

DOWNTOWN FRESNO PARTNERSHIP

Clean & Green Committee

June 14, 2023
8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Downtown Fresno Partnership
845 Fulton Street

AGENDA

DOWNTOWN FRESNO PARTNERSHIP Clean and Green Committee

October 4, 2023
8:30 AM. – 10AM

Downtown Fresno Partnership
845 FULTON STREET

MINUTES

Location: Downtown Fresno Partnership, 845 Fulton Street
also on Zoom as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88300066417?pwd=L3NyMFV6dXY3b0d2cINXenFTZHlxZz09>

Meeting ID: 883 0006 6417

Passcode: 033163

- **Present:** Billie Miller, Melissa Almaguer, Lupe Perez, Mark Standriff, Jeffrey Maxis, Jay Fowler
- **Staff:** Elliott Balch, Brian Kelly, Lara Agulian
- **Public:** Jonathan Morris

I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 8:32am.

a. We did a quick round of introductions.

II. Clean

- a. **City Youth Job Corps Program Ambassadors – RFP:** There has been an extension that we authorized and there have been updated numbers. It seems like this may go to City Council in early November. We still work and coordinate with the City Ambassadors every day as usual. Kelly continues to work with the supervisors there. Their team is growing and the DFP ambassadors do help with their training and tasks. We have also been putting downtown hotspots on their radar. One being the alley behind Warnors Theatre with dumpster messes. Kern Plaza is another hotspot with those experiencing homelessness staying there and leaving a mess behind. Kelly has reached out to Sarah with the Poverello House and has made a 311 request for outreach there yesterday. The last main hotspot is on Mariposa between Radisson Hotel and Kids Café. People are staying there as well and making messes. DFP is working with the City Ambassadors on keeping an eye on there and tracking things.

Balch mentions that this is getting into the Ambassador Report a bit. He mentions the communication with the HART team about DFP getting information from

PBID Management Plan

Environmental enhancements will include ambassador services and private security patrols to improve both reality and perception of public safety, streetscape and signage to make downtown more attractive, a trolley service, and parking management initiatives to better utilize existing parking and plan for future needs. Three categories of ambassador services are provided: clean, safety, and hospitality. Hospitality ambassadors will be provided in all three zones. Clean and safety ambassadors will be provided to parcels in zones 2 and 3 only.

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them. Kelly has been talking to Steven from the HART team. Steven wants DFP to be able to streamline the process of property owners giving permission to outreach teams to be on their property. So far, no property owners have declined help. Outreach teams require different steps for this permission, such as letters being mailed, so if we can be a designee, it would speed up the process. The property owners that have talked to Kelly support this. DFP would be able to authorize outreach teams to be on private property, which would prevent delays. Perez also mentioned DFP asking for follow-up reports. That is something that we have asked for as well, at least statistical data we can share.

Perez did circle back to the hotspots. She asked whether the property or business owners have done any cleanup of their own or if they are solely leaning on the City or DFP to do the cleanups. Kelly has seen the businesses such as Kids Café and La Cocina de Mama cleaning up their storefronts outside. The business do sometimes fear to cleanup outside due to the people staying there.

- b. **Garbage:** Standriff steps in with his Beautify Fresno report. He firstly wanted to thank Perez and Kelly for their help with cleanups for the conferences downtown. Morris was grateful as well and appreciated that ambassadors stayed around the conferences as well, which was a big help for cleanup. They were all successful. The Adult Offenders Team, who normally start in Chinatown, started their cleanups by the Convention Center for the conferences. Robert from the City Ambassadors team reached out and mentioned that they are running out of latex gloves. Standriff is happy to provide the gloves that Beautify Fresno uses. Robert just needs to tell him how many they need. These gloves are reusable and washable. It will up to the team to decide if they will let each ambassador hang on to and care for their own gloves or collect them. Standriff is happy to take care of the washing free of charge if needed. Balch mentioned how great the cardboard trash bins that Beautify Fresno donated to us have been. Standriff thanked Mid Valley again for those.

Perez noticed that an ambulance was called during the Women's Conference. She was hoping Morris had some information on the call and if the woman fell due to the construction in the area. Morris did arrive after the call, but his team had taken care of it. He is not sure what happened, but the woman seemed like she was in good spirits. Perez thanked everyone for the cleanliness of that as well. Balch noticed more street sweeping and pressure washing before the APA Conference. We will have to get Public Works into the conversation to see if that can happen more regularly.

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Fowler from Mid Valley Disposal informed us that they have changed their contracts to include SB 1383. There were a lot of questions in the City Council meeting about how the application of organics recycling is going to work so they are engaging and doing outreach. Mid Valley has the necessary containers to roll out and will start in November for those who require them most. Miller's team are the recycling coordinators, and they will be doing outreach by visiting every downtown business. They know that downtown requires locking containers, so they are looking into this. The main thing now will be to get waivers filled out for the businesses who don't require this. There are two types of waivers, one for those who do not produce food waste and one for those who do not have space for it. This will have to be really looked at downtown.

Balch asked if we can assist with any of the outreach. DFP has another Downtown Hall coming in November and wanted to know if Mid Valley wants to speak there as well. Fowler is open to this. Miller only has one waiver filled out from the PBID area, but in the next three weeks, they will be hitting the downtown area in person to get these waivers and make sure they are filled out correctly. If any businesses ask DFP about the bill, just make sure that we tell them it is legitimate. Mid Valley will drop off business cards at the DFP office so we can share them with anyone who asks. Fowler knows this will be a challenge for the businesses and they are ready to help.

Balch asked for more information on the space constraint waiver. Miller said that it means there is literally no space to add an additional container. Since the PBID requires locking bins, these may be bigger than the carts and that will have to be taken into consideration. Kelly asked if there is a possibility of keeping a rolling bin or cart inside a business that they take out at a specific window of time. Mid Valley is open to this. No businesses have reached out to DFP yet about the bill. Perez has had a few and she has directed them to Mid Valley. DFP will include a blurb about SB 1383 in the business newsletter we send out this week. Kelly knows the outreach from Mid Valley in person will be the most beneficial way to get people compliant. He also mentioned that it would be good to have the info in Spanish. Miller mentioned that her whole team is bilingual. The main message is that if you do not have a waiver, you will get a bin. Mid Valley and the City will also be sharing this info from multiple avenues such as their own newsletters as well.

Perez has been keeping up with compactor conversations and has a meeting about them this afternoon. She will keep us updated. She is also taking a tour of the street cans to make sure Public Works knows what we are all dealing with. There

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is no funding to replace them, but they need some TLC so she is looking into other ways of addressing that.

- c. **Ambassador Report** – Perez asked if we can invite Susan to this meeting as she is overseeing the City Ambassadors. Their supervisors have joined our security meeting and we do have weekly meetings with them. We will get Susan on the list for this meeting.

Kelly brought up the events we are having in relation to SB 1383 and what that food waste process looks like for events. How does it work for food trucks, event organizers, and for Beautify Fresno? Standriff knows he needs to be aware of it in case there need to be materials at his events. He knows that other cities are getting extensions. Getting information from the State has been a longer process than the legislature anticipated. Balch wants to get a meeting set up in January or February to discuss this. Food trucks don't always have a way to dispose of their solid waste in general, but we will have some responsibility as event organizers to handle this.

III. Green Updates

- a. **Measure P:** Balch mentions there isn't too much to share, but we are putting the pieces in places to be able to draw funding in to do murals and live performance arts. We already do this but want to be able to pay artists what they are actually worth. We are talking to Fresno City College about murals and are scouting sites for this. The DFF is looped in as the 501c3 grantee, and we are engaged directly with the Fresno Arts Council. We want to ensure that some of these dollars show up downtown publicly.
- b. **Planter Program:** Perez says the contract is sitting on the City Managers desk so she is hoping it will be pushed out soon. They revamped it and took out a lot of conditions, so the City Manager just wanted to make sure everyone agreed on that.
- c. **Holiday Decorations:** Balch mentions overhead string lighting that fits with the holidays but can be more general. Perez is having a meeting about it today and hopes to get a timeline. They want to start in the Brewery District. Standriff's hometown in Toledo, Ohio has a similar downtown to ours, Fulton Street. They have developed a light show on the building storefronts as an attraction. This is something we can think about for our downtown for the future. We are not having a Fulton Christmas Tree this year as Mariposa Plaza will be under construction. The City allocated money to bring a tree back to P Street so we will let that be the one tree downtown this year. We have offered our tree for use by the City this year to help save costs. Sanchez at the City has been working on this and Perez will check in for an update.

There has been conversation about bringing an ice rink back to downtown next year at Mariposa Plaza. This will be a huge deal operationally. Perez has talked to someone who is looking for a space and Balch is happy to talk to them for

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next year. We do need to prepare how we will budget, staff, and insure it. Balch talked to a counterpart at the San Jose association, and they had a sliced finger from their ice rink from years ago that they just finished litigation on. We have to be fully ready.

- d. **Van Ness/Mariposa Kiosk:** We have had repeated issues with this kiosk. We know it is up to DFP to manage it. We wanted to ask what this committee felt about its value and whether we should look into removing or storing it. The door is broken along with the window being damaged. Balch would prefer to update and upgrade to over street banner poles to advertise events and put up QR Codes to our visitor's guide. This would get more people seeing our advertising. People do not even know to look for the kiosk. Perez does not think it is very useful and that it is an eye sore every time it is broken. Sevak Khatchadourian did push the City to move it from the Mariposa Plaza and he may have even funded that. It cannot just be removed, the concrete there will have to be replaced as it is bolted down. Randall at the City will give a quote and we'll see what the next steps will be. We will check back in with Perez in a few weeks. Kelly asked if there is anywhere else to put it, but the design is not worth it as it is outdated. Perez mentioned that DFP worked with Amtrak on a kiosk that was put by the station. Amtrak had paid for that. Perez will check in with that one too.

IV. Security Report

- a. **Needle Exchange:** DFP and Perez attended a meeting that County Public Health put on last week about the Needle Exchange Clinic. We feel they will move forward with this on Fulton Street in the County Health building. They made reference to inviting the mayor to suggest a different location, but offline, if that happens, the City will take on all the liability for the program. It feels like an empty offer. We gave input on location and time-of-day. Moving to the morning versus having it in the afternoon would remove most of the conflict with the businesses in the area and family visitation. We are still waiting to hear if any decisions have been made on this front. Perez and Chris at the City have been asked to look into other sights for now to present to the mayor. We also talked to them about doing contract work to get data before, after, and during these days to see the impact on homelessness in the area and the impact on businesses. It would be a small amount of hourly contract work that we do for them if it proceeds at the Fulton location
- b. **County Contracts (DBH, DPH):** Balch is talking to the County about other contracts. We are talking to Behavioral Health about helping them with some asset mapping for continuum of care in the downtown area. That would be a \$20,000 contract for us. This would make us helpful and bring in County resources downtown. Balch thinks being part of this would be really positive.
- c. **Police Resources:** no police present.
- d. **Recent Incidents:**

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V. Comments –

Almaguer spoke about parking updates. High priority repair work identified in a study for garage 4 began this week. At no point in time during the repairs should the garage be closed. They are starting at the top level and working their way down one level at a time. They are looking into getting bird netting put up at the Spiral Garage on the Fulton side to help eliminate droppings. They increased security at the Underground Garage to 24/7. There should be a standing guard 24/7 and two guards overnight from 9pm to 5pm. They are hoping to do the same for Spiral by the end of this month. They are in the process of installing the EV charging station cabinets at all locations to prevent damage. Once the cabinets are in place, the repairs to the EV chargers will begin. Spiral Garage will be the last to be repaired as the damage to those are heavier and the costs higher.

Blach asked about other budget investments in the parking facilities, such as for Garage 9. Almaguer says it is not in the phase where they will start to work. There will be departments at the City moving offices so there will be a wait time. In addition, parking has updates for the Spiral Garage, but they are waiting on facilities to give them a quote just for the high priority repairs. The study they are basing the repairs on are from 2015-2016 so the prices will not be the same. Facilites is doing an updated on the study for all the garages and updates they will need.

Standriff asked about the Christmas Parade, which will be December 2. He asked if we need more trash bins along the route. It would be nice if we could get more. Balch mentioned that we are getting sponsors now. Standriff also asked if we want Beautify Fresno volunteers to trail behind again like the last few years. They pick up litter as they walk but are also part of the parade. We would love for them to be a part of it. Standriff will also look into street sweepers to drive through after the parade, but before we open the street. This would be great because there will be little pieces of trash like confetti and poppers.

VI. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 9:39am

Next meeting: December 6, 2023