

PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Nury Martinez and Councilmembers

FROM: José E. Pulido, City Administrator
By: Ron Ruiz, Temporary Public Works and Parks Director

DATE: December 29, 2008

SUBJECT: Park Avenue Streetscape Conceptual Design

BACKGROUND:

1. On March 20, 2007, the initial Park Avenue visioning workshop was conducted with stakeholders at 6:00 pm in the Community Room.
2. On October 15, 2007, a design charrette was conducted for Park Avenue with stakeholders at Cesar E. Chavez Park at 1:30 pm.
3. On December 13, 2007, a second design charrette was conducted for Park Avenue with stakeholders at Cesar E. Chavez Park at 1:30 pm.
4. On July 23, 2008, the Park Avenue conceptual design was presented to the Transportation and Safety Commission at its regular meeting.
5. On September 10, 2008, the Transportation and Safety Commission hosted a Park Avenue design workshop at Cesar E. Chavez Park at 5:00 pm, to further refine the conceptual design.
6. On October 8, 2008, an open house was held in Cesar E. Chavez Park from 4:30 to 8:00 pm
7. On October 15, 2008 the Transportation and Safety Commission unanimously recommended the current conceptual design for Park Avenue.

ANALYSIS:

The attached conceptual design, prepared by Public Works Department staff, is the culmination of extensive participation from stakeholders including, abutting property owners, residents, the Transportation and Safety Commission, and City Departments. Some of the plans considered along the way to the current proposed concept included converting Park Avenue to a one-way street, and gating off part of Park Avenue after park hours. These concepts, along with a few

others, were publicly vetted and ultimately rejected along the course of developing the current conceptual design that is included with this memo. It should be noted that there was also a proposed concept to construct a parking lot on the vacant area immediately north of the City's Regional Pool Facility. The parking lot concept was rejected by the Transportation and Safety Commission, members of the Pool Ad-hoc Committee, and members of the Recreation and Community Services Commission.

The most striking features of the proposed design include, the installation of sidewalks curbs and gutters along the West side of Park Avenue, the removal and burial of above ground utilities, installation of pedestrian oriented street lighting to match that provided around the Regional Pool Facility, raised crosswalks, and a planted center median. An additional innovative feature of the proposed concept includes stormwater infiltration sized to not only address stormwater from the public right of way but also from adjacent properties.

As a first step, Southern California Edison (SCE) has begun to design the burial of its above ground utilities. It is anticipated that SCE will have completed the burial of its above ground utilities by March 31, 2009. Construction work on the streetscape portion of the project will not begin until after SCE work is completed. The expected duration for the streetscape work is six months.

CONCLUSION:

The attached conceptual design of Park Avenue imagines a street free of the visual blight created by overhead utility lines and poles; a street that provides sidewalks, crosswalks, and lighting to be inviting to pedestrians while improving safety; and landscaping that makes this street a continuation of the green space provided by the adjacent park.

Park Avenue Street Improvements

PLANT LEGEND

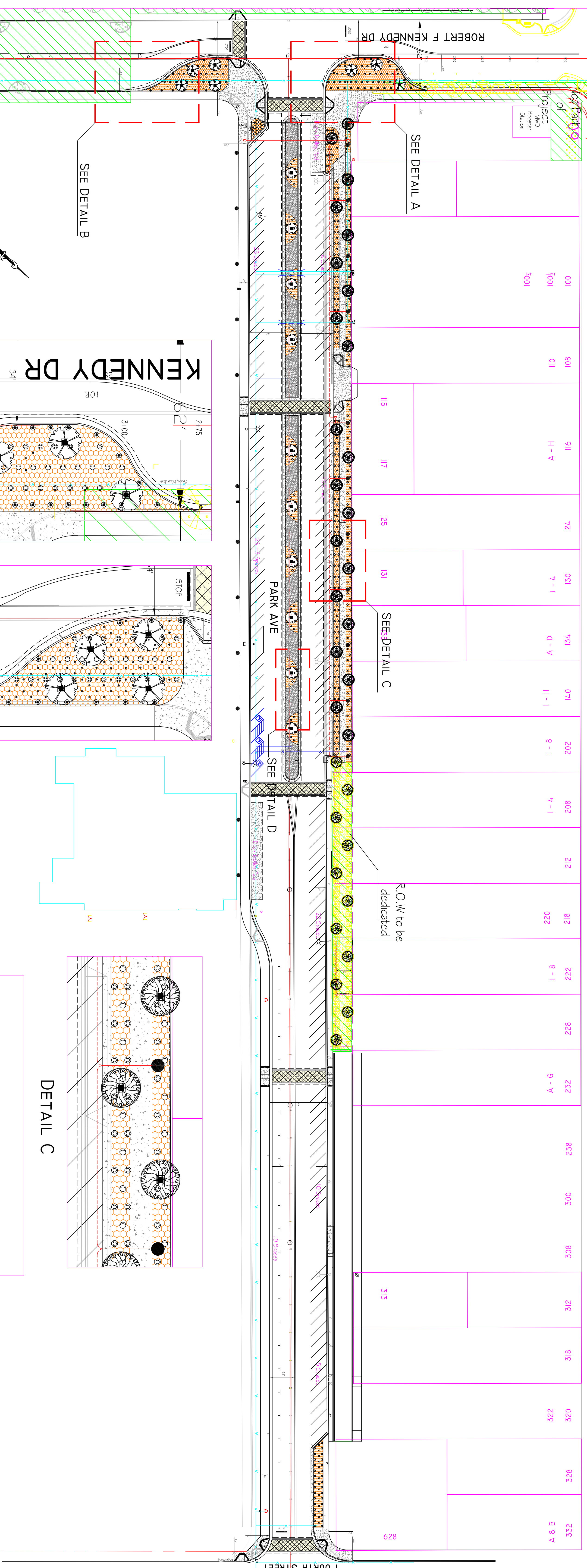
SYMBOL	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE
TREES			
	LAGERSTROEMIA INDICA	CAPE HYDRILE	24" BOX
	TABEBUIA AVELLANEAE	PINK TRUMPET	24" BOX
	JACARANDA MIMOSIFOLIA	JACARANDA	24" BOX

PLANTS AND GROUND COVER	
	ROSA FLORIBUNDA
	HEMEROCALLIS FULVA
	POLYGONUM
	COLEONEMA PULCHRUM
	APTENIA CORDIFOLIA
	DIETS VIEDETA

	ICEBERG ROSE	1 GALLON
	DALLY	1 GALLON
	PINK CLOVER	1 GALLON
	PINK BREATH OF HEAVEN	1 GALLON
	RED APPLE	1 GALLON
	AFRICAN IRIS	1 GALLON

JESSIE ST

NEW CONCRETE	
	GROUND COVER
	NEW PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING



SEE DETAIL A

SEE DETAIL A

SEE DETAIL C

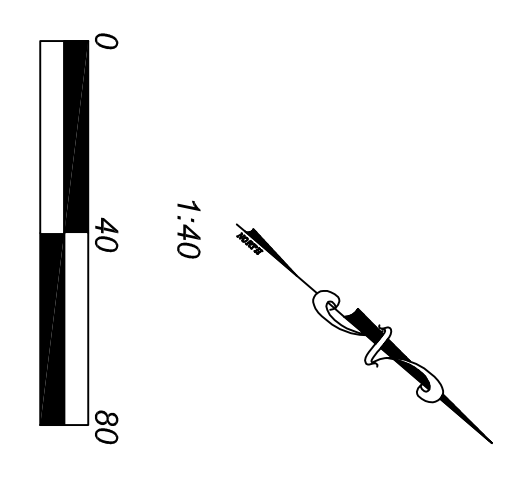
SEE DETAIL D

DETAIL C

DETAIL A

DETAIL B

DETAIL D



PARKING STALLS TOTAL: 157

