

City Council Public Comments
March 8, 2022
Greenleaf Promenade agenda item

Good evening Mayor Vinatieri, Mayor Pro-Tem Warner, City Council members and City staff.

We are all passionate about Uptown and we can all agree that Uptown is part of what sets our community apart from others. It's our gem and we all want to make it the best it can be.

We understand that the City Council has a desire to keep a hybrid Greenleaf Promenade concept and we are excited that the City is planning to invest several million dollars into constructing an updated version of the original Streetscape Plan that we supported several years ago.

On your agenda today is the approval of a contract for the Conceptual Design.

We are asking for your consideration of 2 things:

1. If you want to move forward with developing a long-term plan for the Promenade, please consider having SWA come up with an alternative design that removes the grass in the middle of the street.
2. Since it will likely be more than a year until any major changes begin, we would like to urge the Council to authorize staff and financial resources for immediate short-term improvements that will benefit business owners, property owners, guests of Uptown and the overall look and feel of Uptown.

We would like to support the hybrid Promenade concept with the following recommendations that can be implemented immediately:

1. Install bollards at the north and south Greenleaf entrances that can easily be placed and removed
2. Open Greenleaf to thru traffic on Monday-Thursday when many restaurants are closed and business is slower
3. Close Greenleaf Friday– Sunday when it's busier to keep the essence of the walkable Promenade concept
4. Keep the outdoor dining areas and surround each outdoor area with k-rails to protect from traffic
 - a. K-rails can be painted to look uniform or decorated with artwork
5. Provide temporary solar lighting for safety and ambience in the Uptown area
6. Put more emphasis on cleaning Uptown including sidewalk cleaning and trash removal on the street and alleyways

We want Uptown to thrive and we are excited about plans for its future, but something needs to be done right away to enhance the look, feel and safety of the area. We urge you to make this a priority while the consultant is working on what the Greenleaf Promenade will look like sometime in the future.