

Visioning Process

Breakout Discussion



City of Santa Cruz Public Forum

Project
for Public
Spaces



G R O U P 4



April 25 & 26, 2021

What are the uses and activities you feel are needed or desirable for this area of downtown Santa Cruz?

Public Gathering Places
Outside of Commercial Setting.
Where people can join together
Chess boards, performance plazas, Seating Areas, Green Areas.
Space you can be without feeling like you have to buy something to use the space

Membership not required

Truly Affordable Housing.
What is really affordable?

Seating for Farmer's Market (Portland FM— seating, grass, places for people to sit, lots of space, not crowded, lots of shade from Trees)

Tree, Grass, **Natural Environment**, Shade
Ex - San Jose Park – big trees
Community Garden – Partnership Homeless Garden Project
complementary Businesses (Flower sales, Book sales)
Garden – outdoor classroom

Library remain on existing Site
Culture of the Library

Educational / entrepreneurial hub; workforce training, childcare facility, affordable grocer/bulk refilleries, services for residents/community

Need a large Plaza space for performance and Farmer's Market
Park w/ hardscape

Space for **children to play**
Playgrounds
Especially when kids live in a City Environment in DT
Childcare
Reading area for children

Covered Parking

Seating & Reading Area

Aesthetically Appealing **Public Art** – Like the Tannery area

Solar – powers lighting

Event Space for local Muciscans
Permanent Spaces with sun shade, lighting.
Spaces for festivals (Tacos & Tequila)
Ampiteater

Orgs to Connect with:
• Friends of the Library – way to bring Library programs outside
• Boys & Girls Project
• Scools - Gardening classes & outdoor classrooms

Lighting

Principles applied to Lot 4

Adult play too

What are the uses and activities you feel are needed or desirable for this area of downtown Santa Cruz?

Farmers market +
Year round – nice to have near other public uses

Open space – outdoor activities -

Senior housing as an option – not restricted to...+

Balance scale – not more than 4-5 stories + Housing yes, but not focus

Event space – **Greek, Cabrillo** festivals –++ integrate w Civic (portion)

Workforce and affordable +

Pride Festival – other untapped events Tandy/Beal

Reuse existing building for city offices – not \$ for renting +

Performances – entertainment education

Community center w/ housing – redundant to **Loudon-Nelson?**

Maintenance – who will pay and schedule?

Re-orient space towards city hall – nice solar access

Connection to city hall

First floor as office or commercial – café,

Abbott square requires purchases – private a glimpse of what we can have

Library should remain – appealing site

Front Street is a good site for reuse –
During Covid – did city have to stop taking requests for outdoor events?

ALL

What are the uses and activities you feel are needed or desirable for this area of downtown Santa Cruz?

NEEDS!

HOUSING

hello hello hello hello
hello hello hello hello
hello hello hello hello

People in County would need parking amenities

Useable, highest and best use, don't necessarily prioritize temporary uses such as FM, housing with openness, inviting public space. Holistic view of downtown

Housing, more low-income housing, diversify downtown, senior housing above w/balconies, engage with the life of downtown, farmers market below

Affordable housing, community commons, farmers market

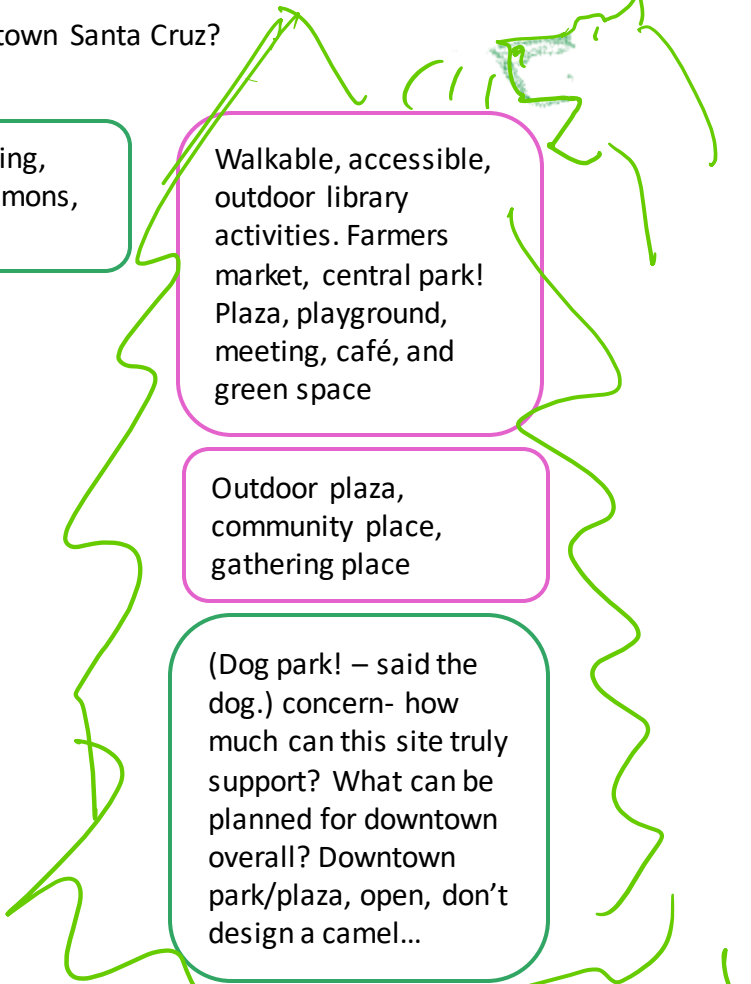
Housing is most critical need in community, region, city, already publicly owned increases feasibility, could be compatible w/ a farmers market or civic space

Walkable, accessible, outdoor library activities. Farmers market, central park! Plaza, playground, meeting, café, and green space

Outdoor plaza, community place, gathering place

(Dog park! – said the dog.) concern- how much can this site truly support? What can be planned for downtown overall? Downtown park/plaza, open, don't design a camel...

[DOG] PARK!



What are the uses and activities you feel are needed or desirable for this area of downtown Santa Cruz?

Green - shade

Park

Park

Many parks in the vicinity

Make existing parks usable

Management and safety concerns + maintain (Center and Church)

Another park may add to safety concerns

Fencing, other physical barriers, personnel to restrict access at certain times?

Places to picnic, sunny space, green (Santana Row) – smaller scale + +

Outdoor area where people can meet – activities, functions

Water features in parks, mini-golf, seating for families – rotating features

Mix of uses +

Food

Affordable housing, workforce housing – ground floor compatible with civic center + + +

Mixed uses, affordable housing

Affordable housing +

Small park + low-income housing – could they be maintained?

Noise concerns for housing – proximity to Fire station a concern

May not be a concern because fire station is conscious of noise in the area?

Church St festival – Temporary street closures with barriers, with limited access for other uses - successful

Smart Streets – concern, keep streets simple – not mix and match on a daily basis

Some one-way streets? Different traffic patterns? Safety, re-using streets

What are the uses and activities you feel are needed or desirable for this area of downtown Santa Cruz?

Need to keep city services there, nearby, multi-purpose with city services ++

Affordable housing ++

Maximize community space and service

Add to the civic center, auditorium, festival

Have an environment to dine outside

Low impact activities downtown, pop-up festivals, food, art, things that change

Keep the library ++

There is a civic core, if the library has to move, the area should be a civic center

Current (COVID) terraces are allowed until the end of September

Park environment to be able to enjoy outdoor dining.

Community festivals and uses

Need place for people to take food and eat outdoors

Festivals can have more support with activities that happen through infrastructure

Need outside space that is not commercial, that is flexible, that allows people to enjoy without buying anything

Need a publicly held space that is open to everybody.

Streets downtown are defensive at the moment. City has armed itself against people, removed benches to

We have spaces that are underutilized but they are further away.

It's a challenge for downtown to provide a good downtown public space