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Jerry Sanguinetti, Bureau Manager

DPW Order No: 181211

RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL FOR A MAJOR (STREET) ENCROACHMENT PERMIT FOR A PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL BELOW WINSTON DRIVE TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE CONNECTION FROM THE MAIN CAMPUS OF SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY (SFSU) TO A PROPOSED NEW RECREATION WELLNESS CENTER AT THE SOUTH SIDE OF WINSTON DRIVE.

APPLICANT: San Francisco State University
Capital Planning Design & Construction
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132
Attention: Wendy Bloom

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: The proposed pedestrian tunnel will connect the main campus of SFSU (Block 7299, Lot 005) to the proposed new wellness center (Block 7289, Lot 008)

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST: Major (Street) Encroachment Permit

BACKGROUND:

1. SFSU filed an application with the Department of Public Works (DPW) for a Major (Street) Encroachment Permit for the construction and maintenance of a pedestrian tunnel below Winston Drive to provide a safe and accessible connection from the main campus of SFSU to the site of a new Recreation Wellness Center. The land between the two campuses slopes steeply downward toward the campus on the south side of Winston Drive, with the elevation at the bottom of the slope approximately 24 feet below street level, and approximately 20 feet below the proposed project site on the north side of Winston Drive. The proposed tunnel will provide a gradual ADA-compliant walkway between the campus on the south, and the proposed site on the north side of Winston Drive, and will serve as a gateway between the center and the main campus.
2. The Transportation Advisory Staff Committee (TASC) at its meeting of October 11, 2012 recommended approval for the proposed pedestrian tunnel.



3. The Planning Department by letter dated October 19, 2012 determined the proposed pedestrian tunnel below Winston Drive to be in conformity with the General Plan.
4. The Infrastructure Division/Hydraulics Section has reviewed the proposed Major Encroachment Permit application below Winston Drive and has no objections provided that SFSU constructs a new sewer line and two (2) manholes at their cost.
5. DPW mailed public hearing notices on March 29, 2013 to property owners within 300-foot of the subject location, notifying them of a public hearing on April 10, 2013, to consider the proposed Major (Street) Encroachment Permit at the subject location.
6. Hearing Officer, Mr. Kevin Day, conducted the hearing and heard testimony presented by DPW Staff.
7. Campus Planner Wendy Bloom represented SFSU and also presented testimony.
8. Ms. Bloom testified that this is a part of a larger project with SFSU also planning to construct a new sidewalk along the entire length of the project site, along the north side of Winston Drive, concurrently with construction of the tunnel.
9. The Hearing Officer asked if SFSU has considered installing emergency telephones along this route; Ms. Bloom responded stating that security cameras will be installed and University Police will be monitoring them
10. No testimony was presented in opposition to the permit application during the hearing
11. The Hearing Officer made his decision after hearing the above testimony, and reviewing the application, reports, plans and other documents contained in the Department of Public Works files.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommendation of APPROVAL of the request for the proposed pedestrian tunnel under Winston Drive.

FINDING 1. The proposed pedestrian tunnel, based on review of the submitted plans, is in compliance with San Francisco Building Code (SFBC), 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and Title II of the ADA, otherwise known as 28 CFR Part 35 “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services.

FINDING 2. The subject encroachment is desirable and convenient to the University and its students.

FINDING 3. The proposed pedestrian tunnel encroachment design satisfies all technical requirements as it relates to City Standards and the Public Works Code.

FINDING 4. The Infrastructure Division/Hydraulics Section sent email on March 22, 2013 stating that they have no objections to the proposed pedestrian tunnel provided that SFSU constructs sewer line and two (2) manholes at their cost.



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X



Sanguinetti, Jerry
Approver 1

X



Sweiss, Fuad
Approver 2

4/23/2013

X

Mohammed Nuru

Nuru, Mohammed
Approver 3

