

DOWNTOWN FRESNO PARTNERSHIP

Clean and Green Committee

December 6, 2023
8:30 AM. – 10AM

Downtown Fresno Partnership
2020 TULARE STREET

MINUTES

Location: Downtown Fresno Partnership, 2020 Tulare Street
also on Zoom as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88300066417?pwd=L3NyMFV6dXY3b0d2c1NXenFTZHlxZz09>

Meeting ID: 883 0006 6417

Passcode: 033163

- **Present:** Billie Miller, Lupe Perez, Mark Standriff, Jeff Wolff, Christian Horta
- **Staff:** Elliott Balch, Brian Kelly, Lara Agulian
- **Public:** Jonathan Morris, Max Kichlmeier

I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 8:37am.

a. We did a quick round of introductions.

II. Clean

- a. **City Youth Job Corps Program Ambassadors – RFP:** Kichlmeier from the Youth Program is here at the meeting. We continue to be in good coordination with them. They were great help at our Christmas Parade and we worked alongside them at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday as well. Balch got an update about the RFP process last week and we are still holding for that. Kelly says that they are continuing to increase clean patrols Thursdays-Sundays with the youth team being on later in the day, especially for the trollies. The DFP ambassadors have been covering the mornings.
- b. **Garbage:** DFP had a meeting with Mid Valley about SB 1383. We got a list of the PBID businesses who got their waivers and the ones that don't. DFP is working this week to reach out to them. Kelly said that there are 28 businesses, 13 of which have kitchens so will receive the food waste bins. They are focusing on reaching the businesses who need the waivers. They got to eight yesterday and will finish up reaching out today. On top of the personal visits to the businesses, an email was sent to all of them to put more pressure on them to go through the process. Horta updated us on their updated roll out plan for the new bins. December 18 is the new delivery day, which was originally set for December 14. Miller needs the waivers by December 13. This way the bins that were set to be delivered to those businesses who don't need them can be voided, which is a process that goes through the City as well. In the communication that DFP has been having with the businesses, we listed the deadline as this Friday, December 8 and have made sure they know of the extra charges that come with the bin. If the waiver is in and still pending, Mid Valley will hold off on those deliveries. They will continue to check back with the City to see which waivers were approved or denied and deliver more bins accordingly. The first service day for the bins delivered on December 18 will be Tuesday, December 26, and the window will be from 12-2pm for

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.

Downtown Fresno. Being in the afternoon gives the businesses time to put the bins out the same day versus the night before, which avoids them being ransacked overnight.

Balch, along with Perez, Mayor Dyer, the City Manager, and others, will be in a meeting later this morning. Compactors will be a topic in this meeting so there isn't too much to share at this point. The idea is to get trash bins out of alleys with shared enclosures or compactors on different blocks.

- c. **Ambassador Report** – There are the same things as usual. We are still tracking the dumpsters and street cans that are unsecured. We have also been taking care of the smaller graffiti ourselves, but FresGo-ing and getting the Graffiti Team out for the bigger stuff. The Graffiti Team has the boom lift and has been able to reach the higher up graffiti. Ambassadors have been prioritizing morning clean and green patrols on Thursdays-Sundays. We received a demonstration of a PBID Manager app called ART, which is a platform that allows you to field record with personalization. It would allow ambassadors to record things in one place on the go such as graffiti, encampments, and more. It is still in its trial period so there are some bugs to work out, but it seems like it will be a useful tool.

Balch asked about pressure washing and how often it takes place. Kelly has noticed it more. Standriff believes there is a crew at the City who does it once a week. It used to be done by request, but people in Solid Waste are going out more frequently.

- d. **Beautify Fresno** – Standriff congratulated the team on a successful Christmas Parade. The attendance was great. Beautify Fresno volunteers were part of the parade and picking up trash. There was a considerable amount of trash and the volunteers were not able to pick it all up as they had to keep pace with the parade. The confetti was hard to clean up. Balch and Standriff discussed that a street sweeper going through there once the streets open would be a good idea. The outside vendors did add to the amount of trash. 90 groups participated in the parade and with some passing out candy, that added to the trash as well.

They have one more volunteer clean up event this year and a few special clean ups. They also have their celebration of service event for their volunteers, sponsors, and partners on December 15. They are already making plans for the National Day of Service, which is on MLK day, Monday, January 15. Traditionally they do three locations, one being Downtown. They usually have Mariposa Plaza as the staging location and work up and down Fulton, Van Ness, and down to H Street. The goal is to have 100+ volunteers downtown for that day. Kelly mentions that the Mariposa Plaza might be under construction come January, so we made need to think of an alternate location for Downtown. The start date for the construction is supposed to be this month, but there has been no definitive word. Standriff says it would be easy to switch the location to either the Brewery District area or Cultural Arts District.

III. Green Updates

- a. **Measure P:** We are talking with SCCCD and putting together a Measure P application for funding for murals over time starting with one over the Downtown Barber Shop building overlooking the Mariposa Plaza. Professional muralists will work with students for this and the idea of the mural taps into the housing coming online for Downtown. The material for the applications are supposed to come out soon and as of now they will be due in February. DFP will also be seeking Measure P funding for all of the musical entertainment we bring to the public over the year, as that is also art. This is in partnership with DFF and we are meeting with the Fresno Arts Council this Friday.

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- b. **Planter Program:** There is still no update, but we do hope to see this program through. We are still waiting on the City.
- c. **Holiday Decorations:** 21 Downtown storefronts decorated for the holiday this year. Next year string lights will be put up starting in the Brewery District. We hope that will makes its way up Fulton St. The Ice Rink will also return next year. We are stating the work now for an RFP to have an operator of the ice rink. Whether or not the electrical part of the Mariposa Plaza is complete, the physical part will be and will accommodate an ice rink. The rink can be run with a generator as they have done that in the past.
- d. **Van Ness/Mariposa Kiosk:** Perez is still working on this with Public Works and asking for estimates on what it would cost to remove it. It has been an ongoing hassle and there are better ways to share information. We hope that we can have over street banner poles to share information. Until then, we are hoping to put QR codes to our visitors guides in more visible places. This way the information is on one's phone.

IV. Security Report

- a. **Needle Exchange:** This will be taking place at County Public Health Headquarters on Fulton Street. We have been in conversation with them. It will take place in the morning, rather than the afternoon, which diminishes conflict with open hours for businesses. All of the services will take place from 8am-2pm, while the actual needle exchange will take place from 9am-12pm on Saturdays. No businesses are open those hours on that block on Saturdays.

DFP is contracting with the County to do surveys within a 600-foot radius of the Public Health Building, with counts of those who are using before and after. That will start this week, Saturdays and Wednesdays, to get some pre-data to be able to compare the impact of the Needle Exchange Program. If there is a big impact, they will revisit the program and its location. The reality is there are no other places ready to go that meet their criteria at this time. The first day of the program will be January 6, 2024.

We do have access now to Placer.ai, which tracks cell phone movements. With this data we can see how many people come to downtown on events and other days. For example, we now know that about 13,200 people came to the Christmas Parade this year compared to about 8,600 that came in 2021. The data goes back to 2017. We will be able to tell if there is an impact of the overall visitor-ship to the area due to the needle exchange program.

- b. **County Contracts (DBH, DPH):** The DPH contract is the one above about the needle exchange. We are also engaging with the Department of Behavioral Health to give them input from the field on the ecosystem of support services for those with mental health or substance abuse issues in downtown. It is not a big contract, but we are hoping to build a partnership with the County to get services in downtown. The Continuum of Care does not reach the ground in Downtown. The more that we can integrate, the better we can serve those impacted and the businesses. We still have to figure out the scope of what will be surveyed and we will be happy to share these results.
- c. **Police Resources:** no police present.
- d. **Recent Incidents:** Perez mentioned PGE work along Federal Alley is set to start next week, but Kelly has observed them already working there now. They have been blocking

access to our storage, which we access through the alley. TW Patterson also has an underground garage there with access only from the alley. Perez will let Public Works know. The Mayor also noticed all the pot holes during the Christmas Parade and asked Balch about them. Balch let him know that it was PGE. Perez said that PGE will fix all of those once they finish all of their work. It is too costly to do it as they go along so they will repair that all at once. PGE does not want cars in the alleys while they are working, but they did not come up with an alternative plan for those cars, nor do we know if they plan to tow the cars.

We did have a roof leak in our office this week.

- e. **Parking Updates** – Blach was in a meeting with Melissa Almaguar, the owner of the Modernist, Councilmember Arias, Jennifer Clark, and Geogreanne White last week. They talked about employee parking for all downtown employees. Balch brought up the validation sticker approach, which is a good option for now. Almaguar wants to change the validations and possibly raise the price. We have put the validation option in our newsletters but haven't pushed it too hard. The other part of the meeting was downtown employee parking specifically during events. There was talk of reserving Lot 6. The Grizzlies have used Lot 6 with ACE managing and taking rent credit for it, but that is not in the contract, only the garage is. They would take that lot away from the Grizzlies and dedicate it to employees on event days. The next question would be how to manage it, what the cost would be and if it would be permitted. DFP could be the middleman for that. We still have to wait on the City before more can be done on this.

We are still waiting for our own DFP employee parking status. Balch sees a lot of vacancies in the Underground Garage. We want to be engaged with the parking and updates on the fee schedule.

V. **Comments** –

VI. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:25am

Next meeting: 2024