



10/24/2013

Kiyomi Burchill
Chair, Sacramento Planning and Design Commission
City of Sacramento
910 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: McKinley Village (P08-086)

Dear Chair Burchill:

WALKSacramento has met several times with the applicant team to discuss the McKinley Village project. Over the past several months, and years, the project proposal has been revised in ways that we believe will make the project more walkable.

When this project was initially submitted to the City in 2008, WALKSacramento recommended adding trees to the alley streets and incorporating traffic calming to slow vehicle speeds and create safer crossings for pedestrians. Alley trees were included in the May 2013 application. Reconfigured streets in the May 2013 application provided some traffic calming, and an exhibit provided by the applicant in September included more traffic calming using corner curb extensions, medians, chokers and traffic circles.

The traffic calming in conjunction with detached sidewalks with street trees, short block lengths, abundant tree plantings throughout the site, and sidewalks on both sides of the A Street Bridge and the 40th Street underpass combine to make the project site very walkable. The applicant has also incorporated a bike/ped easement between a cul-de-sac and nearby street, and left space for a future bike trail segment in the northeast corner of the project that would connect to the Two Rivers Bike Trail.

The internal walkability of McKinley Village is important to encourage walking, but the connectivity to the surrounding areas is also important. The proposed bike/ped tunnel between McKinley Village and Alhambra Boulevard that goes under the rail road tracks will help to improve the limited connectivity of the site.

WALKSacramento requested the site plan include a split trail head at the north end of Alhambra Boulevard to reduce conflicts as bicyclists and pedestrians enter or leave McKinley Village through the proposed tunnel. We hope the proposed concept will be acceptable to the City, and we'll continue to work with the applicant to develop a workable design.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or cholm@walksacramento.org.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm
Project Analyst