



Downtown Traffic Calming and Monterey Road Lane Reduction



Working Group Meeting #4 10/22/2021

Welcome to the Downtown Working Group #4

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Objectives
3. Findings
4. Recommendation for Place/Branding and Beautification Project
5. Recommendation for Lane Reduction Project and Traffic Mitigations
6. Other Recommendations
7. Next Steps

Objective:

Develop Recommendation For
How to Best Implement Lane
Reduction & Place-Branding
Beautification Project

Lane Reduction Program & Beautification Guiding Principles

1. Protects pedestrians/cyclists → Protected Multi-modal Lane
2. Creates community space → Open/Available **Parklets**
3. Supports business recovery → Dedicated **Parklets**
4. Supports emergency response → Mountable features
5. Minimizes traffic congestion → Signal Improvements
6. Creates opportunity for DEI → Open **Parklets**, Street Vendors
7. Closes gaps in fabric → Activated **Parklets**
8. Retains parking when possible → Maintain parking spaces where parklets are not needed



Findings

Downtown Parking Survey

Business Visits

Working Group Meetings

Downtown Residents Pizza Night

Town Hall/Walking Tour Meetings

MHCC, MHDA & Downtown Restaurant Meetings

CONCERNS

- Traffic Impacts
- Loss of Parking
- Noise
- Homeless
- Slow Down Traffic
- Lighting
- Sidewalks
- More Enforcement
- More Retail
- Aesthetics
- Lack of Maintenance

NEEDS & WANTS



- Add Short Term Parking
- Slow Down Traffic
- More Enforcement
- More Retail
- Community Space
- Activations
- Parklets: affordability & consistency
- Pedestrian and Bike Safety
- Improve Access to Downtown
- Create More Parking
- Add Accessible Parking
- Property Business Improvement District (PBID)
- Building Rooftop Lighting

Parking Highlights

- Downtown has a healthy supply of parking
 - Over 2,000 parking spaces in public and private parking lots
 - Over 400 on street parking spaces
- Downtown is walkable
 - Can get anywhere in five minutes
- Parking Management Plan offers mechanism to manage parking long-term
- Have used 20 parking spaces for Parklets/Al Fresco
- Long-term need for Parklets/Al Fresco may be up to 33 spaces in total

- Need short-term parking
- Should solve for parking in North side of town
- Should solve for more accessible spaces

Possible Parking Solutions

- Create short-term
- Identify loading zones
- Add more parking in north side
 - Depot & 1st St. Lot
 - Monterey & 1st St. Lot
 - More accessible spaces
- Ensure VTA lot remains available
- Maximize use of VTA lot for Downtown employee parking
- Share use of courthouse lot
- Begin selective enforcement
- Consider residential parking permit program

Parklet Highlights

- Program started in 2018
- COVID forced outdoor dining
- Al Fresco Program:
 - Requires an Encroachment Permit (fee currently waived)
 - Requires Insurance
- Parklet Program:
 - Requires full buildout
 - Requires traffic safety devices (barricades)
 - Requires an Encroachment Permit (fee currently waived)
 - Requires Insurance
 - Requires 10-Day Noticing

Considerations:

- Manage loss of parking
- Design options
- Affordability (full parklet cost can be as much as \$60K)
- Community parklets – not assigned to a business
- How to support retail activations

Parklet & Beautification Solutions



PARKLETS

- Support well-designed parklets - agricultural, historical or industrial themes
- Explore Parklet Assistance (loan/lease) Program
- Encourage formal sidewalk extension buildouts
- Build a community parklet

BEAUTIFICATION

- Improve Downtown street maintenance/cleanliness
- Assess side street lighting
- Increase tree maintenance (for lighting)
- Add bollards at 1st , 2nd and 4th, and 5th
- Encourage planters and plantings
- Replace trees
- Mural at Frontier building
- Unclutter/Remove: brick planters, kiosks, tree planters, orange barricades, trees (honey locust or black locust)
- Add gateway art

Traffic Highlights

- Traffic/Congestion is here and will only get worse
- There are limited opportunities to improve congestion
- Hale Ave Expansion will help – to be completed end of 2023
- Freeway Expansion will help – need to advocate for funding
- Downtown Lane Reduction will make Downtown safer by slowing down cars and making crossing safer
- City can invest in signal synchronization and other improvements to alleviate impact of Lane Reduction

Possible Traffic Solutions

- Synchronize signals along Butterfield
- Prioritize left turns on Cochrane and Butterfield
- Add a second right hand turn on Cochrane and Butterfield
- Install educational signage (If Driving Through, Use Bypass)
- Improve visibility along Main Avenue
 - @ Monterey
 - @ Del Monte
 - @ Depot
- Enforce speeding, noise, big trucks, rolling stop signs
- Extend lane reduction on Monterey Road north of Main Ave. to continue bike lane and create diagonal parking

How do we best implement the Lane Reduction and Beautification Project



What does the bike lane and traffic mitigations look like?

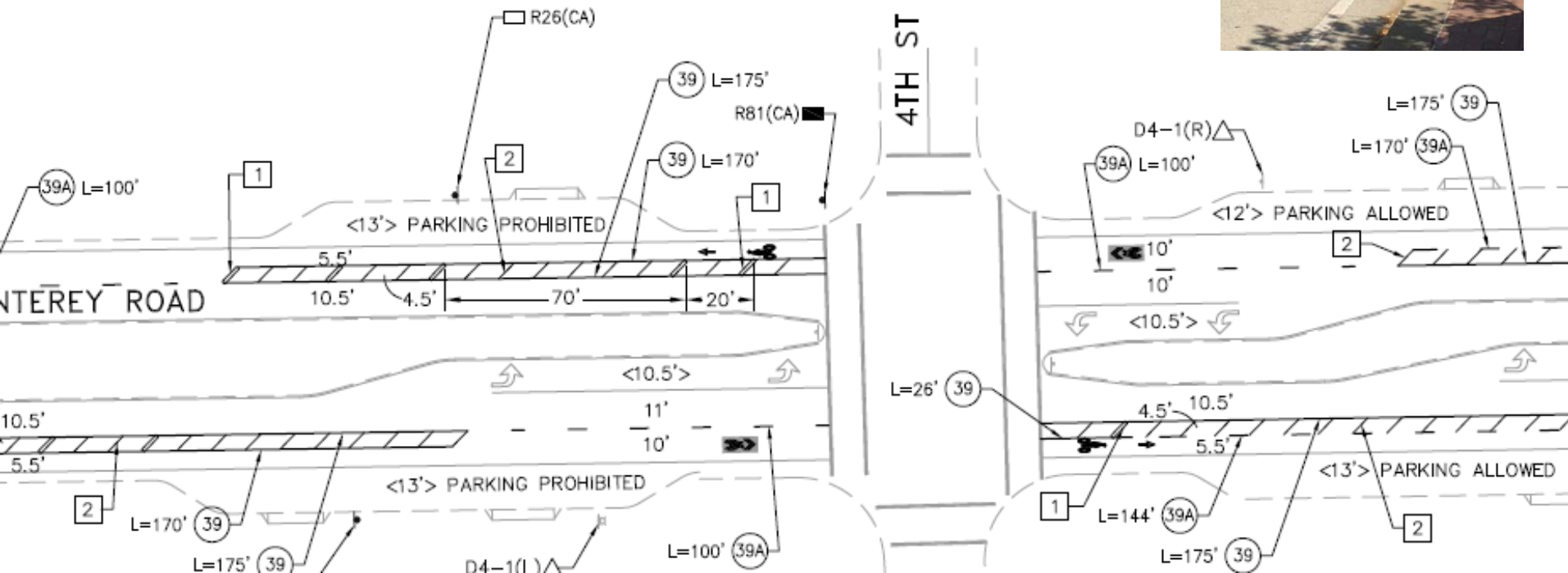
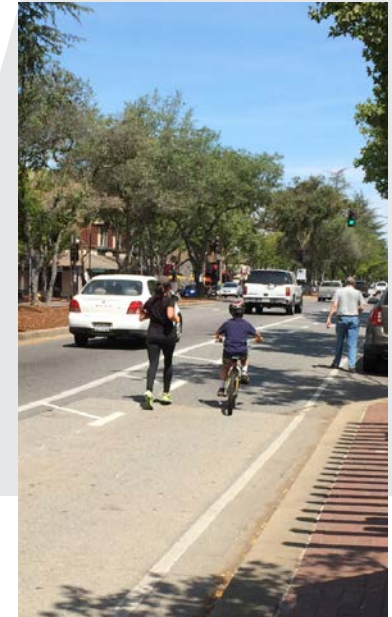
What, when, where, how?

What does the beautification project look like?

What will be most meaningful and impactful?

Lane Reduction Plan

- 5.5' Wide Bike Lane
- 4.5' Buffer Enhanced with rubber safety humps
- Intersection Improvements

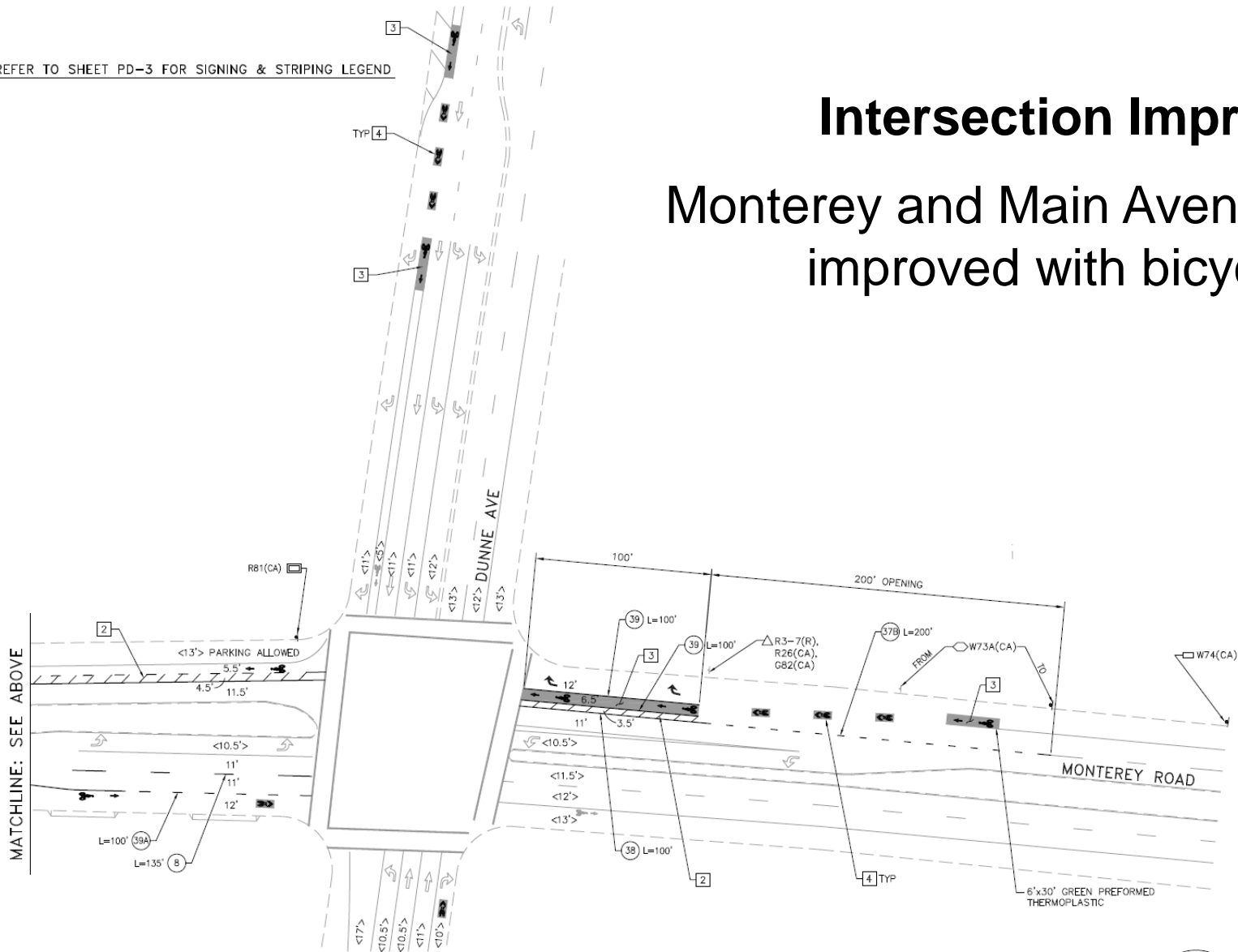


Lane Reduction Plan

REFER TO SHEET PD-3 FOR SIGNING & STRIPING LEGEND

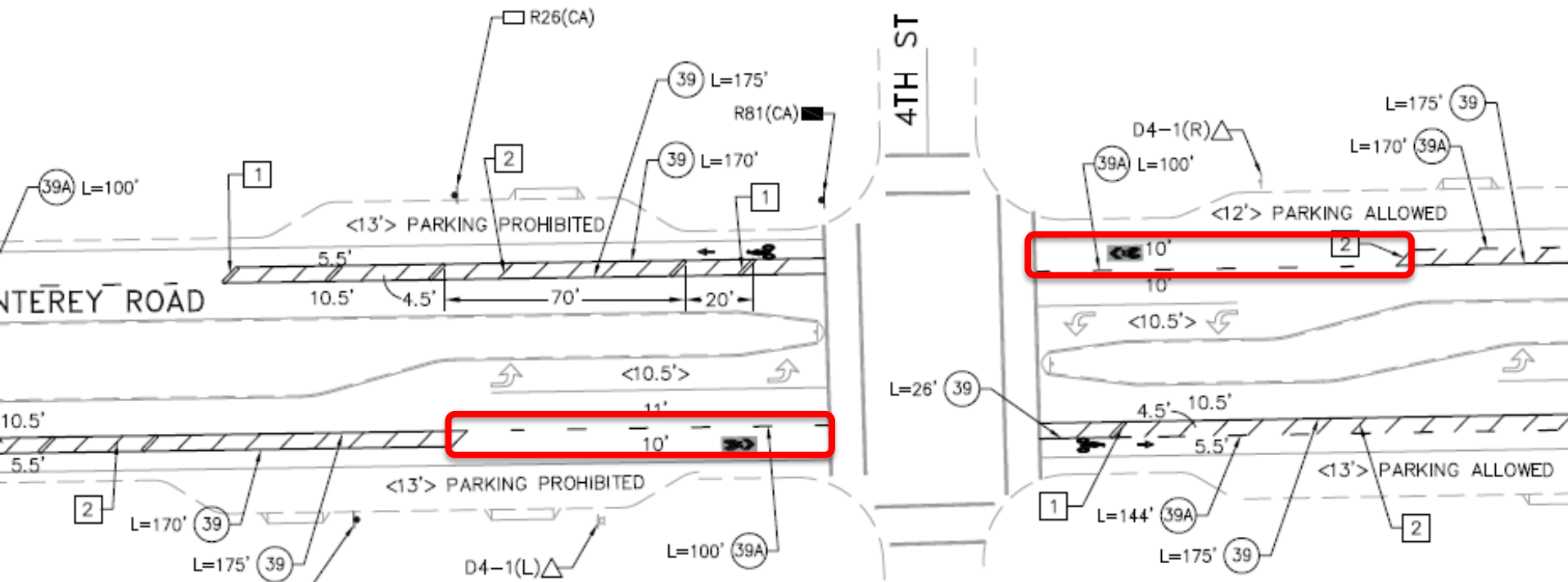
Intersection Improvements

Monterey and Main Avenues will be improved with bicycle striping



Bike Lane Design

Bike lane will not be shared with cars to improve safety and maximize bike use. Cars turning will have to wait for cyclists to pass.



Traffic Solutions

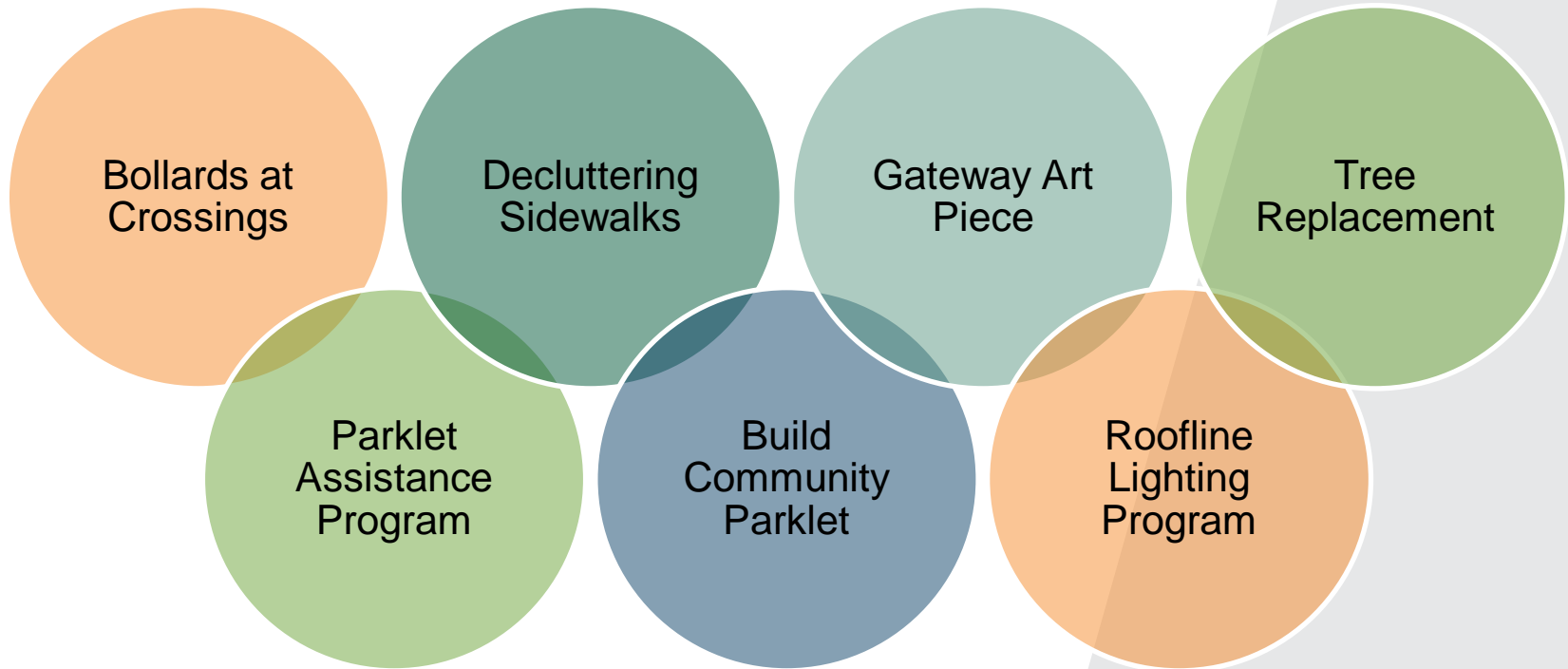
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Add second
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and Cochrane

Install
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Improve
visibility along
Main Ave.
@Monterey,
Del Monte,
and Depot

Place-Branding/Beautification



Discussion



Outreach

Working Group Meetings

- ✓ Friday, September 24
- ✓ Friday, October 1
- ✓ Friday, October 8
- Friday, October 22

Communitywide Engagement Opportunities

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| ✓ Town Hall Meeting | 9/23 |
| ✓ Downtown Pizza Night | 9/30 |
| ✓ Zoom Community Meeting | 10/7 |
| ✓ Morning Walking Tour | 10/9 |
| ✓ Evening Walking Tour | 10/13 |
| • Town Hall Meeting | 11/4 |
| • Open House | 11/5 |
| • City Council Meeting | 12/15 |

**Next Meeting:
Town Hall Meeting
Thursday, November 4th
5:30 PM**

