



central market community benefit district

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CMCBD's Recommendations for 6th Street Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project April 2017

The following recommendations are respectfully submitted to the San Francisco Metropolitan Transportation Authority (SFMTA) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) by the Central Market Community Benefit District (CMCBD).

CMCBD has maintained the 6th Street public realm (from Market Street to Folsom Street) with its cleaning, maintenance and public safety teams since 2007. Using private property owner funds, CMCBD provides cleaning, maintenance and public safety services above and beyond what the City of San Francisco is able to - 7am to 7pm, 7 days per week. Services include: a Clean Team, Community Guide ambassadors and Safety Teams. Our Safety Teams are a co-responder model which pairs a Community Guide ambassador with an SFPD 10b officer to enhance community cohesion, social service outreach and pedestrian safety. Due to the significant number of crime and safety issues along the corridor including: excessive drug dealing, gang activity, aggravated assaults and theft, CMCBD also operates a network of security cameras.

CMCBD also fosters economic development with a focus on small business attraction and retention and neighborhood marketing. We facilitate capital improvement projects at residential and commercial buildings and assist small businesses with access to resources that enhance their operations. Sixth Street is also home to 22 SRO hotels with whom CMCBD engages with regularly.

Drawing on our substantial experience maintaining the 6th Street public realm, and our long-term involvement with area stakeholders to address the area's challenges we have prepared the following specifications to be implemented in the upcoming streetscape redesign. It is of the utmost importance SFMTA and Public Works not repeat past streetscape improvement failures (Tutubi Plaza, trees in alleys, unmaintained planters, etc.) by respecting stakeholder experience and input and adhering to the following recommendations.



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6th Street Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project CONDITIONS TO OVERCOME



6th Street Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project **RECOMMENDATIONS**



INSTALL MORE LIGHTING

More pedestrian scale street lighting is needed to create well-lit sidewalks on both sides of 6th Street to deter unsafe and illegal activity. Better lighting also enhances the ability of security cameras in the area to successfully record nighttime incidents, providing better evidence for law enforcement.



DO NOT INSTALL LANDSCAPING OR PLANTERS

Rather than landscape, consider concrete patterns and colors as a durable way to add interest to the sidewalks, and specify a cleanable finish. Trees and greenery do not thrive on 6th Street. Tree basins and planters are tripping hazards and obstacles for the area's high number of aging and disabled residents. Planters are also prone to graffiti and become seating or a place to stash drugs and alcohol.



DO NOT INSTALL SEATING

Seating would only exacerbate 6th Street's loitering issues. The fiasco of Tutubi Plaza and the bench prototype at The Hall on Market Street are just two of the recent failed experiments that must not be repeated. Rather, aim at creating open, obstruction free sidewalks, which will give prominence to street lights and other ambient lighting at dusk and nighttime.