



***Via Email Only***

February 13, 2020

**Meeting Summary**

**PLAZA DEL SOL, PH. II**

**RE: Community Meeting #2**

Date: February 12, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Washington Park

Attendees: **City of Sunnyvale (City):**

Nate Scribner (NS), [nscribner@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:nscribner@sunnyvale.ca.gov)

Jim Stark (JS), [jstark@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:jstark@sunnyvale.ca.gov)

**Callander Associates (CALA):**

Dave Rubin (DR), [drubin@callanderassociates.com](mailto:drubin@callanderassociates.com)

Brian Fletcher (BF), [bletcher@callanderassociates.com](mailto:bletcher@callanderassociates.com)

**Community Members** (see attached sign-in sheets)

Number of people who signed in: 13

Number of people who completed comment cards: 9

The purpose of this meeting was to share the input received through the online survey (available to the public from December 23, 2019 to January 12, 2020), present conceptual alternatives, and receive feedback from the public. An open-house style meeting was held at Washington Park prior to the standing Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Participants were each provided with 10 dot stickers to vote on the amenities they most preferred. Below is a summary of the comments heard at the meeting followed by the dot voting results. Comment cards and sign-in sheets are attached at the end of this summary.

**Comments from community members:**

- more programming at the plaza
- concerts to bring more people to the plaza
- garage cover in the Classic concept looks like a VTA station shelter
- fountain decreases flexible space, is not usable, can be played on, and requires maintenance
- a fireman's pole for play equipment
- a tire swing for play equipment
- better power supply for the stage
- existing infrastructure provides power but breakers trip
- kinetic art that involves color-changing lights
- porta-potties (1 ADA, 2 regular, 1 wash station) during events
- restrooms

**BURLINGAME**

1633 Bayshore Highway, Suite 133  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
650.375.1313

**GOLD RIVER**

12150 Tributary Point Drive, Suite  
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916.985.4366

**SAN JOSE**

2025 Gateway Place, Suite 285  
San Jose, CA 95110  
408.275.0565

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- seating with shade
- living shade
- cover labyrinth with a fabric shade canopy
- maintain flexible space
- keep the open space
- shade canopy near the commercial area
- bicycle parking and e-bicycle parking with e-charging
- vandal-resistant features in the design
- lights in the paving surface to enhance the lines and curves of the plaza and assist in wayfinding
- lighting that leads people through the space
- additional evening lighting
- misting system that could be incorporated into the existing trellis
- keep the stage
- more elevated stage
- water feature
- water feature at the entrance to the garage that has real boulders and wood
- leaf-shaped shade structure not desirable
- more landscaping and a pergola for flowering vines

**Dot Voting Results:**

Classic Concept

<b>Amenity</b>	<b># of votes</b>
Play Equipment	14
Overhead Lighting	13
Fountain	10
Enhanced Labyrinth	7
Large Chess Board	2
Veterans Memorial	2
Garage Ramp Roof	1
Trellis	1
Ping Pong	1
Total:	51

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Plaza Green Concept

<b>Amenity</b>	<b># of votes</b>
Turf-Covered Garage Ramp	31
Wood-cladded Planter	6
Play Mounds	5
Wood-cladded Seatwall	5
Vine Trellis Green Screen	1
Leaf-shaped Shade Structure	0
Wood-cladded Seatwall Planter	0
Total:	48

Contemporary Concept

<b>Amenity</b>	<b># of votes</b>
Misters	13
Temporary Art	5
Color-changing Light Column	4
Stage Structure	3
Enhanced Trellis	3
Colorful Glass Garage Roof	1
Permanent Art	1
Total:	30

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The information above is Callander Associates' understanding of items discussed during the meeting. Callander Associates is proceeding with the project based on this understanding.

Submitted by:

Melinda Wang  
Callander Associates

cc: All attendees

Attachments:

Community Meeting #2 Comment Cards, February 12, 2020

Community Meeting #2 Sign-In Sheets, February 12, 2020

Community Meeting #2 Comments Received via Email, February 11, 2020

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

#### 1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

Plaza Green

The plaza needs more shade and enclosed spaces to feel comfortable during hot days. This scheme addresses the garage ramp in way that creates more usable green space, as well as incorporates tree planters in unutilized spaces/alcoves.

#### 2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

Contemporary

It seems to be adding structures and fixed elements that may not provide too much value to a user, beyond aesthetic. The current public art at the plaza doesn't seem too successful, so ~~the~~ whatever public art that is proposed should be more interactive. I do like the lighting within this scheme.



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

The existing trellis <sup>and space</sup> at plaza corner seems very heavy and not welcoming. Perhaps adding planting areas or explicit seating areas on the stairs would create more of a "place." Even if the trellis is painted white, it would seem lighter and brighter.

4. Any other comments or concerns?

looks great. Thank you!

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional) : \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

PLAZA GREEN

- GIVES THE PLAZA A PARK FEELING

PLAZA CLASSIC

- PLAY GROUND

- LIGHTING

- FOUNTAIN

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

PLAZA CONTEMPORARY

- TOO MUCH LIGHTING



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

PLAZA CLASS  
- SUBTRACT PING PONG TABLE ~~TABLE~~ - NOT SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE WILL USE  
- SUBTRACT ENHANCED LABYRINTH (MEH, NOT SOMETHING ANYONE WILL USE)  
- ADD MISTERS  
- ADD TURF MOUND

4. Any other comments or concerns?

THANKS FOR DOING THIS!

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional) : \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

Plaza green

- Friendly
- doubles as a park, flexible
- Tuff mound has many uses, e.g. picnics, etc.
- Draws you in
- Places you would want to hang out
- Nature scientifically makes people happier
- Places for kids to play  
(just add fountain, play structure, lighting)

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

Contemporary

pretty-ish? but not useful  
gets old fast (eg. light show)

Nothing to do

nowhere I would want to spend time



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Add	subtract
Play structure!	ping pong
Turf mound	enhanced labyrinth
mini dog park	memorial
shade the trellis (or whole labyrinth)	chess
Fountain	

4. Any other comments or concerns?

More events!

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional): Maria Nattestad

Email (optional): maria.nattestad@gmail.com

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

CLASSIC

- + WATER FEATURE
- + TRELLIS
- + UNITY of CONCEPT
- PRUNING LOW LEVEL PLANTERS

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

CONTEMPORARY

- JUNKY
- NOT ENOUGH GREENERY
- NO WATER FEATURE

NO +

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

CLASSIC . DO NOT PRUNE TREE CANOPY  
LESS OBTRUSIVE WATER FEATURE  
THAN AS PICTURED  
USE OVERHEAD FLOWERING VINES  
(BOURAINVILLEAS? WISTERIAS? GRAPES?)  
NEED SEATING WITH SHADE

4. Any other comments or concerns?

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional) : \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

Green, most suburban feeling.  
Artificial Grass for mound?

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

BART station parking roof! yikes  
fountain in middle of plaza - doesn't make it  
flexible space

Thank you for listening to  
community input 😊



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Civic Recognition to Veterans is out of the way and proper thing to do.

4. Any other comments or concerns?

Good job.

Keep it simple, classic, long lasting

Resistant to Vandals + Homeless Structures

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional) : \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

Stage Structure - Help with lighting & better visibility for performers. My only concern would be if you're not able to put a stage it would cause issues for people who want to bring chairs and watch event.

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

Wood-Cladder Seawall planter  
This would permanently stop people from being able to use this for any this prevent it for future use



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Add-ground lighting throughout the plaza  
\*Ensure outlets for power work properly  
\*In bathrooms could be added for events it would be great

4. Any other comments or concerns?

We're excited to see this next phase coming to life

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional): Mike Johnson

Email (optional): michael@sunnyvalledowntown.com



Sunnyvale



February 12, 2020  
19053\_CommentCard\_ComMtg#2

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

I like combining elements. The garage ramp roof turf mound is a great way to add more green open space. Combine that with play equipment and you have a winner!

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

The large structural garage ramp roofs seem mostly useless, since all they would do is keep cars dry on rainy days. The green turf mound roof is MUCH more useful!

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Just mix the turf mound roof ramp with  
play equipment. ☺

4. Any other comments or concerns?

Thank you for soliciting community feedback!

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional): Bob Somers

Email (optional): bob@bobsomers.com



Sunnyvale



February 12, 2020  
19053\_CommentCard\_CorMtg#2

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

No - not really - like <sup>some</sup> elements in each

Like the fountain - but not in the classic style.  
Develop a more contemporary water feature  
maybe in junction w/ mister's structure.

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

- whichever has the most concrete,  
need permeable materials at  
the least,





## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Like to subtract lighting around garage/retail and have lights around enhanced trellis (big circle) and form a pathway through the park.

4. Any other comments or concerns?

I'm concerned about signage - some practical but lighted a few wayfinding signs at entrances/exits.

I think the light column is awesome and can serve as a marker - a placemaker for the park. (Can see from a distance) but not obnoxious as planned. Great idea - could make interactive.

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_



Sunnyvale



February 12, 2020  
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## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

1. Is there a concept you like the most? Why?

I like plaza green the most because it softens the concrete with plants & natural materials like wood.

I really like making a sense of place by the retail stores like on concept classic.

2. Is there a concept you like the least? Why?

I fear the concept contemporary may not use well, but I like the use of more interesting shapes for water features, shade/stage structure.



## COMMUNITY MEETING #2

### Plaza del Sol - Phase II Master Plan

3. Are there elements you'd like to add or subtract from the 3 concepts?

Add something to make semi circle  
raised areas more inviting

4. Any other comments or concerns?

make sure design considers bird deterrent  
design as droppings really discourage  
use.

Consider path to connect to W Evelyn.

Please fill out and return the comment card to the sign-in table by the end of the meeting.

Name (optional): Will Birdsey

Email (optional): wbirdsey@minto4group.com



Sunnyvale



February 12, 2020  
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# Sign-in Sheet

## Community Meeting #2 – Plaza del Sol Phase II Master Plan

February 12, 2020

Name	Email address
Maria Nattestad	maria.nattestad@gmail.com
ROBERT ABOUKHALIL	ROBERT.ABOUKHALIL@GMAIL.COM
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Amy Warr	polkahouse@yahoo.com
Jinhee Ha	jha@swagroup.com
SERGE RUDAZ	SERGE L RUDAZ @ <del>YAHOO</del> .COM
LINDA DAVIS	DAVIS LINDA R @ YAHOO.COM
Sue Serrone	Sueserrone@comcast.net



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# Sign-in Sheet

## Community Meeting #2 – Plaza del Sol Phase II Master Plan

February 12, 2020

Name	Email address
Virginia Gelczis	gelczis@yahoo.com
Bob Somers	bob@bobsomers.com



Sunnyvale



# Sign-in Sheet

## Community Meeting #2 – Plaza del Sol Phase II Master Plan

February 12, 2020

Name	Email address
<del>Michael C Johnson</del>	<del>Michael C Johnson</del> michael@sunnyvaledowntown.com



Sunnyvale



deb\_ted@mauimail.com

**From:** Mike Serrone <[mjserrone@gmail.com](mailto:mjserrone@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:20 PM  
**To:** PARKSCOMMISSION AP <[parksandrecreationcommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:parksandrecreationcommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov)>; Council AnswerPoint <[council@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:council@sunnyvale.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Special Meeting: Community Outreach Meeting Regarding Plaza Del Sol, Phase II

**ATTN: Email is from an external source; Stop, Look, and Think before opening attachments or links.**

Mayor Klein, Vice-Mayor Smith and Council Members, Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

I will be unable to attend this outreach meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>, so I am submitting comments by email.

For eight years, I worked in the Mozart buildings. As a result I was on Plaza Del Sol multiple times a day, so I am very familiar with this space. My employer, Broadcom, frequently held company events on the Plaza.

As a starting point, I suggest looking at European piazzas. Many of these have enriched their communities for centuries. We do not need to reinvent the wheel. There is an interesting article, "[Here's How American Cities Can Learn From Italian Piazzas](#)", which compares (unfavorably) the square around San Jose City Hall and Piazza Maggiore in Bologna, Italy.

Good piazzas are centrally located, like Plaza Del Sol, and have pedestrian paths that easily connect to nearby urban destinations -also true for Plaza Del Sol.

What is missing is an active, pedestrian scale ground floor at the edges of the Plaza. From the article mentioned above:

You would think this would be clear to everyone by now: Active and permeable ground floors are a sine qua non for the functioning of an urban plaza. This is what really provides Piazza Maggiore and most Italian Piazzas in general with the fuel and spark of their vibrancy. The monumental scale of the churches and palazzi is broken down to the human scale with the insertion of fine-grained bustling commercial activities. [in contrast] Look at San Jose City Hall Plaza and you will find a trade show of ground floor life-suckers: a vacant lot, a multilevel parking garage, a gas station and the parking lot for a big box retail complex wrap around the space, rendering any intent of the design of the plaza irrelevant.

With this in mind, here are some suggestions to "activate the edges" of the plaza.

1. Philz Coffee and The Don's Deli. As a frequent customer to these establishments, they are both often too crowded to sit down. They are losing business. An easy change would be to add outside seating with quality tables and chairs, a canopy for shade and possibly a low barrier for visual appeal. This could extend to Vitality Bowls as well. In contrast to the current handful of cheap tables, the view from the plaza would be people relaxing and having coffee or food in the open air.



2. 100 Mathilda Place. The bottom floor, facing the Plaza would be an excellent location for a restaurant, with outdoor seating. This part of the first floor is isolated from the rest of the office building by the lobby and there is parking directly below the building.
3. The new building replacing the post office and apartments. Similarly, the ground floor of this building should include pedestrian scale locations such as restaurants or shops. The developer may not like this idea, and you will be informed that retail is dead. But somehow, it is almost impossible to get into Santana Row and it is actually impossible to park at Valley Fair most of the time.

The Evelyn Avenue side is a little more problematic. More retail locations would be nice, but this is on top of the parking garage, so I am not sure how much weight it will bear. Possibly, a row of booths, similar to what we see at the Farmers Market would work, selling jewelry or clothing. Maybe Silicon Valley souvenirs.

In the center of the square, how about some seating around a fountain or planted area. The open space should still be able to accommodate a public gathering with a raised area for a stage.

When all of these elements are added, we need to open up one side of the Plaza so that residents can view this attractive public space. This would be along Frances. Currently, the view of the Plaza is blocked from this street. This should be opened up.

I hope there will be more outreach meetings about this important space in Downtown.

Respectfully,  
Mike Serrone