



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR
April 30, 2013

To: Members of the City Council
From: Mayor Tom Bates
Councilmember Kriss Worthington
Subject: Parklets on Telegraph Avenue

RECOMMENDATION:

Request the City Manager explore the possibility of allowing businesses to lease City yellow zones on Telegraph Avenue in order to install and maintain parklets in yellow zones directly outside of their businesses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff time required for analysis.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council adopted the Southside Plan on September 27, 2011. The City has already taken a number of actions to implement the Southside Plan since its adoption: a streamlined entitlement process, 24-hour business hours, and an upcoming ordinance that would allow the display and sales of merchandise on sidewalks. Allowing parklets on Telegraph Avenue would fulfill two major goals of the Southside Plan:

- 1) Community Character: Recognize, preserve, and enhance the unique physical character of the Southside.
- 2) Economic Development: Enhance the commercial district so that it better meets the needs of the wide variety of users who frequent the neighborhood. Improve access, marketing, and safety.

Parklets were first installed in the City of San Francisco in 2011 and now total 38. A parklet pilot program was adopted by the City of Oakland in 2011 and currently has two parklets, with three scheduled to be installed. Parklets are privately installed and maintained in the Cities of Oakland and San Francisco. While they are funded and maintained by neighboring businesses, residents, and community organizations, they are publicly accessible. The City of Berkeley also adopted a limited pilot for the North Shattuck area in 2012.

The San Francisco parklet program describes the purpose of parklets as the following: "A parklet repurposes part of the street into a space for people. Parklets are intended as aesthetic enhancements to the streetscape, providing an economical solution to the

need for increased public open space. They provide amenities like seating, planting, bike parking, and art.”

Conversion of yellow zones into parklets would have minimal effects on current traffic as both side of the street are currently loading zones from 7 am to 6 pm.

<http://sfpavementtoparks.sfplanning.org/parklets.html>

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/PBN/OurOrganization/PlanningZoning/parklets/index.htm>

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