One challenge I’d like to address is how cities partner with developers to effectively build energy infrastructure to support micro-grids. My approach is to research district-level net-zero energy approaches; developed Neighborhood development experience; managed the implementation of two EcoDistricts in San Francisco; has been charged with creating a district plan that will be a comprehensive guide for the City’s future development. The Central Corridor neighborhood has been selected because the timing is right for integrating neighborhood-scale improvements into the Plan. Planning is nearly complete and the project is about to commence the Plan’s EIR, which will include EcoDistrict concepts. Success in implementing this plan is assured because the Central Corridor project has strong support from the City’s elected officials and the community.

Why this neighborhood?

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Neighborhood PRIORITIES:

1. Capturing opportunities from the new Muni light rail line construction (i.e., new fiber optic line, recycled water, district heat); and from the current upzoning that will bring jobs, residents and hotels
2. Learning lessons from the expansion and upgrading of the Moscone Convention Center
3. Identifying the opportunities for the areas below the existing freeway and some City-owned properties for public amenities, green space, storm water storage, art, etc.

Neighborhood CHALLENGES:

1. Unifying an area with multiple interest zones, different interest groups and unique needs and interests
2. Changing code may be necessary to move ground water across properties in response to the fact that 55 million gallons/year of groundwater is pumped out of the area into the sewer
3. Financing major infrastructure such as a district energy system, when the area will be redeveloped over a long period of time