

Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District
Executive Director's Report
Tom Quinn, Executive Director
August 25, 2022

ACBID PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

- Belmar Crossing Pocket Park- **Construction Pending.** City permits issued, and concrete pad installation is pending with our contractor. The new benches, trash can, and bike rack will be installed as soon as the concrete cures sufficiently.
- Sidewalk History Icons- **Installation Pending.** Three new icons are scheduled for installation in September bringing the total to 16. We have experienced some problems getting the QR code stickers to adhere to the concrete and continue to work on a solution. Visitors can now take a full history tour of Alameda using the Discover Alameda app. The link on our website to this program is:
<https://alamedaconnects.org/discover-alameda-history/>
- Discover Alameda- **Installation Completed!** The Discover Alameda app officially launched in May, and everyone is encouraged to download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play and enjoy the Discover Alameda experience! Users can take three different tours: Art and Murals, Sidewalk History and Traffic Box Art. We are working now on increasing public awareness of Discover Alameda.
- Flow Sculpture Damage Repairs- **In Process.** We recently met with *Flow* artist Jonathan Stiles to discuss options for repairing or moving this sculpture. He believes the destroyed module of the sculpture can be replaced at a more reasonable cost than the initial estimate. He is working with us as a consultant to oversee the process. We are keeping the SDA Pool Insurance representative informed on this.
- Wadsworth Underpass Project- **Phase 1 (Mural) Completed for Tunnel Entrances and Retaining Walls.** Sarah helped the Weir Gulch Gardens Neighborhood Association with a Lakewood Neighborhood Participation Program (NPP) grant for Phase 2 that will include improved tunnel lighting and a mural for the interior of the underpass. The grant was approved for \$60,000.

- AARP Grant- ACBID and Alameda Connects received a \$12,000 AARP Community Challenge grant. The funds will support a new bench with ground mural at the Metro West Housing Solutions 5800 community, ground murals at the bench area at EasterSeals of Colorado and a ground mural at the bench area at W. Alameda and Pierce. The new bench area at 5800 will be a welcome resting point for not only the residents at 5800, the community but also the residents at Eaton Senior Communities. Ground murals will be sketched by local artists and filled by volunteers from Eaton Senior Communities, EasterSeals of Colorado, McClain High School students and area residents.
- Alameda Landscape Maintenance- **Work in Progress.** Landscape architect Craig Vickers with Civitas led a tour of the landscaping after the May board meeting. He took us through the landscaping in front of Belmar Crossing and east to Pierce Street explaining the elements of the landscape design. Native grass areas need some additional care. This is discussed further below.

LMI Landscaping continues to perform well under the contract. Routine maintenance like weeding, mowing and trash pickup are done every Monday. Additional tasks such as irrigation repairs are scheduled as needed. They respond quickly to any problems that arise. I conduct weekly inspections and meet with LMI and a Lakewood representative John Cobb bi-weekly.

Under the Intergovernmental Agreement the LRA agreed to pay for replacement of dead plants and trees this spring/summer. LMI successfully completed the plantings in July with over 600 new plants and trees. They are receiving supplemental watering to help cope with the hot temperatures and are monitored weekly. Lakewood city forester Luke Killoran continues to provide regular advice on tree care.

Additionally, after meeting with Craig Vickers in May we are working on improving of the native grass areas on the corridor. These areas were planted with the wrong grasses by the original landscape contractor, leading to problems with unsightly appearance. In July we invested in a large quantity of native grass mix and blue grama seed. Blue grama is a long lived, hearty, warm season grass and the official State Grass of Colorado. John Cobb over seeded the problem areas followed by watering and we had some good luck with the rains returning right after planting. These areas are already looking better.

Stormwater Infrastructure Art- ACBID is partnering with Lakewood Public Works in a pilot program to add water themed artwork to storm drains and manholes on the Alameda corridor. This program is intended to enhance stormwater infrastructure with colorful artwork and educate the public on stormwater and the importance of protecting water quality. This program will officially launch in early 2023.

EVENTS SPONSORSHIP REPORT

City Events:

Lakewood Sounds Exciting Summer Concert Series- The summer concert series wrapped up in late July. Attendance was up for the six concerts this year and ACBID received good exposure.

Lakewood Hard Cider Tasting- Set for Saturday August 20.

Blarney on Belmar- We are meeting soon with Bridge33 to plan for return of the Blarney on Belmar St. Patrick's Day event in March 2023. This popular event was first held in March of 2020 but not since due to COVID. More details to follow.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED) SECURITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Sarah completed her online CPTED training and has done several CPTED evaluations for corridor businesses. We are still working out details on the grants program to assure its effectiveness. Funding for these grants is included in the 2022-2023 ACBID budgets.

BUSINESS ENERGY GRANTS PROGRAM

We continue to work with the City of Lakewood Sustainability Division to develop an energy-improvements grants program for Alameda Corridor businesses. Businesses must complete energy audits first to be eligible to apply for a grant. Sarah has been working with the Sustainability Division to recruit corridor businesses to complete energy audits with Excel Energy. Funding for the grants program is included in the 2022-23 budgets.

2022 GROW GRANTS

Grow Grants are intended to facilitate visual improvements to enhance the atmosphere of the Alameda Corridor and serve as catalysts for future investment in the corridor. Applications under this program are open to all businesses and business property owners in the ACBID service area. The advantage of this program is it allows businesses to propose projects that benefit their properties and the corridor.

Four grants were awarded this year for a total of \$39,000. The grant recipients are:

- Belmar- \$10,000 for a wall mural facing Alameda on the back of GQue BBQ. **Completed.**
- Alameda Crossing- \$10,000 for a mural on the west facing wall. **Completed.**

- Gold Crown Foundation- \$10,000 for LED outdoor lighting improvements at All-Star Park. *In process.*
- 265 Harlan St. Building- \$10,000 for exterior beautification, repaving the parking lot and window repair. *In process.*

The Grow Grants program is included in the ACBID 2023 Operating Plan and budget. We are exploring possible expansion of this program.

GRAFITTI REPORT

Graffiti incidents have declined significantly since April. We continue with a zero tolerance policy.