons should be able to pay by other means (debit/credit) than just cash in existing parking structure, patrons should be able to turn in from Greenleaf and City needs to turn on existing neon sign. City needs to work to create modern technology in new parking structure to invite patrons. Development in Uptown is dependent on added vertical parking.

<u>David Gonzalez</u> - All direction crosswalks are safe. Railings for parklets should be able to stop or deter a vehicle, all direction walk should be consistent throughout day, not change based on time and day. Santa Monica at pier, drivers can't turn during all walk. Likes parklet idea, but wonders how it would work: who, what, where, when, why, etc? Likes Concept 2 but not parklets due to issue with cars and priorities. Concept 4 offers most flexibility for gathering and dining. It offers very usable outdoor space. Likes the one block idea as a catalyst.

Yvonne Simon - Try to close streets just once a quarter for the very large successful events that bring people from afar. For example, Dia De Los Muertos and the car show, which brings 15,000-20,000 people. It is many merchants highest grossing day of the year. Maybe create a threshold to only allow closure for events that bring >10,000 people to Uptown. Uptown needs an anchor store and restaurant that is very profitable to attract others. Take concessions at events and make it work. Likes Concept 2 for parking, as she can't find parking when going to Uptown and that concept does not reduce parking. Outdoor eating works in Pasadena and people don't get hit by cars so there is a solution to that issue. Favors the concept of eating outside, where a dog can join its owner. Look and model after Cities that work well. Neon light on Greenleaf for parking in existing multi-deck should be turned on. Attendant at the existing multi-deck absolutely needs a "square" register or other device so they can take debit/credit cards. Many aspects at existing multi-deck are outdated and not taking cash is a major problem.

Planning Commissioners:

<u>Todd Borzi</u> - Is there proposed new hardscape around existing trees? Yes, in most concepts. Concept 2 achieves pedestrian level 13 foot sidewalk, which is enough. Parklets can be used for expanding a bistro, etc. Concept 4 affects many more cost items and converts to parallel parking. Concept 2 eliminates ficus and provide spacing of trees to allow filtered light.

Charles Claver - Ongoing maintenance cost for all four options should be considered. The primary cost is the square footage cost for maintaining planted spaces. What size trees are included in cost estimates, 36" box cost (48" or 60" would be better). In the end tree box size is dependent on species, cost, and objective. Lighting costs of \$120,000 were also included in estimates. Check into Edison programs for potential grants or cost sharing for new lighting. All concepts are valid and provide strong options. Consider the Downtown LA banking district investment in Downtown. Changes can happen quickly. Likes prototype idea in one concentrated area, and Greenleaf to Bailey is logical. Gateways to Uptown are also important. Of four concepts he prefers Gardens of Uptown because it blends both heritage old and new. Ficus trees are dying out at some point and some are already diseased. Disease should be considered to determine which are removed. City has a love/hate relationship with the ficus. Historic lighting is critical for streetscape as it creates a real sense of place. Large amount of planting and gathering space present a nice balance. Greenleaf funding is okay, budget has created its own challenges. In time, development will happen on all blocks. For example, Bright Avenue has created its own character.

Eduardo Hernandez - Other funding sources should be sought after to fund streetscape beautification. City should apply for grants. A main street should have a 13 foot sidewalk. Important to do something now and broad area, light touch should be done first. Signage that identifies Uptown is important. Recognize that Uptown is a great place even without improvement, but we must push it further along. Long term, documents become rigid over time they will need some flexibility. Back lash will be hard for CBD if improvements are not spread out over larger area. Seek funding opportunities to leverage bond funds; this should be the number one priority. Don't spend bond funding until City locates other leverage funding sources. Likes making sidewalks bigger and eliminated some parking. Ongoing maintenance cost with

little revenue for a while will be difficult. Target 85% occupy in the parking with demand based parking pricing. Focus node improvements on something seen at night (lighting) and something seen during the day (gathering space/landscaping). Address the ficus trees.

<u>David Lara</u> - Drainage [under MS4 permit] can add considerable cost. City needs to include and anticipate these costs, SWA indicates that concepts being proposed do not regrade street and minimize area of runoff that must be dealt with. Likes Concept 4 gathering in Uptown. Feels it is the Cadillac version. All the added hidden cost must be carefully evaluated. Horticulturist should evaluate trees. Lighting is important and City should learn from Tom Gilmore from Downtown LA. Parallel parking can work. Parking cost for new structure should likely be minimized at first. Find other money resources. Businesses, property owners, and city need to stop tarnishing Uptown. Bailey to Wardman on Greenleaf is a good block to focus on. Look at metered parking as soon as possible. Gateways to Uptown on Whittier Blvd. have 40,000 average cars per day so advertise there. Storefront Plan for Uptown may also be good. It should focus on clean and painted facades.

R.D. McDonnell - Infrastructure repairs will really help uptown blossom. Electrical conduit is a major issue that needs to be addressed. Low Impact Development (LID, MS4 Permit) triggers a host of issues that may increase cost substantially. Talk to other Cities for advice on how to most effectively deal with the issue. Look for proactive grants to fund landscape or complete street improvements for example on Newlin by La Cuarta. Broad area, light touch could make a difference now. CBD property owners will be anary if paying in but receiving little benefit. But broad area, light touch is a bit like lipstick on a pig. It waters down improvements and will not be highly visible improvement. Likes Concept 3 for one block, pilot project. Likes parklet idea if done right. Philadelphia to Bailey will create excitement and be a catalyst for other projects. It is probably necessary to break it down into smaller parts as it is overwhelming. One block can be accomplished. Trees are very mature, but there longevity is in question. These are really improvements for the next generation. Ficus are not conducive to retail, due to size, height, and light. They block business signage. Likes replacing all with new trees on street. Pulls tree canopy away from building, creating a more visible facade. Wider sidewalks are needed. 100% parallel parking is okay. Create a retail and entertainment district for people to linger in. Parklets- legal liability, logistics would need to be worked out, perhaps City could have a design competition in local university. Create a special sense of place in Uptown, Logistics and budgeting are very important. Supports Concept 4 approach. Sense is that if you build it they will come. Parking drives business and recently he twice went elsewhere because of lack of parking. Some level of parking cost should be charged for new structure. Create excitement and a catalyst for completion of next block. Find a way for more improvements, if successful. Votes for Concept 4.

Miscellaneous Comments:

Street sweeping will be challenging with undulations in curb.

Exhibit 8



your UPTOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.





your UPTOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

City Council Meeting

March 14, 2017

- 1. Team introduction
- 2. Project introduction
- 3. Positioning Uptown
- 4. Community involvement update
- 5. Uptown programming
- 6. Uptown tree strategies
- 7. Streetscape Framework
- 8. Streetscape Concepts
- 9. Closing Remarks



your UPTOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

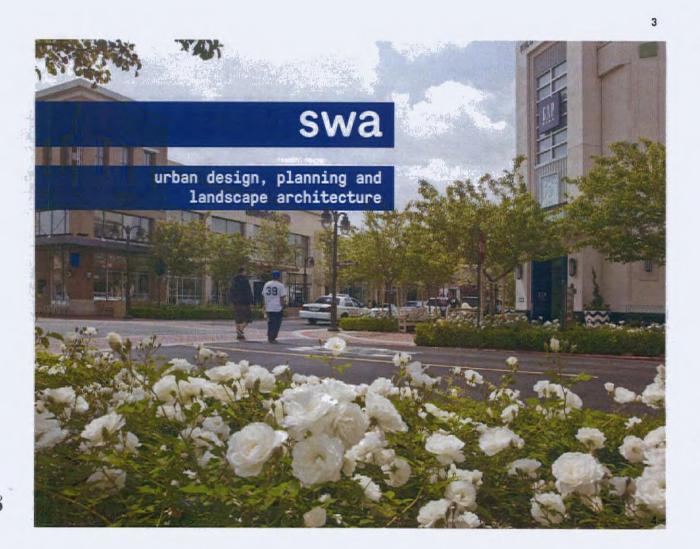
Consultant Team

SWA Group

Planning, Urban Design, Landscape Architecture

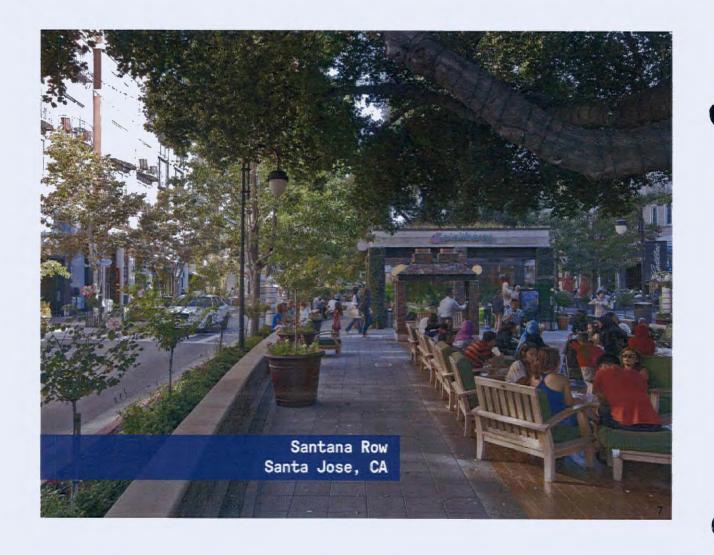
Fuscoe

Civil Engineering



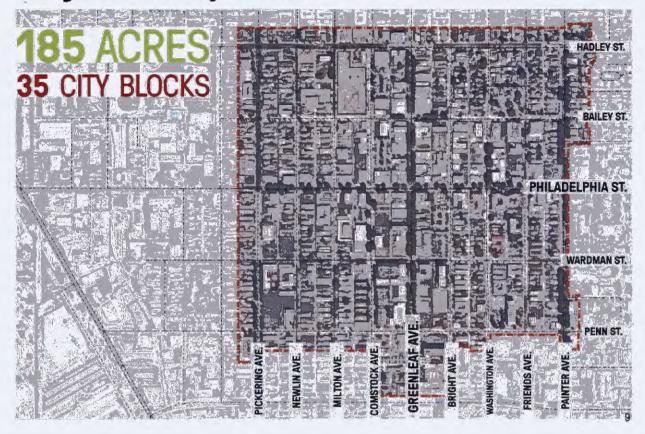






WHERE IS THE FOCUS OF THE STREETSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?

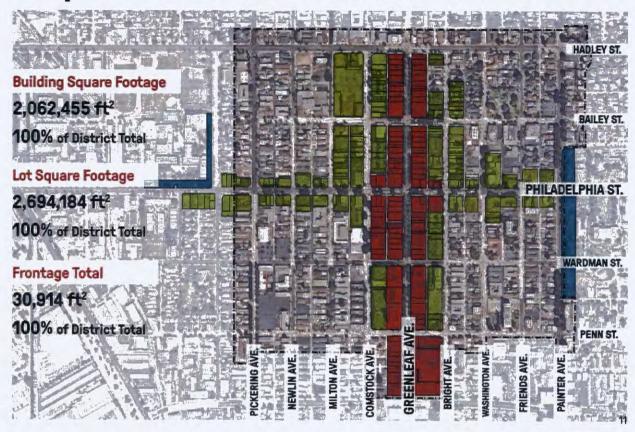
Project Study Area



Project Study Area Primary Focus Area



Proposed Benefit Districts



WHY A STREETSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?

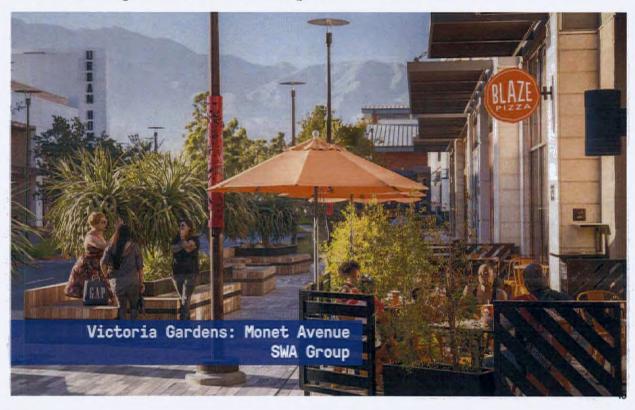
CELEBRATE the historic core of Whittier



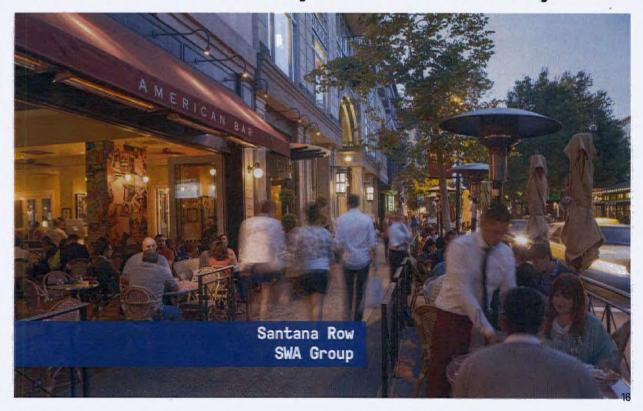
ENRICH the community's public realm



KEEP Uptown competitive



PROVIDE for safety & accessibility



PROMOTE a walkable, enjoyable Uptown



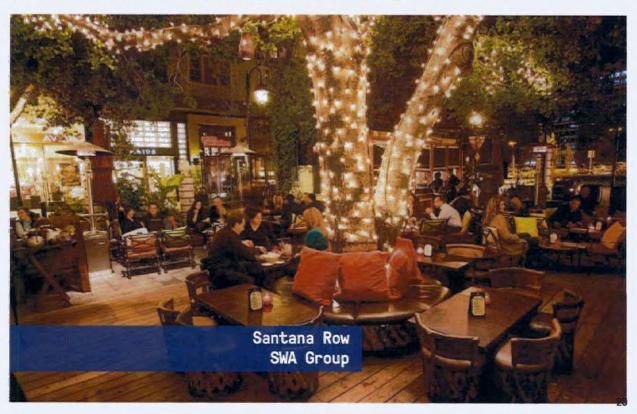
WHAT IS A STREETSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?

results from community-based input



The Streetscape Beautification Plan will include ...

public realm programming



design strategies for landscape and hardscape enhancements

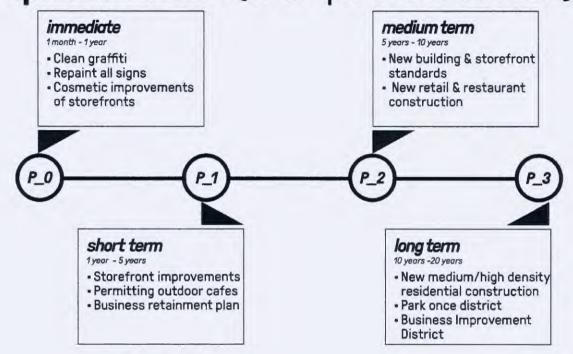


The Streetscape Beautification Plan will include ...

design strategies for street furnishings and pedestrian safe amenities



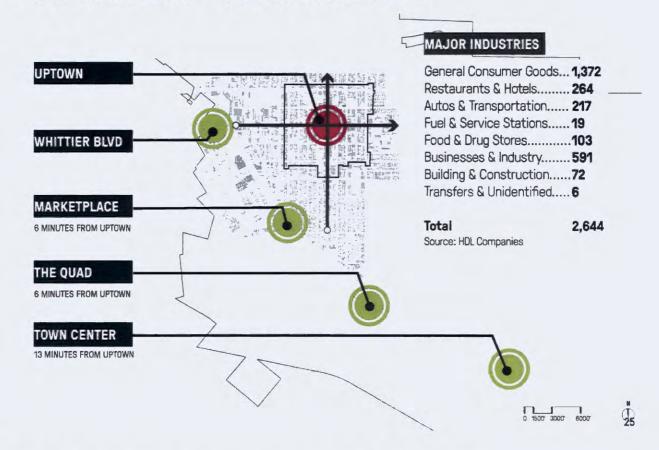
project cost estimation and phasing of implementation (example from U.W.S.P.)



POSITIONING UPTOWN

23

Local Commercial Districts

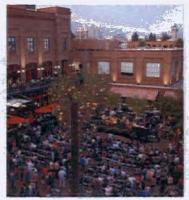


Regional Commercial Districts





downtown





PASADENA

ATTRIBUTES

- . Streets & courtyard spaces
- Retail alleys / paseos
- . All block crosswalks
- . Cultural institutions / museums
- . Kid space children's museum
- 200+ Boutique / national retailers
- 100+ Restaurants / cafes
- . Commercial + residential space





downtown

CLAREMONT

ATTRIBUTES

- . Informal landscape
- Village scale retail
- . Curb bump-outs
- Outdoor dining along alleyways
- Paseos & courtyard spaces
- . 150 Shops, restaurants & galleries
- · Residential /condominium housing
- . Entertainment venues
- . Connection to metrolink station











downtown





BREA

ATTRIBUTES

- · Outdoor dining & cafe space
- . Great store frontage & facades
- . Pedestrian focused district
- Shopping
- . Entertainment
- Office Suites
- Live / Work Lofts + Homes
- . Holiday + Seasonal Events







downtown



ATTRIBUTES

- Similar historic character to Uptown
- Similar building heights & store frontages to Uptown
- . Connection to Metrolink / Amtrak
- . 2,500 Free Public Parking Spaces
- Dining
- Live Music
- Entertainment venues
- Farmers / Craft Markets

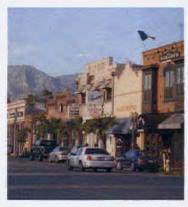








ORANGE





ATTRIBUTES

- Central gathering space that acts as an anchor
- Strong tenant focus of antique stores and boutique shopping
- Strong cafe anchor
- Historic Orange Plaza
- . Heart of the City of Orange
- Antique Shops
- Gourmet Eateries





CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

Evaluating Current Site Conditions



Current Site Conditions

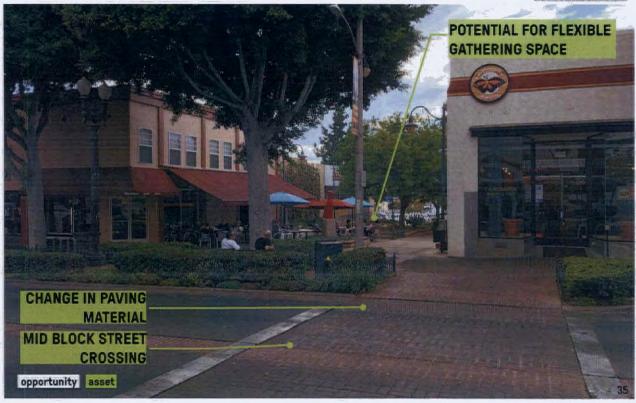
Philadelphia St. / Greenleaf Ave.





Greenleaf Ave.





Current Site Conditions

Philadelphia St.





Comstock Ave.





Current Site Conditions

Bright Ave.

opportunity asset



General Observations



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Guiding principles rooted from the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan

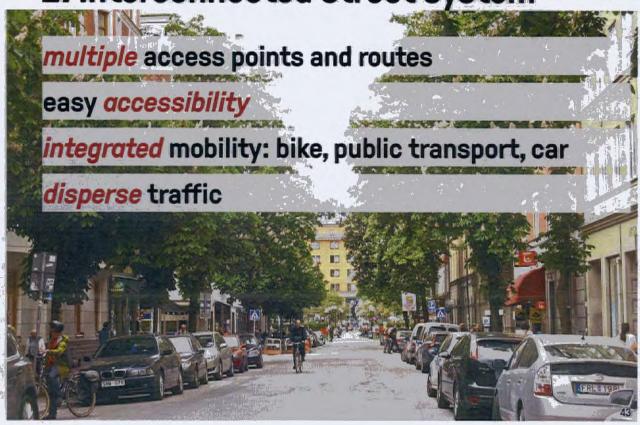
- 1. Pedestrian orientation
- 2. Interconnected street system
- 3. Quality of the public realm
- 4. Distinct character
- 5. Smart transportation & parking
- Mix of land uses
- Infill development
- Housing choice

41

1. Pedestrian orientation



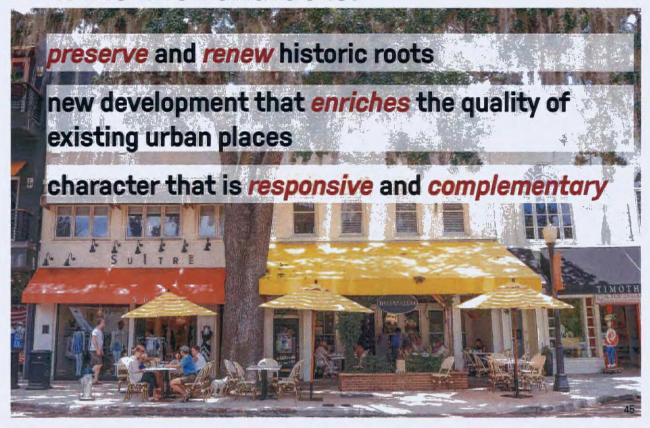
2. Interconnected street system



3. Quality of the public realm



4. Distinct character



5. Smart transportation & parking



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OVERVIEW

47

TAKE PART!

Community involvement and input lies at the heart of the process

1 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1

EXPLORE: Beautification Ideas & Opportunities

November 30th, 2016

2 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

CREATE: Beautification Brainstorming & Mapping

TODAY | JANUARY 11th, 2017

3 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #3

EVALUATE: Alternative Beautification Concept

Wednesday | February 8th, 2017

Results from

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 @ Nixon Plaza Building



49

Workshop #1: Major Themes



Workshop Activity #1: Pop Quiz!

What three qualities of Uptown Whittier do you value the most?

2. Where do you go most frequently in Uptown Whittier?

restaurants

small town ambiance

architectural quality
mix of land uses
theater
walkability

historic elements quaint

community
family friendly
shopping

events
food options
location to other cities



Workshop Activity #1: Pop Quiz!

3. What place is most enjoyable to you in Uptown Whittier?



4. What other downtowns/main streets do you enjoy visiting?



53

Workshop Activity #1: Pop Quiz!

5. What qualities draw you to visit these other downtown/main street areas?

trees unique walkability cleanliness tech friendly restaurants free parking open late safety aesthetic historic quality landscape outdoor theater culture small business outdoor entertainment diverse food options

pedestrian oriented

6. What change could be made in Uptown Whittier that would bring you here more?



Workshop Activity #1: Pop Quiz!

- On a scale of 1-5, how open are you to the replanting of Ficus trees with alternative species within Uptown Whittier?
- 8 Would you prefer to have a few more spaces to gather or a few more spaces to park?

1: least open to replanting (7)

no palms

2, 3, 4: moderately open to replanting (7)

5: most open to replanting (27)

replant with more appropriate trees

parking

gathering spaces

both

55

Workshop Activity #1: Pop Quiz!

9. What types of gathering spaces are missing in Uptown Whittier?

organic food stores children's playground

live entertainment

outdoor dining

umbrellas

paseos

spaces for youth

community garden

music

sidewalk cafes

alleys

pop-ups

outdoor seating

open green space

agriculture

community events

plazas amphitheater

10. How many Ficus trees are currently planted in Uptown Whittier?

401 to 500

under 50

not enough

51 to 100

301 to 400

too many

201 to 300

over 1,000

101 to 200

Workshop Activity #2: Streetscape Experiences



Workshop Activity #2: Streetscape Experiences







- 46 ART
- 35 RETAIL/CAFE SEATING
- 33 PARKLET PATIOS
- 33 STREET TREES
- (31) FLEXIBLE GATHERING SPACES
- 28 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
- 24 STREET CROSSINGS
- 22 PARKING
- 21) SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING
- (19) STREET LIFE & AMENITIES
- 16 BICYCLE FACILITIES

Results from

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

@ Nixon Plaza Building



Workshop #2: Major Themes



UPTOWN PROGRAMMING

Programming Objectives



Streetscape Programming

Art







Streetscape Programming

Street Trees

Flexible Gathering Spaces

Landscape





Bicycle Facilities

Street Life + Amenities



Signage + Wayfinding

rectional gnage city maps signage

Parking

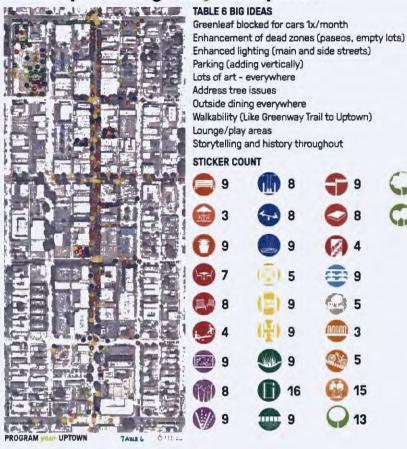
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Workshop Activity #1:

PROGRAM your UPTOWN

Activity #1: Program your Uptown

TABLE 6





Activity #1: Program your Uptown

MAJOR TAKE-AWAYS

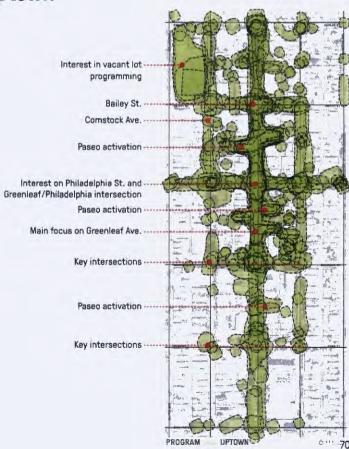
KEY AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION

- Greenleaf Ave./Philadelphia St. intersection
- Greenleaf Ave
- Philadelphia St.
- Key intersections extending from Greenleaf Ave./ Philadelphia St.
- Bright Ave. and Comstock Ave.
- Paseos on Greenleaf Avenue
- Alpha Beta site
- Connect Greenwey Trail to Uptown Whittier

MOST PREFERRED STREETSCAPE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- Safe lighting and street amenities (Greenleaf Ave., Philadelphia St., intersections)
- Art murals, installations, and sculptures (paseos and major intersections)
- Specialty paving on sidewalks and major intersection crossings
- Wayfinding and signage with historic reference (major intersections and key entry points into Uptown Whittier)
- Canopy trees (on streets)
- Specimen and accent trees (in paseos, parks, and special use areas)
- 'Outside' dining end parklets (on Greenleaf Ave., Bright Ave., Comstock Ave., Philadelphia St.)
- · Urban play elements and fountains (paseos and parks)
- Parking garages (consolidated parking strategy, "vertical parking")
- Permeable pavements (in existing parking lots)

COMPOSITE SUMMARY



EXISTING UPTOWN TREES

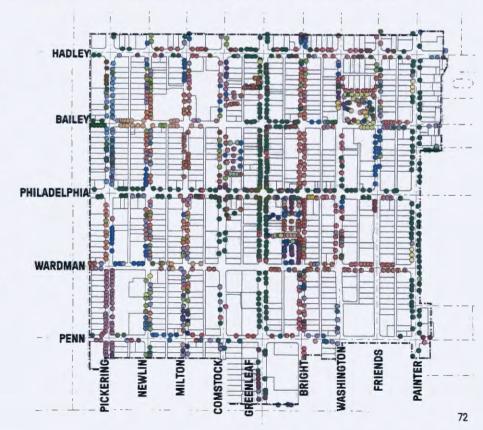
71

Existing Street Trees in Uptown Whittier

70TREE SPECIES

241 FICUS TREES

1,317 TREES (TOTAL)



Existing Street Trees - Greenleaf Ave.

17 SPECIES

- INDIAN LAUREL FIG 104
- CRAPE MYRTLE
- SWEETSHADE 10
- · CHITALPA
- O CHINESE FLAME TREE
- CAMPHOR TREE
- GOLD MEDALLION TREE
- GOLDEN TRUMPET TREE
- GOLDENRAIN TREE
- HOLLYWOOD JUNIPER
- JAPANESE BLACK PINE
- JAPANESE MAPLE RED LACE
- LITTLE GEM MAGNOLIA
- QUEEN PALM
- WESTERN REDBUD
- WICHITA BLUE JUNIPER
- VACANT SITE



Existing Street Trees - Greenleaf Ave.

104 INDIAN LAUREL FIG

- 40-60' tall / 50-60' wide
- Messy / invasive roots
- Evergreen tree

11 CRAPE MYRTLE

- 15-25' tall / 6-15' wide
- Slow growing
- Non-invasive roots
- Evergreen tree with seasonal color

10 SWEETSHADE TREE

- 25-40' tall / 15-20' wide
- Poor root growth
- Fragrant flowers
- Evergreen tree with seasonal color







Existing Street Trees - Philadelphia St.



Existing Street Trees - Philadelphia St.

48 INDIAN LAUREL FIG

- 40-60' tall / 50-60' wide
- Messy / invasive roots
- Evergreen tree

14 SWEETSHADE TREE

- 25-40' tall / 15-20' wide
- Poor root growth
- Fragrant yellow flowers
- Evergreen tree

5 CAMPHOR TREE

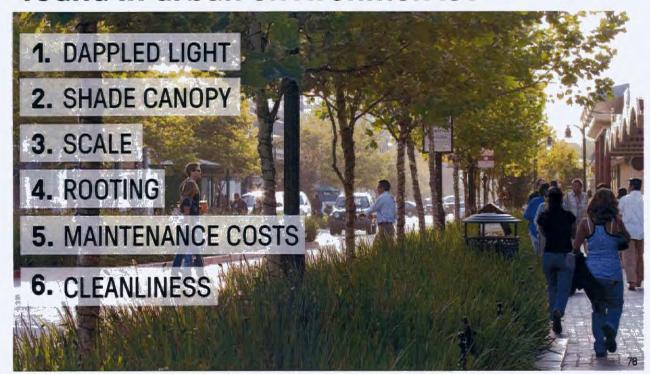
- 50-60' tall / 60' wide
- Require large planting areas
- Great broad canopy
- Evergreen tree



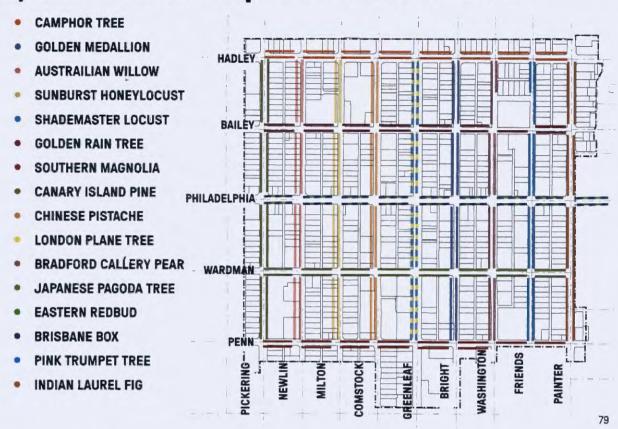
UPTOWN TREE STRATEGY

77

What do we look for in street trees found in urban environments?



Specific Plan Proposed Street Trees



Street Tree Strategies



SWA Poposed Street Trees Per Specific Plan

- **CAMPHOR TREE**
- **GOLDEN MEDALLION**
- **AUSTRAILIAN WILLOW**

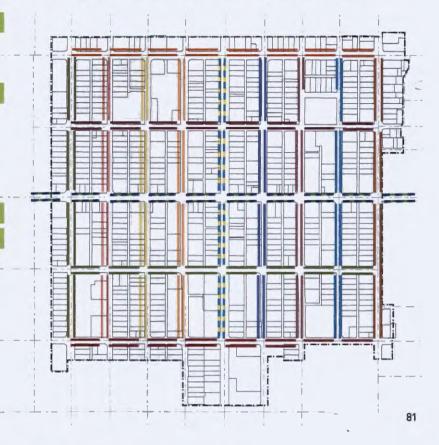
SUNBURST HONEYLOCUST

- SHADEMASTER LOCUST
- **GOLDEN RAIN TREE**
- **SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA**
- **CANARY ISLAND PINE**

CHINESE PISTACHE

LONDON PLANE TREE

- **BRADFORD CALLERY PEAR**
- **JAPANESE PAGODA TREE**
- **EASTERN REDBUD**
- **BRISBANE BOX**
- **PINK TRUMPET TREE**
- **INDIAN LAUREL FIG**



SWA Suggested Street Trees

Specific Plan

London Plane Tree



Chinese Pistache



Sunburst Honey Locust



Camphor Tree



SWA Additional Suggested Street Trees Specific Plan



FICUS PHASING

Existing Ficus Trees in Uptown Whittier



Fun Ficus Facts



Indian Laurel Fig (Ficus microcarpa)

HEIGHT / WIDTH:

40-60' Tall / 50-60' Wide

CHARACTERISTICS:

Non-native evergreen tree Oval or rounded shape

PLANT NEEDS:

Medium water needs / full sun to partial shade

GROWTH RATE:

24 inches per season

LONGEVITY:

50 to 150 years

CONCERNS:

Medium/weak branch strength Root damage potential Messy Fruit Droppings Maintenance Issues



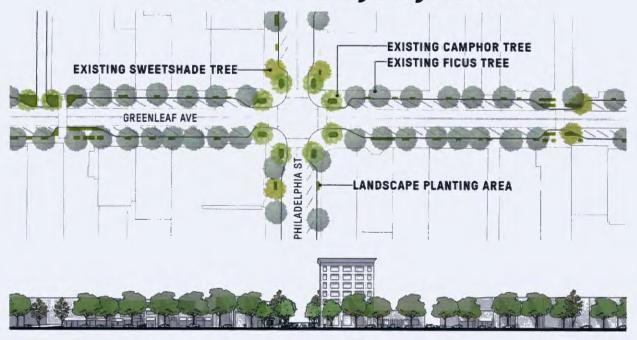
Ficus Phasing - Strategies



Ficus Phasing - Strategies

1. Increase *Maintenance* of the Ficus Trees

*trim trees on a yearly schedule







Ficus Phasing - Strategies

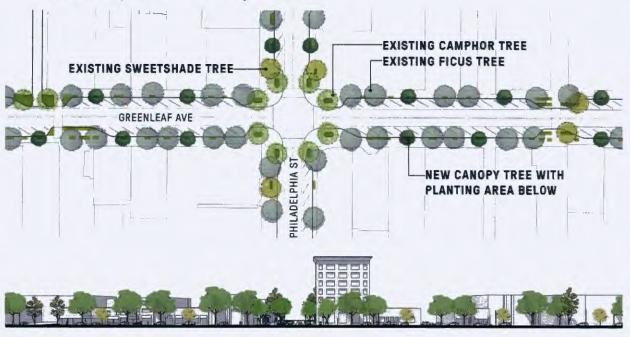
2. Replace every other Ficus Tree

*50% replacement phase 1; per Specific Plan



3. Replace every third Ficus Tree

30% replacement phase 1

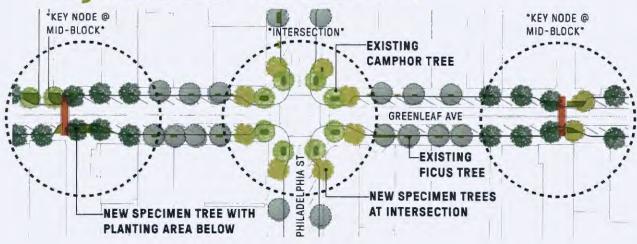


91

Ficus Phasing - Strategies

4. Replace Ficus Trees at

key nodes & intersections



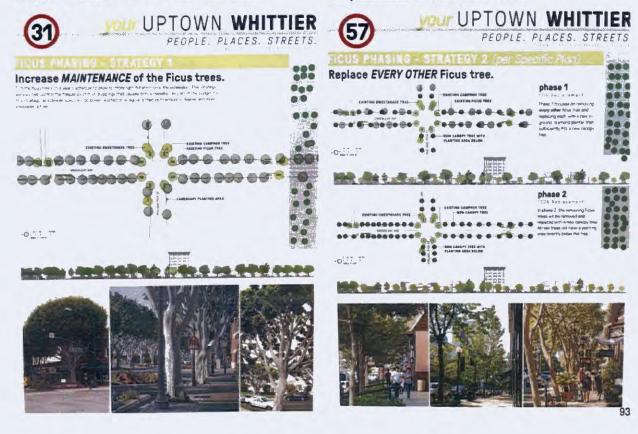


72

Activity #2 results: Ficus Phasing Dot Polling

1 Increase MAINTENANCE of the Ficus trees.

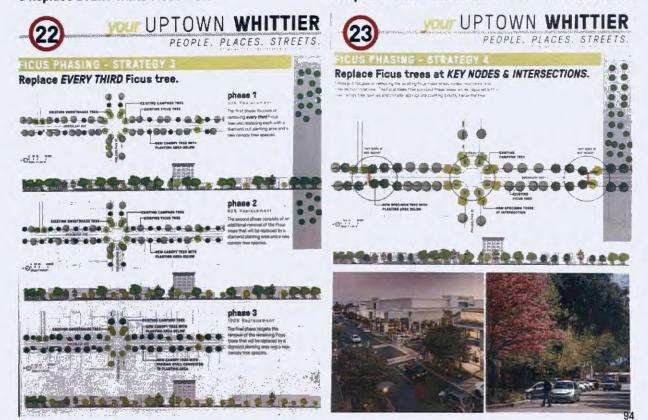
2 Replace EVERY OTHER Ficus tree.



Activity #2 results: Ficus Phasing Dot Polling

3 Replace EVERY THIRD Ficus tree.

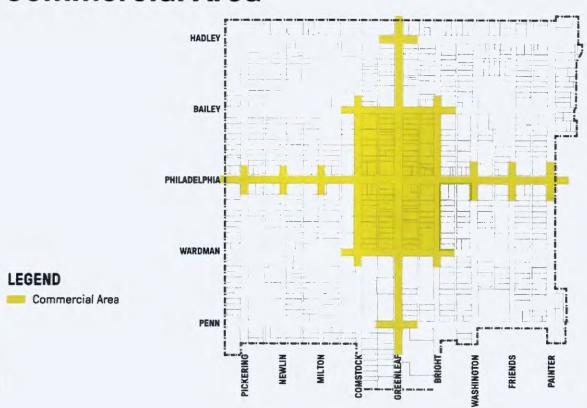
4 Replace Ficus trees at KEY NODES & INTERSECTIONS.



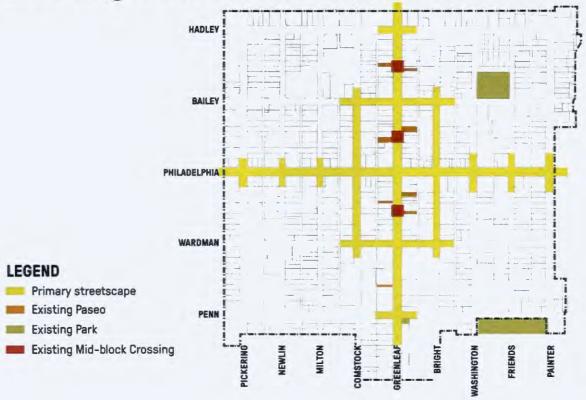
UPTOWN STREETSCAPE FRAMEWORK

Existing Streetscape Framework

Commercial Area

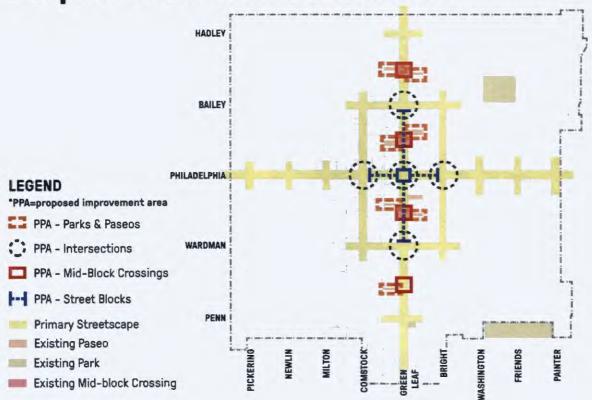


Existing Overall Framework



Proposed Streetscape Framework

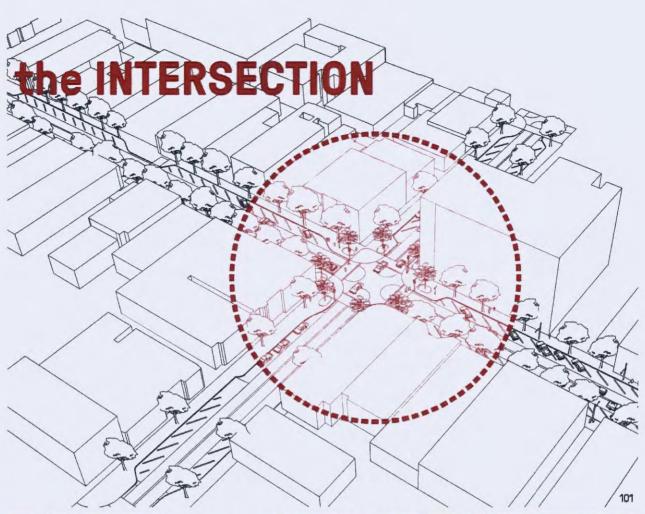
Proposed Overall Framework



PROGRAMMING SCENARIOS: making it real

99

'to *create*gathering space, we *need* space'











Greenleaf Ave. / Philadelphia St. (conceptual condition)



Greenleaf Ave. / Philadelphia St. (conceptual condition)



Greenleaf Ave. / Philadelphia St. (conceptual condition)

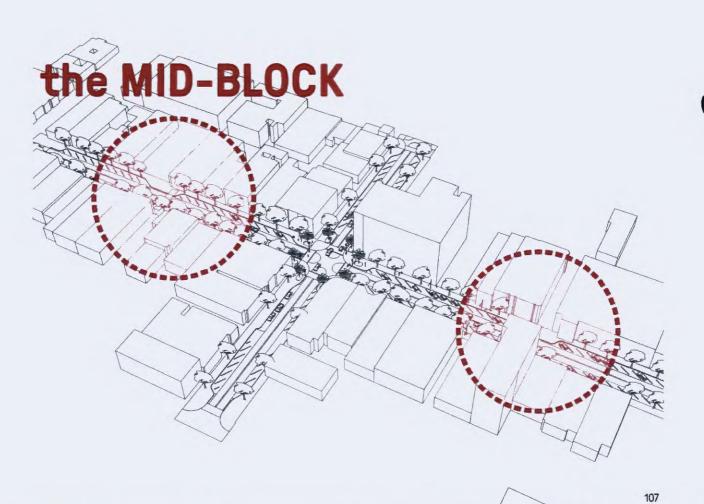


















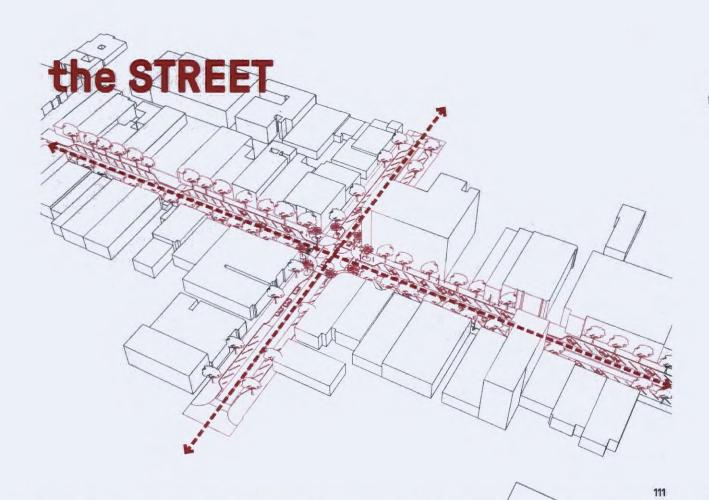
Greenleaf Ave. mid-block (conceptual condition)



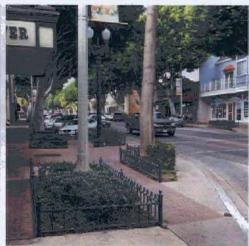














Greenleaf Ave. Parklet (conceptual condition)

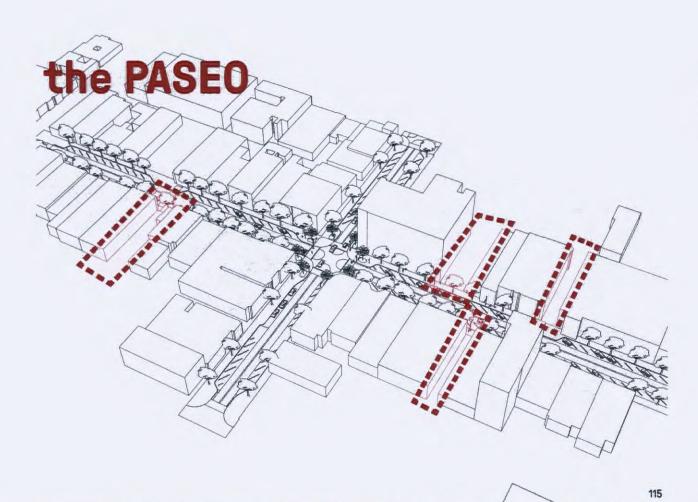














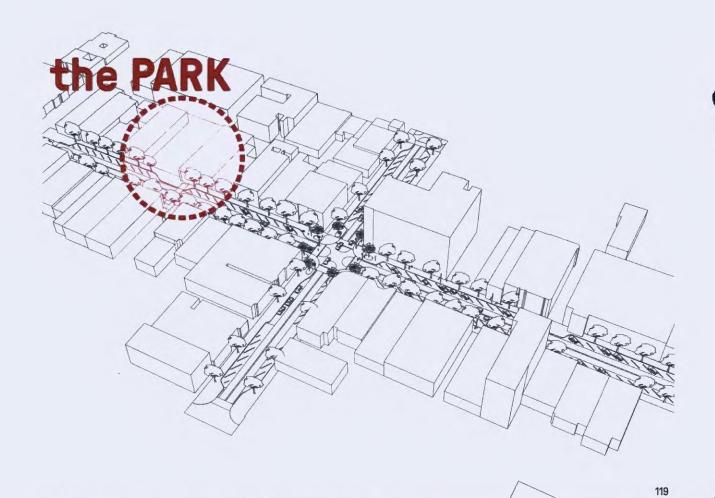




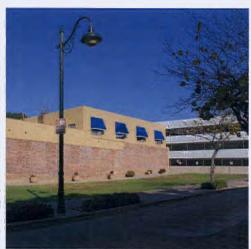


Paseo (conceptual condition)



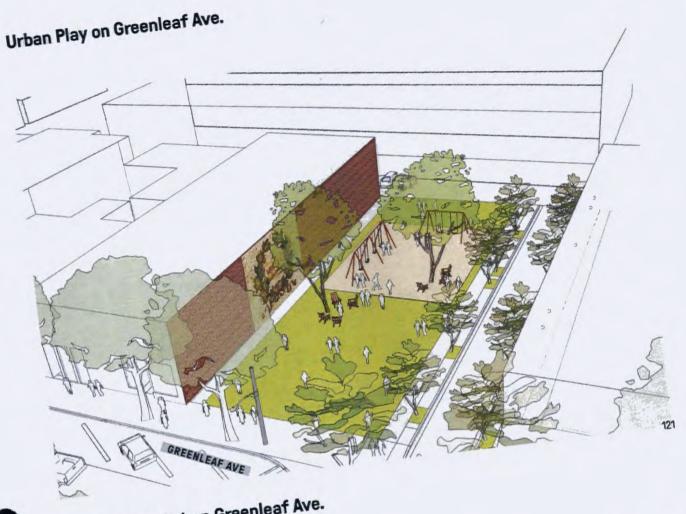


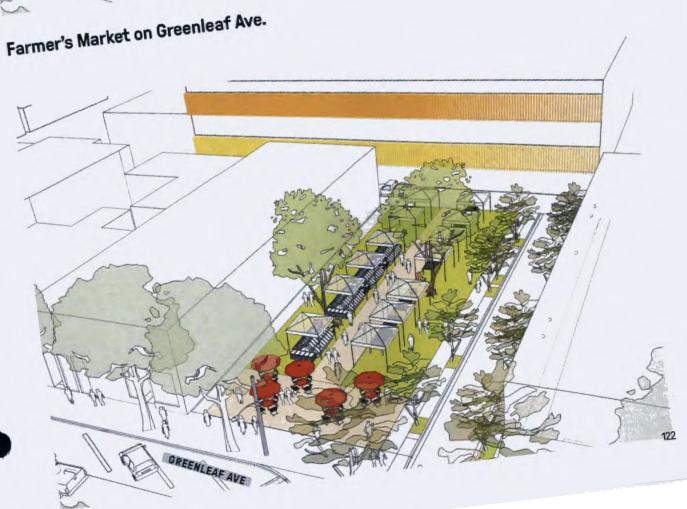














THE STREETSCAPE PALETTE

Street Crossing Paving

ARTFUL PAINT STRIPING









COST ALLOWANCE RANGE - ONE BLOCK: \$25,000

NOTE: Paving costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency provides for costs/items unknown due to current status of design details.

ALL-BLOCK CROSSING





Uptown Streetscape Palette

Streetscape Paving

CONCRETE - STANDARD NATURAL GRAY





COST ALLOWANCE RANGE - ONE BLOCK: \$100,000

NOTE: Paving costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.



Site Furnishings

OUTDOOR CAFE SEATING





SIDEWALK SEATING





COST ALLOWANCE RANGE - ONE BLOCK:

\$40,000-\$100,000

NOTE: Furnishing costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streatscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely an preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.

TRASH CANS / BOLLARDS





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Uptown Streetscape Palette

Signage & Wayfinding

GATEWAY TO UPTOWN







DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE/CITY MAPS







COST ALLOWANCE -ONE BLOCK:

\$35,000

NOTE: Signage costs are approximate & contingent on degree of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely an preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the angoing design process.

INSPIRATIONAL SIGNAGE





Lighting

PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING



SPECIALTY STREET LIGHTING



COST ALLOWANCE -ONE BLOCK:

\$120,000

Cost allowance is an approximate range and may include:

- -new pedestrian pole lights
- -new specialty overhead lighting/festune
- -provision for specialty holiday lighting
- -new conduit, wiring, transformers

NOTE: Lighting costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.

129

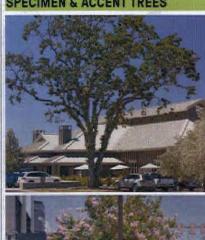
Uptown Streetscape Palette

Landscape

DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTING



SPECIMEN & ACCENT TREES





COST ALLOWANCE RANGE - ONE BLOCK: \$60,000

\$30,000-

NOTE: Planting costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.

CANOPY STREET TREES





UPTOWN STREETSCAPE ZONES

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Uptown Streetscape Concepts

Z1 Intersection

COST ALLOWANCE:

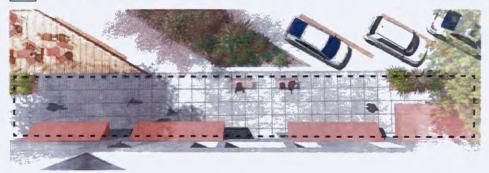




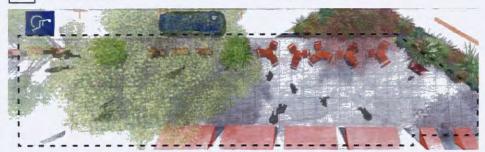


Z2 Streetscape

01. 13' SIDEWALK



02. 20' SIDEWALK



Uptown Streetscape Concepts

Z3 Parking Planter

01. PARKING STALL PLANTER



03. TRANSITION PLANTER



02. DIAMOND PLANTER



04. PARALLEL PARKING PLANTER



COST ALLOWANCE:

\$215,000 -\$330,000

NOTE: Planting costs are approximate & contingent on extended streetscape renewation; cost tallowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; or 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design.

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COST ALLOWANCE:

\$20,000 -\$100,000

NOTE: Planting costs are approximate & contingent on exter of streetscape renovation; cost allowance in based sciely on preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency

Uptown Streetscape Concepts

Z4 Mid-Block

01. RENOVATED MID-BLOCK



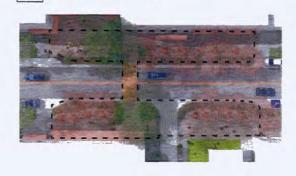
02. MEDIUM MID-BLOCK



OTE: Planting costs are approximate 6 contingent on ext i streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely preliminary conceptual design; a 15-20% contingency coolints for unknown costs due to the ongoing design



03. SUPER MID-BLOCK



135

Uptown Streetscape Concepts

Z5 Parklet

01. DINING PARKLET



COST ALLOWANCE:

\$17,500

NOTE: Planting coats are approximate & contingent on exter of streetscope removables; cost allowance is based salely an preliminary concepture design; a 15-20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the angoing design

02. LOUNGE PARKLET



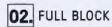
Uptown Streetscape Concepts

Z6 Parallel Parking

01. HALF BLOCK









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PROJECT PHASING & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

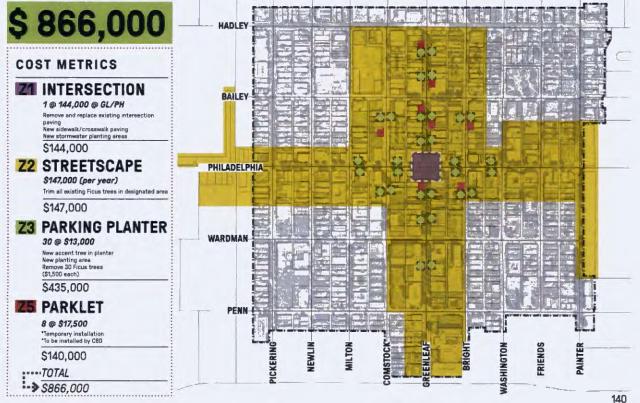
Project Implementation Feasibility



Phasing & Implementation Strategies

1 Broad Area, Light Touch

GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.



2 Key Nodes and Intersections on preliminary conceptual design; a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.

GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely



COST METRICS

Z1 INTERSECTION

5 @ \$144,000

Remove and replace existing intersection paving New sidewalk/crosswalk paving New stormwater planting areas

\$720,000

Z4 MID-BLOCK 2 @ \$100.000

Ficus tree removal @ mid-block New sidewalk/crosswalk paving New specimen tree and planting

\$200,000

*****TOTAL

\$ \$920,000

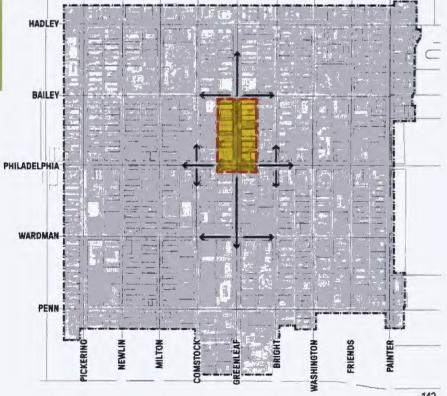


Phasing & Implementation Strategies

3 One Block

\$700,000-\$800,000

GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.



UPTOWN STREETSCAPE CONCEPTS

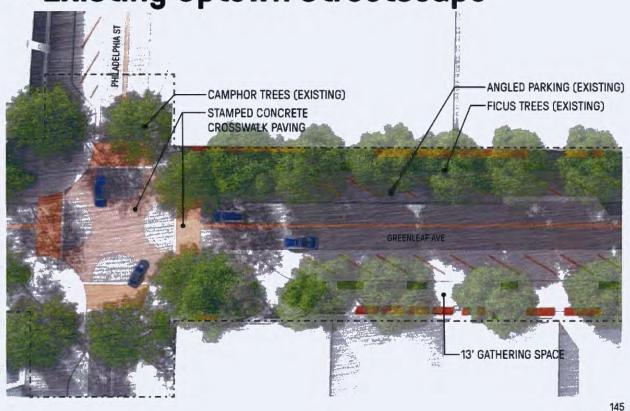
143

Uptown Streetscape Concepts

O. Existing Uptown Streetscape

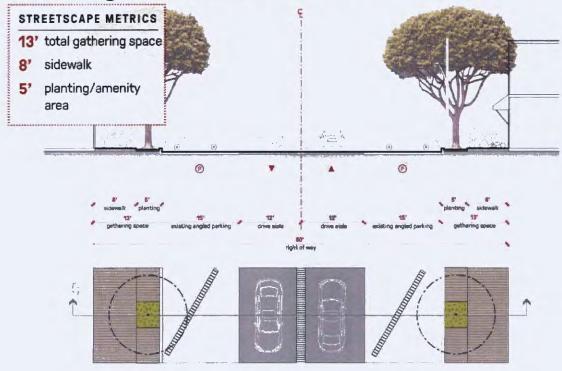


O. Existing Uptown Streetscape



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Existing Uptown Streetscape

Existing Street Section





Uptown Streetscape Concepts

1. Parklets & Planters

PLANTING

2,607 Total SF (Existing)

5,750 TOTAL SF

* 2,616 SF REQ'D FOR STORM WATER LID

GATHERING SPACE

16,200 Total SF (Existing)

1,800 SF Parklets (4 @ 450 SF each)

16,200 SF Sidewalk Gathering Space

18,000 TOTAL SF

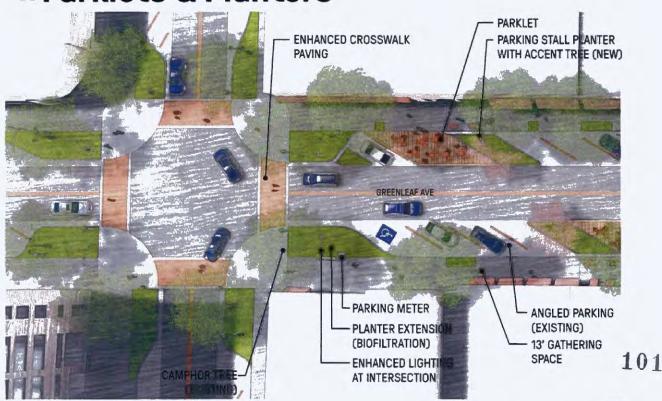


1. Parklets & Planters

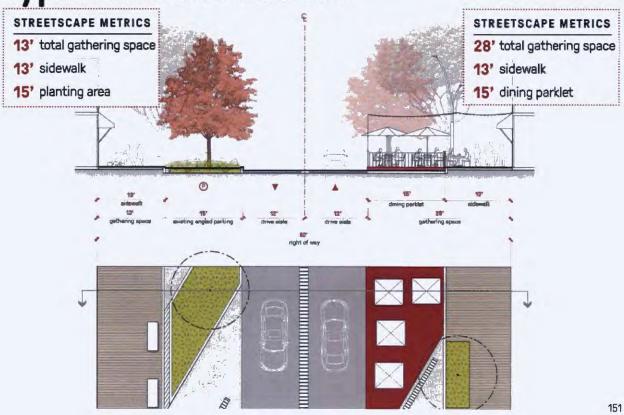
TREES PARKING 41 Total Trees (Existing) 48 Total Parking (Existing) 9 Ficus trees removed 8 Parking Spaces Removed for Parking Planters 40 TOTAL PARKING (ANGLED) 13 Existing Accent trees 19 Existing Ficus trees 4 Parking Spaces Temporarily Removed for Parklets 8 New Accent trees 36 TOTAL PARKING (ANGLED) 40 TOTAL TREES GREENLEAF AVE Θz 149

Uptown Streetscape Concepts

1. Parklets & Planters

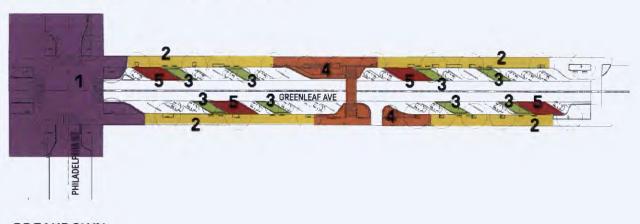


Typical Street Section



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters

Conceptual Zones



BREAKDOWN

1: INTERSECTION
2: STREETSCAPE
3: PARKING PLANTER
4: MID-BLOCK

5: PARKLET

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters



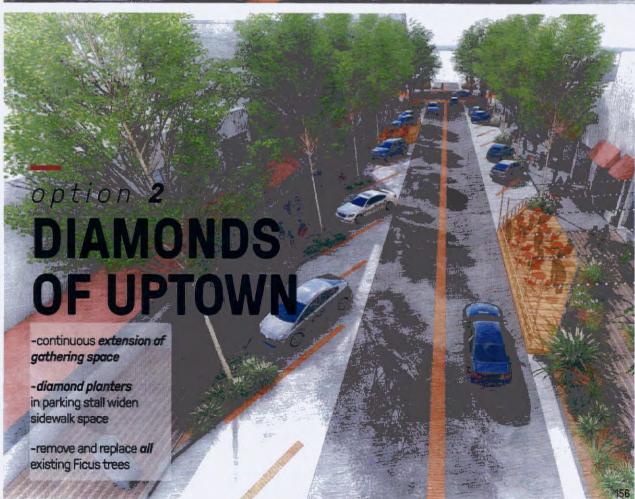
153

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters





2. Diamonds of Uptown (recommended in Specific Plan)

PLANTING

2,607 Total SF (Existing)

6.000 TOTAL SF

* 2,360 SF REQ'D FOR STORM WATER LID

GATHERING SPACE

16,200 Total SF (Existing)

1,800 SF Parklets (4 @ 450 SF each)

16,500 SF Sidewalk Gathering Space

18,300 TOTAL SF



Uptown Streetscape Concepts

2. Diamonds of Uptown (recommended in Specific Plan)

TREES

41 Total Trees (Existing)

28 Figus trees removed

5 Existing Accent Trees Removed

- 8 Existing Accent trees
- 22 New Canopy Trees
 - 2 New Specimen Trees

32 TOTAL TREES

PARKING

48 Total Parking (Existing)

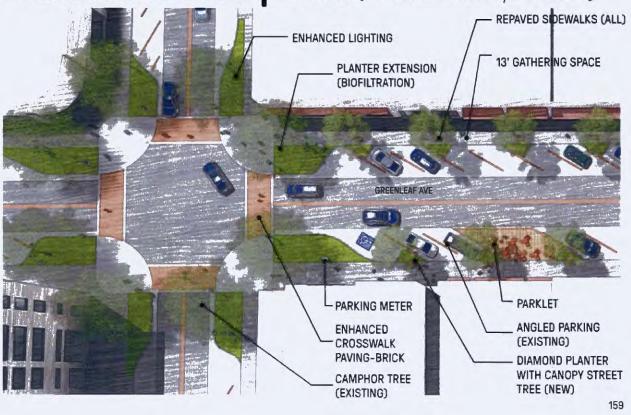
48 TOTAL PARKING (ANGLED)

4 Parking Spaces Temporarily Removed for Parklets

36 TOTAL PARKING (ANGLED)

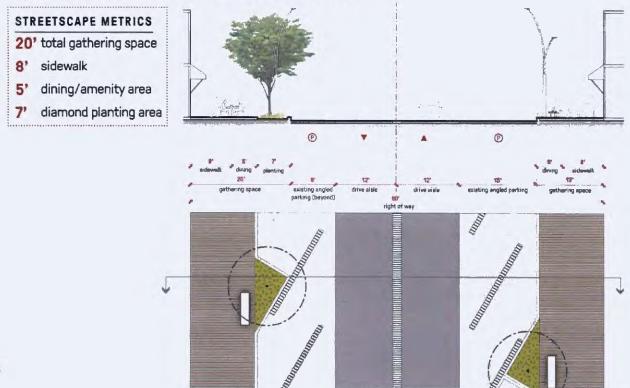


2. Diamonds of Uptown (recommended in Specific Plan)

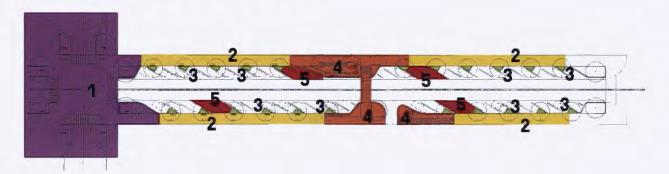


Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Diamonds of Uptown

Typical Street Section



Conceptual Zones



BREAKDOWN

1: INTERSECTION

2: STREETSCAPE

3: PARKING PLANTER

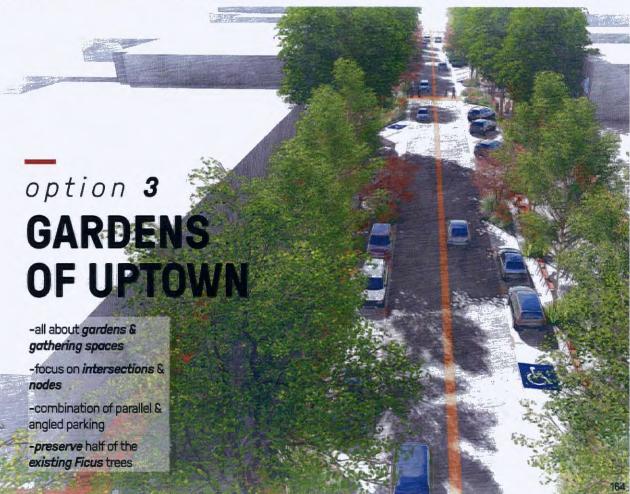
4: MID-BLOCK

5: PARKLET

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Diamonds of Uptown







3. Gardens of Uptown

PLANTING

2,607 Total SF (Existing)

7.000 TOTAL SF

* 2,670 SF REQ'D FOR STORM WATER LID

GATHERING SPACE

16,200 Total SF (Existing)

450 SF Parklets (1 @ 450 SF each)

18.550 SF Sidewalk Gathering Space

19,000 TOTAL SF



Uptown Streetscape Concepts

3. Gardens of Uptown

TREES

- 41 Total Trees (Existing)
- 15 Ficus trees removed
- 5 Existing Accent Trees Removed
- **13** Existing Ficus Trees
- 8 Existing Accent Trees
- 12 New Canopy Trees
- 4 New Accent Trees
- 2 New Specimen Trees

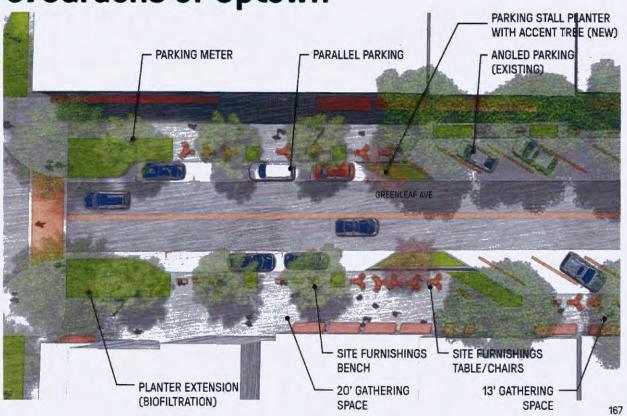
PARKING

- 48 Total Parking (Existing)
- 25 Existing Angled Parking Spaces Removed
- 23 Existing angled parking
- 15 New parallel parking
- 38 TOTAL PARKING
 - 1 Parking Spaces Temporarily Removed for Parklets
 - 37 TOTAL PARKING



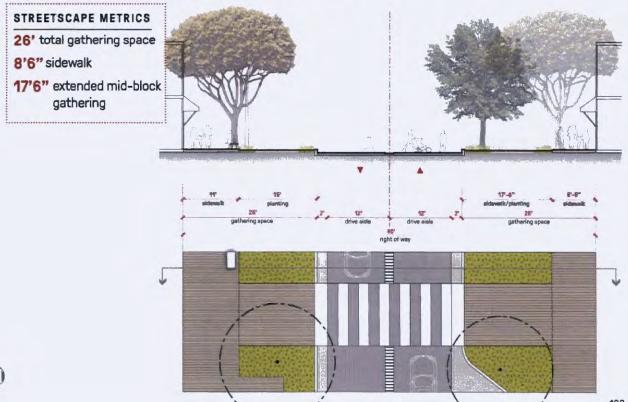


3. Gardens of Uptown

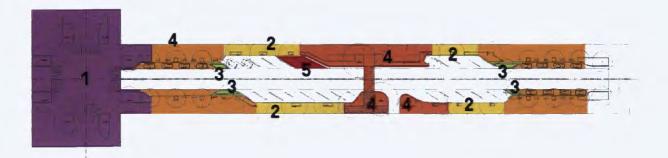


Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown

Typical Street Section



Conceptual Zones



BREAKDOWN

1: INTERSECTION
2: STREETSCAPE
3: PARKING PLANTER
4: MID-BLOCK
5: PARKLET

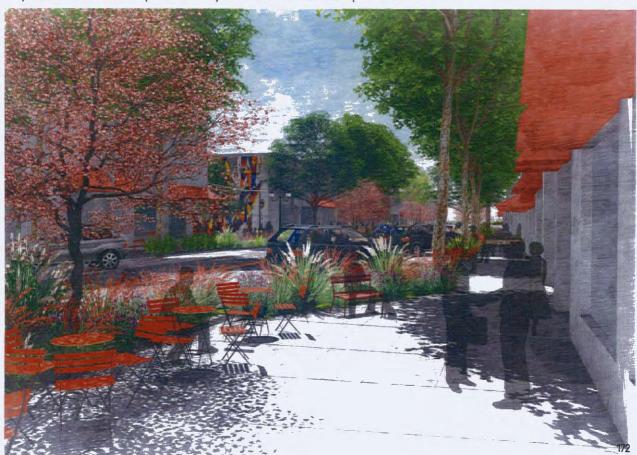
6: PARALLEL PARKING



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown





Uptown Streetscape Concepts

4. Gathering in Uptown

PLANTING

2,607 Total SF (Existing)

7,100 TOTAL SF

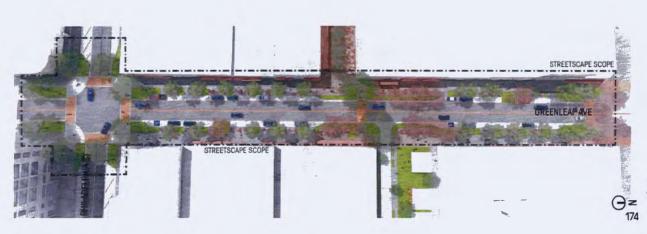
* 2,970 SF REQ'D FOR STORM WATER LID

GATHERING SPACE

16.200 Total SF (Existing)

22,000 TOTAL SF

No Temporary Parklets



4. Gathering in Uptown

TREES

41 Total Trees (Existing)

28 Ficus trees removed

5 Existing Accent Trees Removed

- 8 Existing Accent Trees
- 20 New Canopy Trees
- 11 New Accent Trees
- 2 New Specimen Trees

41 TOTAL TREES

PARKING

48 Total Parking (Existing)

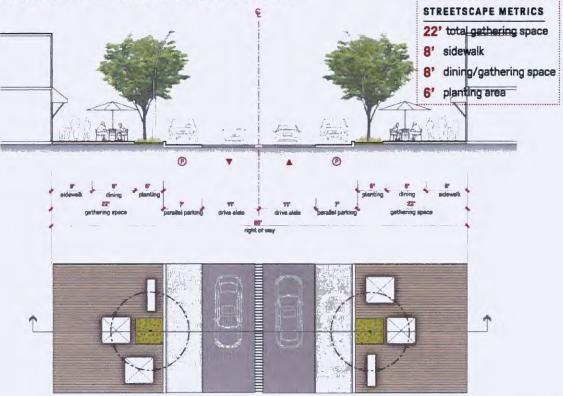
35 TOTAL PARKING (PARALLEL)

No Temporary Parklets





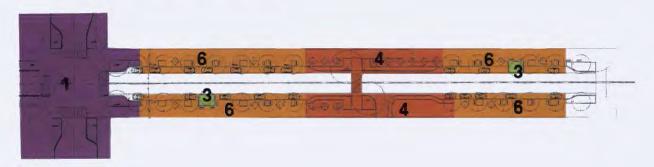
Typical Street Section



177

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown

Conceptual Zones



BREAKDOWN

1: INTERSECTION
3: PARKING PLANTER
4: MID-BLOCK
6: PARALLEL PARKING

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown



Concept Comparison



Results from

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #3

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

@ Nixon Plaza Building

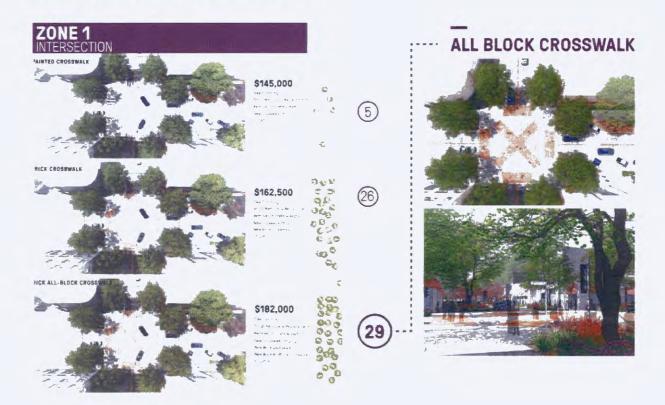
Workshop #3: Major Themes

7. PREFERENCE FOR A BOLD STATEMENT
2. STREETS FOR THE PEOPLE LARGER SIDEWALKS
3. MEANINGFUL GATHERING SPACES PERMANENT + TEMPORARY
4. FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK
5. SUPPORT FOR PARALLEL PARKING
6. FICUS TREE PHASING + DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTING

Workshop Activity #1:

Build your UPTOWN

Activity #1: Build your Uptown



185

Activity #1: Build your Uptown



Activity #1: Build your Uptown

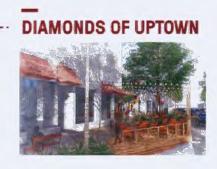


Activity #1: Build your Uptown



Activity #1: Build your Uptown







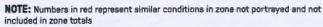


189

Activity #1: Build your Uptown

MAJOR TAKE-AWAYS

TOTAL VOTES	Streetscape	Planter	Mid-Block	Parklet	Parallel	
	ZZ	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	
Parklets & Planter	6	0	12	17	n/a	3
Diamonds Of Uptown	15	12	7	37	n/a	7
Gardens Of Uptown	22	29	1	17	36	10
Gathering In Uptown	22	25	34	n/a	35	11
TOTAL VOTES	43	66	54	54	71	







(6)

Workshop Activity #2:

Discuss your UPTOWN

191

Activity #2: Discuss your Uptown



Activity #2: Discuss your Uptown



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PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

THANK YOU!

Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council Members and available to the public on 03/14/17, after distribution of the 03/14/17 Agenda packet. Agenda Item: 10.0



Timeline

- 1960s Two Parking Districts Approved
- 1970s Uptown BIA Whittier Uptown Association
- 2008 Uptown Specific Plan
- 2010 Uptown Parking Mgmt. Plan
- February 2015 –\$12.5 M bond proceeds approved for infrastructure improvement projects (contingent on establishing an assessment district):
 - parking structure (\$9.2 M)
 - sewer/water upgrades (\$1.6 M)
 - streetscape beautification plans (\$1.2 M)
 - parking meters (\$500,000)

Underway

- Five Parallel Processes Underway to Benefit Uptown from former RDA Bond Proceeds:
 - New City America, Inc. Community Benefit District
 - SWA Uptown Streetscape Beautification Plan
 - Watry Design, Inc. Design of parking structure on Comstock Avenue
 - Walnut Street Street/Sewer/Water Improvements (in design)
 - Comstock Avenue Water Main Improvements (in construction)

3

Process to Date

- November 2016 mailed ~2,900 flyers to UWSP
 Area + South to Mar Vista for Double Tree Hotel
- Public Meetings:
 - November 30, 2016
 - January 11, 2017
 - February 8, 2017
- Joint Commission/Board Meetings:
 - January 23, 2017
 - February 21, 2017

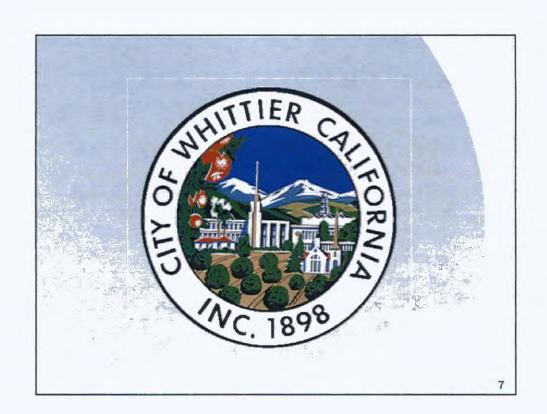
Adopted Directives

- Uptown Whittier Specific Plan
 - Gateway Signage
 - Park Once District
 - Tree Succession Plan replace every other ficus tree with new tree planted at end of diagonal parking spaces
 - Widen Sidewalks and Activate Sidewalk Space
 - Establish PBID
 - Build New Parking Structure
 - Install 32 Electronic Parking Pay Machines
 - Upgrade Sewer/Water Lines
 - Improve/Install Mid-block Crossings

5

Adopted Directives

- Uptown Whittier Parking Management Plan
 - Approve Parking Management Plan and Strategy (2010 and Ordinance No. 2963)
 - Target 85% occupancy with demand based pricing arrangement
 - Valet Parking
 - Gateway/Wayfinding Signage
 - Improve Existing Parking Structure
 - Build New Parking Structure(s)
 - Electronic Parking Pay Machines in Prime Spots
 - Reinvest Parking Proceeds



Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council Members and available to the public on <u>03/14/17</u>, after distribution of the <u>03/14/17</u> Agenda packet. Agenda Item: <u>10.C</u>



your UPIOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.





your UPTOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

City Council Meeting

March 14, 2017

- 1. Team introduction
- 2. Project introduction
- 3. Positioning Uptown
- 4. Community involvement update
- 5. Uptown programming
- 6. Uptown tree strategies
- 7. Streetscape Framework
- 8. Streetscape Concepts
- 9. Closing Remarks



your UPTOWN

PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

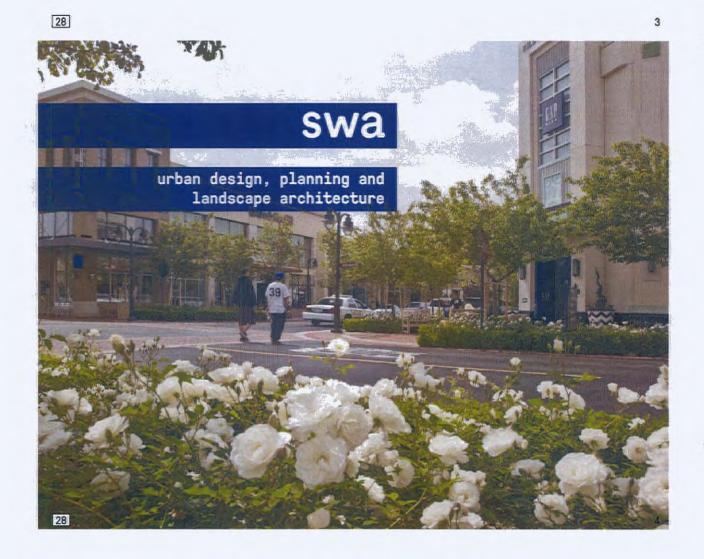
Consultant Team

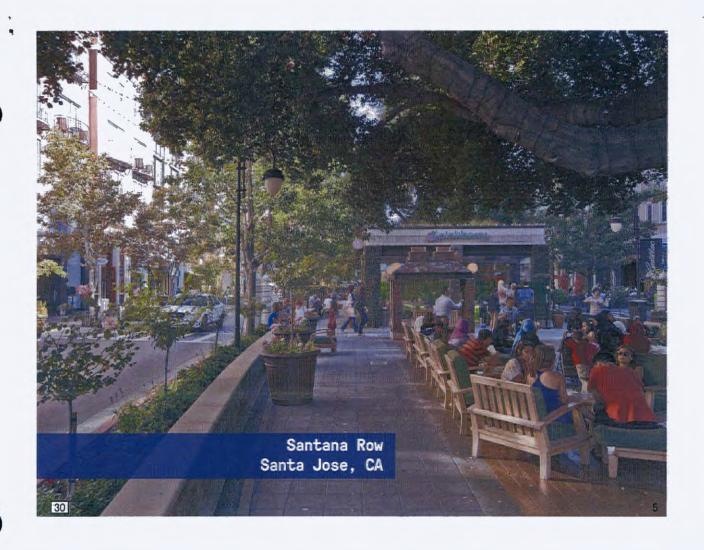
SWA Group

Planning, Urban Design, Landscape Architecture

Fuscoe

Civil Engineering





WHERE IS THE FOCUS OF THE STREETSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?

Project Study Area



Proposed Benefit Districts



WHY A STREETSCAPE **BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?**

32

Why a Streetscape Beautification Plan?

 CELEBRATE the historic core of Whittier

• ENRICH the community's public realm

- PROMOTE a walkable, enjoyable Uptown



 PROVIDE for safety & accessibility

KEEP Uptown competitive



WHAT IS A STREETSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN?

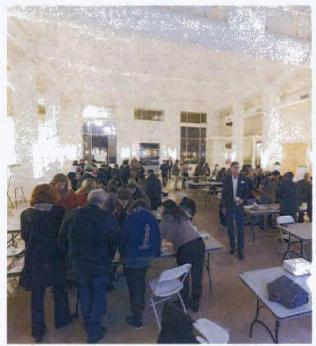
35

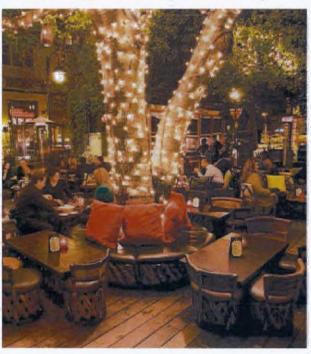
11

The Streetscape Beautification Plan will include ...

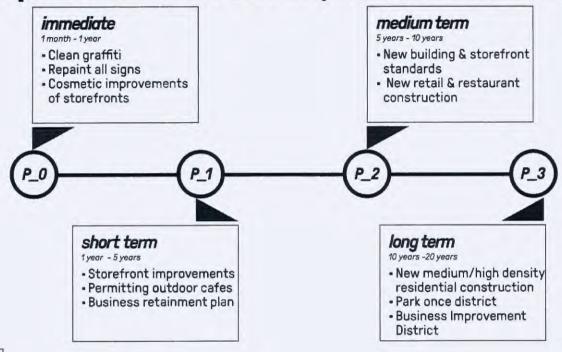
results from community based input







project cost estimation and phasing of implementation (example from U.W.S.P.)



38 13

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

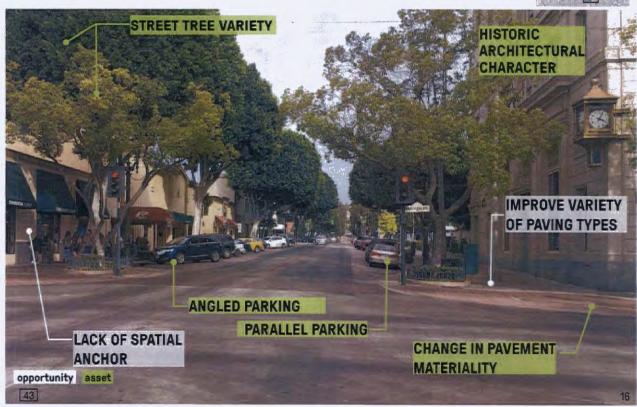
Evaluating Current Site Conditions



Current Site Conditions

Philadelphia St. / Greenleaf Ave.





Philadelphia St.





Current Site Conditions

General Observations



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

46

19

Guiding principles rooted from the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan

1. Pedestrian orientation
2. Interconnected street system
3. Quality of the public realm
4. Distinct character
5. Smart transportation & parking

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OVERVIEW

50

21

Results from COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

@ Nixon Plaza Building

Workshop #1: Major Themes

7. OUTDOOR DINING/ SIDEWALK CAFÉ SEATING/ PARKLET PATIOS

2. STREET TREES

3. ARTFUL/FLEXIBLE GATHERING SPACES

4. WALKABILITY

5. SAFETY AND CLEANLINESS

Workshop #1 Activity

Streetscape Experiences



Results from

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

@ Nixon Plaza Building

56

25

Workshop #2: Major Themes

- 1. SAFETY ON THE STREET
- 2. UPTOWN HISTORY APPLIED THROUGH ART & SIGNAGE
- 3. ENHANCE THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- 4. ACTIVATE THE OUTSIDE
- 5. EXTEND UPTOWN



UPTOWN PROGRAMMING

57

Programming Objectives



Streetscape Programming

Art

Parklet Patios

Retail +Café Seating

58

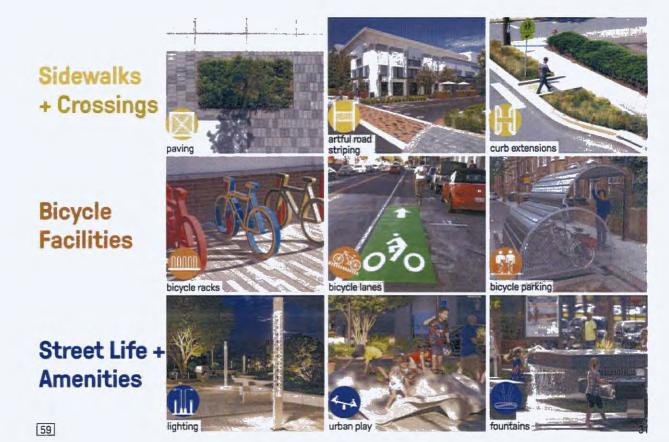


Streetscape Programming

Street **Trees**

Flexible Gathering Spaces











Workshop Activity #1:

PROGRAM your UPTOWN

60

Activity #1: Program your Uptown

Storytelling and history throughout

Greenleaf blocked for cars 1x/month Enhancement of dead zones (paseos, empty lots) Enhanced lighting (main and side streets) Parking (adding vertically) Lots of art - everywhere Address tree issues Outside dining everywhere Walkability (Like Greenway Trail to Uptown) Lounge/play areas

STICKER COUNTS

Landscape- 16

Street Trees-15

Bicycle Parking- 13

Directional Signage-9

Artful Road Striping-9

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TABLE 6



Activity #1: Program your Uptown

COMPOSITE SUMMARY

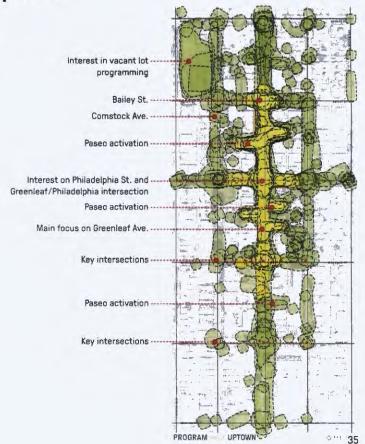
MAJOR TAKE-AWAYS

KEY AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION

- Greenleaf Ave./Philadelphia St. intersection
- · Greenleaf Ave.
- Philadelphia St.
- Key intersections extending from Greenleaf Ave./ Philadelphia St.
- Bright Ave. and Comstock Ave.
- · Paseos on Greenleaf Avenue
- Alpha Beta site
- Connect Greenway Trail to Uptown Whittier

MOST PREFERRED STREETSCAPE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- Safe lighting and street amenities (Greenleaf Ave., Philadelphia St., intersections)
- Art murals, installations, and sculptures (paseos and major intersections)
- Specialty paving on sidewalks and major intersection crossings
- Wayfinding and signage with historic reference (major intersections and key entry points into Uptown Whittier)
- · Canopy trees (on streets)
- Specimen and accent trees (in paseos, parks, and special use areas)
- 'Outside' dining and parklets (on Greenleaf Ave., Bright Ave., Comstock Ave., Philadelphia St.)
- Urban play elements and fountains (paseos and parks)
- Parking garages (consolidated parking strategy, "vertical parking")
- · Permeable pavements (in existing parking lots)



61

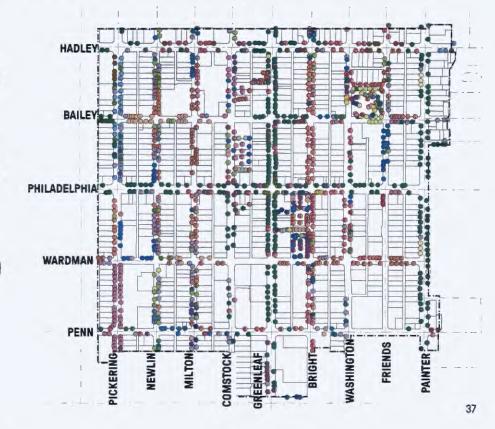
EXISTING UPTOWN TREES

Existing Street Trees in Uptown Whittier

70TREE SPECIES

241 FICUS TREES

1,317 TREES (TOTAL)



62

Existing Street Trees - Greenleaf Ave.



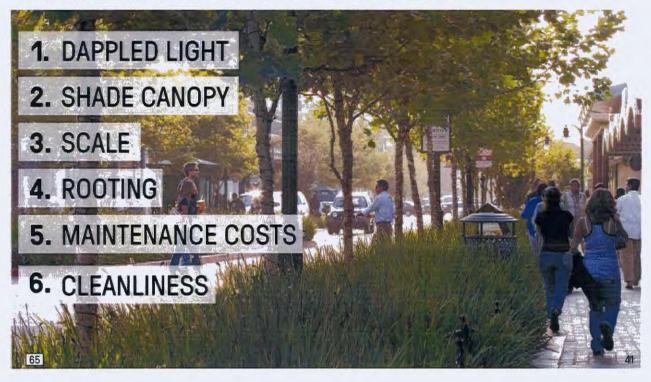
Existing Street Trees - Philadelphia St.

12 SPECIES



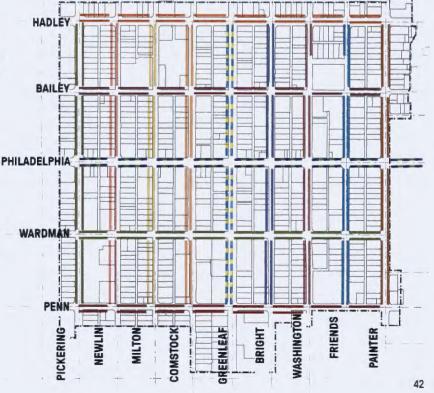
UPTOWN TREE STRATEGY

What do we look for in street trees found in urban environments?



Specific Plan Proposed Street Trees

- CAMPHOR TREE
- GOLDEN MEDALLION
- AUSTRAILIAN WILLOW
- SUNBURST HONEYLOCUST
- SHADEMASTER LOCUST
- GOLDEN RAIN TREE
- SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA
- CANARY ISLAND PINE
- CHINESE PISTACHE
- LONDON PLANE TREE
- BRADFORD CALLERY PEAR
- JAPANESE PAGODA TREE
- EASTERN REDBUD
- BRISBANE BOX
- PINK TRUMPET TREE
- INDIAN LAUREL FIG



Street Tree Strategies



SWA Suggested Street Trees Specific Plan



Chinese Pistache



Sunburst Honey Locust



Camphor Tree



SWA Additional Suggested Street Trees



FICUS PHASING

Fun Ficus Facts



Indian Laurel Fig (Ficus microcarpa)

HEIGHT / WIDTH:

40-60' Tall / 50-60' Wide

CHARACTERISTICS:

Non-native evergreen tree Oval or rounded shape

PLANT NEEDS:

Medium water needs / full sun to partial shade

GROWTH RATE:

24 inches per season

LONGEVITY:

50 to 150 years

CONCERNS:

Medium/weak branch strength Root damage potential Messy Fruit Droppings Maintenance Issues







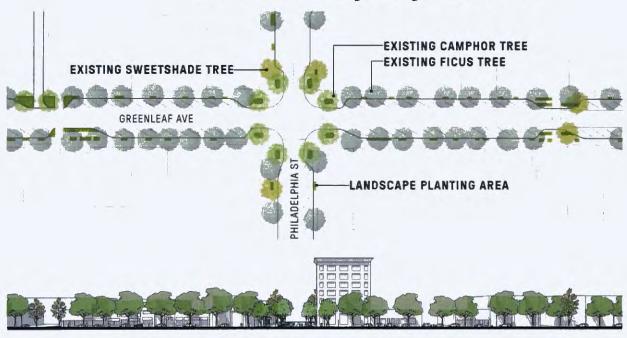
SIDEWALK UPROOTING

Ficus Phasing - Strategies



1. Increase *Maintenance* of the Ficus Trees

*trim trees on a **yearly** schedule







2. Replace every other Ficus Tree

*50% replacement phase 1; per Specific Plan

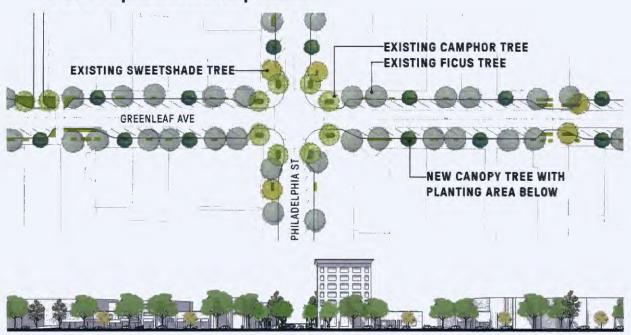


71 51

Ficus Phasing - Strategies

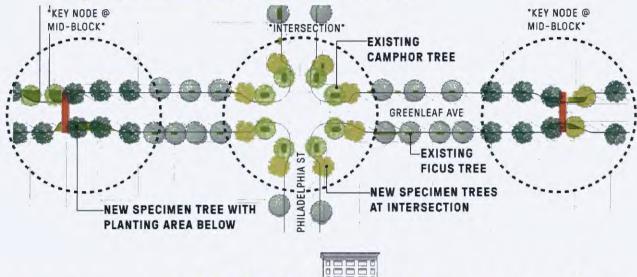
3. Replace every third Ficus Tree

30% replacement phase 1



4. Replace Ficus Trees at

key nodes & intersections





72

53

Ficus Phasing - Community Input

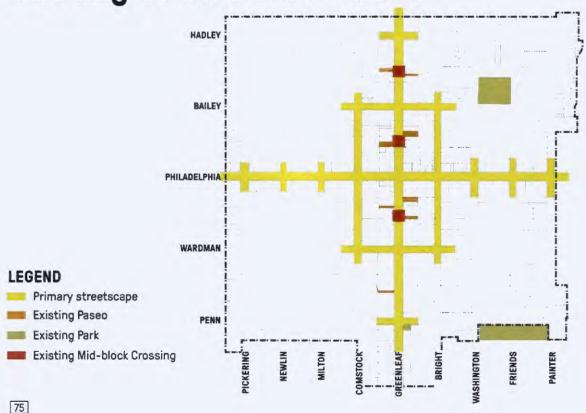
2. REPLACE EVERY OTHER FICUS TREE
(PER SPECIFIC PLAN; 2 PHASES)
31 1. INCREASE MAINTENANCE OF THE FICUS TREES
32 3. REPLACE EVERY THIRD FICUS TREE
(3 PHASES)
4. REPLACE FICUS TREES AT NODES & INTERSECTIONS

UPTOWN STREETSCAPE FRAMEWORK

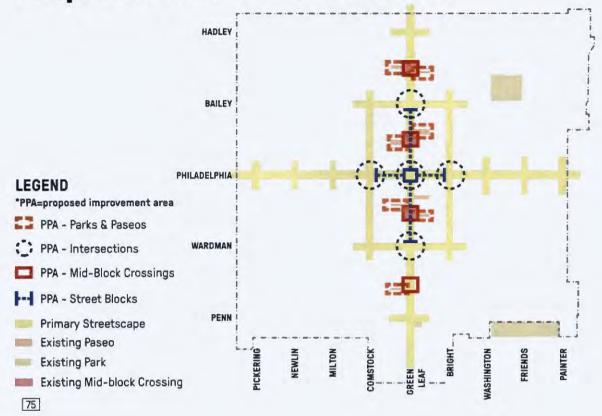
74

Existing Streetscape Framework

Existing Overall Framework



Proposed Overall Framework



57

PROJECT PHASING & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

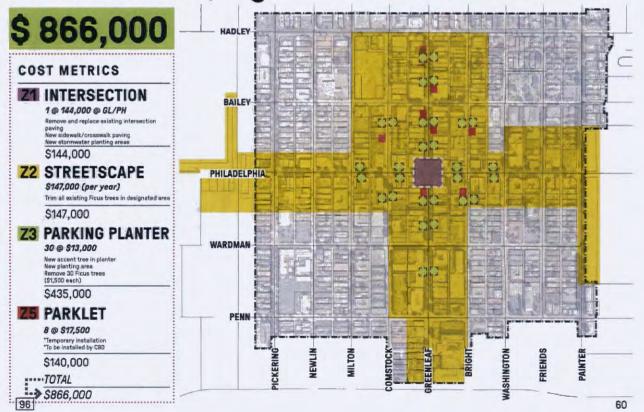
Project Implementation Feasibility



Phasing & Implementation Strategies

O Broad Area, Light Touch

GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.



GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation: cost allowance is based solely

2 Key Nodes and Intersections on preliminary conceptual design, a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process.

\$920,000 COST METRICS INTERSECTION 5 @ \$144,000 Remove and replace existing intersection paving New sidewalk/crosswalk paving New stormwater planting areas \$720,000 **Z4** MID-BLOCK 2 @ \$100,000 Ficus tree removal @ mid-block New sidewalk/crosswalk paving

HADLEY PHILADELPHIA WARDMAN PENN 61

Phasing & Implementation Strategies

3 One Block

New specimen tree and planting

\$200,000

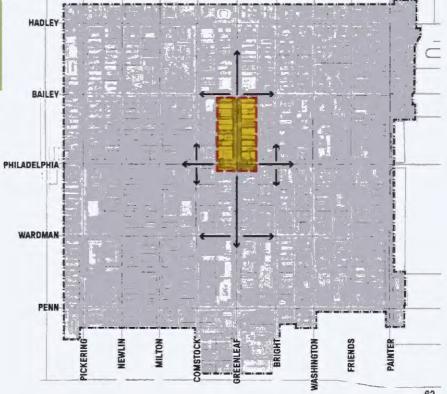
\$920,000

*****TOTAL

97

\$700,000-\$800,000

GENERAL NOTE: Costs are approximate & contingent on extent of streetscape renovation; cost allowance is based solely on preliminary conceptual design; a 20% contingency accounts for unknown costs due to the ongoing design process



UPTOWN STREETSCAPE CONCEPTS

98

63

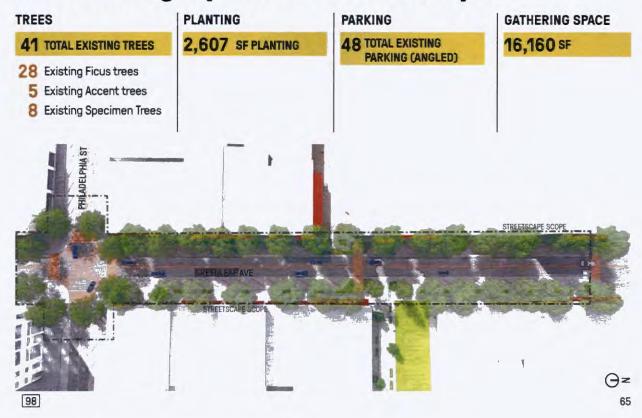
Uptown Streetscape Concepts

O. Existing Uptown Streetscape



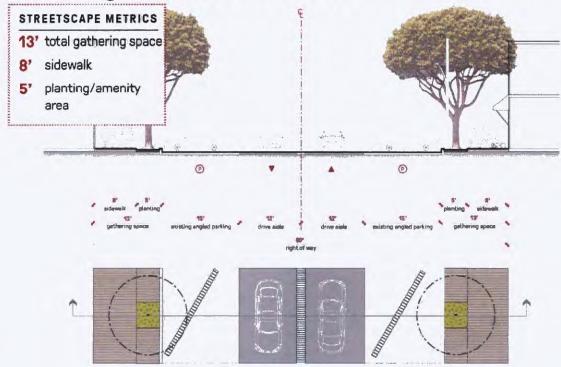
99

O. Existing Uptown Streetscape



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Existing Uptown Streetscape

Existing Street Section





Uptown Streetscape Concepts

1. Parklets & Planters



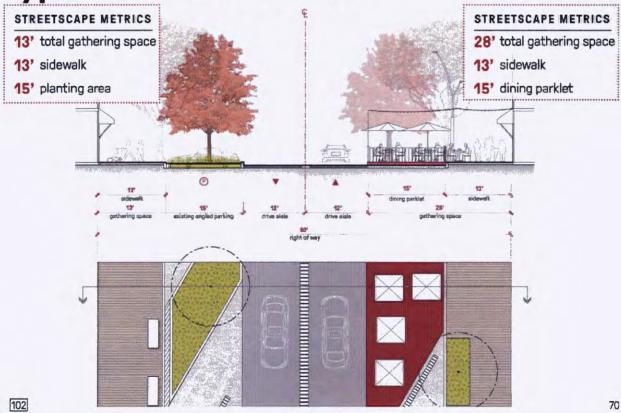
1. Parklets & Planters



100

Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters

Typical Street Section

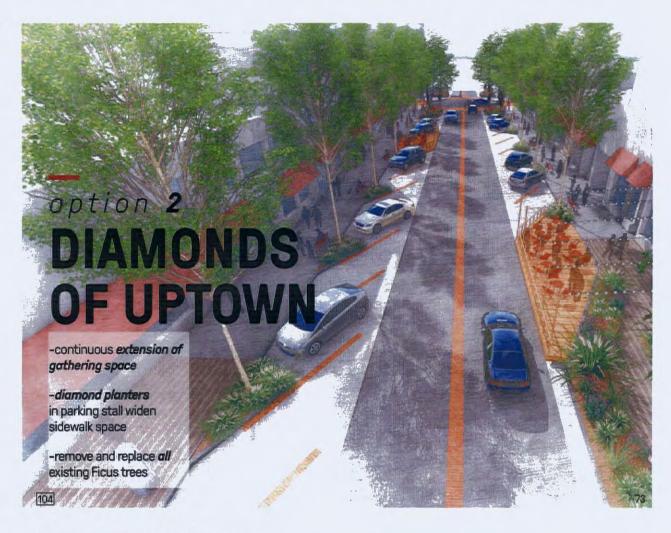


Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters



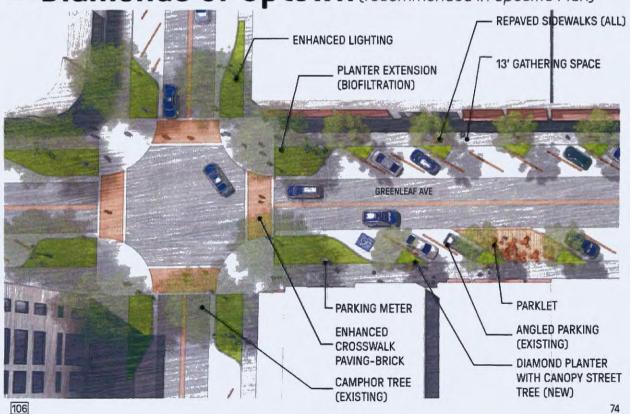
Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Parklets & Planters





Uptown Streetscape Concepts

2. Diamonds of Uptown (recommended in Specific Plan)



2. Diamonds of Uptown (recommended in Specific Plan)

TREES PLANTING PARKING GATHERING SPACE

32 TOTAL TREES

6,000 SF PLANTING

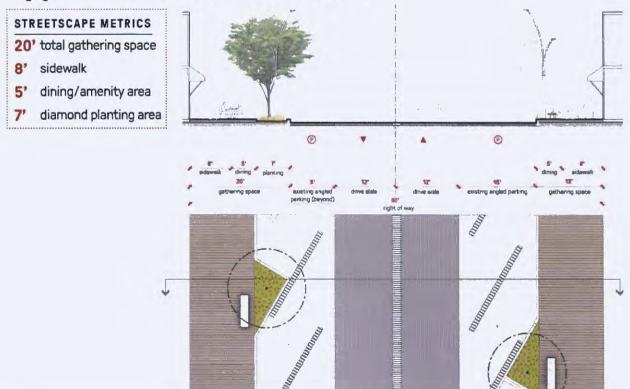
48 TOTAL PARKING (ANGLED)

18,300 SF



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Diamonds of Uptown

Typical Street Section

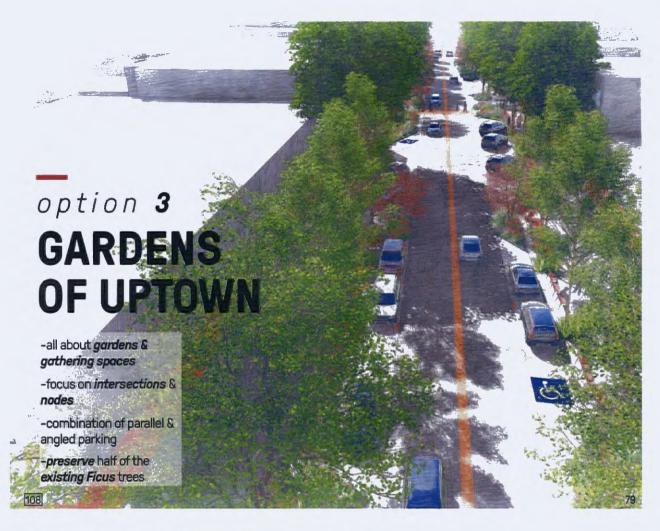


Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Diamonds of Uptown



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Diamonds of Uptown





Uptown Streetscape Concepts

3. Gardens of Uptown



3. Gardens of Uptown

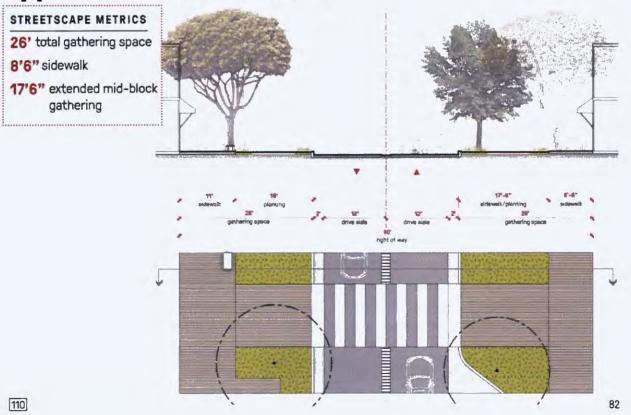
TREES PLANTING PARKING GATHERING SPACE

7,000 SF PLANTING 38 TOTAL PARKING 19,000 SF



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown

Typical Street Section



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gardens of Uptown

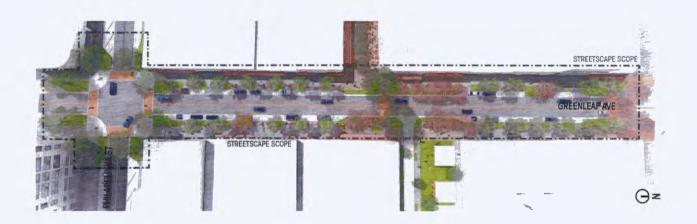






4. Gathering in Uptown

TREES PLANTING PARKING GATHERING SPACE 7,100 SF PLANTING 35 TOTAL PARKING 22,000 SF

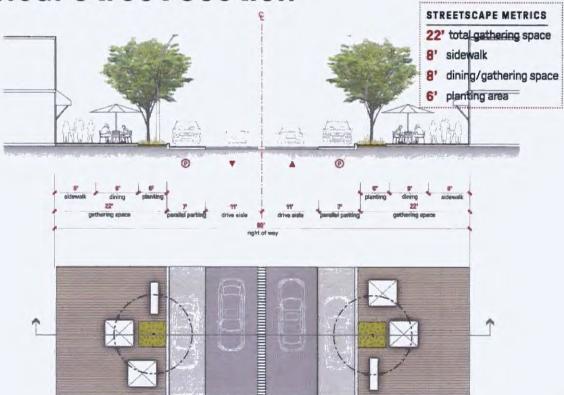


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Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown

Typical Street Section



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown



Uptown Streetscape Concepts - Gathering in Uptown



Concept Comparison



Results from

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #3

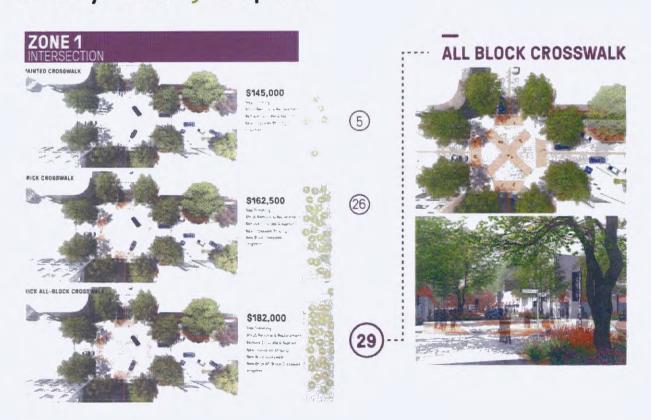
Wednesday, February 8, 2017

@ Nixon Plaza Building

Workshop #3: Major Themes



Activity #1: Build your Uptown



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PEOPLE. PLACES. STREETS.

THANK YOU!

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