

<b>Location:</b>	The Planning Area encompasses approximately 92-96 acres on either side of Broadway, and is generally bound by Interstate-580 to the north, Grand Avenue to the south, Webster Street and Valley Street to the west, and Harrison Street, Bay Place, 27 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Avenue, and Brook Street to the east.
<b>Proposal:</b>	Conduct a public scoping session, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to receive comments on the scope of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan.
<b>Applicant:</b>	City of Oakland
<b>Case File Number:</b>	ZS12046, ER120005
<b>General Plan:</b>	Central Business District, Community Commercial, Neighborhood Center Commercial, Urban Residential, Mixed Housing Type Residential, Institutional
<b>Zoning:</b>	CBD-P, CBD-C, CC-2, CC-2/D-BR, CN-2/D-BR, RU-3/D-BR, RU-4/D-BR, RM-3/D-BR, RM-4/D-BR
<b>Environmental Determination:</b>	An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan.
<b>Historic Status:</b>	The Plan Area includes cultural/historic resources that may be eligible for, or are on an historical resource list (including the California Register of Historic Resources, the National Register of Historical Resources, and/or the Local Register); as well as several cultural/historic resources designated by the City of Oakland as Areas of Primary Importance (API); Areas of Secondary Importance (ASI); properties individually rated A, B, C, or D; and Landmark properties.
<b>Service Delivery District:</b>	2
<b>City Council District:</b>	3
<b>Status:</b>	A Notice of Preparation (NOP) of DEIR was published on April 30, 2012, and the public comment period on the NOP ends on May 30, 2012.
<b>Action to be Taken:</b>	Receive public and Planning Commissioner comments on the scope of the DEIR. No decisions will be made on the project at this hearing.
<b>Finality of Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>For Further Information:</b>	Contact project planner Laura Kaminski at <b>510-238-6809</b> or <a href="mailto:lkaminski@oaklandnet.com">lkaminski@oaklandnet.com</a> Project message line: <b>510-238-7905</b> Project email address: <a href="mailto:bvdsp@oaklandnet.com">bvdsp@oaklandnet.com</a> Project website: <a href="http://www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp">www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp</a>

## **SUMMARY**

The City of Oakland's Department of Planning, Building and Neighborhood Preservation is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan ("Plan," "Project") that will provide a roadmap for how the area develops over the next 25 years. The Planning Area encompasses approximately 92-96 acres on either side of Broadway, and is generally bound by Interstate-580 to the north, Grand Avenue to the south, Webster Street and Valley Street to the west, and Harrison Street, Bay Place, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Avenue, and Brook Street to the east.

The City is both the applicant and lead agency for the project, represented by the Department of Planning, Building and Neighborhood Preservation (DPBNP). Under the California Environmental

Quality Act (CEQA), a lead agency may proceed directly with EIR preparation without an Initial Study, if it is clear that an EIR will be required. As the City has made such a determination for this project, no Initial Study has been prepared.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a DEIR was published on April 30, 2012 (see **Attachment A**). The public comment period on the scope of the DEIR ends on May 30, 2012. The City anticipates that a Draft EIR for public review and comment will be available by fall of 2012.

The purpose of this Planning Commission public hearing is to receive comments on the scope of the environmental analysis that will be included in the DEIR. A scoping session was also held before the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board (LPAB) on May 14, 2012.

### PLAN BOUNDARY

As mentioned above, the Planning Area encompasses approximately 92 to 96 acres. The difference in acreage is due to the potential removal from the Plan boundary of a half block of properties between Broadway and Webster Street at 30<sup>th</sup> Street (see **Attachment B**). The City recently received a request to remove this half-block from the Specific Plan boundary, because the potential developer of a large retail development at this site has proposed doing their own EIR because their project is on a faster track than the anticipated timeline for completion of the Specific Plan. The City is considering this request and would like the input of the Planning Commission.

It is important to note that the developer can legally prepare their own separate EIR and seek their own entitlements, and the Specific Plan can still include the project site. Any challenge to the Specific Plan or Specific Plan EIR would not affect the separate EIR and project approvals if they proceed separately. Therefore, this boundary change request may be based more on the developer's desire to ensure the future anchor tenant, who has already signed a "Letter of Intent" with the development company to occupy the proposed retail development at this site, a higher level of predictability and comfort in the entitlement process.

The following discussion provides a staff analysis of the pros and cons of this proposed Plan boundary change:

CONSIDERATIONS	PRO	CON
<b>The proposed boundary change would remove a potential major development area from consideration in the Specific Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>The proposed retail development at this site would be consistent with the goals of the Specific Plan</i></li></ul>	<i>Not studying this half-block as part of the Specific Plan means that the removed area is not part of the Specific Plan area, and thus would not be subject to the Specific Plan regulations for any other development if the currently proposed development is unable to move forward for any reason</i>

After meeting with the potential developer, reviewing their preliminary plans, and being informed of their receipt of an anchor tenant "Letter of Intent" and their willingness to do their own EIR as part of the required entitlement process, staff has a high level of confidence that this is a viable project and its construction would act as a significant catalyst toward implementation of the larger Specific Plan vision.

Therefore, in order to facilitate the current forward momentum of a retail development that is consistent with the goals of the Specific Plan, staff recommends acceptance of the developer's request that the city



remove from the Plan boundary the half block of properties at 30<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Webster Streets.

## **BACKGROUND**

See **Attachment C** for background information on the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan will be a 25-year planning document, with a planning horizon to the year 2035. The Plan builds on extensive community feedback to meet its goals of:

- 1) Creating a destination retail, dining, and entertainment district that reduces sales tax leakage, while also serving neighborhood shopping needs;
- 2) Encouraging mixed-use housing development in the area that is economically and socially sustainable;
- 3) Facilitating the adaptive re-use of existing historic buildings where feasible, and contributing to a distinctive character and identity; and
- 4) Creating a network of “complete” streets that are designed to safely and efficiently balance pedestrians, bicycle, transit, and vehicular circulation.

The Plan will develop strategies to encourage more retail and mixed-use development in the areas on and off Broadway between Grand Avenue and Interstate 580. Broadway is viewed as the City’s “Main Street”, and the portion of Broadway within the Planning Area is significant due to its proximity to downtown, its location near the 19<sup>th</sup> Street and MacArthur BART transit stations, a major AC Transit bus route, as well as its relationship to nearby residential neighborhoods, the adjacent medical campuses of Kaiser and Alta Bates/Summit, the successful existing Uptown entertainment district, and the Piedmont Avenue retail street. The Plan will provide an area-wide set of development regulations and requirements, and will cover land use, development density, circulation and infrastructure, and financing mechanisms for public improvements, and it will have legal authority as a regulatory document.

The components of the Specific Plan will include:

- Text and diagrams showing the distribution, location and extent of all land uses, including open space;
- Proposed distribution, location, extent and intensity of major components of public and private transportation, sewage, water, drainage, solid waste disposal, energy and other essential facilities needed to support the land uses;
- Standards and guidelines for development, and standards for the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, where applicable;
- Program of implementation measures including regulations, programs, public works projects and financing measures; and
- Statement of Specific Plan’s relationship to the General Plan.

The overall development potential that is proposed for study in the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan was presented in the Draft Plan Concept (see **Attachment D**). The development categories below are not all likely to be achieved at the highest range - if the reasonably foreseeable development program includes the high range for one or more of the development categories below, then the other development types would likely be specified in the lower range:

- 800,000 to 1.4 million square feet of retail/commercial;
- 500,000 to 900,000 square feet of office;
- 50,000 to 120,000 square feet of hotel; and
- 900 to 1,800 housing units.

Copies of both the Draft Plan Concept and the NOP are attached to this report and also are available to the public as follows:

1. Electronically, at the project website: [www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp](http://www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp).
2. Printed reference copies, at the City of Oakland Planning Department (250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315).

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION**

The City has determined that an EIR will be prepared for the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan. An EIR is an informational tool to assist decision makers and the public regarding the project's environmental effects, mitigation measures, and project alternatives. The EIR will be a product of a structured information gathering process specified in the CEQA guidelines. The EIR will study the development envelope that is reasonably foreseeable, to assess potential impacts and mitigation requirements.

As previously noted, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan was published on April 30, 2012. It is anticipated that the proposed project would likely result in potentially significant environmental effects to the following: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural and Historic Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gases and Global Climate Change, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic and Utilities and Service Systems. All of the noted environmental factors will be analyzed in the DEIR.

The DEIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including the CEQA-mandated No Project Alternative, and other potential alternatives that may be capable of reducing or avoiding potential environmental effects.

It should also be noted that, as is typical with an EIR process, the details of the Specific Plan will not be finalized when the EIR process begins. CEQA is an iterative process, and analyzing a finalized plan would remove the value of the EIR as a decision-making tool. The EIR will serve to inform the ongoing community discussion on the details in the Specific Plan, and can direct the modification of proposed policies and programs in the Plan that would help to mitigate potential environmental impacts.

### ***Issues to be Addressed in the DEIR***

The main purpose of this scoping session is to solicit comments from the Planning Commission and the public on what types of information and analysis should be considered in the DEIR. Comments about the environmental issues that should be considered, the types of environmental information that should be included, and the range of alternatives to the project that should be assessed are all appropriate comments. Staff and our consultants have identified the following preliminary list of environmental and project issues that need to be addressed in the DEIR:

#### **Aesthetics**

- Potential for new buildings to result in impacts to vistas;

- Potential for new buildings to cast shadows that could substantially impair the beneficial use of public spaces, historic resources, and solar collectors;
- Potential for the design guidelines to minimize any identified visual character/visual quality effects.

#### Air Quality

- Although not required by CEQA, identify areas where adding new sensitive receptors would be constrained by existing, substantial sources of air pollutants;
- Identify any health risks associated with the proposed land use changes;
- Implement design standards to avoid or minimize air quality-related health risks.

#### Biological Resources

- Assessment of area biological resources (vegetation and wildlife);
- Potential impacts to protected species.

#### Cultural and Historic Resources

- Assessment of the presence of and potential impacts to historic structures;
- Cultural records search to determine the potential presence of prehistoric or archaeological sites;
- Appropriate coordination with Native American organizations as required under CEQA and SB 18.

#### Geology and Soils

- Evaluate the potential for newly allowable land uses to result in potential seismic safety concerns.

#### Greenhouse Gas and Global Climate Change

- Identify how the proposed land use changes could affect global climate change and greenhouse gas emission trends.

#### Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- Identify known sources of soil and groundwater contamination;
- Include appropriate mitigation to ensure protection of human health in light of potential soil and groundwater contamination.

#### Hydrology and Water Quality

- Evaluate the potential for the project to result in increased risk related to flooding;
- Evaluate how project construction and operation could affect the quantity and/or quality of stormwater.

#### Land Use and Planning

- Evaluate the proposed land use changes in light of adopted policy documents, such as the Oakland General Plan's Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE), Open Space Conservation and Recreation Element (OSCAR), and the Historic Preservation Element.

#### Noise

- Identify areas where adding new sensitive receptors would be constrained by existing, substantial noise and vibration sources;

- Identify any significant noise or vibration impacts associated with the proposed land use changes;
- Develop design standards that would avoid or minimize any identified noise or vibration effects.

#### Population and Housing

- Evaluate how the proposed land use changes compare to local and regional projections.

#### Public Services

- Determine whether proposed land use changes could affect demands for fire and emergency response, police protection, schools, and libraries.

#### Recreation

- Determine whether proposed land use changes could affect demands on park and recreation services such that physical environmental effects could occur.

#### Transportation and Traffic

- Analyze existing baseline conditions;
- Evaluate the potential for the proposed land use changes to increase traffic on local roadways under appropriate scenarios.

#### Utilities and Service Systems

- Identify known infrastructure deficiencies in the project area;
- Determine the extent of demand increases associated with proposed land use changes and whether such increases could be accommodated within existing infrastructure or if new or expanded facilities would be required.

#### Alternatives

The DEIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including the CEQA-mandated No Project Alternative, and other potential alternatives that may be capable of reducing or avoiding potential environmental effects.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Under the City's Planning Code and the State CEQA Guidelines, several opportunities for public comment on the Project and on the environmental review of the Project are provided. These opportunities include the 30-day comment period on the NOP; a Scoping Session before the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board (LPAB); this public Scoping Session before the Planning Commission; a 45-day public review period on the DEIR; public hearing(s) before the Planning Commission and LPAB to receive comments on the DEIR; and public hearing(s) before the LPAB, Planning Commission, and City Council to consider certification of the Final EIR.

The 30-day public comment period on the NOP ends on Wednesday, May 30, 2012.


We anticipate that the Draft Specific Plan and Draft EIR will be prepared, circulated and presented to the Planning Commission and other public bodies (including the LPAB) in fall 2012. Then a Final Specific Plan and Final EIR will need to be reviewed and certified by the Planning Commission and other public bodies (including the LPAB), before final Plan adoption by City Council, tentatively in mid to late 2013.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Staff requests that the Planning Commission:

- (1) Receive comments from interested citizens, and provide comments themselves, on the scope of the contents of the DEIR for the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan; and
- (2) Determine that the half block of properties between Broadway and Webster Street at 30<sup>th</sup> Street should be removed from the Specific Plan boundary area.

Prepared by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LAURA KAMINSKI  
Planner II

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ED MANASSE  
Strategic Planning Manager

Approved for forwarding to the  
City Planning Commission:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SCOTT MILLER  
Interim Planning and Zoning Director

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan EIR
- B. Map of potential boundary change for the Specific Plan Area
- C. Background information on the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan
- D. Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan "Draft Plan Concept" (dated December 1, 2011)

# CITY OF OAKLAND



DALZIEL BUILDING • 250 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, SUITE 3315 • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612-2032

Community and Economic Development Agency  
Planning & Zoning Services Division

(510) 238-3941  
FAX (510) 238-6538  
TDD (510) 238-3254

## **NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) ON THE BROADWAY/VALDEZ DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN**

The City of Oakland's Department of Planning, Building, and Neighborhood Preservation is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan ("Plan," "Project"), as identified below, and is requesting comments on the scope and content of the DEIR. The DEIR will address the potential physical and environmental effects of the Project for each of the environmental topics outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City has not prepared an Initial Study. Under CEQA, a Lead Agency may proceed directly with EIR preparation without an Initial Study if it is clear that an EIR will be required. The City has made such a determination for this project.

The City of Oakland is the Lead Agency for the Project and is the public agency with the greatest responsibility for approving the Project, or for carrying it out. This notice is being sent to Responsible Agencies and other interested parties. Responsible Agencies are those public agencies, besides the City of Oakland, that also have a role in approving, or carrying out the Project. When the DEIR is published, it will be sent to all Responsible Agencies and to others who indicate that they would like to receive a copy, and/or a Notice of Availability of the DEIR.

Responses to this NOP and any questions or comments should be directed in writing to: Laura Kaminski, City of Oakland Strategic Planning Division, Department of Planning, Building, and Neighborhood Preservation, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-238-6809 (phone); 510-238-6538 (fax); or e-mailed to [lkaminski@oaklandnet.com](mailto:lkaminski@oaklandnet.com). Commenters can also contact the City via the Broadway/Valdez Project message line: 510-238-7905, or the Project email: [bvdsp@oaklandnet.com](mailto:bvdsp@oaklandnet.com). The project website is: [www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp](http://www.oaklandnet.com/bvdsp). Comments on the NOP must be received at the above mailing or e-mail address **by 4:00 p.m. May 30, 2012**. Please reference case numbers **ZS12046** and **ER120005** in all correspondence. In addition, comments may be provided at the DEIR Scoping Session Public Hearings to be held before the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and the City Planning Commission. Comments should focus on discussing possible impacts on the physical environment, ways in which potential adverse effects might be minimized, and alternatives to the project in light of the DEIR's purpose to provide useful and accurate information about such factors.

### **DEIR SCOPING SESSION PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

#### **(1) The Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board**

Monday May 14, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Oakland City Hall, Hearing Room 1  
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

#### **(2) City Planning Commission**

Wednesday May 16, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Oakland City Hall, Hearing Room 1  
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

**PROJECT TITLE: Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan**

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The Broadway/Valdez Specific Planning Area is located in the heart of Oakland, part of the urban center of the San Francisco Bay Area. The Planning Area, centered on Broadway, connects to a variety of neighborhoods and destinations, including Downtown Oakland, the northern edge of Lake Merritt, Uptown, Art Murmur/Garage District, Northgate/Koreatown, Harrison/Oakland, Adams Point, “Pill Hill”, the Alta Bates/Summit & Kaiser Medical Centers, and the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood shopping street. The Planning Area’s context is shown in Figure 1.

The Planning Area encompasses approximately 92-96 acres on either side of Broadway, and is generally bound by Interstate-580 to the north, Grand Avenue to the south, Webster Street and Valley Street to the west, and Harrison Street, Bay Place, 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Avenue, and Brook Street to the east. The difference in acreage is due to the potential removal of a block at 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Broadway and part of Webster Street from the Plan boundary. The overall Plan area includes two sub areas: (1) the “Valdez Triangle”, generally formed by Broadway and Valley Street to the west; 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Street to the north; 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Harrison Street, and Bay Place to the east; and Grand Avenue to the south; and (2) the “North End,” generally formed by Webster Street to the west; Interstate-580 to the north; Piedmont Avenue, Brook Street, and Richmond Avenue to the east; and 28<sup>th</sup> Street to the south. The Planning Area boundary is shown in Figure 2.

**PROJECT SPONSOR: City of Oakland**

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The City of Oakland, with the assistance of a grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is preparing a Specific Plan for the lots and area surrounding Broadway from Grand Avenue to Interstate-580. The Broadway/Valdez District is the location of the historic “Broadway Auto Row,” and there are a number of active automotive dealers and repair shops still operating in the area. The Plan area includes many diverse businesses with approximately 7,000 employees. Adjacent to the Plan area are neighborhoods with approximately 20,000 residents. The Plan area also includes several historic properties and districts, including those designated by the City of Oakland as being Areas of Primary Importance (API); Areas of Secondary Importance (ASI); properties individually rated A, B, C, or D; and Landmark Properties.

Existing physical environmental issues in the Plan area include, but are not limited to: air pollution and noise associated with the I-580 freeway and major arterials; air pollution from toxic air contaminants; substandard infrastructure, including roads and utilities; and potential soil and groundwater contamination associated with previous uses in the project area, including approximately fourteen (14) properties identified on the California Environmental Protection Agency’s Cortese List.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan will be a 25-year planning document, with a planning horizon to the year 2035. The Plan builds on extensive community feedback to meet its goals of:

- 1) Creating a destination retail, dining, and entertainment district that reduces sales tax leakage, while also serving neighborhood shopping needs;
- 2) Encouraging mixed-use housing development in the area that is economically and socially sustainable;
- 3) Facilitating the adaptive re-use of existing historic buildings where feasible, and contributing to a distinctive character and identity; and
- 4) Creating a network of “complete” streets that are designed to safely and efficiently balance pedestrians, bicycle, transit, and vehicular circulation.



The Plan will develop strategies to encourage more retail and mixed-use development in the areas on and off Broadway between Grand Avenue and Interstate 580. Broadway is viewed as the City's "Main Street", and the portion of Broadway within the Planning Area is significant due to its proximity to downtown, its location near the 19<sup>th</sup> Street and MacArthur BART stations, a major AC transit bus route, as well as its relationship to nearby residential neighborhoods, the adjacent medical campuses of Kaiser and Alta Bates/Summit, the successful existing Uptown entertainment district, and the Piedmont Avenue retail street. The Plan will provide an area-wide set of development regulations and requirements, and will cover land use, development density, circulation and infrastructure, financing mechanisms for public improvements, and will have legal authority as a regulatory document.

The components of the Specific Plan will include:

- Text and diagrams showing the distribution, location and extent of all land uses, including open space;
- Proposed distribution, location, extent and intensity of major components of public and private transportation, sewage, water, drainage, solid waste disposal, energy and other essential facilities needed to support the land uses;
- Standards and guidelines for development, and standards for the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, where applicable;
- Program of implementation measures including regulations, programs, public works projects and financing measures; and
- Statement of Specific Plan's relationship to the General Plan.

For more information on the project, please visit the project website at:

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PBN/OurOrganization/PlanningZoning/DOWD008194>

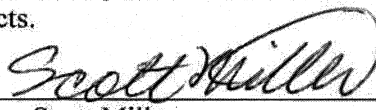
#### **PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:**

It is anticipated that the proposed project may result in potentially significant environmental effects to the following: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural and Historic Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gases and Global Climate Change, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic and Utilities and Service Systems. All of the noted environmental factors will be analyzed in the Draft EIR.

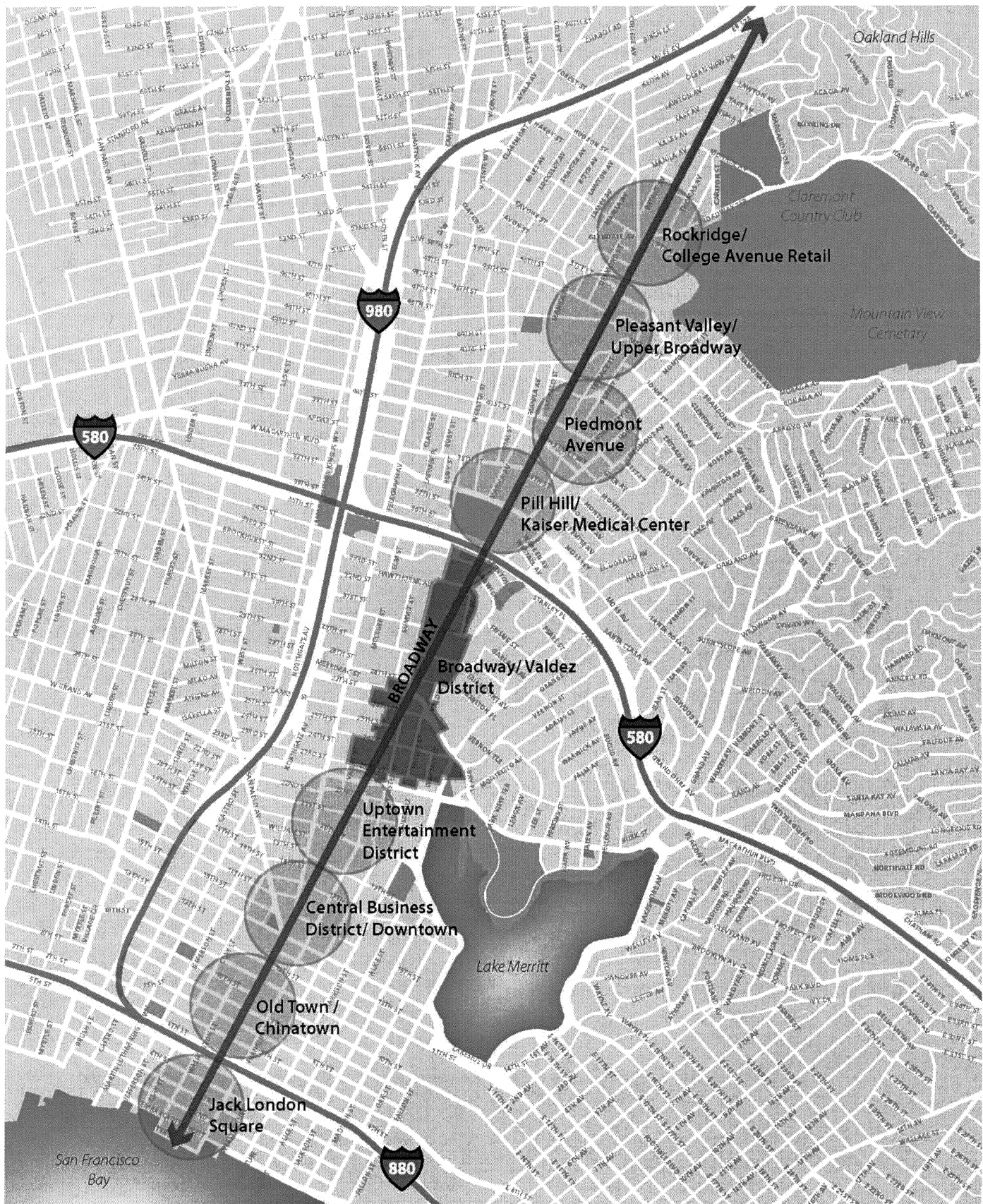
The Project has no potential for any impact on the following environmental factors, and, as a result, these environmental factors will not be the subject of study in this Draft EIR: Agriculture and Forestry (there are no agricultural and forest land resources in the Plan area), and Mineral Resources (there are no mineral resources in the Plan area).

The Draft EIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including the CEQA-mandated No Project Alternative, and other potential alternatives that may be capable or reducing or avoiding potential environmental effects.

April 30, 2012  
File Numbers -,  
**ZS12046, ER120005**

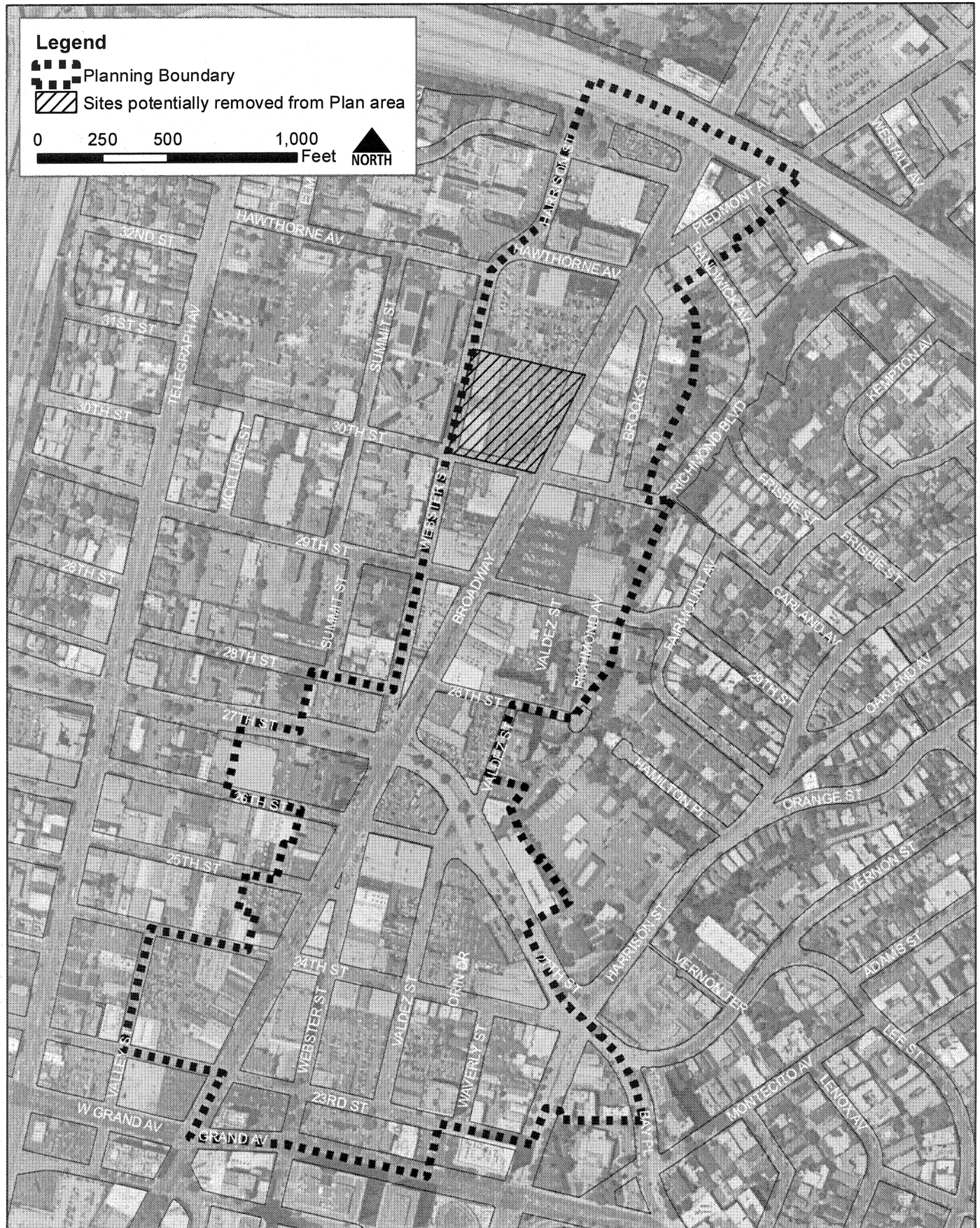
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Miller  
Interim Planning and Zoning Director,  
Environmental Review Officer

Attachments:  
Figure 1: Planning Area Context  
Figure 2: Planning Boundary.



**BROADWAY VALDEZ DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN**  
Figure I: Planning Area Context



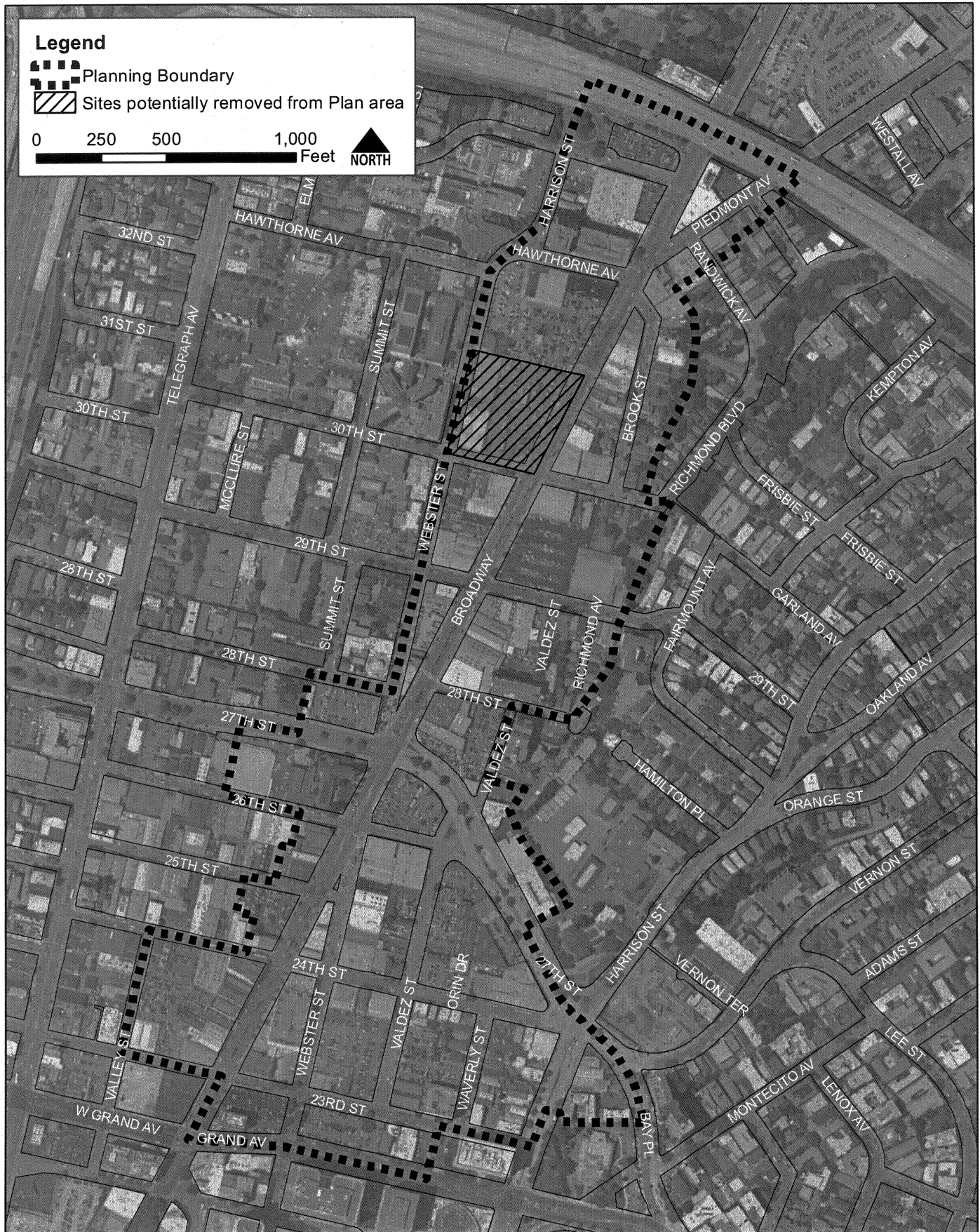


## BROADWAY VALDEZ DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN

Figure 2: Planning Boundary

Created by: City of Oakland, Department of Planning, Building and Neighborhood Preservation  
April 2012





# **BROADWAY VALDEZ DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN** Attachment B: Planning Boundary

Created by: City of Oakland, Department of Planning, Building and Neighborhood Preservation  
April 2012

## BACKGROUND

The Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan process offers an important opportunity for the community to engage in discussions about how the area should develop into the future. The Specific Plan aims to develop a coordinated vision for new development, especially focusing on the potential for retail developments, transportation and open space improvements, and general quality of life gains that balances Citywide and neighborhood priorities, and builds on the area's existing vibrancy and potential catalyst development projects.

Oakland is one of the most under-retailed major cities in the United States, with limited options for "comparison goods" shopping - a retail category that includes stores for apparel (clothing, accessories, shoes), home furnishings/appliances, specialty goods (gifts, jewelry, books, stationery and cards, sporting goods, etc.), and department and other general merchandise stores.

The *Citywide Retail Enhancement Strategy* (Conley, 2006) and the companion *Upper Broadway Strategy - A Component of the Oakland Retail Enhancement Strategy* (Conley, 2007) identified the City's need to reestablish major destination retail in Oakland as being critical to stemming the retail leakage and associated loss of tax revenue that the City suffers annually. These reports also identified the Broadway/Valdez District as the City's best opportunity to re-establish a retail core with the type of comparison shopping that once served Oakland and nearby communities, and that the City currently lacks.

In January 2009, the City of Oakland received a funding grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to study the Broadway/Valdez District Specific Plan Area for potential destination retail, housing and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). The Specific Plan process commenced upon the receipt of the funding agreement from MTC.

In January 2010, three land use alternatives were presented at a public workshop. There were numerous comments, including from the Landmarks Board, that too much removal of entire blocks was required and that the character of the area was lost. Shortly after this meeting, due to Citywide budget issues, the original Project Manager was laid off and the project was put on hold. In late 2010, a new Project Manager and team took over and a "re-launch" public workshop was held in April of 2011. The main purpose of this workshop was to remind the public of where the project was in the process, and to get additional feedback from the public. General ideas received included (but were not limited to): the need to buy goods locally; wanting the area to be safer; better streetscapes and lighting; keeping the local character; making the area bicycle and pedestrian friendly; encouraging adaptive re-use of historic buildings and facades; providing residential housing units along with the retail to help support the retail; low parking ratios; and creating a connection to the Uptown district.

In May of 2011, another Public Workshop was held, called "Words to Paper: Show us Your Vision for the Broadway/Valdez District." Eight groups presented their vision for the Broadway/Valdez District. Some of the ideas that came out of this workshop included: making Broadway the main "spine" of the plan; the request of 1,800 units of mixed income housing; incremental development that is flexible; traffic calming and bike parking; utilizing new parking techniques such as unbundling and car sharing; adaptive use of historic buildings; and phased development.

During July - October of 2011, there were a number of additional stakeholder meetings to refine the project's new "Draft Plan Concept". In December of 2011, a public workshop was held to present the Draft Plan Concept (see **Attachment D**). Changes were made in response to public and stakeholder comments, along with the fact that the economic climate has changed since the planning effort began in

2009. The new planning approach in the Draft Plan Concept is a much more flexible and organic plan that looks at a phased approach of short, mid, and long- term strategies. The City was aware of the potential loss of Redevelopment, that has since become a reality, when the Draft Plan Concept was written. The current Draft Plan Concept is now based on strategic interventions, phasing, and building on existing assets.

The overall Plan area includes two sub areas: (1) the “Valdez Triangle” and (2) the “North End”. The land use concept is different in the Valdez Triangle than in the North End.

**Valdez Triangle**

- “Destination Retail” with active ground-floor uses and retail frontage required on most streets.
  - Critical mass of destination retail/commercial
  - “Authentic Oakland” place
  - Mix of local and national retailers
  - Complementary mix of uses to animate area around the clock
- Retail Priority Areas
  - Sites prioritized for major retail
  - Minimum floorplate requirements coupled with incentives
- Other Areas
  - Diverse mix of uses and sizes allowed
  - Upper floor residential encouraged

**North End**

- “Mixed Use Boulevard” with commercial frontage required.
- Major Development Opportunity areas
  - Flexible, could be retail, office, housing
  - Ground floor with commercial frontage

The overall housing strategy recognizes that housing is an important component to creating a successful mixed-use district, and envisions about 900 – 1,800 new housing units. The Specific Plan will look at providing a menu of incentives to promote affordable/workforce housing. Housing is recommended primarily as an upper floor use. Streetscape improvements are recommended which includes: widened sidewalks, pedestrian scaled lighting, and street trees. Enhancements to freeway underpasses to improve the pedestrian environment, public space features, and a new linear park/greenway along Glen Echo Creek are also all recommend in the Draft Plan Concept.

For the circulation, access, and parking strategy, a “complete streets” approach is recommended, with a goal of safety and convenience for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, and cars alike. The plan recommends new and enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities, along with the potential expanded transit service. Existing parking resources should be optimized first, and parking ratios should be transitioned over time to low overall parking ratios. For historic resources, key existing buildings should be retained that contribute to the character of the district and support reuse.

**Short-Term Strategies:**

- Promote more “people attractors” to the area (e.g. restaurants, bars, retail, entertainment uses, art events)
- Improve the character of the public realm on key streets
- Identify opportunities for public spaces that will anchor new development
- Design for greater public safety
- Improve transit access to the area
- Support reinvestment through existing landowners and businesses

**Short-Term Strategy Tools:**

- Public space improvements
- Extending Community Benefit District (CBD) boundary or creating new CBD
- Parking Benefit District
- “Pop-up”/temporary events and storefronts
- Public art installations
- Arts and Entertainment District overlay
- Greater flexibility in regulations to encourage Historic Building reuse

**Mid and Long-Term Strategies**

- Pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities (i.e. bike lanes, crosswalks)
- Streetscape improvements
- Encourage formation of a “restaurant row” in former auto garages on east side of Broadway

More detailed recommendations will be developed as part of the Specific Plan preparation.



# ***BROADWAY VALDEZ DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN***



## **DRAFT PLAN CONCEPT**

PRESENTED TO THE  
CITY OF OAKLAND

DECEMBER 1, 2011



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## ATTACHMENT D

### I. PLANNING CONTEXT

#### A. Retail Context

- **Retail Need.** Oakland is one of the most under-retailed major cities in the United States, with limited options for comparison goods shopping, a retail category that includes stores for apparel (clothing, accessories, shoes), home furnishings/appliances, specialty goods (gifts, jewelry, books, stationery and cards, sporting goods, etc.), and department and other general merchandise stores.
- **Citywide Retail Strategy.** The *Citywide Retail Enhancement Strategy* (Conley, 2006) and the companion *Upper Broadway Strategy – A Component of the Oakland Retail Enhancement Strategy* (Conley, 2007) identified the City's need to re-establish major destination retail in Oakland as being critical to stemming the extreme retail leakage and associated loss of tax revenue that the City suffers annually. The reports also identified the Broadway Valdez District as the City's best opportunity to re-establish a retail core with the type of comparison shopping that once served Oakland and nearby communities, and that the City currently lacks.
- **Comparison Retail Market.** The Broadway Valdez area is surrounded by a large and potentially lucrative market for new retail development. Within a 10-minute drive of the area (Primary Trade Area), there are over 400,000 residents who spend \$1.6 billion per year for comparison goods shopping. It is estimated that the Broadway Valdez area would only need to capture 12% of these expenditures to support major retail development in the project area, which is considered very reasonable given the high leakage of spending.
- **Retail Climate.** While studies identify strong demand for comparison retail, a number of recent trends have changed the traditional dynamics of retail development. The downturn in the economy over the past few years has made developers and lenders much more cautious about tackling major new projects or pioneering unproven areas, and the City has fewer resources available to catalyze new development.

While the economy has also made retailers more cautious, advances in information technologies and shifts in demographics are also changing traditional retail formulas. The shift in population into cities has large anchor-type retailers exploring new physical formats that fit in urban settings. Similarly, changes in shopping habits influenced by the internet and social networking have retailers reconsidering the role and size of brick-and-mortar outlets.

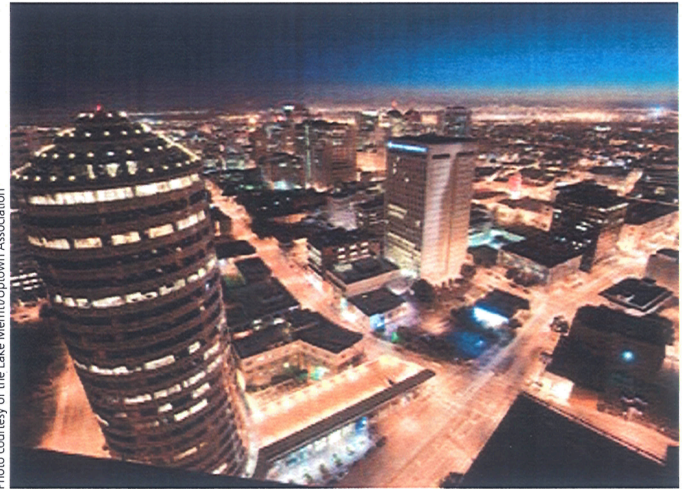


Photo courtesy of the Lake MerrittUptown Association

Broadway is Downtown Oakland's central spine



Photo courtesy of the Lake MerrittUptown Association

Current retail trends and formats encourage infill and building reuse

This Draft Plan Concept presents the initial concepts and strategic framework that will help the City to address its retail deficiencies over the long term, while bridging current economic conditions and shifting retail trends. As presented in the following sections, the long-term vision for the Broadway Valdez District is to create a local- and regional-serving retail district, seamlessly integrated with its surrounding context and balanced by a mix of uses that will bring around-the-clock activity to the area.

The concepts and strategies presented in this Draft Plan Concept will be more fully developed and detailed in the subsequent Specific Plan, with an emphasis on providing a set of near- and long-term strategies, incentives and guidelines aimed at leveraging the area's assets, creating value, generating interest, and establishing a positive new identity that will advance the realization of the City's vision.



## I. PLANNING CONTEXT

### B. Physical Context

- The Broadway Corridor.** Broadway is Oakland's historic spine. Extending from the Oakland Estuary to the Oakland Hills, the corridor connects some of the City's primary retail and employment destinations along its 4-mile length, including Jack London Square, Chinatown, Old Town, Downtown, Uptown, Pill Hill/Kaiser Medical Centers, Pleasant Valley, and the Piedmont and College Avenue retail districts. The transformation of the Broadway Valdez District from its historic emphasis on automotive sales and repair to a retail-oriented mixed use district will create a dynamic linkage between the Downtown and the neighborhood centers to the north and east.



Photo courtesy of the Downtown Oakland Association



Photo courtesy of the Lake Merritt/Uptown Association





**ATTACHMENT D**  
**I. PLANNING CONTEXT**



FIGURE 1: BROADWAY - "HILLS TO WATER"



## I. PLANNING CONTEXT

- **Local Surroundings and Influences.** The Broadway Valdez District is surrounded by a number of distinctive and dynamic neighborhoods and uses. The District will derive its strength from this context, leveraging the energy of surrounding neighborhoods to create a vibrant retail and mixed-use destination that is a fully-integrated extension of the Downtown—not an isolated shopping district.
- **Complementary and Connected.** The Broadway corridor should serve as a “seam” in the urban fabric—one that complements and connects a series of dynamic adjoining uses by providing:
  - A regional shopping destination that brings shopping options, activity, and robust tax base to Downtown Oakland
  - A local shopping and entertainment destination for residents in adjoining neighborhoods
  - A retail, office and residential complement to the employment nodes of the Summit Alta Bates and Kaiser Permanente medical centers
  - A lunch-time and evening destination for office workers in the Kaiser Center/Lake Merritt office district
  - An extension of the dining, entertainment, and residential uses in the thriving Uptown District
  - A retail complement to the active Central Business District
  - A dining, entertainment and cultural complement to the distinctive Garage/Art Murmur District



Photo by Aunhard Henderson



Photo by Nathaniel Bennett



Photo courtesy of the Lake Merritt/Uptown Association





# ATTACHMENT D

## I. PLANNING CONTEXT

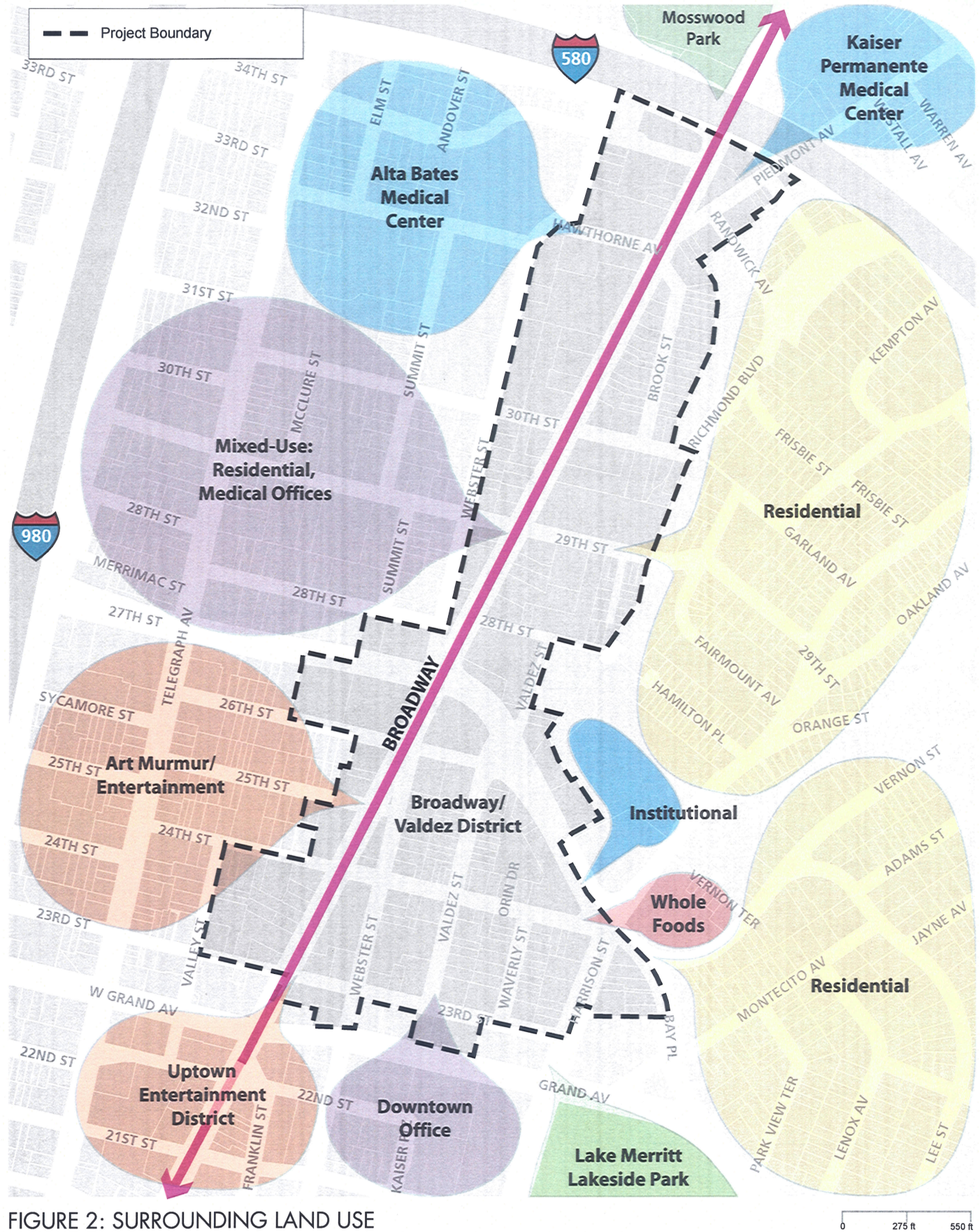


FIGURE 2: SURROUNDING LAND USE



## II. VISION AND GOALS

### A. Vision Statement

*To transition the Broadway corridor to being a new, re-imagined 21st Century “complete” neighborhood that addresses the City’s objectives for promoting socially and economically sustainable mixed use development; increasing the capture of local sales tax revenue; and implementing a “green,” “transit-first” strategy that reduces greenhouse gas emissions.*

### B. Project Goals

1. **Destination Retail.** A destination retail district that addresses the City’s deficiency in comparison goods shopping and significantly reduces sales tax leakage, while also serving neighborhood shopping needs.
2. **A “Complete” Neighborhood.** A “complete” mixed-use neighborhood that is economically and socially sustainable—providing quality jobs, diverse housing opportunities, and an appealing mix of retail, dining and entertainment uses.
3. **An Authentic Oakland Place.** Adaptive reuse of historic buildings where feasible that maintains a connection to the neighborhood’s history and contributes to a distinctive character and identity.
4. **A Walkable District.** An attractive, pedestrian-oriented retail and mixed use district.
5. **Transit-Oriented.** A compact neighborhood that is well-served by and supportive of transit.
6. **Complete Streets.** A network of “complete” streets that are designed to safely and efficiently balance pedestrian, bicycle, transit and vehicular circulation.
7. **Managed Parking.** Carefully managed parking that addresses retail needs while not undermining walking, bicycling and public transit as preferred modes of transportation.
8. **Public Space.** A safe and attractive system of streets, parks, and civic spaces that provides graciously-scaled open spaces that support pedestrian activity and social interaction.
9. **Leveraging Existing Assets.** New uses and development that enhance the neighborhood’s social and economic vitality by building upon the area’s existing strengths and successes.
10. **Sustainable Development.** Sustainably-designed, “green” buildings and infrastructure that protect the natural environment and reduce the consumption of energy and resources.

### C. Implementation Strategies Overview

- **Implementation Challenges.** The realization of the vision for the Broadway Valdez District is faced with challenges, some inherent to the area (e.g., numerous land owners, small parcel sizes, high land values, limited land control by RDA, perception of public safety, lack of retail identity, etc.) and some related to more global issues (e.g., poor economic climate, retail industry in flux, limited redevelopment funding, etc.). As a result, implementation is likely to occur incrementally over a number of years.
- **Near-term Strategies.** In the face of these challenges, instigating innovative actions that will bridge the current economy and better position the area for development will be critical. These near-term strategies will be important to demonstrate the City’s commitment to the vision for the District, and support existing businesses and landowners who are already working to revitalize the area. The focus of these near-term strategies should be to (See Figure 3):
  - *Build on what is “working” in the area (e.g., dining, entertainment, the arts)*
  - *Activate the area (e.g., fill in gaps, promote use of “dead” spots, etc.)*
  - *Make the area “fun,” “safe” and “active” (e.g., promote events, improve lighting, etc.)*
  - *Improve connectivity/mobility (e.g., add bicycle facilities, improve pedestrian crossings, etc.)*
  - *Enhance the physical character of the area (e.g., add street trees, façade and tenant improvements, etc.)*

## ATTACHMENT D II. VISION AND GOALS

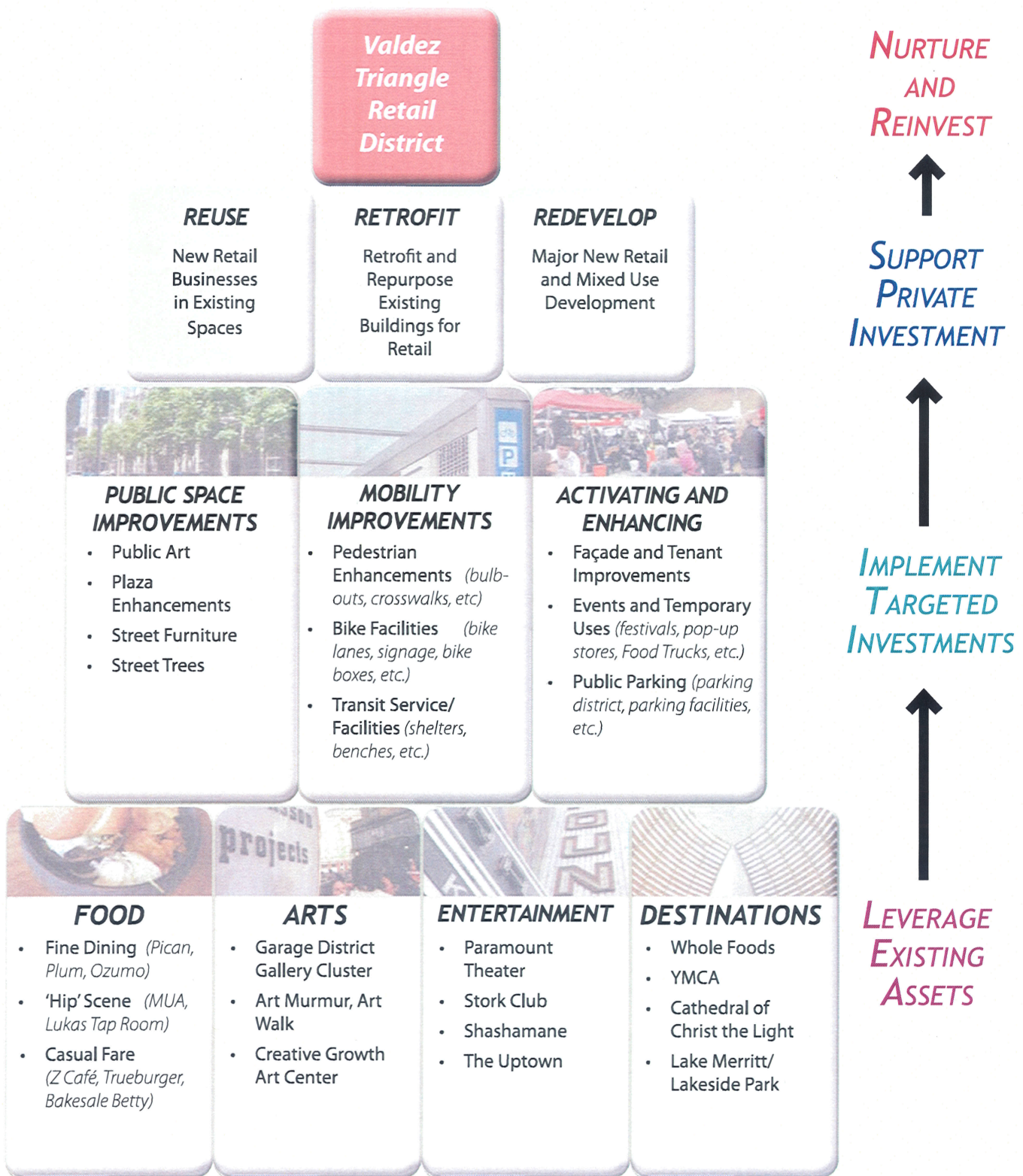


FIGURE 3: BUILDING A DESTINATION RETAIL DISTRICT FROM THE GROUND UP



### III. LAND USE

#### A. Overall Planning Area Land Use Concept

- **Two Distinct Subareas.** Given the area's length, the different physical configuration of the areas north and south of 27th Street, and the desire to create a walkable, pedestrian-friendly district, the land use concept conceives the planning area as two distinct subareas: the Valdez Triangle and the North End—each of which will have a different land use focus.
- **Valdez Triangle as Retail Destination.** Due to its proximity to the Downtown, its accessibility to transit and freeways, and its fine-grained network of cross-streets, the focus in the Valdez Triangle will be on creating a new destination retail district (see following discussion of Triangle for more detail).
- **North End as Mixed-Use Boulevard.** Due to its linear configuration, proximity to the two medical centers, and inventory of historic buildings, the focus in the North End will be on creating a high-density mixed use boulevard that caters to adjoining medical complexes and residential neighborhoods with a mix of office, retail, residential and professional services (see following discussion of North End for more detail).
- **Market-Driven Plan.** The land use concept assumes that plan implementation will be both market-driven and incremental.

#### B. Overall Development Program

The projected development program is an estimate of what could potentially occur in the planning area consistent with the Specific Plan vision for the District. The estimate represents a balancing of several factors including:

- Projected market demand, including the need for a critical mass of retail to establish the area as a retail destination
- Response to adjacent land use/development context
- The physical size and configuration of developable parcels
- The susceptibility (i.e., likelihood) of parcels to redevelopment
- The desire to repurpose historic and distinctive existing buildings
- The desire to create a balanced mix of uses that offers opportunities for living, working, and recreating



*Pedestrian-scaled, destination retail*



*Residential above ground-floor retail*

*Table 1: Overall Development Program*

	COMMERICAL OFFICE		RETAIL		HOTEL		RESIDENTIAL	
	S.F. (MIN)	S.F. (MAX)	S.F. (MIN)	S.F. (MAX)	S.F. (MIN)	S.F. (MAX)	DU (MIN)	DU (MAX)
Valdez Triangle	300,000	500,000	500,000	800,000	50,000	120,000	300	700
North End	200,000	400,000	300,000	600,000	-	-	600	1,100
<b>Total Plan Area</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>900,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>1,400,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,800</b>



# ATTACHMENT D

## III. LAND USE



FIGURE 4: OVERALL LAND USE CONCEPT



### III. LAND USE

#### C. Valdez Triangle Land Use Concept

**Retail District.** The primary objective in the Valdez Triangle is to create a dynamic retail district anchored by comparison-shopping (see Section D for more detailed discussion of retail component)

- **Retail Priority Areas.** “Retail Priority” areas are designated to ensure that sites are retained within the Triangle for major retailers who typically require building formats with larger floorplates. In order to accommodate these major retailers, who are essential to providing comparison goods shopping, minimum floor-plate requirements will be applied to sites that have three characteristics: adequate size, good visibility, and excellent access.
- **Ground-level Retail.** In order to create a vibrant retail environment, active retail and complementary dining and entertainment uses will be required as ground-level uses within the core of the Triangle.
- **Downtown Extension.** In order to reinforce the concept of the Triangle being an extension of the Downtown, the General Plan and Zoning boundaries for the Central Business District (CBD) will be extended north from 23rd Street to incorporate the Triangle.
- **Land Use Designations.** A “Mixed Use” designation will be applied throughout the Triangle to promote a sustainable mix of uses while providing flexibility in development type and configuration.
- **Vertical Mixed Use.** Vertical mixed use development that places other uses (e.g., office, entertainment, dining, retail, services, housing, etc.) above ground-floor retail will be encouraged in the retail core, whenever possible, but not required.
- **Complementary Mixed Use.** Mixed use development that is complementary to, but does not include retail, including high density residential development and non-retail ground-floor uses, will be encouraged in the areas around the periphery of the retail core.
- **Retail Streets.** In order to physically integrate the Triangle with adjacent areas, active retail frontages need to extend along key streets, especially: Broadway, 24th, and Valdez streets, as well as portions of 27th and Harrison streets (as indicated).
- **Retail before Residential.** In order to prioritize the development of comparison shopping-type retail in the Triangle, residential development may be allowed in retail priority areas only after the appropriate amount of retail has been provided.



*A pedestrian-oriented retail district in an urban setting*



*Locally-owned businesses located in existing storefronts*



*Comparison shopping accommodated in existing buildings*



ATTACHMENT D  
III. LAND USE

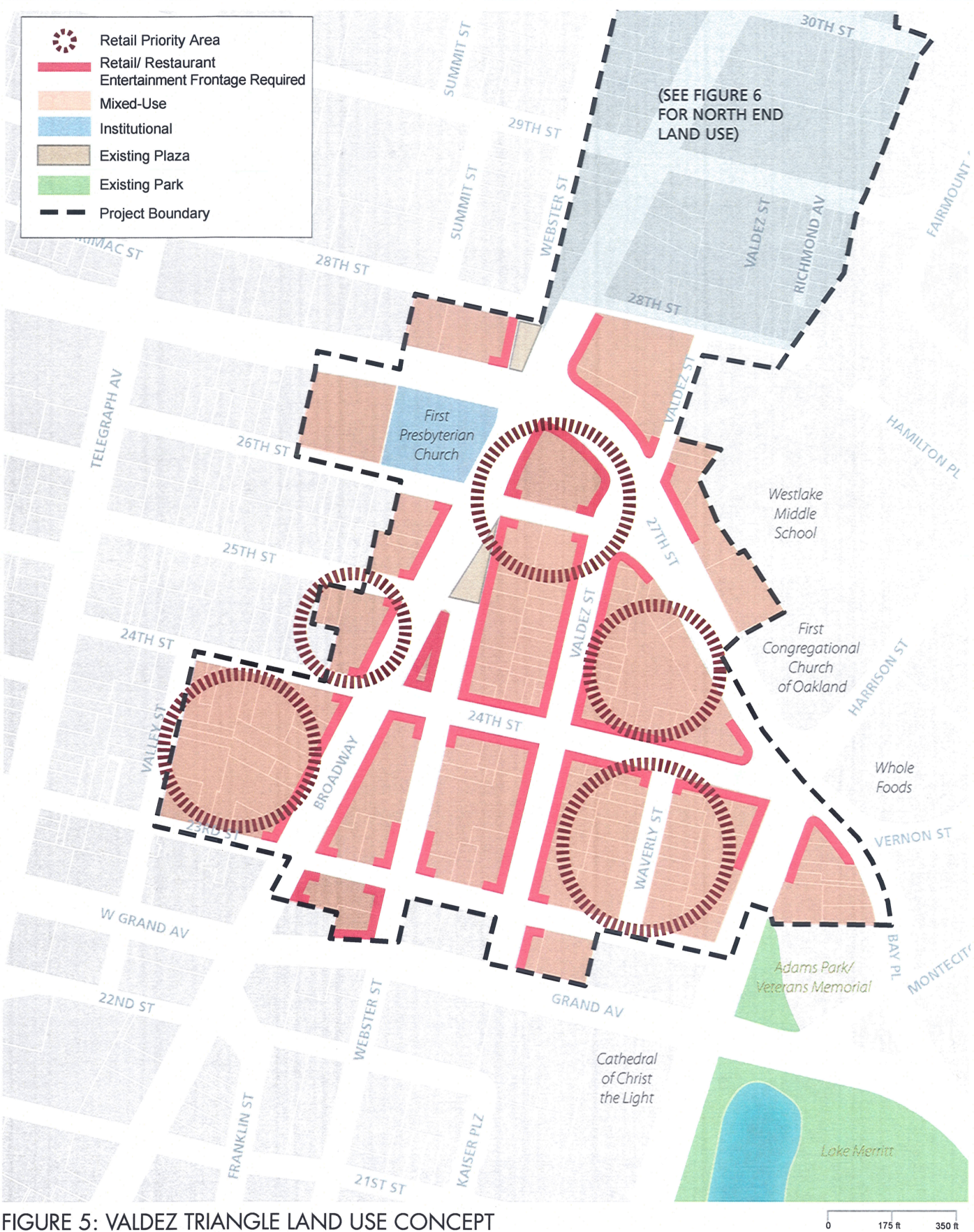


FIGURE 5: VALDEZ TRIANGLE LAND USE CONCEPT



### III. LAND USE

#### D. Valdez Triangle Retail Concept

- **Comparison Shopping.** The concept for the Valdez Triangle is to have a core of comparison shopping-type retail complemented with local-serving retail, dining, entertainment, office, and service uses
- **A Retail Mix.** The Triangle is intended to be a unique, Oakland-based shopping district that includes a mix of local and national retailers
- **Authentic Oakland Character.** By blending high-quality new buildings with renovated and re-purposed historic buildings, the Triangle will continue to be perceived as an authentic Oakland “place”—not a generic development that could be anywhere.
- **Pedestrian-oriented Retail.** The area will feature street-oriented retail in an attractive, pedestrian-oriented environment that includes vibrant, active sidewalks, and safe and attractive public spaces that encourage leisurely outings, social interaction, and strolling.
- **Around-the-Clock Activity.** The intent is to promote a complementary mix of retail, office, entertainment, and residential uses that creates a vibrant urban district that is active both day and night, not only on weekdays, but on weekends as well.
- **A Variety of Retail Formats.** The area will include a complementary mix of retail “anchor” stores (major, mid, and juniors), and small retail stores. While attracting major retail anchors as the foundation for the new district is desirable, it is not required. The plan recognizes that the anchor function within the district can be filled with many combinations of major, mid, and junior size anchor stores.
- **Minimum Floor Plate Requirements.** In order to accommodate the larger floor-plate, anchor store retailers that are essential to providing comparison goods shopping, minimum floor-plate requirements will be applied to retail priority areas in the Triangle that have three characteristics: adequate size, good visibility, and excellent access.
- **Critical Mass.** To be successful, the Triangle must provide for a critical mass of retail and complementary commercial uses that establishes the area as an attractive and competitive destination within the region.



Photo courtesy of the Lake Merritt Uptown Association  
Spaces and uses that provide for around-the-clock activity



A public realm and uses that encourage pedestrian activity and strolling



Existing buildings can be retrofitted with uses and frontages that address the public realm



**ATTACHMENT D**  
**III. LAND USE**





### III. LAND USE

#### E. North End Land Use Concept

**Mixed Use Boulevard.** The North End is envisioned as an attractive, mixed-use boulevard that links Downtown to the Piedmont/North Broadway areas and is integrated with the adjoining residential and health care-oriented neighborhoods.

- **Major Development Sites.** Three areas, the Linden/Hill, Deng, and Grocery Outlet sites, have been designated as key opportunity sites for major new development given their relatively large size and the prevalence of surface parking lots on each. While development of large-format retail will be permitted, it is not a priority for the North End, and more emphasis will be placed on mixed use development.
- **Commercial Ground-level Uses.** Commercial uses (e.g., retail, office, commercial services, dining, entertainment, etc.) will be required along Broadway frontages, complemented with upper floor residential, office, professional service, etc. uses. On deep lots that have dual frontage on both Broadway and another street, ground-floor residential use may be permitted on non-Broadway frontages.
- **Medical Center Influence.** Uses that complement and support the adjoining Summit Alta Bates and Kaiser Permanente medical centers, such as professional and medical office uses, medical supplies outlets, and visitor and workforce housing, will be strongly encouraged.
- **Automobile Sales.** Broadway between 27th and 30th Streets will continue to accommodate automobile dealerships. The City will work with existing successful dealerships to explore and encourage urban formats for dealerships.
- **Residential Use.** Emphasis will be placed on preserving and enhancing existing residential uses along Brook Street and Richmond Boulevard, and supporting incorporation of residential uses on the eastern portion of the Grocery Outlet site if redeveloped.
- **Reuse of Existing Buildings.** Emphasis is placed on the renovation and repurposing of historic garage and auto showroom buildings along Broadway to preserve a link to the corridor's past and enrich its character.
- **Focus on Local-serving Uses.** Commercial use along Broadway will focus on a mix of primarily local-serving retail, commercial services, entertainment, and dining.
- **Around-the-Clock Activity.** The land use strategy will encourage a complementary mix of commercial, office, medical, and residential uses that creates a dynamic level of activity on the corridor throughout multiple times of day.
- **Integration with Mobility.** Primary focus will be on creating a vibrant commercial mixed use corridor that is safely and efficiently served by transit, bicycle and automobiles, and has an active and appealing pedestrian environment.



*Diverse uses, including commercial, office, and residential*



*Active commercial frontages*



*Adaptive reuse of existing showrooms*



ATTACHMENT D  
III. LAND USE



FIGURE 6: NORTH END LAND USE CONCEPT



### III. LAND USE

#### F. Housing

- **Critical Neighborhood Element.** Housing will be a critical element in the planning area's long-term economic success and sustainability in that it will:
  - Create a built-in customer base for district businesses
  - Provide housing options for those who work at the nearby medical centers, in planning area businesses, or in the Downtown
  - Reduce vehicle trips by allowing people to walk or take transit to shop or work
  - Provide an around-the-clock population who will activate the streets and public spaces and, in turn, monitor neighborhood activities
- **Diverse Housing Opportunities.** Planning area housing will need to address a diversity of housing needs, including families, empty-nesters, young professionals, seniors, and those with special needs.
- **Housing Affordability.** Housing will include affordable and market rate housing to address the full range of household incomes in Oakland, with at least 15% of planning area housing being affordable.
- **Workforce Housing.** Emphasis will be placed on providing workforce housing that is affordable to those who work in the area's commercial businesses and nearby medical campuses.
- **Supportive Regulation.** Recent rezoning by the City of Oakland has provided new opportunities to develop a variety of housing types with a modern, urban development character within the planning area.
- **Housing Goal.** The Plan's goal is to provide at least 900-1,800 new residential units, with 15% (135-270) of those being affordable units. New affordable units can be distributed throughout the greater planning area vicinity, including the Telegraph/Northgate area immediately to the west where numerous potential sites exist for infill development. Additionally, a menu of options to incentivize affordable housing will be explored (i.e. reduced parking requirements, reduced open space requirements, etc.).
- **Housing Locations.** Housing will be provided primarily as upper floor uses in mixed use buildings that include retail or other ground-floor commercial. Along Brooke and Webster Streets, in the North End, and other areas along the planning area periphery, ground-floor residential will be permitted. On deep lots that have dual frontage on both Broadway and another street, ground-floor residential use may also be permitted on the non-Broadway frontage.



Units may be added above while preserving existing historic buildings



Units above commercial ground floors will contribute to street life



Ground floor entrances will address the public realm in areas where commercial frontages are not required



**ATTACHMENT D**  
**III. LAND USE**



FIGURE 7: POTENTIAL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS

0 275 ft 550 ft



## IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN

### A. Overall Community Design Concept

- **Broadway Corridor.** Broadway will serve as the Downtown's "grand boulevard" that links the Broadway Valdez District to other key destinations from the Estuary to the Oakland Hills.
- **Primary Access Streets:** 27th, Webster (northern portion), Piedmont, Harrison and Grand serve as primary regional and local access into the District. The importance of these routes will be marked by streetscape improvements, street trees, and new development that reinforces corridor character and definition.
- **Secondary Access Streets:** Streetscape improvements, street tree plantings and new development will be introduced along key secondary access streets, such as 24th, Valdez, 29th, 30th and Webster streets, to enhance and clarify their function whether it be as pedestrian-scaled shopping streets or key local connectors.
- **Gateways:** Key intersections throughout the District will be enhanced through use of public realm improvements such as signage, landscaping, lighting, special street design, and public art, and the design of private buildings to highlight the importance of these intersections as District entry points.
- **Public Space Features:** Public space features, such as plazas and small parks, are distributed throughout the district to highlight key activity nodes and entries, and to provide strategically located places for public gathering. Public spaces may incorporate features such as seating, fountains, landscaping, street furniture, and public art.
- **Building Placement and Height:** New buildings will be set up to, and accessed directly from, the public sidewalk, and have active ground floor frontages and uses that engage and animate the public realm. Taller buildings generally will be located on primary access streets with lower heights maintained along internal streets.
- **Streetscape Improvements:** Streetscape improvements are proposed throughout the District to provide a more generous and attractively designed pedestrian environment with street trees, lighting, seating, and other streetscape furniture and amenities. Key east-west streets will be retrofitted as "Green Streets" that capture and treat stormwater before it drains into Glen Echo Creek and Lake Merritt.
- **Pedestrian Connections:** Opportunities for pedestrian streets, or paseos, are identified throughout the District to enhance pedestrian activity by reducing conflicts with automobiles, providing more direct routes between key destinations, and creating distinctive shopping and dining environments.
- **Parks/Greenways:** A linear park is proposed along Glen Echo Creek between Oak Glen Park and 29th Street, which will include the enhancement of the existing creekside frontage along Glen Echo Creek north of 30th Street and the creation of a new creekside greenway between 29th and 30th Streets.



*Street trees and streetscape improvements help create sense of place*



*Corner buildings should be designed to activate corners*



*Public gathering spaces should be incorporated into public and private developments*







## IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN

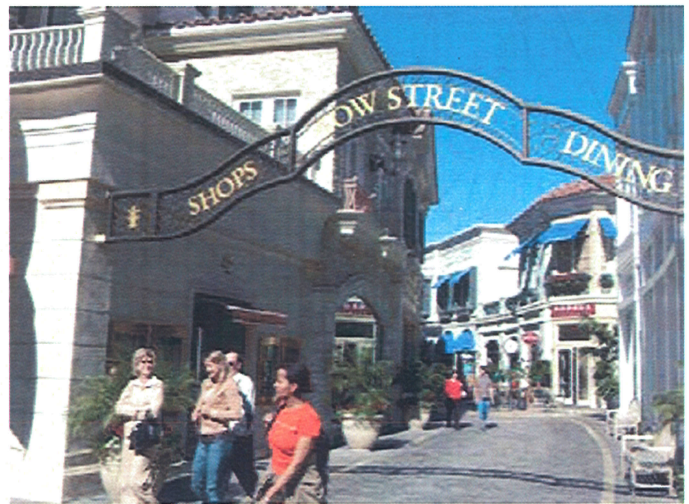
### B. Valdez Triangle Community Design Framework

**Pedestrian-Oriented Retail District.** The Triangle will be a vibrant pedestrian-oriented retail district with attractively designed and generously proportioned sidewalks, plazas and public spaces, animated by active storefronts.

- **Broadway Corridor:** In the tradition of grand urban boulevards in other major cities, Broadway will serve as the Downtown spine that links the Triangle to other key destinations from the Estuary to the Oakland Hills.
- **Primary Access Streets:** 27th Street, Harrison Street, and Grand Avenue are the primary access routes into the District. These routes will be designed as attractive, well-defined boulevards lined with street-oriented mixed use buildings and a consistent planting of large street trees.
- **Secondary Access “Shopping Streets”:** 24th Street and Valdez Street will serve as key pedestrian-oriented shopping streets that are more intimately scaled, and with lower vehicular traffic volumes and slower travel speeds.
- **Gateways:** Building and streetscape design treatments will be used to enhance and highlight key intersections as primary or secondary gateways into the Triangle. Primary gateways include the Broadway and Harrison Street intersections with 27th Street, and Broadway at Grand. Secondary gateways include Valdez at Grand and 27th, and 24th at Broadway.
- **Public Space Features:** Using a combination of publicly- and privately-owned land, publicly-accessible plazas and open space features will be created at key gateways (e.g., Valdez/27th and 24th/Harrison) to the Triangle to enhance district identity and support pedestrian activity. In addition, existing public plazas on Broadway at 25th and 27th Streets will be redesigned to provide more attractive and accommodating public open space and focal features.
- **Building Placement and Height:** Taller building heights generally will be allowed along the wide arterial streets (Broadway, 27th, Harrison and Grand) that frame the Triangle, with lower heights maintained along the internal shopping and neighborhood streets.
- **Enhanced Pedestrian Environment.** Streetscape improvements are proposed throughout the Triangle to create wider sidewalks that provide a more generous and attractively designed pedestrian environment with street trees, lighting, seating, and other streetscape furniture and amenities.
- **Pedestrian Connections:** To reinforce the pedestrian orientation of the district, the plan provides the flexibility to create pedestrian-only shopping streets or paseos that facilitate pedestrian movement and increase retail frontage. Existing pedestrian connections to cultural destinations to the south occur at Grand Avenue.



*Intimate pedestrian retail streets may include restaurants and small shops*



*Secondary gateways may include paseos or signage*



*Use of existing buildings and unique streetscape elements are encouraged*



ATTACHMENT D  
IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN



FIGURE 9: VALDEZ TRIANGLE COMMUNITY DESIGN FRAMEWORK



## IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN

### C. North End Community Design Framework

**Fine-grained, Mixed Use District:** New development and public realm improvements will focus on creating finer-grained texture to district development, complemented with streetscape plantings, amenities and focal features that contribute to the area's pedestrian scale and comfort, and mitigate the North End's linear character.

- **Broadway Corridor:** New infill development will give better definition to the Broadway corridor by eliminating existing gaps created by surface parking and auto sales lots. Broadway will be reconfigured to create wider sidewalks that create a more generous pedestrian environment.
- **Primary Access Streets:** 27th Street, Webster Street, and Piedmont Avenues are the primary access routes into the North End. These routes will be designed as attractive, well-defined boulevards lined with street-oriented mixed use buildings and a consistent planting of large street trees.
- **Secondary Access Streets:** Streetscape improvements to 29th, 30th, and Webster Streets will help to link and extend the quality and character envisioned for Broadway to the adjoining areas.
- **Gateways:** Building and streetscape design treatments at the Broadway and Piedmont Avenue intersection will signify the importance of this intersection as a gateway into the North End and the Downtown.
- **Public Space Features.** A plaza is proposed in conjunction with the pedestrian street midway between Hawthorne and 30th Street to enhance Broadway's identity and support pedestrian activity.
- **Building Placement and Height:** Given the width of Broadway, it is envisioned that new buildings generally will be 4-6 stories at the street frontage, with potential for taller building heights set back from the main corridor—particularly near Pill Hill and I-580.
- **Park/Greenway.** In order to enhance pedestrian circulation and expand the area's limited open space resource, a linear park is proposed along Glen Echo Creek between Oak Glen Park and 29th Street.
- **Pedestrian Connection:** Given the absence of an east-west street between 30th Street and Hawthorne Avenue, a "paseo" or pedestrian street, or is proposed between Broadway and Webster Street to facilitate pedestrian movement.
- **Underpass Enhancements.** Enhancements are proposed to I-580 underpasses at Broadway and Piedmont to improve their appearance, safety, and overcome the sense of separation created by the freeway. These may include public art and lighting, as well as programming to activate the area between the two corridors (e.g., a skate park, mountain bike course).



*Re-use of historic buildings is important to retaining District character*



*Medical office and other non-retail uses will maintain active, ground-level facades that engage the public realm*



*Underpass treatments (art, lighting, etc.) under I-580 will enhance pedestrian movement between the planning area and the Kaiser Medical Center, Mosswood Park, and Piedmont Avenue*



ATTACHMENT D  
IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN



FIGURE 10: NORTH END COMMUNITY DESIGN FRAMEWORK



## IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN

### D. Adaptive Reuse and Historic Building Fabric

- **Authentic Character.** In order to preserve a connection to the area's history and maintain a unique and authentic feel to the district, the Plan encourages the rehabilitation and reuse of as much of the older and historic building fabric as feasible and consistent with the goals of the Plan.
- **Adaptive Reuse.** Adaptive reuse is encouraged for historic and older buildings with distinctive character that will contribute to the scale and character envisioned for the Broadway Valdez district. This includes both larger floorplate showrooms that may accommodate larger retailers, and residential buildings and small commercial buildings that may support smaller shops.
- **Relocation of Important Resources.** Where adaptive reuse of existing residential buildings is not feasible or practical in their current location, the City will work with landowners and developers to explore relocation of historic buildings to another location in the surrounding area that is similar in scale and context.
- **Incentives for Reuse.** Incentives such as façade and tenant improvement grants, reduced property, sales, and/or gross receipts taxes, or lower parking requirements may be offered to developers and/or landowners who choose to refurbish existing buildings for new uses. Expedited development review may also be considered on a limited, case-by-case basis.
- **Flexible Building Standards.** The City will explore more flexibility in building standards (e.g., relaxation on requirements for features such as fire separation, insulation, etc.) in order to make reuse more viable.



Residential buildings in the District may be retrofitted for a variety of uses



New development should incorporate unique elements of Oakland's architectural and commercial heritage, when possible



Historic resources of "Auto Row" include showroom spaces which offer great potential for reuse



**ATTACHMENT D**  
**IV. COMMUNITY DESIGN**

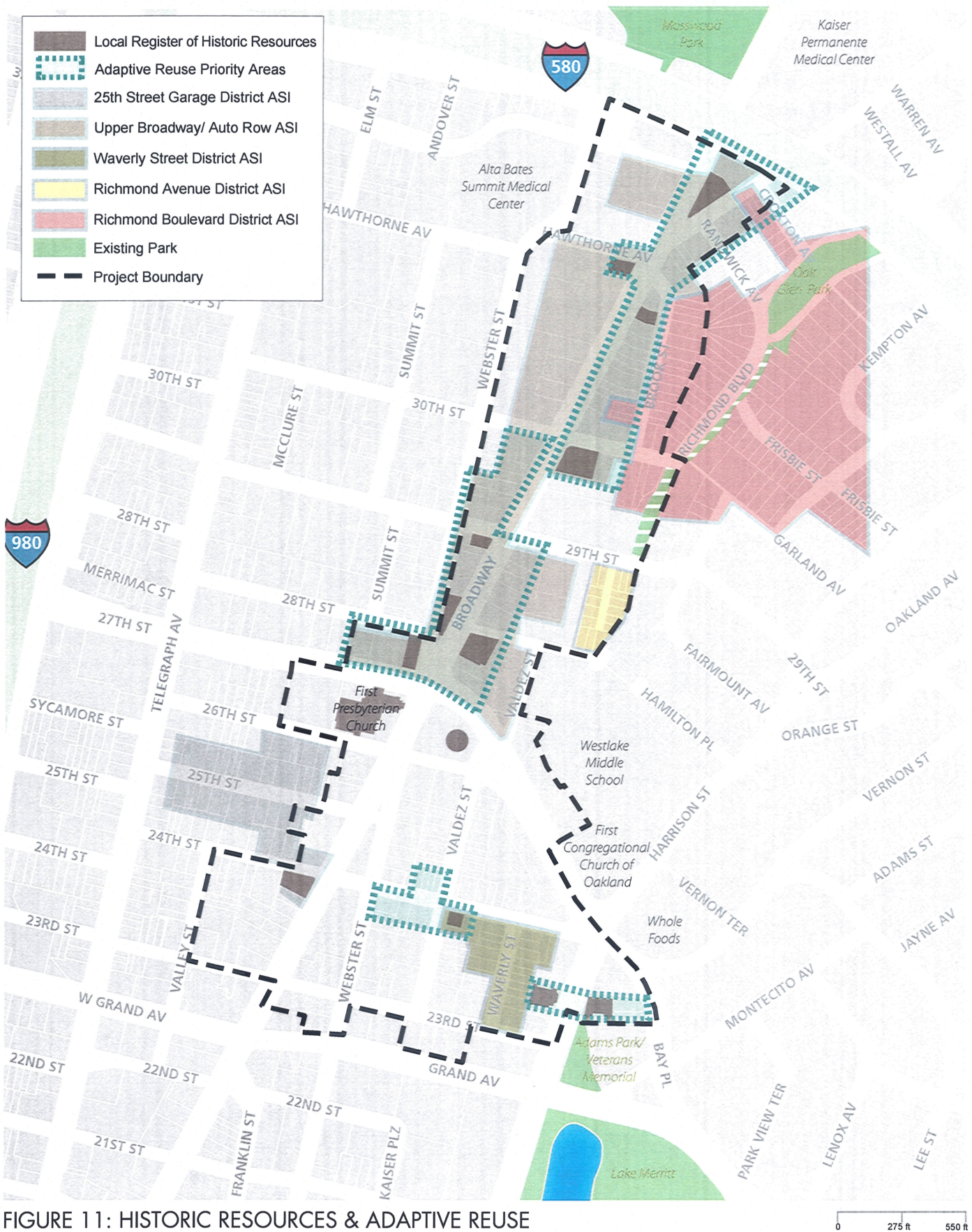


FIGURE 11: HISTORIC RESOURCES & ADAPTIVE REUSE

0 275 ft 550 ft



## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

### A. Overall Circulation Concept

**Mobility Options.** The primary circulation objective is to support the function of the District as a retail destination and pedestrian-friendly mixed use neighborhood by providing balanced multi-modal access that accommodates safe and efficient circulation whether walking, bicycling, taking transit, or driving.

- **Street Connectivity:** Connectivity of District streets to the surrounding street network will be maintained to enhance walkability, promote greater route choice, and avoid concentration of vehicle trips onto just one or two streets.
- **Complete Streets:** Existing street right-of-ways will be redesigned as “Complete Streets” that better balance travel modes to accommodate safe, attractive and comfortable movement for all users, including pedestrians, cyclists, transit, and private vehicles.
- **Transit:** The objective is to expand transit use in the District by enhancing both facilities and service. Upgraded transit facilities (i.e. shelters, including leaning rails, benches and pedestrian scaled lighting, and real-time signs that provide next bus arrival information) are proposed in conjunction with redesign of streets (i.e., widening of pedestrian zones).
- **Free “B” Shuttle:** The “Free B” connects to the District from Downtown, including the 19th Street BART station. The Plan recommends expanding current service up to MacArthur Boulevard in order to serve the entire District, and maintain this important connection with BART and Downtown.
- **Broadway Streetcar:** Broadway is being studied for a potential “streetcar” line in the future. Proposed improvements to Broadway will preserve right-of-way to accommodate an in-lane alignment. Preliminary concepts suggest that a Broadway streetcar might have five stops in the District: Grand, 24th, 27th, 30th, and Piedmont/Hawthorne.
- **Bicycle Facilities:** The Plan will implement and expand upon recommendations from the City of Oakland Bicycle Master Plan to enhance bicycle use and safety to and through the area by providing new bicycle facilities such as bike lanes, bike boxes, cyclist-actuated signals, and wayfinding signage.
- **Pedestrian Connections:** In order to promote pedestrian safety and connectivity, improvements such as curb extensions, refuge islands, demand-actuated signals, and crosswalk markings, will be made to key intersections to ensure safe and convenient pedestrian crossings, particularly across major arterial streets such as Broadway, 27th Street, and Harrison Street.



A proposed “streetcar” would use Broadway as its primary route



New Class II bicycle lanes are proposed throughout the District, connecting to facilities like those around Lake Merritt

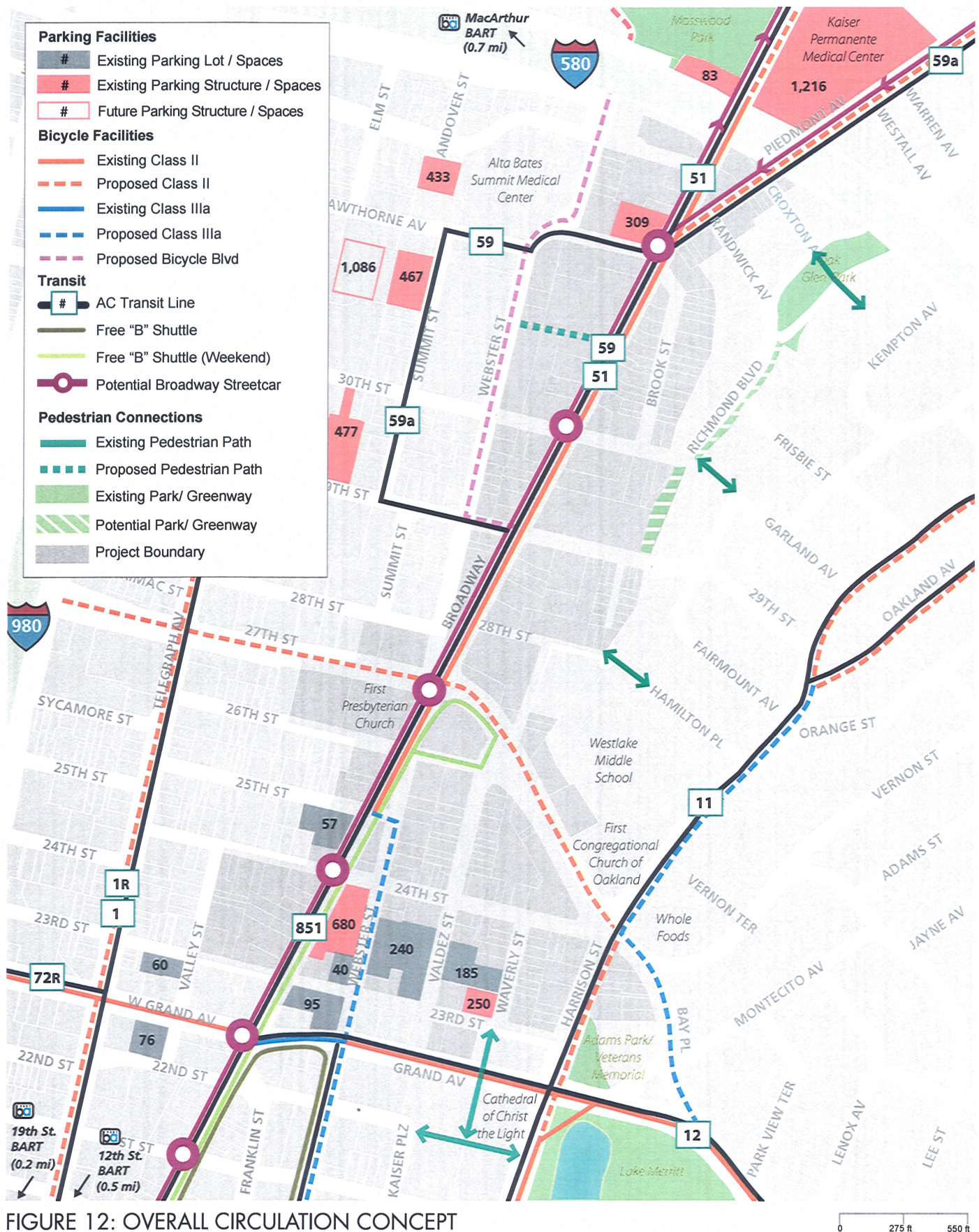


Streetscape improvements will be added to streets throughout the District to make them more attractive and comfortable for pedestrians



# ATTACHMENT D

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING





## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

### B. Overall Parking Concept

- **Parking Management.** A full range of parking management strategies will be implemented to increase parking facility efficiency through sharing, regulating and pricing in order to minimize the amount of new parking that needs to be provided.
- **Existing Parking Resources:** Priority will be given to maximizing use of existing parking structures, and building new structures only on an as-needed basis.
- **Parking Benefit District.** A Parking Benefit District may be established to manage and finance parking, in addition to streetscape improvements.
- **Parking Ratios.** Low overall parking ratios will be implemented that support a “transit-first” district, while also allowing for higher parking ratios that support early retail development, and are then gradually reduced as the area’s identity as a retail destination matures and transit service becomes more convenient and reliable.
- **“Park Once”.** Parking will be distributed and managed so that it supports a “park once” strategy and reduces the number of short vehicle trips within the area.
- **Structured Parking:** In order to optimize development potential, ensure development of a compact walkable neighborhood, and protect neighborhood character, District parking will be provided in parking structures. At a minimum, all parking structures should be wrapped with active ground-level uses. Where feasible, below-grade parking is encouraged as a strategy to minimize impact on District character.
- **Parking Access:** Entrances to public and private parking facilities generally will be limited to side streets, or located to not detract from pedestrian-oriented retail streets. Curb cuts will be prohibited from Broadway, except where unavoidable.



*Parking structures may be shared and financed among uses*



*Parking garages should maintain a consistent frontage and animate the public realm*



*All parking structures should be wrapped with active ground-level uses*



## ATTACHMENT D

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS &amp; PARKING

## C. Valdez Triangle Circulation Concept

**Pedestrian-Oriented Retail District.** The circulation concept for the Triangle is to efficiently get people to the District, but once there to encourage walking. Transit and primary vehicular access deliver people to the edge of the District allowing internal streets to be reserved primarily for pedestrians and low volumes of local traffic.

- **Street Design:** A number of design changes are proposed to existing streets to calm traffic, improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, and enhance the pedestrian environment:
  - Key intersections along 27th Street (i.e., Broadway, Valdez and 24th) will be reconfigured to reduce crossing distances (e.g., curb extensions), minimize pedestrian/vehicle conflicts (e.g., remove free right turn lanes), and create a stronger connection between the areas north and south of 27th Street.
  - The cross-sections of Valdez, 24th, 27th, and Broadway will be redesigned to create wider and more attractively designed pedestrian and bicycle facilities (see Figures 14 through 17)
- **Bicycle Facilities:** Existing Class II bicycle facilities on Broadway and Grand will be augmented with new Class II bike lanes on Harrison and 27th Streets and Telegraph Avenue. Improvements such as bike lanes, bike boxes, bicycle actuated signals, and wayfinding will be introduced on Broadway to enhance bicycle use and safety.
- **Arterial Bicycle Route:** The Class IIIa bicycle route proposed on Webster Avenue south of 25th Street will be signed with a "sharrow" (a marking on the street surface that indicates a shared route for bicycles and vehicles) and lower posted speeds, since adequate right-of-way does not exist to add a full bike lane.
- **Free "B" Shuttle:** The "Free B" service to the Triangle should be upgraded to seven days a week, rather than the current weekend-only service, if staff can identify additional funding sources.
- **Transit:** Upgraded transit facilities (i.e. shelters, including leaning rails, benches and pedestrian-scaled lighting, and real-time signs that provide next bus arrival information) should be provided at 24th, 25th, and 28th streets in conjunction with streetscape improvements on Broadway.
- **Potential Broadway Streetcar:** Street improvements to Broadway will preserve right-of-way to accommodate possible future in-lane streetcar use and transit stops at Grand Avenue, 25th and 27th Streets.



Existing pedestrian connection at Grand Avenue



Valdez Triangle is included on the Free "B" Shuttle Route

- **Pedestrian Connections:** Exclusive pedestrian connections into Valdez Triangle currently exist across Grand Avenue west of Harrison Street in the form of greenways. These allow pedestrian access to routes leading to Lake Merritt, the Cathedral of Christ the Light, and Downtown.
- **Parking Facilities:** In the near term, emphasis will be placed on utilizing excess capacity in existing parking structures (i.e., YMCA and 180 Grand) to serve new development. New parking structures will only be built when there is clear demand for additional parking. The location and size of these structures will be determined by the location and size of future development.



## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

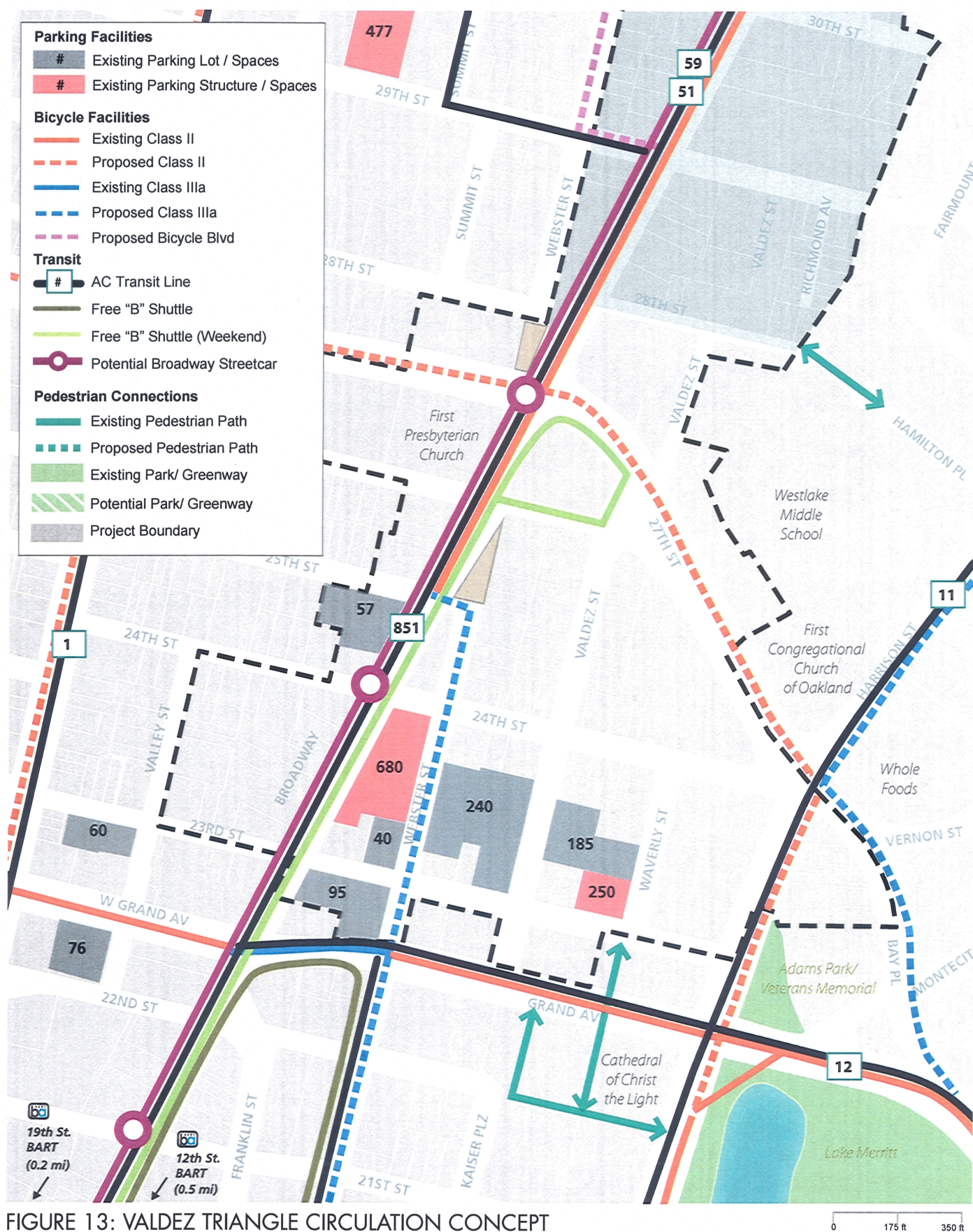


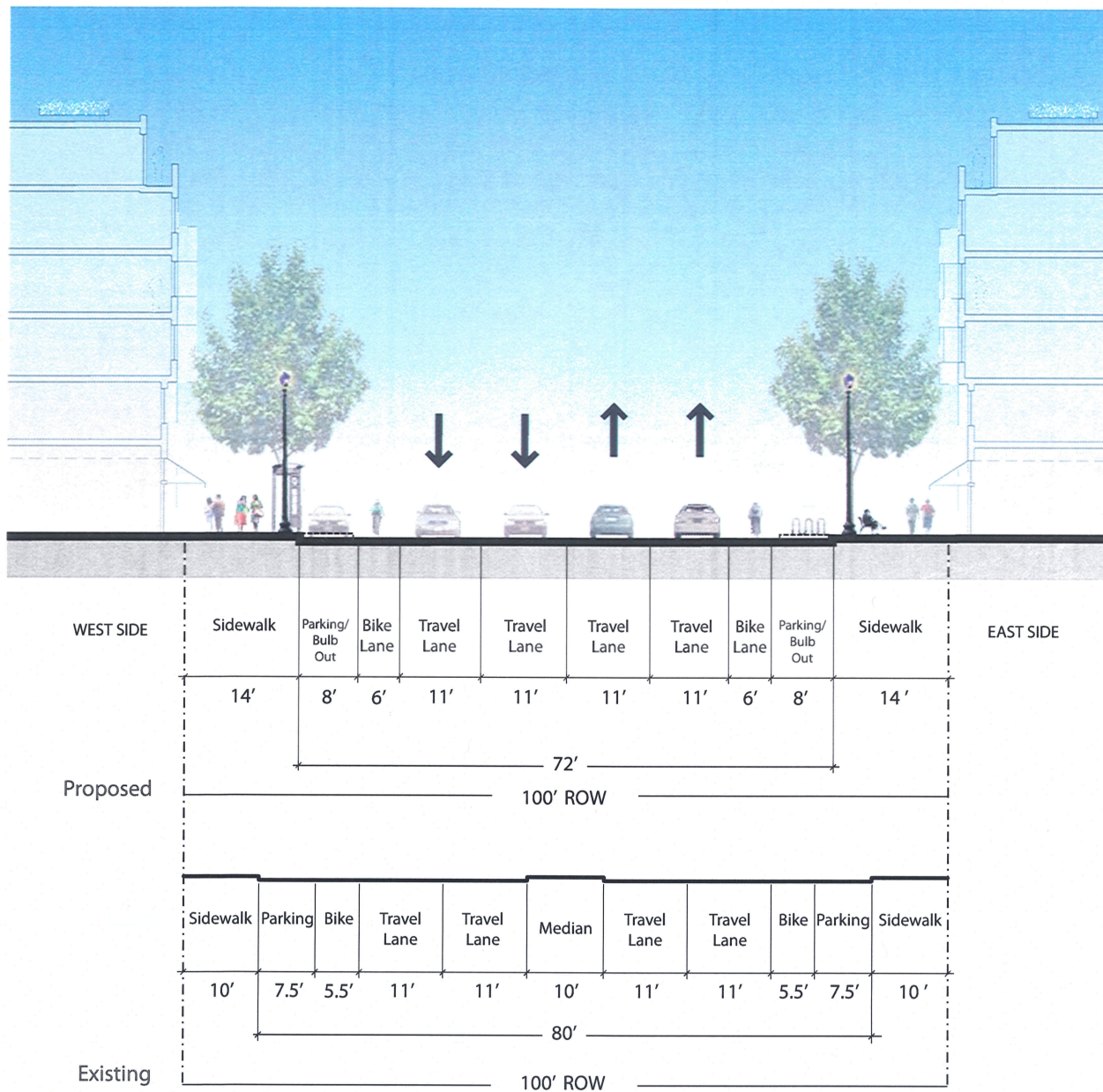
FIGURE 13: VALDEZ TRIANGLE CIRCULATION CONCEPT



## ATTACHMENT D

### V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 14: BROADWAY (North of 27th St.)

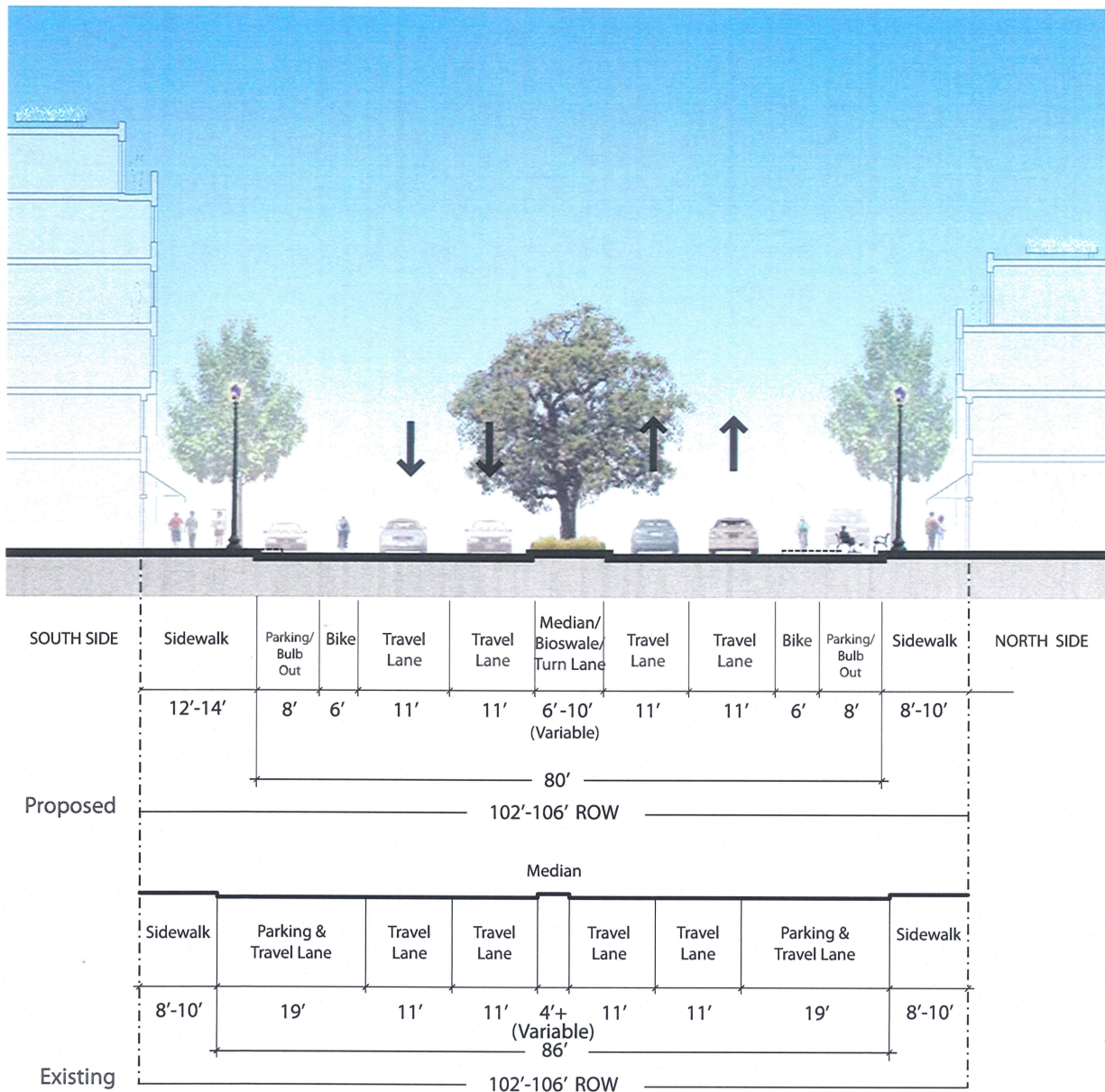


\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.

#### Summary of Improvements:

- Remove center median in order to widen sidewalks to 14 feet and expand bike lanes to 6 feet
- Maintain 11-foot travel lanes to provide for buses and vehicular circulation
- Neck-down key intersections with bulb-outs to calm traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing
- Provide a consistent planting of large street trees and attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting
- Add transit shelters and facilities at key transit stops

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 15: 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET

*\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.*

### Summary of Improvements:

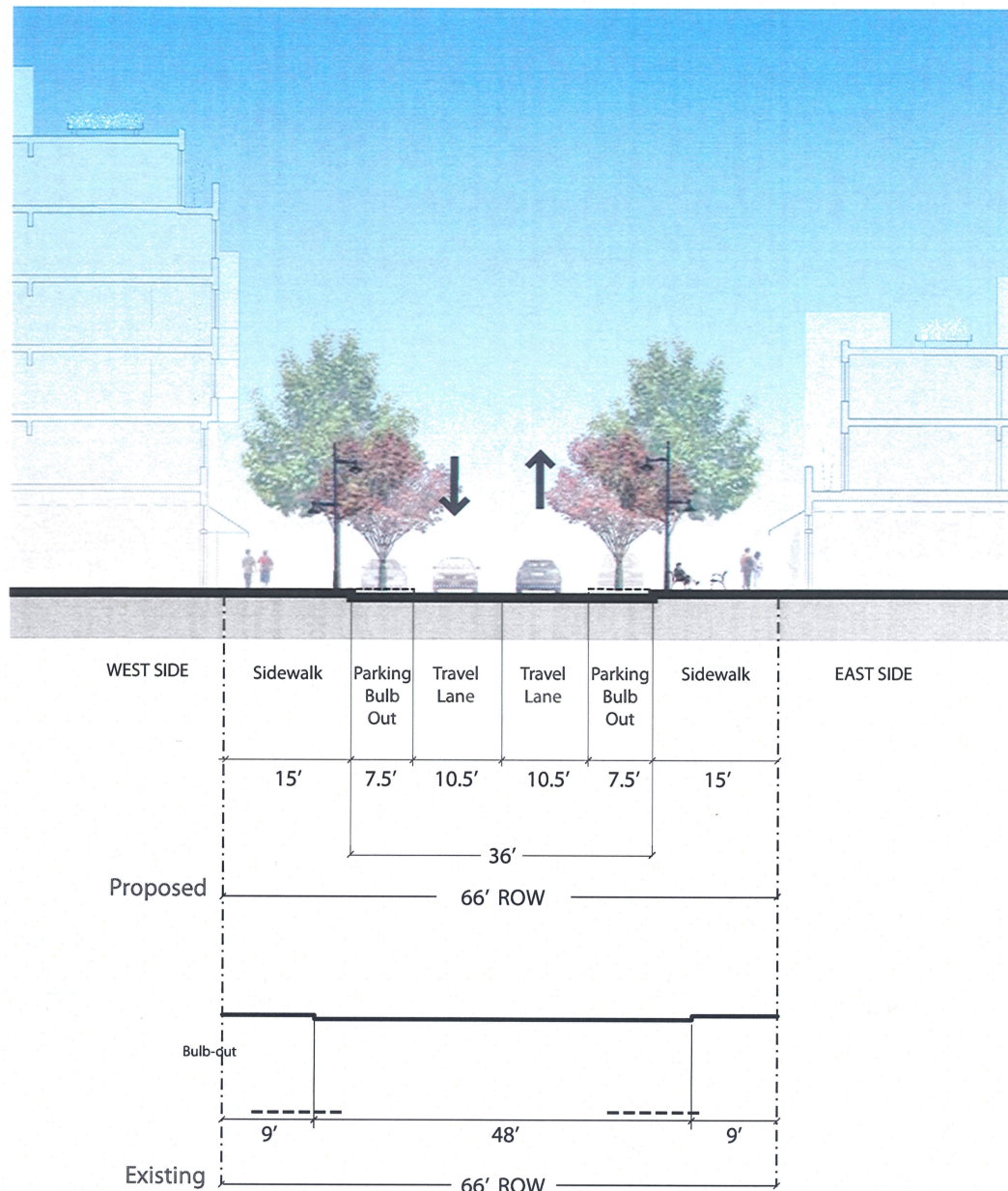
- Reduce the number of travel lanes from 6 to 4 (plus left-turn lanes at intersections)
- Add 6-foot bike lanes and 8-foot parking lanes to both sides of street
- Widen median to 6-10 feet to accommodate more robust landscaping, possible stormwater treatment (rain garden), and center turn lane at intersections
- Widen sidewalks on the south side to 12-14 feet to better serve new retail
- Add bulb-outs and remove free-right turn lanes at intersections to calm traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing



## ATTACHMENT D

### V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 16: VALDEZ STREET

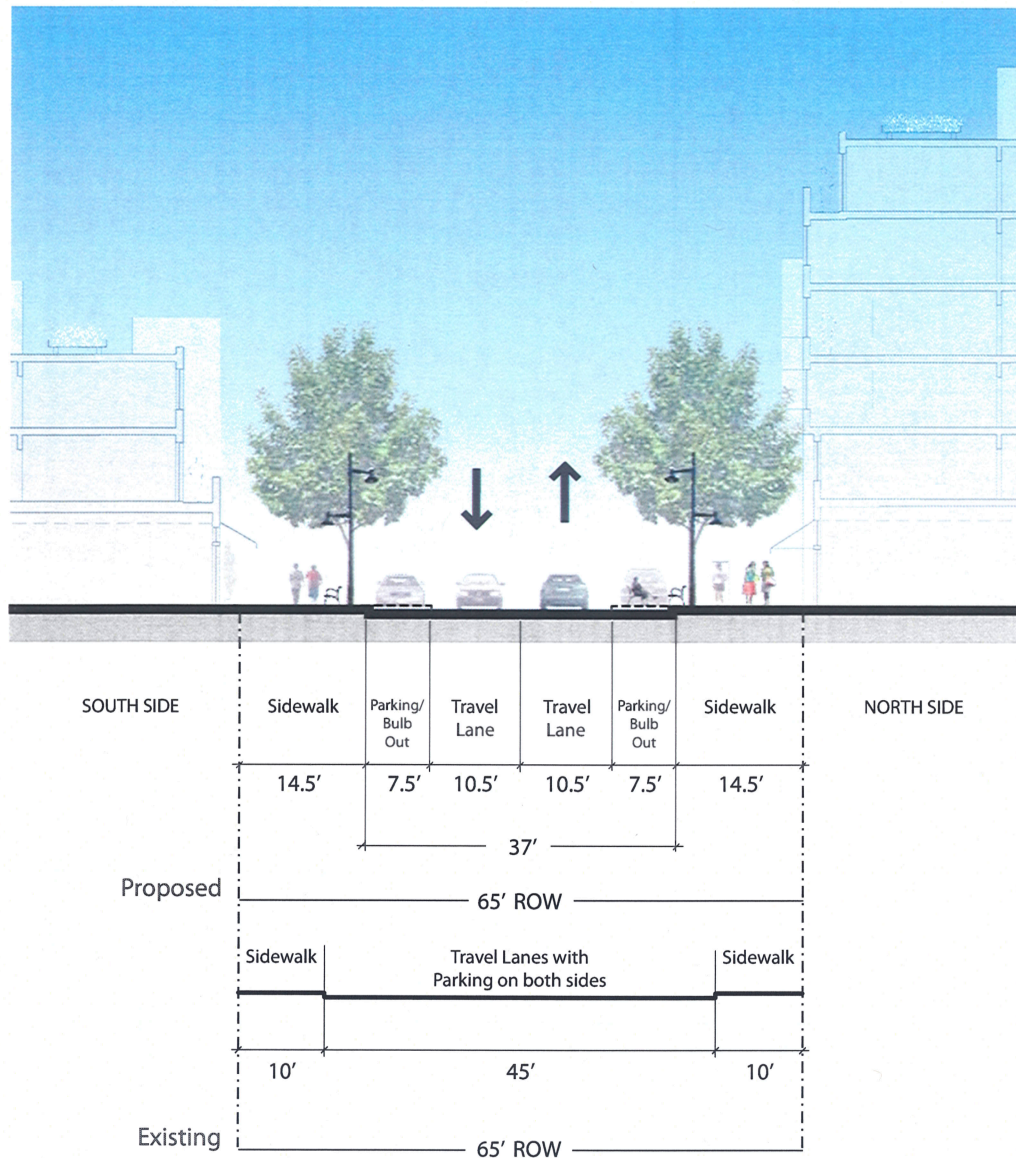


\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.

#### Summary of Improvements:

- Widen sidewalks to 15 feet to accommodate pedestrian flow, street trees, and other streetscape amenities
- Add bulb-outs at key intersections to calm traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing. Bulb-out will include space for an additional row of trees which will further enhance pedestrian realm.
- Provide a consistent planting of large street trees
- Provide attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 17: 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET

*\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.*

### Summary of Improvements:

- Widen sidewalks to 14.5 feet to accommodate pedestrian flow, street trees, and other streetscape amenities
- Add bulb-outs at key intersections to calm traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing.
- Provide a consistent planting of large street trees
- Provide attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting



## ATTACHMENT D

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS &amp; PARKING

## D. North End Circulation Concept

- **Street Design:** A number of design changes are proposed to existing streets to calm traffic, improve bicycle safety, and enhance the pedestrian environment:

  - Key intersections along Broadway (i.e., 29th, 30th, and Hawthorne/ Piedmont) will be reconfigured to calm traffic and enhance pedestrian crossings.
  - The cross-sections of Broadway, Piedmont, 29th and 30th streets will be redesigned to create more generous and attractively designed pedestrian zones and integrate rain gardens and other green stormwater facilities (see Figures 19 through 21)
  - An extension of Brook Street from 30th to 29th Street in conjunction with redevelopment of the Grocery Outlet site is encouraged to enhance District connectivity, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- **Bicycle Facilities:** Existing Class II bicycle facilities on Broadway will be augmented by additional Class II lanes on Piedmont Avenue, 27th Street, and north on Broadway. Improvements such as enhanced bike lanes, bike boxes, bicycle actuated signals, and wayfinding will be introduced along Broadway to improve bicycle use and safety.
- **Bicycle Boulevard:** The Class IIIB bicycle boulevard on Webster and 29th will be signed with shared lane bicycle stencils (aka "sharrows").
- **Free "B" Shuttle:** The "Free B" service should be extended up to the North End and upgraded to provide everyday service, if staff can identify additional funding sources.
- **Transit:** Upgraded transit facilities (i.e. shelters, including leaning rails, benches and pedestrian-scaled lighting, and real-time signs that provide next bus arrival information) should be provided at 28th, 29th, 30th and Hawthorne/Piedmont in conjunction with streetscape improvements on Broadway.
- **Potential Broadway Streetcar:** Street improvements to Broadway will preserve right-of-way to accommodate possible future in-lane streetcar use and transit stops at 30th and Hawthorne Street/Piedmont Avenue.
- **Pedestrian Connections:** Pedestrian circulation will be enhanced by the proposed east/west pedestrian street linking Webster and Broadway through the long block between 30th Street and Hawthorne Avenue, and the proposed pedestrian trail along Glen Echo Creek between Oak Glen Park and 29th Street.
- **Parking Facilities:** In the near term, emphasis will be placed on utilizing potential excess capacity in existing parking structures (i.e., Webster Medical Office Building and Summit Alta Bates) to serve new development. New parking structures will only be built if there is clear demand for additional parking.



*Pedestrian crossings may be added at key intersections to calm traffic*



*Webster St will be signed as a Bicycle Boulevard*



*A mid-block pedestrian connection between 30th and Hawthorne Streets*



## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

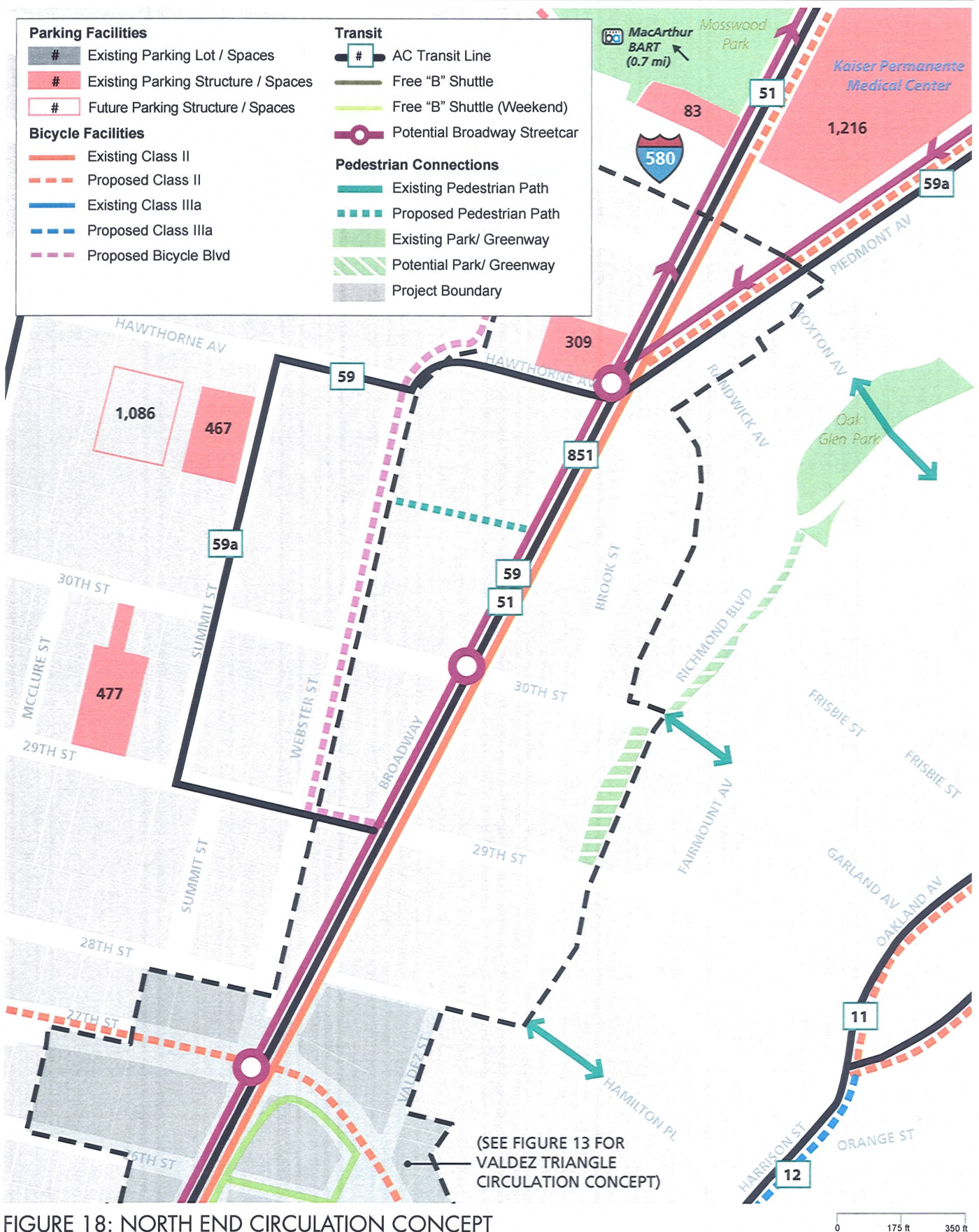
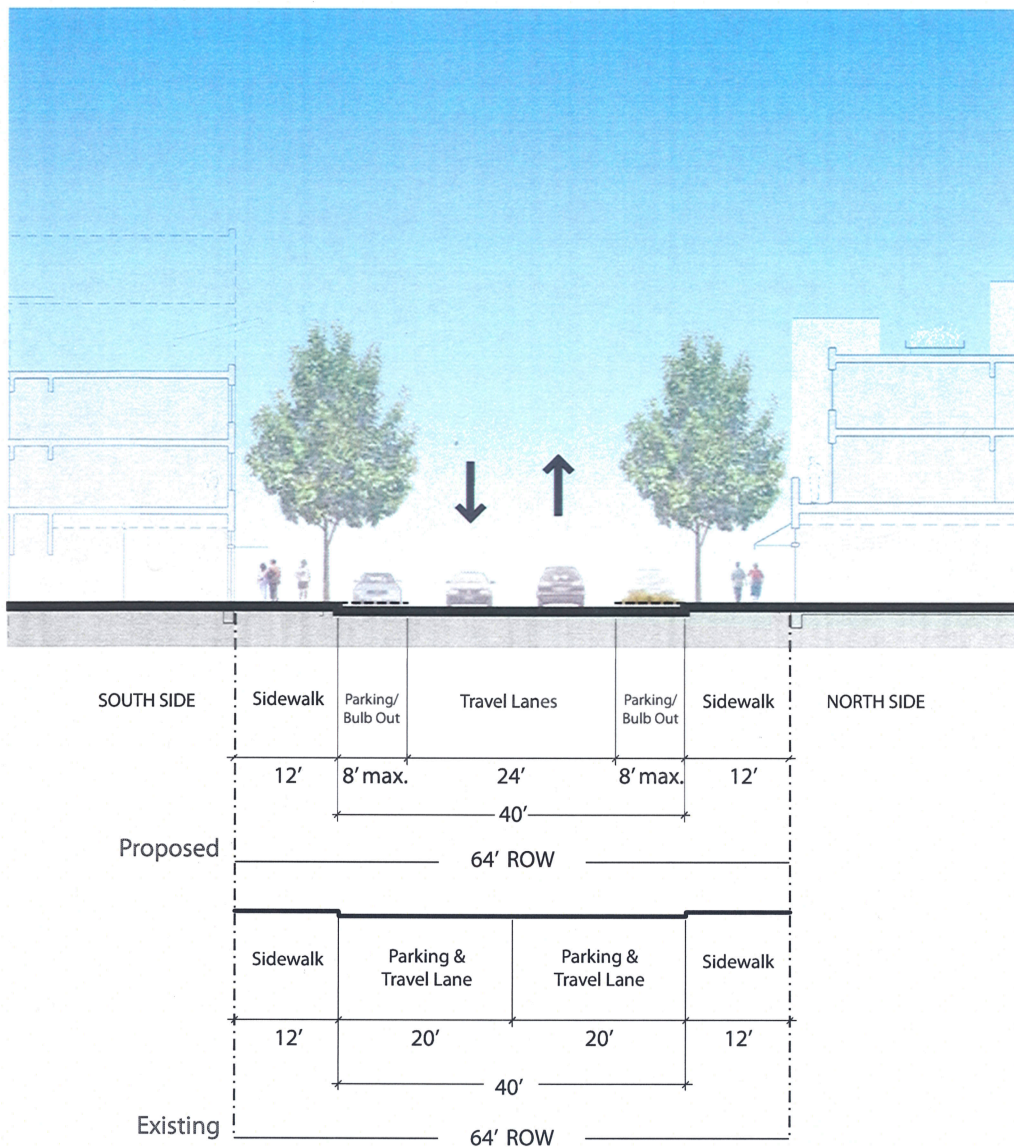


FIGURE 18: NORTH END CIRCULATION CONCEPT



## ATTACHMENT D

### V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 19: 29<sup>TH</sup> STREET

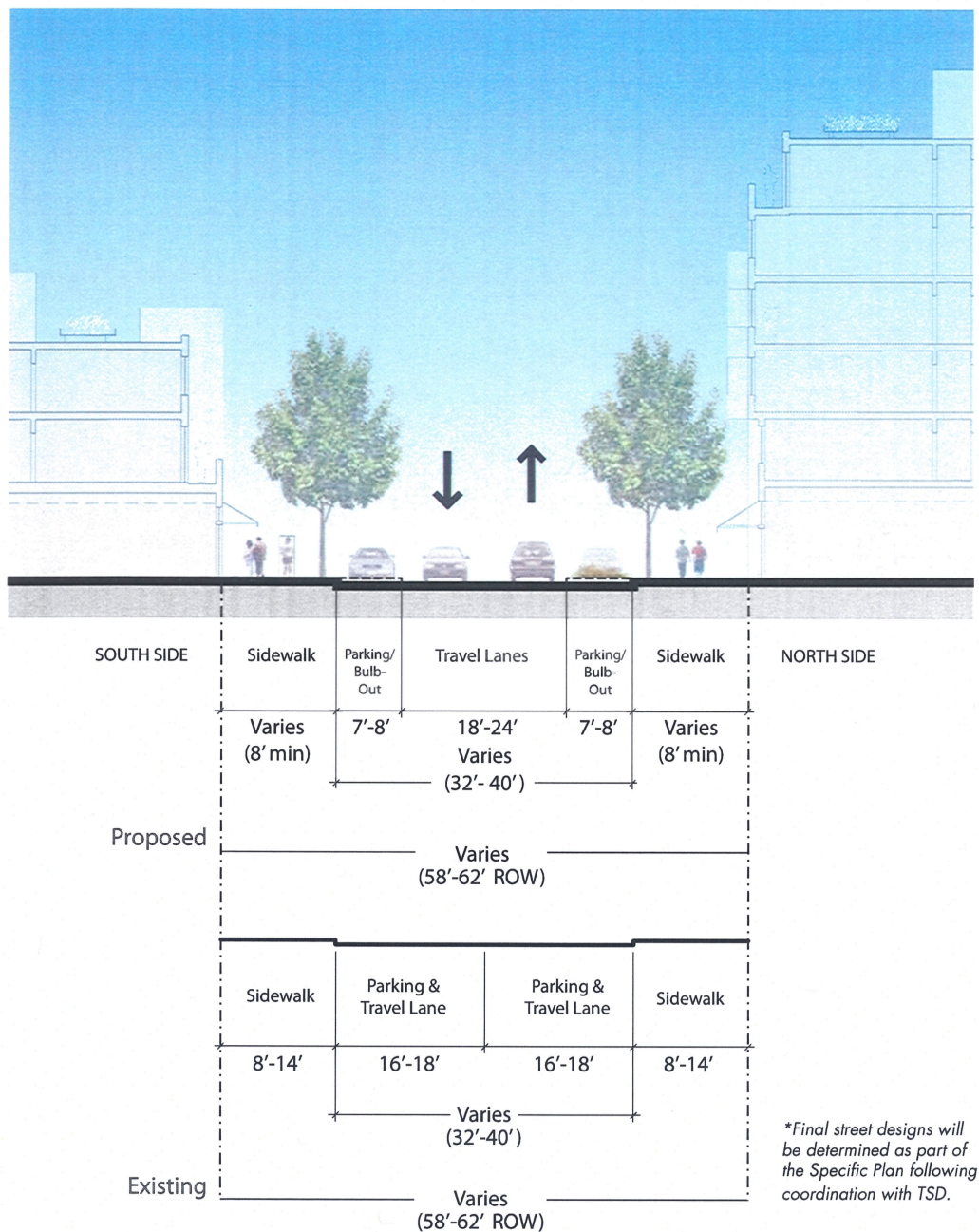
*\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.*

#### Summary of Improvements:

- Maintain existing 12-foot sidewalk widths to accommodate pedestrian flow and amenities
- Maintain existing curb-to-curb cross-section, but stripe to provide 8-foot parking lanes and 12-foot travel lanes
- Add bulb-outs at key intersections to calm traffic, facilitate pedestrian crossing, and accommodate rain gardens and other landscape features to aid in stormwater management
- Provide a consistent planting of street trees
- Provide attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting
- Designate as a Bicycle Boulevard and add "sharrows" to indicate shared use between bicycles and vehicles in the travel lane

## V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 20: 30<sup>TH</sup>, HAWTHORNE, AND 34<sup>TH</sup> STREETS



### Summary of Improvements:

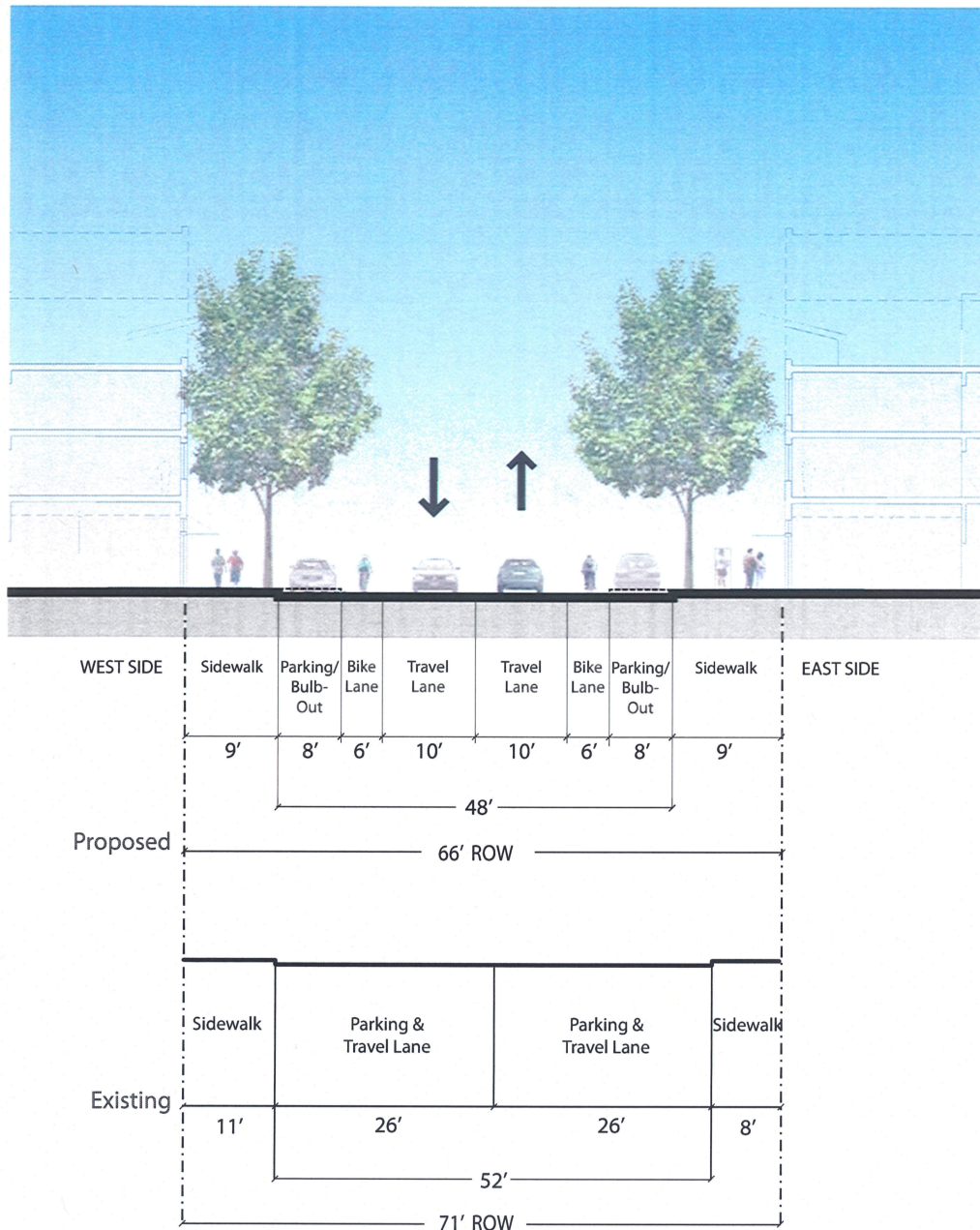
- Maintain existing sidewalk widths and existing curb-to-curb cross-section
- Add bulb-outs at key intersections to calm traffic, facilitate pedestrian crossing, and accommodate rain gardens and other landscape features to aid in stormwater management
- Provide a consistent planting of street trees
- Provide attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting



## ATTACHMENT D

### V. CIRCULATION, ACCESS & PARKING

FIGURE 21: PIEDMONT AVENUE



*\*Final street designs will be determined as part of the Specific Plan following coordination with TSD.*

#### Summary of Improvements:

- Widen sidewalks on both sides of street to 9 feet to better accommodate pedestrian flow and amenities
- Re-stripe street cross-section to provide 8-foot parking lanes, 6-foot bike lanes, and 10.5 travel lanes in each direction
- Provide a consistent planting of street trees
- Provide attractive pedestrian-scaled lighting
- Add bulb-outs at key intersections to calm traffic, facilitate pedestrian crossing, and accommodate rain gardens and other landscape features to aid in stormwater management



## VI. IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND STRATEGIES

As previously noted, the vision for the Broadway/Valdez District is faced with many challenges, some inherent to the area and some related to the broader economy. As a result, implementation of the vision for the District is projected to occur incrementally. The challenge in this period of limited resources and cautious development is to identify strategic near-term actions that can be taken to better position the area for future development by contributing to the area's appeal and value.

In order to build on the energy being generated by the arts and dining scenes in the adjoining Uptown and Garage Districts, the strategy is to concentrate near-term investments in the Valdez Triangle, particularly along the Broadway and Webster Street corridors between Grand Avenue and 26th Street. The focus of these near-term actions should be to activate the area and enhance its physical character.

### A. Near Term Strategies

- **Extending the Lake Merritt/Downtown Community Benefits District:** Currently Downtown Oakland and the Lake Merritt/Uptown areas are part of community benefit districts that provide security and maintenance of the shared public realm through a property tax assessment paid by property owners in the area. By extending this boundary to include the Triangle, it would provide a mechanism for improving the area's safety and cleanliness.
- **Arts and Entertainment District:** An Arts and Entertainment Overlay District could be created for the area along Broadway from Grand Avenue to 28th Street, to incentivize new arts and entertainment type uses by loosening regulations related to things such as outdoor dining and hours of operation.
- **Designing for Safety:** Creating a sense of safety in the District is essential for successful redevelopment. Therefore, principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) should accompany all design recommendations. Near-term improvements may include pedestrian-scaled lighting, street trees that are well-maintained and appropriately-scaled, and landscaping that presents an open and obstacle-free public realm. For long-term redevelopment, design guidelines will ensure that the built environment addresses the public realm and puts "eyes on the street."
- **Public Art:** Public art may be included in a variety of ways and is a commonly-used strategy for generating interest, adding visual appeal, and contributing district identity. Public art can be either temporary or permanent, and can take many forms including sculpture, murals, street furniture, water features, video, and even performance.
- **Temporary Events:** Temporary events such as festivals, gatherings of mobile food vendors, farmers markets, and craft fairs are excellent vehicles for drawing attention and activity to the District and establishing an identity for the



Pop-up Food Vendor, San Francisco, CA



Temporary Event in Vacant Lot, Williamsburg, New York

area which will make it more appealing for permanent development. Several large parking lots located along Broadway and Webster would be ideal locations for such events, and could be coupled with temporary street closures to provide additional space and engage existing businesses.

- **Pop-up Storefronts:** Visible and attractive storefronts line Broadway and side streets within the District, yet many of them are vacant. These storefronts offer the ideal spaces for temporary use by vendors that may not have the means to open a permanent business, or for the exhibition of student work, art work, or other civic displays. This can help generate buzz within the area and encourage longer-term development.
- **Public Space Enhancement:** The existing plazas on Broadway at 25th and 27th streets represent opportunities to make public space improvements that can contribute to the area's identity and provide spaces for public gathering. Such improvements should focus on making these spaces more comfortable and accommodating for people, and shift the identity away from automobile sales.



# **ATTACHMENT D** **VI. IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND STRATEGIES**

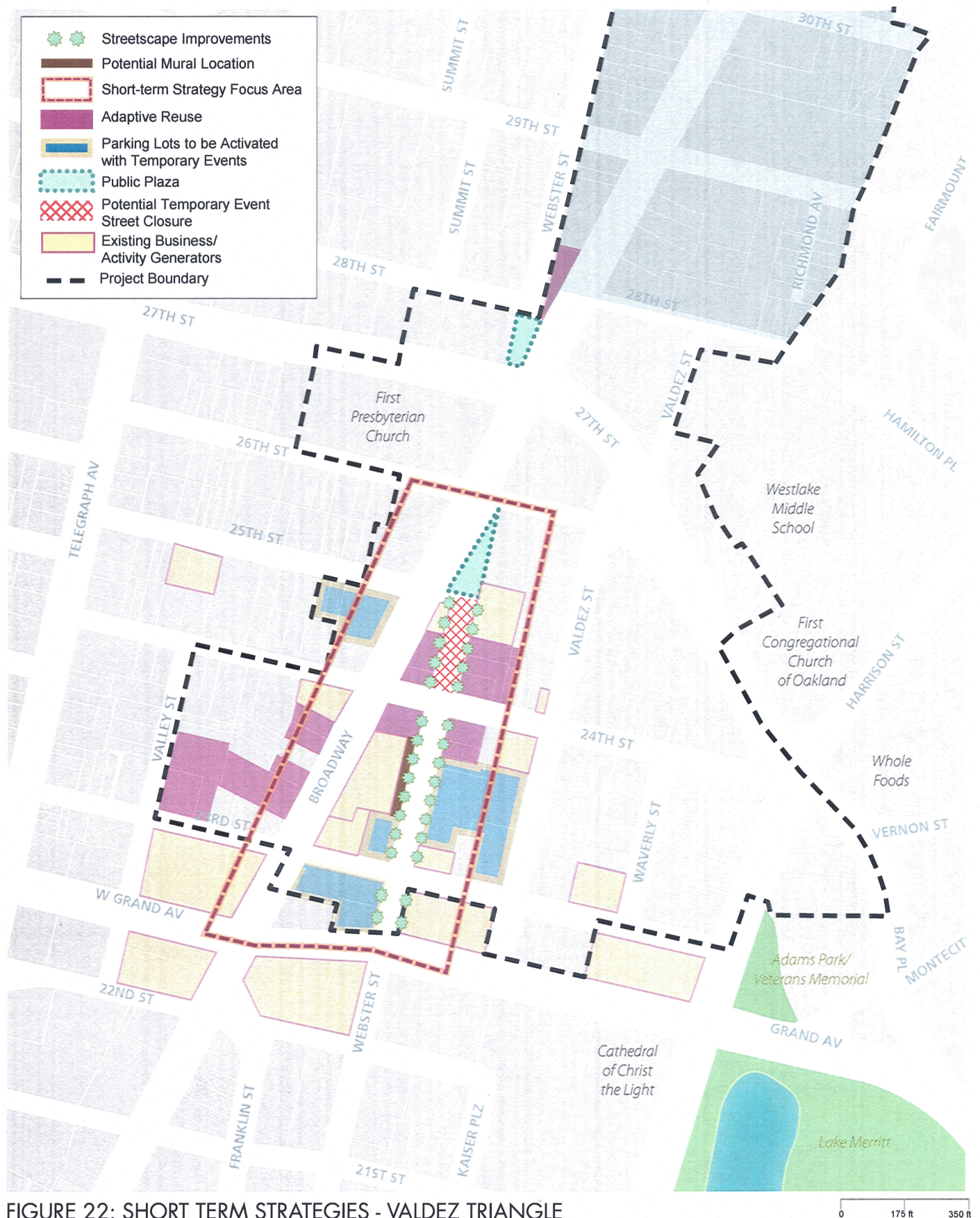


FIGURE 22: SHORT TERM STRATEGIES - VALDEZ TRIANGLE



## VI. IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND STRATEGIES

- **Parklets:** Not all public space improvements need to be permanent. The current trend of using public parking spaces to create parklets that provide additional public outdoor seating is an excellent way to promote pedestrian activity and enhance neighborhood character by providing pleasant places for people to stop, rest and relax.
- **Attracting Business:** A “Business Development Team” should be established, where businesses, residents, property owners, and CEDA’s Business Development Department work together with real estate brokers to attract and maintain businesses in the identified priority areas. Focused strategies could include the formation of a “restaurant row” on the east side of Broadway between 30th and Piedmont Avenue.
- **Historic Building Regulation:** Creating greater flexibility in building regulations on historic buildings to make adaptive reuse of existing buildings more financially feasible for building owners, while still ensuring that safety code requirements are met, will help transition former garage and automobile showrooms to new commercial uses while also protecting the District’s architectural heritage.
- **Facade and Tenant Improvement Programs:** Façade and tenant improvement programs that provide grants to property owners to make physical building improvements can have immediate beneficial effects on District character and improve the leasability of commercial space and bring new businesses to the area.
- **Free “B” Shuttle Service:** Extending Free B bus service to 27th Street on a daily basis will facilitate getting people to and from the area, providing increased activity and support for District businesses.

### B. Mid- and Long-Term Strategies

- **Extending the CBD:** In order to reinforce the concept of the Triangle as an extension of the Downtown, the Central Business District (CBD) General Plan and Zoning designations will be extended north to incorporate the District. These boundaries are currently set at 23rd Street, while areas to the north are designated as Community Commercial. Applying the CBD policies and regulations will ensure that future development meets requirements for land use and urban form that are consistent with the vision for the District.
- **Streetscape Improvements:** Streetscape improvements to the pedestrian zones such as street trees, benches, bollards, lighting and decorative paving can transform the physical character and perception of the District, and demonstrate the City’s commitment to future development.
- **Pedestrian, Bicycle and Transit Facilities:** Connectivity and mobility improvements within the District are important elements that will improve access to the District, increase pedestrian activity, and ultimately encourage new development. Pedestrian activity will be enhanced through improved pedestrian crossings at key intersections



Transit Facility, Portland, OR



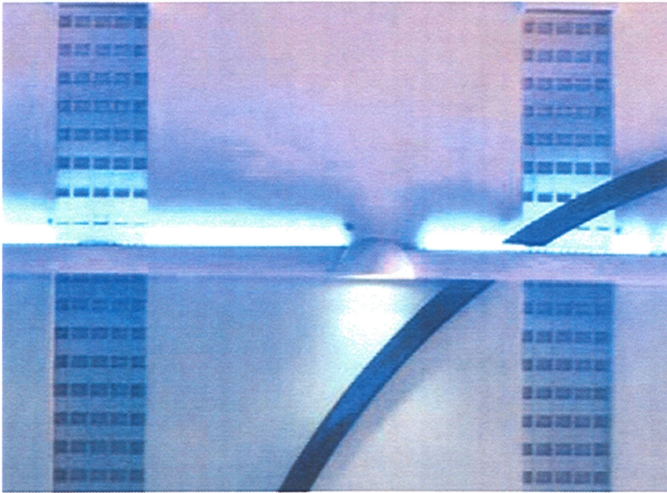
“Bike Box” Bicycle Facility, San Francisco, CA

(e.g., curb extensions, refuge islands, lighting, etc.) and enhanced transit stops (e.g., shelters, seating, signage, etc.). Bicycle use can be enhanced by adding in-street enhancements such as painted bike lanes and bike boxes and adding facilities for bike parking.

- **Parking Benefit District:** A Parking Benefit District may be established that can help manage and finance parking resources and finance streetscape improvements that promote walking, cycling and transit use, such as sidewalks, curb ramps, and bicycle lanes.
- **Public Parking:** Contributing to the funding of a centralized public parking garage could catalyze new development in the District while also supporting a “park once” strategy and creation of a pedestrian-oriented environment.
- **Broadway Streetcar:** Re-introducing streetcar service to Broadway would demonstrate not only a significant commitment by the City to the Broadway corridor, but would also improve access to the area and contribute to establishing a unique new identity for the Broadway Valdez District.



## VI. IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND STRATEGIES



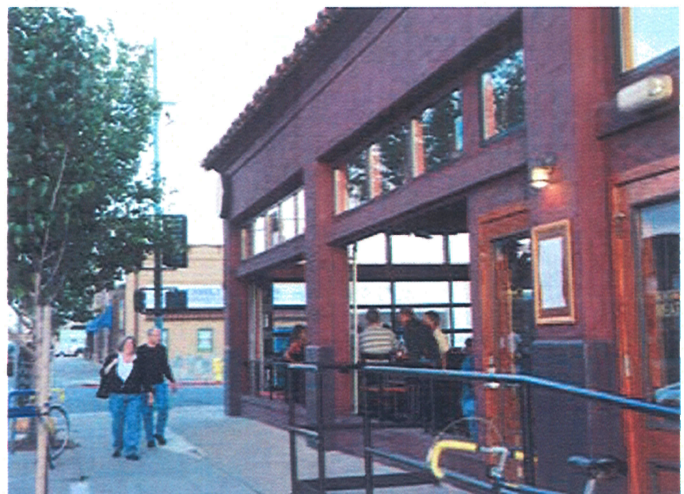
MacArthur BART Underpass Lighting, Oakland, CA



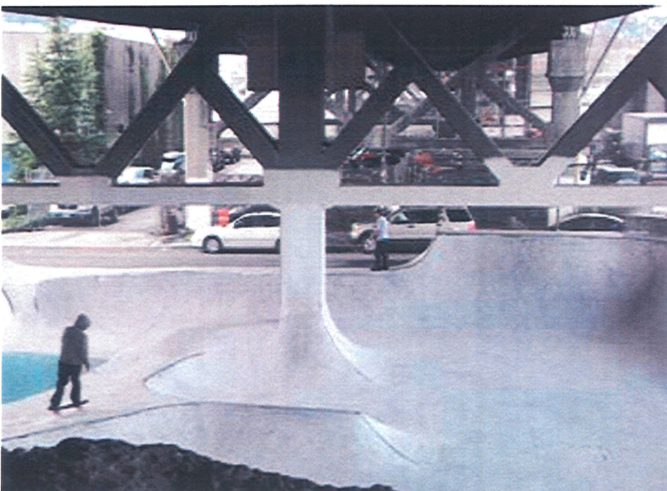
Historic building reuse, Pasadena, CA



Parklet, San Francisco, CA



Reuse of "garage" building, San Diego, CA



Underpass treatment, Burnside Bridgehead, Portland, OR



Plaza Improvement, Walnut Creek, CA





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