



## SHOWPLACE/SOMA NEIGHBORHOOD ANALYSIS + COORDINATION STUDY (SNACS) PUBLIC MEETING #2 SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

The second public meeting for the SNACS was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 from 6-8 p.m. in the Bluxome Center at 61 Bluxome Street. Approximately 45 people were in attendance.

The meeting began with a brief presentation by Jeremy Shaw, the project manager of the Study. Jeremy provided an overview of the study's scope, a recap of the previous meeting, which focused on land use and urban form, and the purpose of Meeting #2. A few attendees asked for clarification on specific development projects in the area.

After the presentation, meeting participants gathered around two large maps to provide location-specific feedback on the public realm (open space and streets) and transportation in the area. Participants were able to provide written comments and mark spots on the map in response to three different prompts: (1) "Love" flags identified existing amenities beloved by workshop participants; (2) "Barrier" flags identified infrastructure or conditions that impede movement through the community; (3) "Additional Amenities" flags identified areas in need, whether it was a need for more open space, community programs, transportation infrastructure or other amenity. **(See pages 4-6 for a digitized record of the input activity maps)**



The activity maps were surrounded by boards with graphics and background information on the Showplace/SoMa area. The boards included information on previous studies and plans; pipeline development projects; existing transportation, parks, and open space infrastructure; and data on Production, Distribution, and Repair (PDR) jobs, many of which are concentrated in the Showplace/SoMa area. Participants provided feedback on many of the boards, including ideas for bike paths, concerns about upcoming development projects, and suggested amenities for the area. In addition, participants were invited to comment on guiding "Public Realm Principles," which were adapted from previous community planning efforts in the area.

Finally, participants were invited to submit written comments in narrative form – either at the meeting or afterwards through an [online survey](https://www.sfplanning.org/snacs).

## OUTREACH TO DATE

Throughout the fall of 2019, San Francisco Planning staff met with neighborhood organizations, Citizen Advisory Committees (CACs), city agencies and others to establish the scope of the project. Questions were asked about elements of the plan, the scope of work, its relationship to other plans, and the final deliverables. The project scope, objectives and language were clarified as a result of this early feedback. An initial community meeting, attended by approximately 75 stakeholders, was held on November 18, 2019.

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Over the course of Meeting #2, several major themes emerged from community members' written feedback and conversations with staff. The most common topics were similar to those from Meeting #1, including the need for more public open space and for improved connectivity between neighborhoods. There was considerable support for cultural resources throughout the neighborhood, such as pop-up markets, performance spaces, and features recognizing the Filipino community's historic presence and influence in the South of Market area. The most frequent themes and comments are summarized by topic below.



### *Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces*

Parks and open spaces received the most positive feedback of any content area, specifically Jackson Park and the segments of Mission Creek Park. Yet even more comments called for more parks and upgraded amenities, including the renovation of Jackson Park, a dog park on 16th Street, a soccer field, a skate park, and community centers/libraries. Beyond formal large-scale parks, there were also consistent requests for smaller green spaces interspersed throughout neighborhoods in the study area; suggestions included green streets, public spaces to eat, and recreation under the freeway.

### *Small-scale Amenities & Public Events*

Workshop participants wanted more small-scale amenities to improve the quality of life throughout the neighborhoods. A significant number of comments supported more community-oriented cultural and gathering spaces, such as Filipino heritage features along Brannan between 5th and 6th Streets, a library at the Crane Cove Park site, and performance spaces at SoMa park. Farmers markets, pop-up retail, and public toilets were all requested. Wayfinding, lighting, and gateway features were mentioned several times (see page 6). Participants also noted that insufficient street cleaning is causing debris to build up in bike lanes.

### *Connectivity*

Better connections, particularly to and from Mission Bay, were most commonly identified need. Participants wanted to see protected bike lanes along 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, a 5<sup>th</sup> Street pedestrian connection over Mission Creek, bike lanes across the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street bridge and additional sidewalks, such as at the West end of Mission Creek. Participants often identified how both the train tracks and the overpasses inhibit pedestrian and bike travel between neighborhoods. Many participants were concerned about conflicts between modes of travel, such as between bicycles and commercial buses. Among the suggestions were: limiting commercial buses, improved traffic circulation and routing, and additional pedestrian crossings – such as at 5<sup>th</sup> and Bluxome Streets.

### *Buildings, Use, and Urban Form*

While buildings were not the focus of Meeting #2, some participants were concerned that increased height, density, and construction would negatively impact their quality of life; others wanted to maximize new housing units by increasing the height limit where possible. There was also interest in promoting PDR uses specifically in the Showplace Square area. Additional, occupied retail spaces were frequently referenced, as many residents would like to see more community-serving commerce on ground floors.



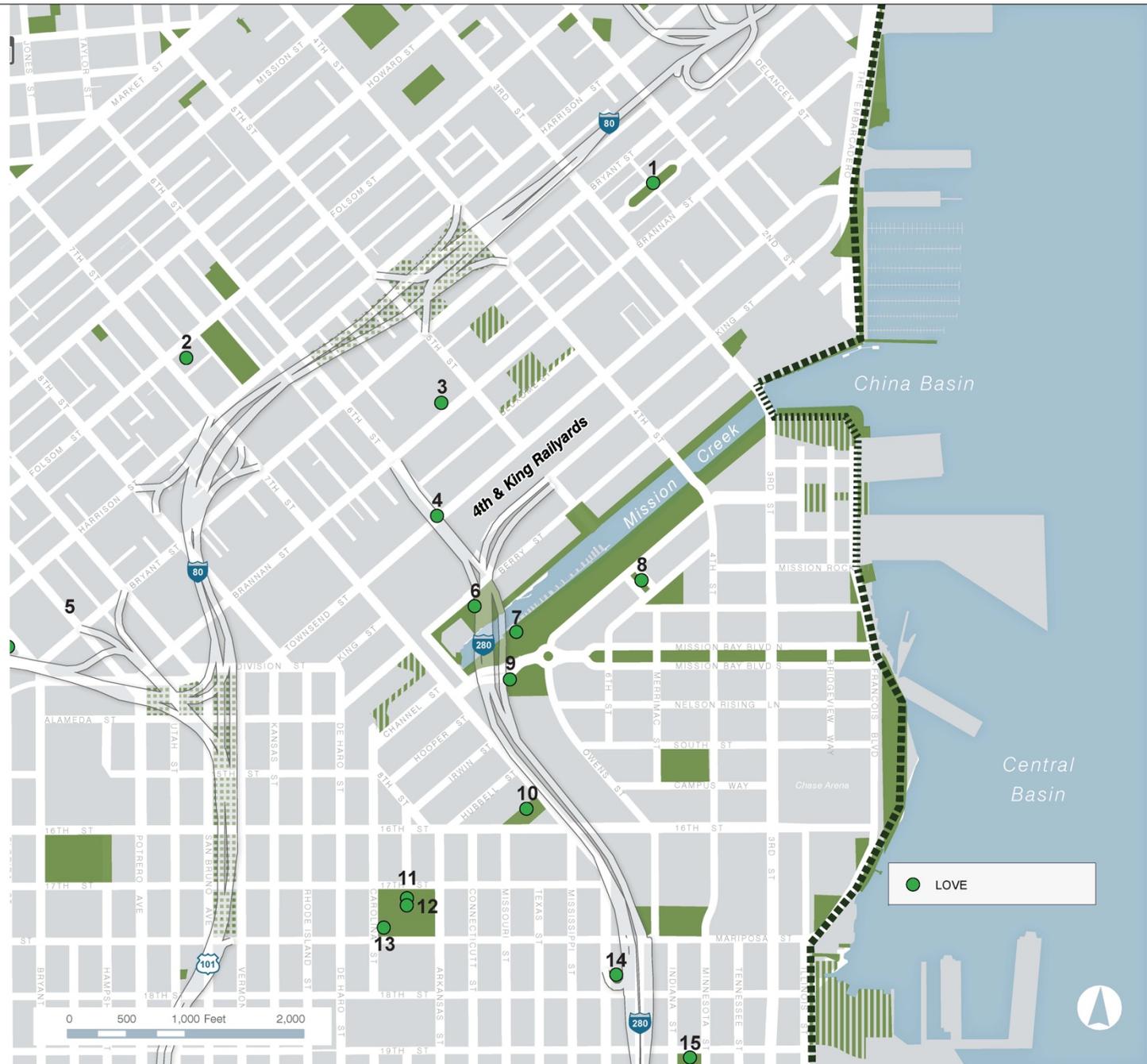
Specific, map-based feedback from Meeting #2 is summarized on the following pages. The maps are divided by the three prompts given to participants in placing the flags: (1) “I love this place because...”, (2) “this is a barrier because...”, and (3) “an additional amenity I would like to see here is...”

### **NEXT STEPS**

Following the public meeting, all presentation materials were made available at [sfplanning.org/snacs](https://sfplanning.org/snacs), including an online survey, for those who could not attend the workshop. City staff will continue to solicit feedback through the Spring of 2020, after which public comments will be synthesized. Public input will help shape updates to the Showplace Square Open Space plan, inform decisions made by city agencies such as the Recreation and Park Department and MTA, and guide the public realm components of future development projects in the area.

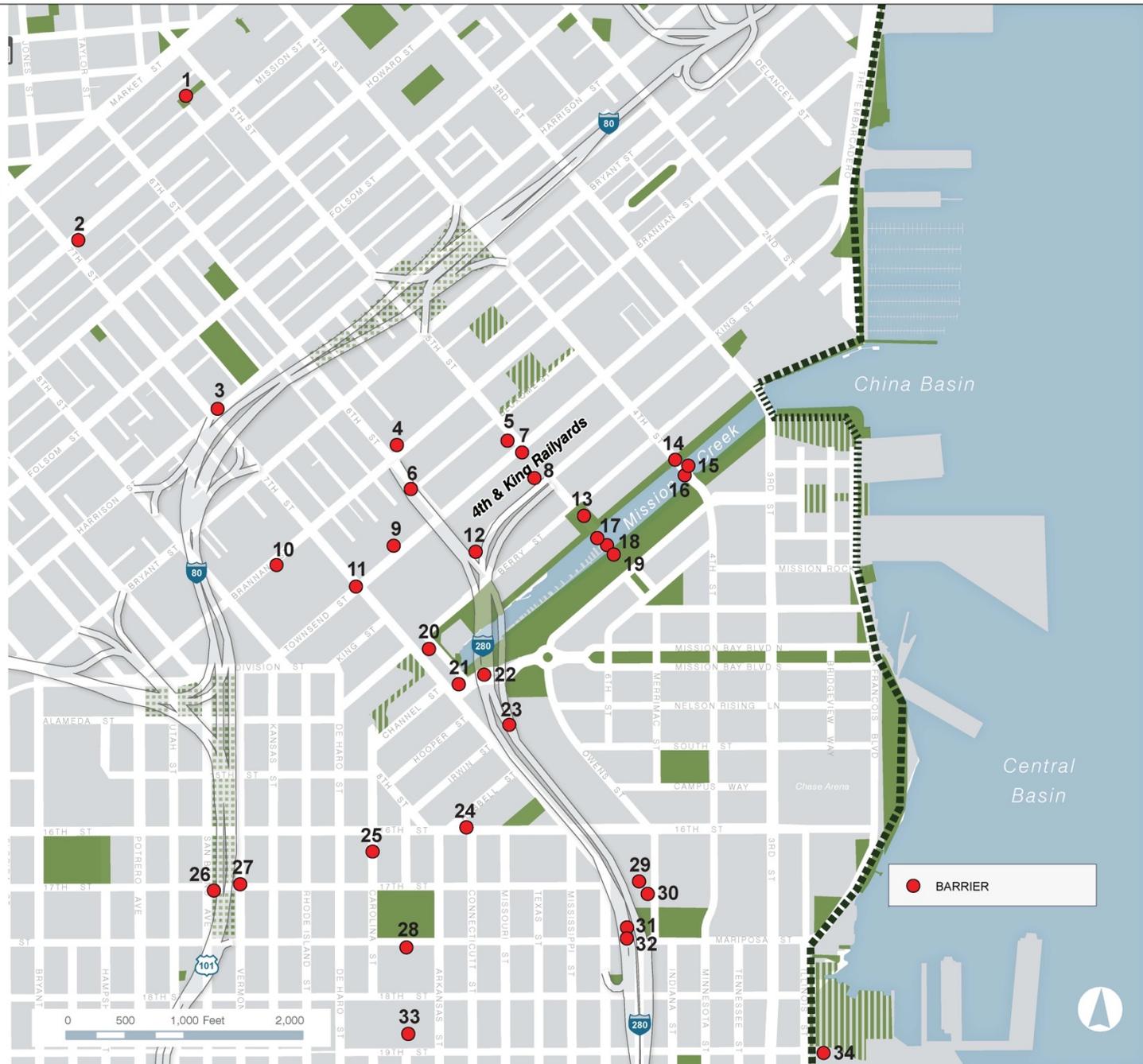
# I LOVE THIS PLACE BECAUSE...

1. History of Gran Oriente
2. It's our only SOMA park! Historical significance for Filipinos.
3. The new bike lanes are great!
4. Muni + designated lanes. It encourages use of the public Muni and gets to destination faster than cars. Hopefully more people will take the bus.
5. It's a fun food truck park
6. The park is a mixed use open space and playground for adults as well!
7. Wild, old-school gardens. Please save the FUNK. It's an antidote to Mission Bay.
8. My dog loves it
9. It provides green space connecting the community
10. It's well disguised w/ food biz nearby
11. Neighborhood gathering spot. Needs a remodel, community center.
12. It's my neighborhood park
13. Our community of friends bonded here 20 years ago. We are still friends.
14. My neighbors planted it
15. Only green space & community gathering spot in Dogpatch



# THIS IS A BARRIER BECAUSE...

1. It is never programmed + is such a good space!
2. Too much pool!
3. Nightmare to walk + bike!
4. No trees or landscape
5. Flickbus & Megabus-Block Traffic + ped/bike paths! Huge safety concern!
6. Encampments. Makes the quality of life living in SOMA very challenging and unsafe.
7. The lane configuration backs up cars behind cars turning left North.
8. No pedestrian connection from 7th
9. It needs better lighting for walking at night
10. Recology drops trash bins in bike lanes at night. (I've personally seen it.)
11. Bike east on turn, across 7th is currently "strange"
12. Railway blocks. Easy access to mission creek open space + parks
13. Caltrain creates deadend for peds + bikes...
14. Crossing 4th st on the creek trail is tough
15. Bikes are uncomfortable to be used on the road because the bridge is metal and tram tracks make it dangerous.
16. The draw bridge makes the sidewalk very small and hard to walk on.
17. Need pedestrian bike bridge!
18. No crossing over Mission creek in the 5th street alignment
19. Where is the 5th street bridge over Mission Creek?
20. Caltrain tracks block pedestrian access to other parts of the city from Mission Bay North
21. Missing crosswalk + protected bike lanes to Mission Bay
22. The railroad should go underground
23. Freeway is terrible for residents. TEAR DOWN 280!
24. Drivers don't yield
25. Of a lack of sidewalks
26. The under-freeway experience is bad for bikes and Peds
27. Under the freeway is dangerous & scary
28. Need a crosswalk to connect the new opening to Jackson and the 299 unit building across the way
29. The Exchange blocks physical and visual access
30. The Exchange blocks all sitelines
31. The freeway + Caltrain makes biking dangerous
32. It's ugly
33. The SFUSD won't open this green space to the Public
34. Open space should not be a parking lot



# AN ADDITIONAL AMENITY I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HERE IS...

1. SOMA Pilipinas Gateway
2. Filipino Cultural Center
3. Filipino Cultural Center
4. Dog park and playground
5. UNDSVCVRD
6. Pleasant walk + bike route + landscaping + Park
7. Integrating night lighting
8. Integrating night lighting
9. Cleaner/Brighter underfreeway walkway
10. SOMA Pilipinas Gateway
11. Nice walking route/lighting landscape
12. Bigger Dog park
13. More Transit
14. Vendor stalls for events/farmers markets
15. Public Square
16. Greenspace
17. Park
18. --
19. Street-cleaning parks in SOMA. Garbage cans
20. Brighter park/ safer access
21. Cleaner neighborhood with fewer homeless people.
22. Plants & stones under 280 off ramp on Bluxome and 6th to discourage weekly encampment.
23. Barriers to prevent homeless access
24. Pop-up Retail
25. Amphitheatre for performances
26. Farmers market
27. Farmers market
28. Independent movie theatre
29. Rooftop jacuzzi
30. Event space
31. Crosswalk at 5th and Bluxome
32. Access to Mission Bay
33. Pedestrian Bridge
34. Pedestrian Bridge
35. Walk Bridge
36. Pedestrian bridge
37. Ped / bike path under the freeway
38. Train crossing
39. Pedestrian overpass
40. Big park
41. Green Parkway once railroad goes underground
42. Park w Significant landscaping/ foliage (directly adjacent to New School)
43. Sidewalk on East side
44. PDR development with existing height limits
45. Building under 100 feet so the shadows on Park are minimized
46. Lovely safe ped route from south park to Showplace Sq thru Mission Bay
47. Code Compliant development
48. Dog Park or open space
49. Drivers should yield to pedestrians on 16th
50. Under Bridge Paint at time of PGP Project
51. 17th St Safe Pedestrian Passage
52. Please remove renewed community facility + Park \$\$\$ Fund Jackson
53. Code compliant development with PDR
54. Programming
55. Community center with programming
56. Renovated community-serving park
57. Community center and remodeled park
58. Protected bike lane on 17th
59. Flowermart
60. Bike and Ped Bridge
61. A cantilevered bike bridge to safely navigate Mariposa underpass
62. Freeway removal
63. A stand-alone dog park on cresco site @ Esprit
64. Community Hub for DogPatch
65. Library/community center
66. Library-operated community facility
67. Community facility library event center
68. Two-way bike lane on 3rd st bridge

