



RAILYARDS WORKING GROUP – MEETING NOTES

MEETING DATE: July 27, 2022

Staff Contact: Jeremy Shaw – 628.652.7449
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Facilitators: Allison Albericci (Planning), Erika Uribe (incommon)

RWG Members: Bruce Agid (BA), Christian Martin (CM), Erika Waltemade (EW), Liz Kirby (LK), Tammy Chan (TC), Vanessa Gonzalez (VG – absent)

Project Partners: Genevieve Cadwalader (Prologis), Anthony Simmons (Caltrain), Jadie Wasilco (Samtrams), Navi Dhaliwal (Caltrain)

Public Attendees: Ted Olson, Roland Lebrun, Gina Falsetto (SF Made), Zorana, Anders Bjerregard-Andersen, Angelica Arhror (Mission Housing Development Corporation), James Abrams

Agenda

- Welcome/ Settling-in (5 min)
- Introductions and agenda (10 min) – your motivations and any recent news
- Railyards Projects and Working Group Overview (15 min)
- Discussion (25 min)
- Close (5 min)

Discussion Questions

- What are your thoughts on the purpose of the RWG? Do you have any suggestions? Can you think of any tools, training, or materials needed to fulfill this purpose?
- Is there enough clarity around the type of public input required during this technical feasibility stage of the Railyards Projects?
- What will make the RWG a public participation forum? (i.e., minutes and materials posted on Planning's website, RWG members collecting and sharing feedback from their community networks, future public access to meetings...)

- Do you agree with the draft principles and practices of the working group? Do you have any suggestions?
- Recruitment for the RWG will remain open to ensure diverse perspectives can inform the Railyards Projects. Are there voices that should be prioritized for recruitment?
- Are there lessons learned from other community engagement efforts that we should consider?

Introductions – Working Group Members

Bruce Agid (BA), Arterra building resident, board of South Beach Rincon Hill Association, transportation representative for neighborhood association, was part of prior working group for DTX and Railyard.

Christian Martin (CM), Executive Director SoMa West CBD, our mission is to keep western soma clean, vibrant, thriving.

Erika Waltemade (EW), Director of Placemaking at SoMa West CBD, focus on public space and activation, advocate for Western SoMa communities and be a conduit for community feedback.

Liz Kirby (LK), South of Market Family Resource Center, provide services to children and families (predominantly families with children 0-5yrs), focus on south of market area, share community priorities, including housing, safety, accessibility.

Tammy Chan (TC), Campus Planning at UCSF, second largest employer after city of SF in SF, interested in how folks get to campus, prior working group.

Vanessa Gonzalez, Warriors- absent

Community News / Events

- SOMA West Farmers Market at Eagle Plaza, Saturdays 9am-1pm: <https://somawestcbd.org/events/farmersmarket>
- 11th and Natoma Park Survey and info: <https://sfrecpark.org/1635/11th-Natoma-Park-Project>
- SOMA Sunday Streets August 21st <https://www.sundaystreetsf.com/>

Discussion

The purpose of the RWG and how it relates to other CAC and public participation efforts:

- The RWG should ensure that the various stakeholder groups are identified and facilitate conversations outside of this space.
- It is important not to replicate efforts happening elsewhere; the RWG should help make the Railyards Project an agenda item in other CAC's and community forums.
- Should be an iterative process, RWG members will provide input and feedback from conversations held outside of this space.
- The RWG should be small, but network with organizations outside.
- Focus on building community:

- Consider the input that communities have provided in the last 15 years.
- Office, housing, open space, transportation, is the integration of all these elements that builds community.
- Removing “city walls”.

Materials, communication, and accessibility:

- Materials should be more accessible (clear, digestible, and translated). If the materials and the input requested are clear, then the RWG members can help agendaize the Railyards Project at committees and seek feedback directly from committees and the public.
- Clarity about what is actually feasible and how community input can shape the project.

Challenge of a prolonged timeline:

- [The project partners] should help sponsor events from communities to get the project on their radar.
- The prolonged timeline is a challenge, it will be hard to keep people engaged. Being intentional and making things fun is important.

On RWG Format:

- The RWG will benefit from having very focused conversations.

Future agenda (October)

- Constraints/ parameters
- City priorities
- Ask for RWG feedback on a public-facing set of talking points to create a FAQ handout for the public.

Next Steps

- Complete Railyards Working Group Recruitment and Application Review
- Calendar and Agenda for Next Meeting (October)

Next Meeting:

October 2022, date/time TBD

Attachments:

N/A