**WOBO Parklet Technical Assistance Meeting**

**January 27th 2015 - 5:30pm – 7:00pm**

**Oakland City Hall, Room 4**

Current Sponsors in Attendance:

Portal Restaurant

Bay Area Bikes

Pizzaiolo – programming

Juhu Beach Club

Café 3016 – two spots in front of café

Viscera

Spice Monkey

Longfellow Community Association – MLK Café – In high Risk Area, worried about vandalism

Hive, A Place to Bee – fundraising and security

Previous Sponsors in Attendance:

Chris Hillyard – Farley’s

McKay – Manifesto

City Staff in Attendance:

Laura Kaminsky

WOBO Attendance:

Casey Hildreth

Dana Logsden

Colton Coty

Introductions:

Opening Remarks:

Hopefully this year goes a lot smoother than last year, and to learn for future permitting processes

16 applicants selected for program.

WOBO works to make Oakland a more livable and sustainable place through bicycle and pedestrian advocacy for safe, easy, accessible, and fun biking and walking.

Oakland Urban Paths, Second Saturdays

Parklets a current advocacy goal, glad everyone is here.

Planners/Current Sponsors:

Farleys:

* Put jar on counter and raised funds for their parklet.
* Went to B.I.D. for grant. Learned that Parklets have to be ADA accessible, and needed to make expensive adjustments.

Manifesto:

* co-sponsored with Sumbrosa.
* Kickstarter worked,
* Time and materials donated with connection to local businesses promotion.
* Graffitti concerns, used reclaimed wood to re-sand if vandalized, but have tagged metal parts (but easier to clean).
* Concerned about sleepers in Parklet, but have never happened.
* Learned to get an architect early to get stamped plans.
* Took about a year to process and build (but city was going through some issues because they rid of department)

Discussion:

Q & A:

Oakland:

- Get the drawings done as soon as possible.

Casey:

* Focus on needs.
* Passed out SF Parklet Manual (free online).
* Updated manual will be released in one month, so keep an eye out!

SF:

* ADA is essential, but also having a strong sponsor who will get requirements done.
* Have open houses and other close businesses/ community organizations to come together to help get it built.
* NUMBER ONE to have the sponsor – neighborhood relationship.
* Hiring a designer/architect is key. Good designs and getting plans ASAP.

Oakland:

* Did site visits, and that process is done.
* Are now doing public notices and then will issue approachment permit.
* Trying to keep review costs as low as possible.

Oakland:

- Telegraph construction should be considered for Pizziola.

SF:

* All parklets are temporary, but can be removed for street improvements.
* Smart to wait until major improvements are done before building parklet. Forwewarned!

\*Is there a soft review for design issues? Laura can definitely look at

it if sent.

\*Elevation – do not have large solid walls that will block business views or where people can hide behind.

\*Cars who have hit parklets at night from drunk drivers.

Farleys:

* Graffitti has not been much of an issue, and they have café staff that bring in chairs and tables (and permanent seating areas that people sit, but not a problem)
* Have cleaned underneath, and maintain plants or find those that do not die.
* People also steal their plants. Wire mesh and larger plants work best.
* It is a public park, and know that anyone can sit on it. But their customers use it most of the time.
* Homelessness: Will have that issue nonetheless without parklet, but tend to sit/panhandle at their tables, not parklet.
* Treat as if it were a regular issue on a sidewalk.
* What he loves is that it is a green space in a not-so-green area with a lot of traffic. Allows some openness, and customers love it.
* With publicity taken for consideration, they had a 10% increase in sales for the following month.
* No servers, but customer can bring it outside.
* If had to start all over, figure out grades and ADA accessibility prior to building and that Architect visits site because there are no standard measurements. Steel, plywood, and astroturf.

SF:

- Panhadling ordinance, no one is sure…. But has not been a problem for SF

Oak:

- No table service, nor alcohol. Different from sidewalk cafes with permit protections that allow alcohol.

Oak:

- Should have barrier protecting people from the street.

SF:

- Height may concern public, but if visually aesthetic people tend to enjoy.

Farley’s,

- Robert Avalon in Berkeley was their architect

- No advertisements on Parkelt, but placards are acceptable.

- Farley’s: Pitched kickstarter by utilizing more greenspace and community engagement. Made $5,000 and Sumbrosa around 10K

WOBO:

- Kickstarter marketing for parklets.

Casey:

- Not sure if BB funds can be used.

SF:

* Programming for parklet could be useful, but they are already very successful as they are!

END