



**Placemaking, Arts, & Culture Working Group Notes –
Stockton Blvd.**

Tuesday, May 3, 2021 (6:00 – 8:00 PM)

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Attended
Elizabeth Boyd	City of Sacramento, Planning Division	X
Brandon McCord	City of Sacramento, Planning Division	X
Carson Anderson	City of Sacramento, Planning Division	X
Sean deCourcy	City of Sacramento, Planning Division	X
Jermaine Gill	Resident Planning Team	X
Marianne Gonzales	Resident Planning Team	X
Mai Nguyen	Resident Planning Team	X
Jackie Cole	VG Consulting	X
Donald Gensler	City of Sacramento, Office of Arts & Culture	X
Megan Van Voorhis	City of Sacramento, Office of Arts & Culture	X

Link to the Meeting Recording:	→ Here Passcode: +4Qx#g79
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Subject	Discussion Questions
When you think of Stockton Blvd, what are the traditions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festivals, line dancing, Tet festival, mid-Autumn festival, Little Saigon night market. • We have a unique variety of grocery stores, fabric stores, restaurants, and karaoke rooms. • Traditional Afro-Caribbean dancing and fine arts and crafts. Angela is teaching classes to young students and community members.
How does the identity of Stockton Blvd change along the length of the corridor?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feels disconnected as a single place though there are distinct parts. • Has distinct parts: a north, north central, central, and south • From an urban design standpoint, the fast and high traffic levels is difficult to create smaller spots for socialization. • There are little clusters of places – UC Davis, Colonial Theater, the cluster of businesses that give the area more granular character;



Stockton Blvd *Plan*

	<p>further south, the street changes character to more of a streetscape suburb, highway commercial (more late modern design).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockton Blvd is a slice of Sacramento demographically. • North end has a larger Black population and Black-owned small businesses. • UC Davis Medical Center (and prior hospital use before it) hasn't felt connected to or serving the community. • Middle class, mix race area, where families were first able to afford to purchase a home and mix race couples felt comfortable. • Next, suburban section where the parking lot is the center of the design and there are large vacant lots.
<p>Who are the culture bearers of Stockton Blvd?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham Perez • Angela, a poet & storyteller from the George Sim Community Center • Family-owned mom & pop shops are a tradition that are bearers of the culture of Stockton Blvd. • Through branding and events for Little Saigon.
<p>Is there anything that stands out, as far as about the identity of the Blvd that you love or hate about Stockton Blvd?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Saigon • The "Log" • The 51 Bus was the most popular, we used to take it to the Florin Mall often to the Burlington Coat Factory. • Stockton Blvd used to have the fairgrounds. • Stockton Blvd used to be Highway 99. • George Simms Community Center has Mexican Indigenous dance classes at this center. • There is a big farm near or in Lemon Hill, it might be owned by a Hmong Family. • There is a local immigrant culture that does value growing their own food, long before Sacramento became known as the "farm to fork" capital. • Montgomery Wards. • Memories of Chucky Cheese, State Theatre, the 51 Bus, and the old Kmart. • The main hub of Stockton Blvd was Florin Mall, it had the only movie theater available in South Sacramento. • Lemon Hill had a Little League, Lemon Hill was known as a community "I didn't even know it was a street, I only knew it as a community."



Stockton Blvd *Plan*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The George Simms Community Center has been around since the 60s! • Elder Creek & 47th area • The Cadillac Apartments area, growing up that was all that was there. • The Colonial Heights Library as a central meeting place. It's where the neighborhood associations meet. It is also a big voting location. • Stockton & Riza Ave. The buildings looked like it used to be a campus but are now vacant. It is an eyesore, and it has so much potential. Maybe a community land trust and co-op connected would be able to utilize that property.
<p>“You know you’re from the Stockton Blvd when....”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You know you are from Stockton Blvd when... you caught an underground hip hop show at the Colonial Theater.
<p>What are the challenges, what is getting in the way?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a massive disconnection with the city not applying for enough state and federal funding. The city needs to leverage its resources to secure other resources. • From an Urban Design standpoint, the fast-moving and high traffic levels is difficult to create smaller nodes for socialization and community. • How can we identify a stretch of road where we can operationalize around? It is difficult to get the funding for these projects. We have gotten community partnerships before, but it has been money that has stopped us. We have applied for grants, but it has been slow and difficult. • The community has to beg for funding and city attention, whereas other neighborhoods have maintenance built into managing their parks and community resources. We need regular maintenance, such as fixing broken park equipment, providing adequate lighting and street trees, providing consistent trash collection, addressing illegal dumping, fixing broken water fountains, etc. • The costs for police are extremely high when trying to get a permit. Can we get a community policing option? It is a requirement if we want to do some type of street closures or events. Its these fees that are a huge barrier for us when trying to get permits for community events. The bureaucracy is difficult for unpaid volunteers for spend so much time managing and tracking.



Stockton Blvd *Plan*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the city's culture to promoting outdoor live events? How can we be a city that promotes these types of community events?
Ideas, Projects in Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have artists project on buildings.• Night market in Little Saigon, accented by nighttime lighting and video projections on buildings.• Use of coops and Community Land Trusts to acquire key properties, like Fruitridge Elementary School.• A Neighborhood Match Fund for creative placemaking• City is planning a Neighborhood Mural project at Vinh Phat supermarket in the fall and is interested in recommendations for related art or pop-up activities.• The Preservation Office is working on a grant to receive funding to document the African American/Black experience to prepare a Historic Context Statement and Survey; first of its kind documenting the contributions of an ethnic group rather than the typical approach of documenting historic architecture and structures.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be looking at strategies and specific project opportunities.• NDAT will conduct a vacant landowner survey to understand their status, land owner needs, and potential opportunity sites• Will frame and put organization to the discussions, and later go out to the community, to share ideas.