



Sunnyvale Community Center Grounds Renovation Project Concept Design

Jennifer Ng, City Engineer January 10, 2023



Site Background

Sunnyvale Community Center

- 14+ acres, built in 1972
- Senior Center added in 2003
- Community Center Building Updates in 2019

Project Area

- Landscape & Paths: 403,036 sf (79%)
- Lower Pond: 98,765 sf (19%)
- Upper Fountain with Courtyards: 9,700 sf (2%)



Project Scope and Goals

Approved Capital Improvement Project

 Includes renovation of grounds only, not the buildings, parking lots, or orchard

• Design Goals:

- Enhance recreational opportunity
- Increase attractiveness, including geese droppings issue
- Reduce the use of utilities





Timeline – Community Input Process



- March 2022
- Likes and Dislikes, Wants and Needs
- Use/demographic questions (survey only)

- May June 2022
- Loss of Pond vs. Gaining Program
- Feedback on inspiration images

- Sept Oct 2022
- Presented 2 site plans with differing layouts
- Feedback on layout and program elements

Community Meeting #1: likes/dislikes, wants/needs

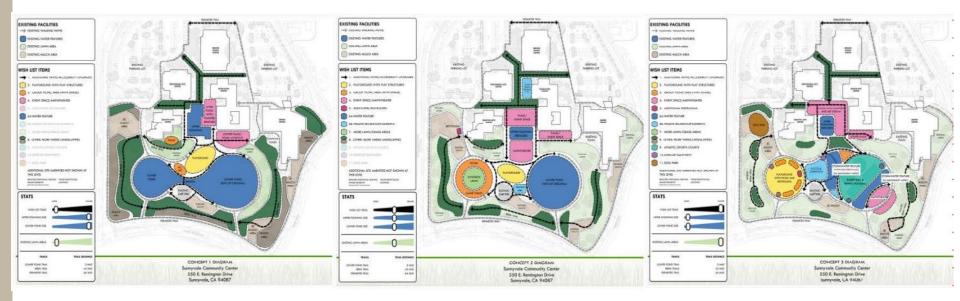


Top Five wants

- Walking Paths
- Playground with Play Structures
- Group Picnic Areas
- Event Space/Amphitheater
- Restrooms

Top Dislike – Geese droppings

Community Meeting #2: reduction of pond/fountain features



Keep most of the pond/fountain

Reduction ~50%

Upper fountain only; no pond

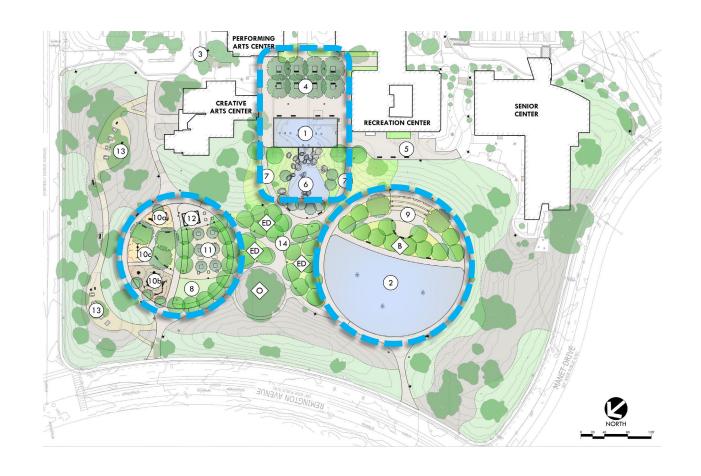
Community Meeting #3: two concepts presented



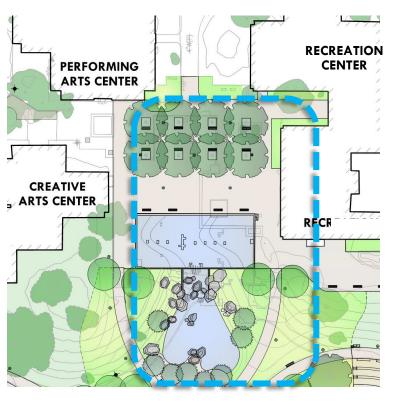
Preferred Concept Plan

LEGEND:

- UPPER FOUNTAIN (REDUCED BY 50%)
 W/ EXISTING MEMORIAL SCULPTURE
- (2) LOWER POND (REDUCED BY 60%)
- 3 SITE ADA ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT EXISTING PAVING AREAS
- UPPER PLAZA W/ GRID OF SHADE TREES
- 5 LOWER PLAZA OVERLOOK W/ BENCHES
- 6 FOUNTAIN OUTFALL INTO LOWER STREAM BED W/
 BOULDERS AND CASCADING WATER
- 7) SLOPED WALK DOWN TO LOWER POND AREA
- 8 SYNTHETIC TURF LAWN AREA
- 9 INFORMAL SEATING/AMPHITHEATER STYLE SPACE (110 CAPACITY)
- PLAYGROUND AREA "TOT LOT" (AGES 2-5)
- PLAYGROUND AREA (AGES 5-12)
- 100 PLAYGROUND SWINGS
- RECREATION AREA WITH CORNHOLE, TABLE TENNIS, AND CHESS/CHECKERS TABLES
- (12) RESTROOM/MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT BUILDING
- (13) BERM TRAIL WITH PICNIC AREAS
- 14) INTERNAL WALKWAYS/
 POSSIBLE ART DISPLAY AREA
- ED EDUCATIONAL PLANTING AREA/ARBORETUM
- B BIORETENTION AREA
- O EXISTING HERITAGE OAK



Preferred Site Plan – Upper Fountain and Lower Stream Bed



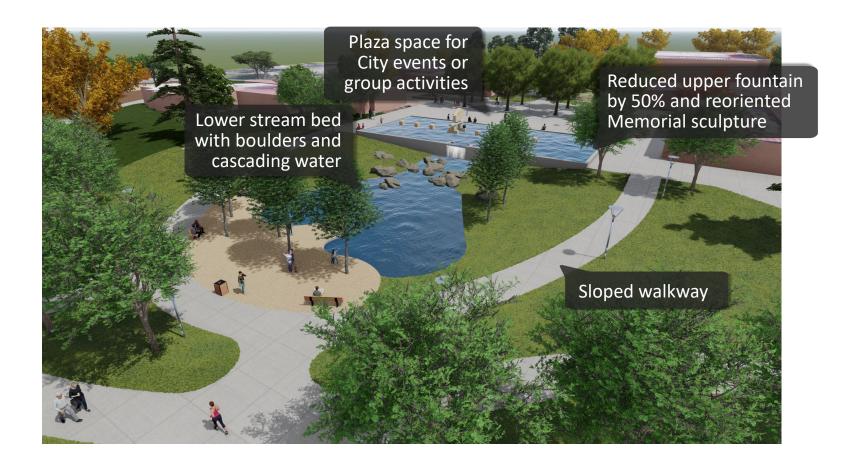
 Upper Fountain – reduced by 50%

Memorial
Sculpture to be reoriented to align with fountain

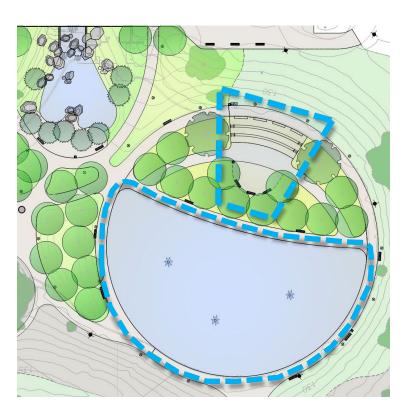
 Waterfall into lower stream bed



Upper Fountain and Lower Stream Bed – Perspective



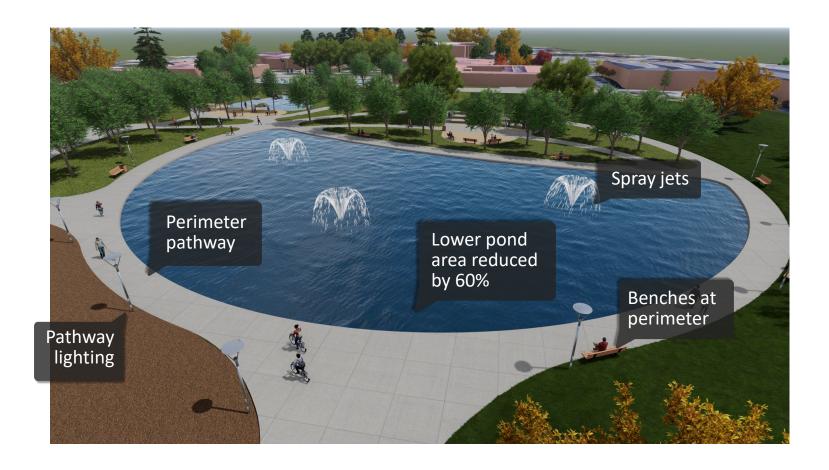
Preferred Site Plan – Lower Pond and Amphitheater seating



- Lower Pond reduced by 60%
- Amphitheater style seating



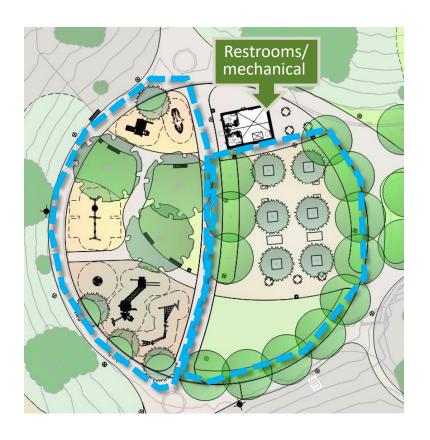
Lower Pond – Perspective



Informal Seating/Amphitheater Style Space – Perspective



Playground Area and Recreation Space



Playground area

- Separate play areas for ages 2-5 and 5-12
- Combination of resilient surfacing and engineered wood fiber
- Shade trees and planting for buffer
- Recreation Space
 - Cornhole boards, Ping Pong, and chess/checkers game tables
 - Grid of trees for shade
 - Small flexible space with synthetic turf for unprogrammed play

Playground Area – School-aged Children (ages 5-12)



Playground Area – Tot Lot (ages 2-5)



Passive Recreation Area – Perspective



Walking Paths / Circulation: #1 request/want

LEGEND:

OUTER PATHWAY (.66 MILES)

LOWER PATHWAY (.30 MILES)

LOWER PATHWAY W/ BERM TRAIL (.36 MILES)

■ ■ LOWER POND PERIMETER PATHWAY (.14 MILES)

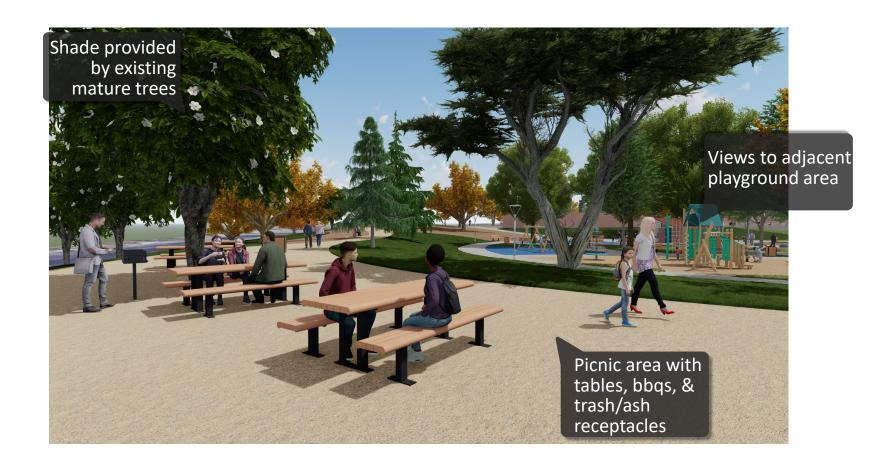


Berm Trail and Picnic Areas



- Berm trail along the northern berm
 - Utilizes existing tree cover
 - Connects two picnic areas
 - Includes two shaded, quiet seating areas overlooking the active space

Berm Trail and Picnic Areas – Perspective



Design Goal: Reduce the Use of Utilities - Overall Reduction of Turf Areas



Addressing Goose Population and Droppings



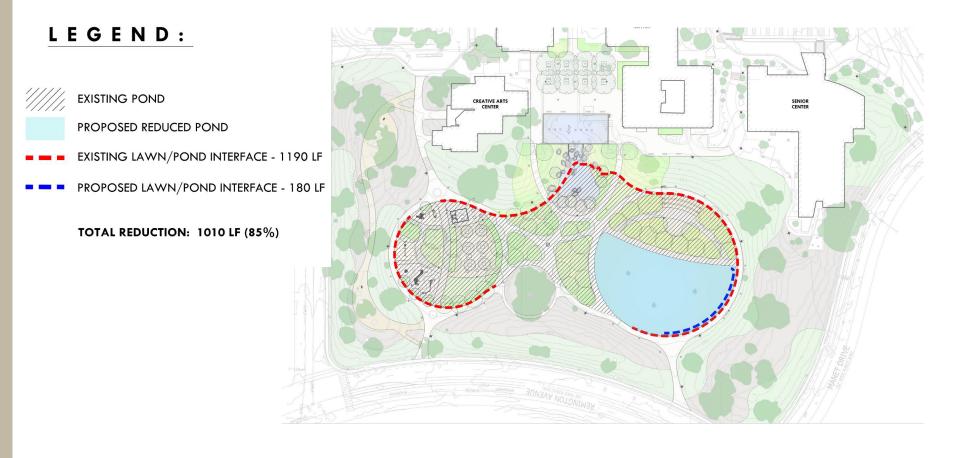
Attractions for Geese:

- Clipped lawn area for foraging
- Water for landing
- Direct access between lawn and pond

Deterrents implemented in Design:

- Reduced total lawn area
- Reduced total pond area
- Reduced total amount of lawn/pond interface
- Increased physical barriers between lawn/pond

Geese Mitigation – Reduction of Pond/Lawn Interface



Project Design Goals - Achieved

Enhancing Recreational Opportunity

- Expanded programmed use areas
- ✓ Incorporated outdoor recreational areas

Increasing Attractiveness

- Renovation of water features
- Landscape improvements
- Updates to site furnishings & finishes

Reducing Use of Utilities

- Reduced areas requiring irrigation
- Reduction/modernization of water feature
 - Upgrades to parking lot and pedestrian lighting







Next Steps

- Design, Permitting,
 Contract Docs
 - Late 2023 completion
- Bidding
 - Early 2024
- Construction
 - Spring 2024 Fall
 2025







Staff Recommendation

Alternative 1: Approve the Preferred Concept Plan for the Community Center Grounds Renovation Project as shown on Attachment 6 of the report and Find the Action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15262.