

# VAN NESS CORRIDOR

# TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



# SFMTA CAC

October 1



# Project Overview

## Van Ness Corridor Transit Improvement Project includes:

- Application of San Francisco's first **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)**
- **Overhead Contact System (OCS)** replacement
- **SFGo Traffic signal system** replacement and upgrade
- **Sewer** replacement
- **Water** and Auxiliary Water Supply System replacement
- **Streetlight** pole replacement including additional sidewalk lighting
- New **landscaping** and rain gardens
- **Street repaving**

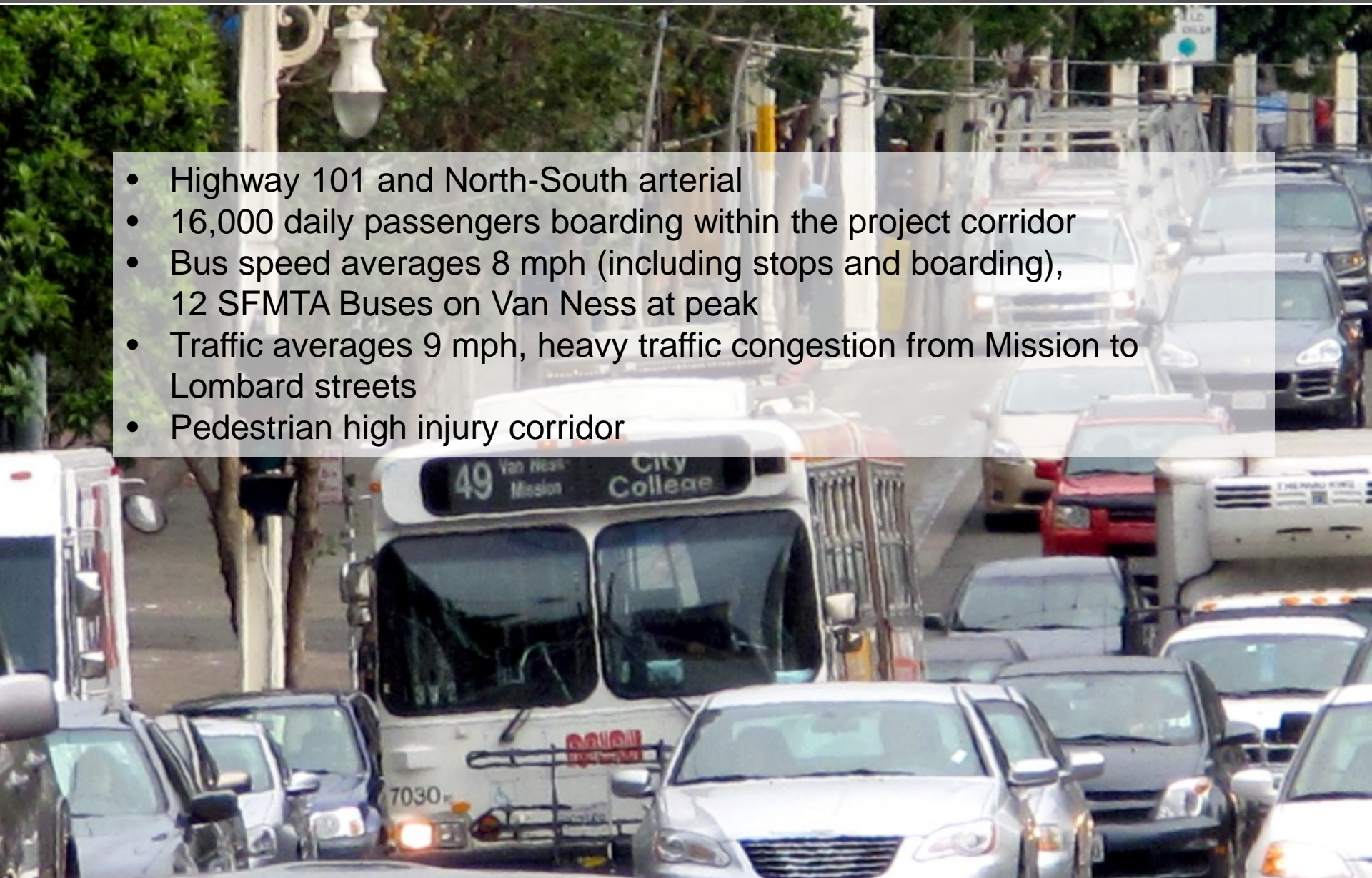


# *Project Purpose and Need*

- Replacing more than 22,000-feet of water main installed in 1800's
- Replacing section of Auxiliary Water Supply System that supplies over 1,200 hydrants
- Building 6,800-feet of new twin sewers on both sides of the street
- Replacing streetlights installed in 1915, including additional sidewalk lighting
- Upgrading 32 intersections with modern traffic signals including:
  - Transit Signal Priority
  - Pedestrian countdowns
- Enhancing the urban environment and corridor identity with:
  - New landscaping and rain gardens
  - Sidewalk furnishings
  - Sidewalk and roadway repaving
  - High quality transit stations

# Core Project Need

- Highway 101 and North-South arterial
- 16,000 daily passengers boarding within the project corridor
- Bus speed averages 8 mph (including stops and boarding),  
12 SFMTA Buses on Van Ness at peak
- Traffic averages 9 mph, heavy traffic congestion from Mission to Lombard streets
- Pedestrian high injury corridor



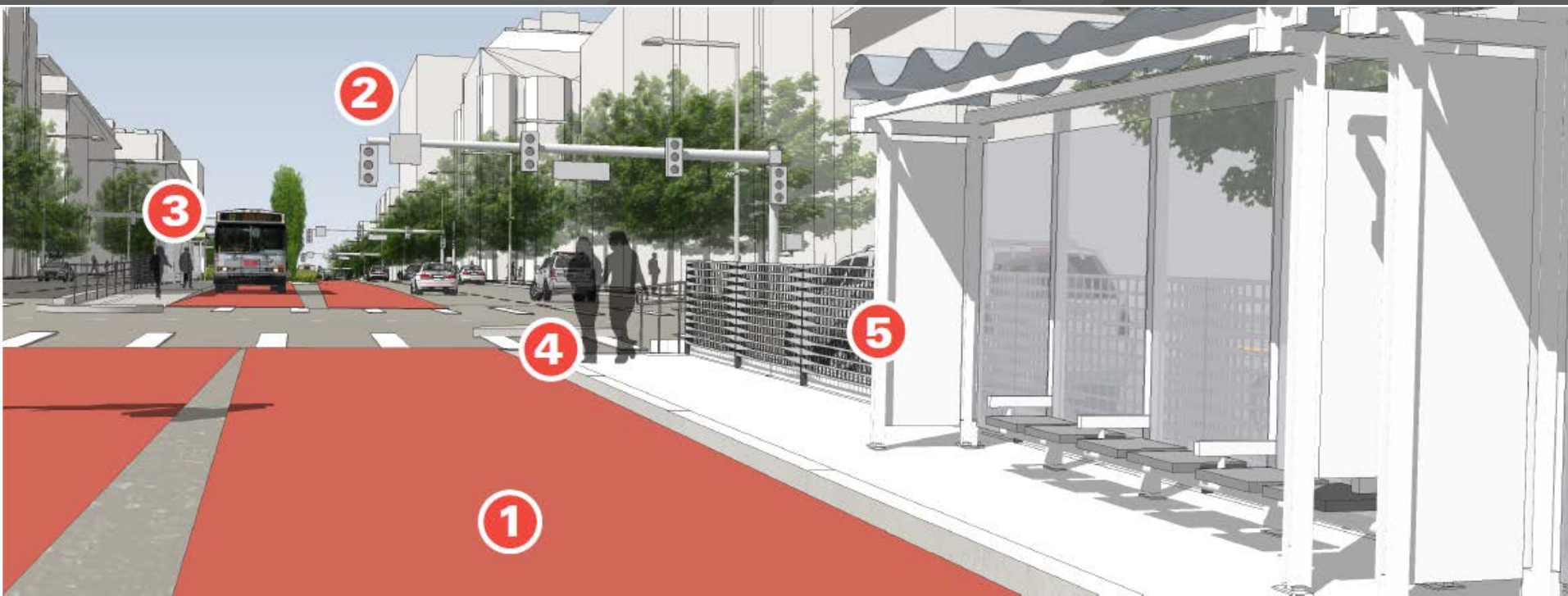
# *Transit Improvement Goals*

Globally-proven solution to address traffic congestion and improve transit:

- **Travel times** to improve **32%**
- **Reliability** to improve up to **50%**
- Increasing transit **mode share**
- **Boarding** to increase up to **35%**
- Maintain corridor **person-throughput**
- Save up to **30%** of daily route **operating costs**
- Multimodal **safety improvements**



# BRT Features



- 1 Dedicated transit lane
- 2 Enhanced traffic signals with Transit Signal Priority optimized for north-south traffic
- 3 Low-floor vehicles and all-door boarding
- 4 Safety enhancements for people walking including accessible countdown signals, curb bulbs, median refuges, nose cones, zebra-striped crosswalks and left turn restrictions
- 5 High-quality boarding islands at consolidated transit stops located at key transfer points

# *Recent Accomplishments*

- Legislation approved for traffic, parking changes
- Awarded pre-construction contract
- Submitted 100% design package to Caltrans

# *CM/GC Project Delivery Method*

- Contract awarded based on mix of qualifications and price
- Involves contractor in completion of design work
- Reduces change orders during construction
- Identifies possible project savings in schedule and cost
- Negotiates “Guaranteed Maximum Price” (GMP)
- Allows contractor to interface earlier with community





# Pre-Construction Survey

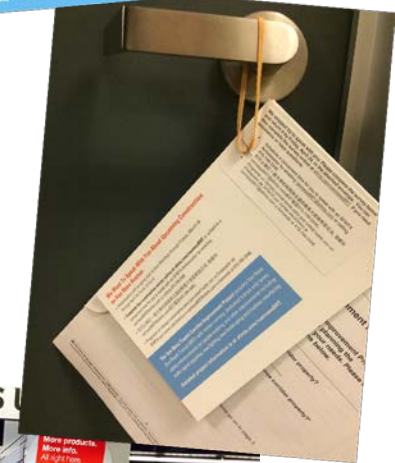
## Goals:

- Gather information from community to minimize construction impacts on project neighbors
- Test new strategy to assist with minimizing impacts of construction

## Methodology:

- Mailer to project-fronting properties with link to survey
- Project website update including link to survey
- Email promoting survey to project update list with link to survey
- Door-to-door canvassing for in-person surveys
- Leave-behind mail-in survey with remit envelope
- Telephone follow-up to conduct surveys
- Provided in English, Chinese and Spanish

**Collected surveys from 85% of Van Ness-facing properties**



# Tree Replacement

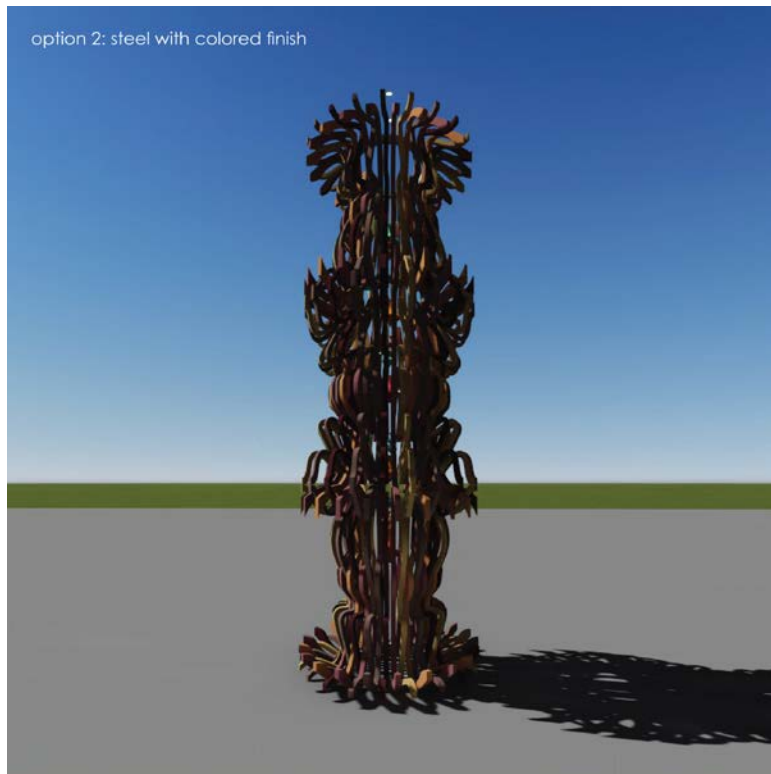
- 401 trees will replace 193 trees identified for removal
- SFMTA hosted Tree Selection Open House on January 29, 4-7 p.m.
- Public Works' Tree Removal Hearing on August 24
- If approved, the proposed tree removals would coincide with construction scheduled to begin early 2016
- Tree removals may also be phased during the construction period as needed to reduce the impact to the local community



Left: Selected median tree species: *Corymbia citriodora* (lemon-scented gum). Above: Tree Selection Open House

# Public Art proposal

- SF Arts Commission has unveiled Jorge Pardo public art proposal
- Consists of three large illuminated steel sculptures that would be installed on the ends of the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) bus platforms at Market, Sutter and Union streets
- Public invited to submit comment by October 20, 5 p.m.



# Historic Preservation Committee

- Certificate of Approval required for work between Fell and Golden Gate Streets
- Informational hearing October 21
- Certificate of Appropriateness Hearing November 18



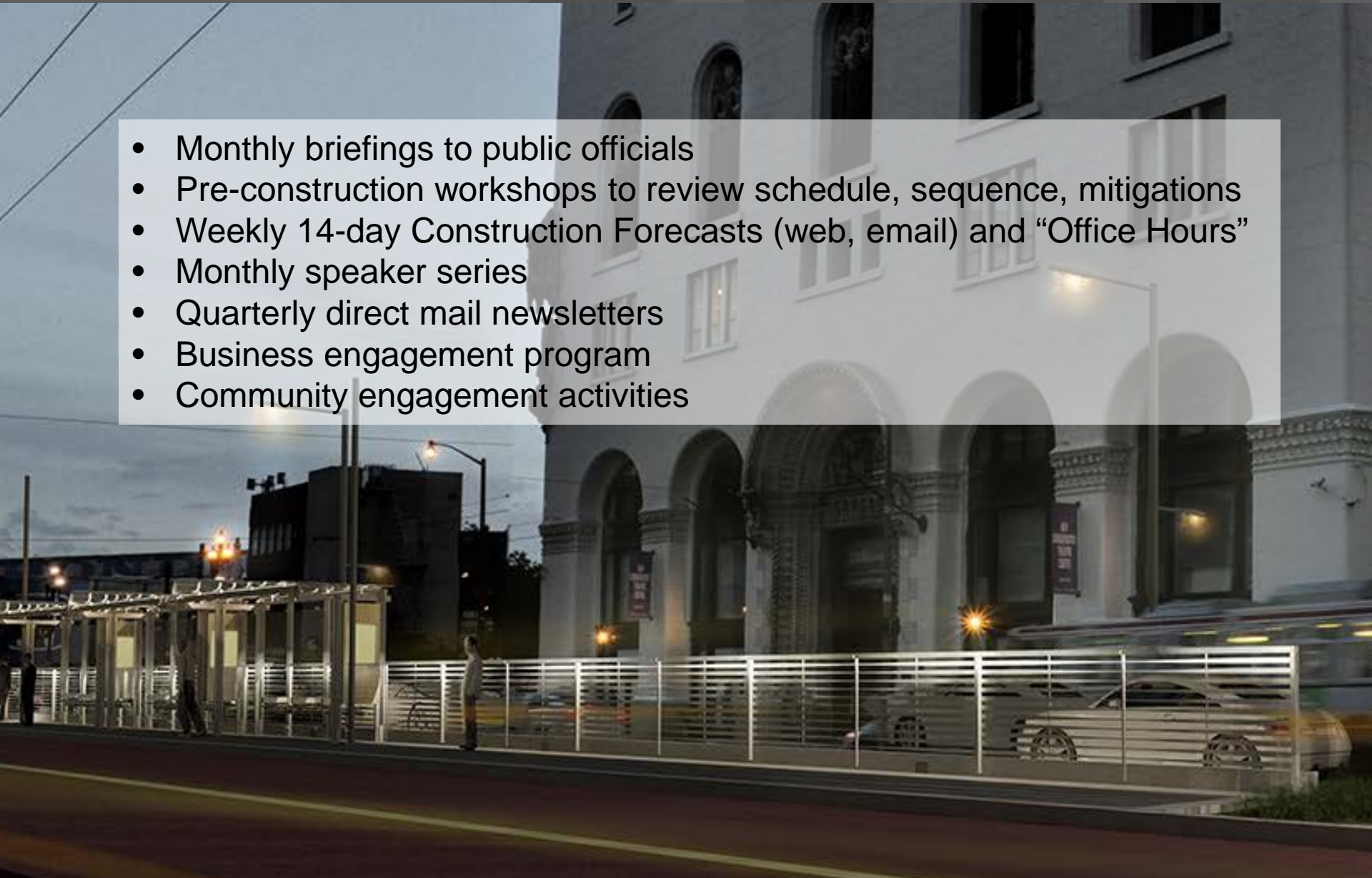
# Outreach Efforts

- Project-specific Community Advisory Committee
- Project overview presentations to merchant, neighbor and community groups
- Public noticing and hearing outreach including mailers
- Pre-construction surveys collected data from 85% project-facing business and residential properties
- Low-vision and blind wayfinding report
- Tree selection Open House
- Monthly project update emails
- Project hotline and email



# Construction Outreach

- Monthly briefings to public officials
- Pre-construction workshops to review schedule, sequence, mitigations
- Weekly 14-day Construction Forecasts (web, email) and “Office Hours”
- Monthly speaker series
- Quarterly direct mail newsletters
- Business engagement program
- Community engagement activities



# Project Schedule

## Next Steps:

- Complete design
- Determine construction sequencing and schedule
- Finalize the traffic management plan
- Work with the residents and businesses to prepare for construction
- Negotiate guaranteed maximum price
- Amend contract for construction services
- Groundbreaking early 2016



# Thank you



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CORRIDOR

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