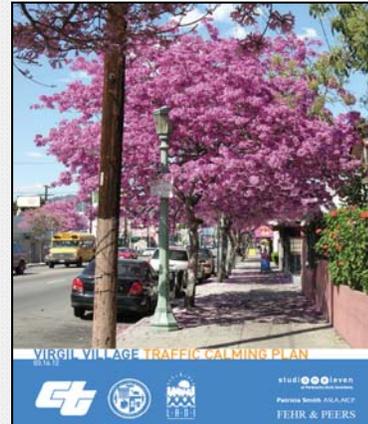




Virgil Village Community Planning Project

City of Los Angeles

Environmental Justice
FY 09-10 Grant Cycle
District 7
Grant Award Amount: \$225,000



Project Summary:

The grant has engaged the Virgil Village community in a collaborative planning process and developed a comprehensive conceptual planning document that facilitates transportation improvements. The plan looks to enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety and encourage economic growth and revitalization for this low income and predominantly minority neighborhood. The final deliverables include a traffic calming plan, a streetscape improvement plan, and cost estimates for design, construction, and project management.

Community Outreach

- Developed a Facebook page for the Plan as a tool to share information about the project, identify relevant articles and precedents, and invite stakeholders to public workshops.
- Solicited 4X6 double-sided graphic postcards to inform the public about the public workshops. A postcard was prepared for each of the three workshops and designed specifically to entice the audience to pick up the flier and attend.
- Held three well attended public workshops that were located in outdoor public spaces within the community.

Environmental Justice Community Outreach:

- Materials at the public workshops were presented in English and Spanish and a bilingual member of the design team was present if translation was needed.
- Multiple sections of the final plan are also written in Spanish.

Project Outcome

- A plan that enhances security and public safety, improves mobility, accessibility and economic vitality, while reflecting community values and celebrating the neighborhood's unique cultural identity.

Successes & Next Steps

- The Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI), the sub-recipient, is working with the City of Los Angeles Street Lighting to secure funding for construction drawings for the proposed transit plaza at Virgil Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.
- LANI is working with City Council District 13 and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to include Virgil Avenue in the next Environmental Impact Report.
- LANI will prepare an application for the 2013 Metro Call for Projects.
- Pending funding, LANI is ready to move into the design development and construction drawing phases, followed by permitting and ultimately construction.