Summer Koide Excelsior Walk

ASSETS AND OTHER PROBLEM AREAS
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#1 Mural Location Recommendation: US Bank Building

The US Bank Building provides the largest, unmarred wall in the Excelsior with no other buildings competing for the eye’s attention. The photo on the right is from a Russian muralist (‘Adno’) that may be interested in a large format mural like the US Bank.
The building located on Mission at Onondaga has a central viewpoint and acts as one of the main entrances to the Excelsior. A mural celebrating the latino heritage of our community could accentuate the existing building’s architecture and will blend well with Taqueria Vallarta.
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Assets: Additional Mural Locations

Southeast corner of Geneva at Mission

Northeast corner of Mission at Italy

Southwest corner of Mission at Geneva

Empty wall north of Safeway entrance

Northwest corner of Mission at France
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Problem: Bus Shelters

Bus Shelter on Mission at Onondaga Street obscures two storefronts and provides little room for passersby on the sidewalk.
Problem: Bus Shelters

Bus Shelter on Mission near Russia, in conjunction with construction (long term) leaves very little room for pedestrians to pass by safely.

This shelter is often vandalized or has shattered glass.
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Problem: Bus Shelters

Note: Bus shelters do not provide sufficient room for pedestrians (especially those with strollers, carts, trolleys or wheelchairs) to safely share the space. Sidewalks with no additional shelter provide free and clear space for pedestrians.
I was surprised, during my walk, to find many interesting features embedded into sidewalks.
Problem: General Sidewalk Condition and Cleanliness
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SHORT TERM IDEAS
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Short Term Proposal: Painted Utility Box Art Program
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Short Term Proposal: Palm Tree Pruning
Short Term Proposal: Tree Pruning and Maintenance: Other Street Trees

- **TOP:** Overgrown trees along Mission Street block business signage, add to the visual noise on Mission Street, and in some cases are detrimental to the health of the trees
- **BOTTOM:** Miscellaneous Before-and-After photos of tree pruning in San Francisco (source: Trees Company)
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Short Term Landmark Possibilities:
Excelsior’s Sparkling Streets with Glassphalt

Make the Excelsior a destination!
Pave Mission and Geneva with glassphalt – the sparkly asphalt

Below: City-funded projects to improve crosswalks in the Castro and Outer Sunset Taraval Streetscape projects
Beautify the lamp posts
Portland and other cities provide flowerpots in the central commercial areas of their downtown neighborhoods.

Paint the lamp posts
A fresh coat of a vibrant color to tie together all the lamp posts along Mission Street and begin to create a cohesive visual statement.

Not Pictured: Photo of newly installed / painted red lamp posts along Potrero outside the new SF General construction.
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LONG TERM IDEAS
Long Term Landmark Possibilities: Excelsior District first to introduce District Signs

San Diego boasts several historic and artistic signs and archways at the entrance of their neighborhoods. These entrance signs would make a great complement to all of SF’s districts (Sunset, Hayes Valley, The Mission, Noe Valley, etc) but the EXCELSIOR should be the first!
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Long Term: Underground Utility Wires
Long Term: Reduce Visual Clutter
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Long Term Landmark Idea: Heritage and Lighted Signs for the Excelsior

Provide incentives to restore old grandfathered signs to their original glory, and to help new businesses secure signage that hearkens to the Excelsior’s vibrant history.
The 2011 Road Repaving and Street Safety Bond proposal features:

- $148.8 million for Street Repaving and Reconstruction. The funds will be allocated for repaving, repair, reconstruction and new construction of approximately 1,389 street segments throughout San Francisco’s neighborhoods.

Streets will be selected based on criteria that include street condition score, type of street and usage frequency, coordination and clearance with utility companies and other City agencies, geographic location, and complaints.