



CITY OF OAKLAND

NOTES

Community Design Charrette Meeting #3

Project: St Andrew's Plaza Renovation

Date: April 16, 2016

Location: West Oakland Youth Center Notes

by Valerie Conant

Introduction

- WooJae Kim introduced the design team, City staff, and Council President McElhaneey.
- Council President McElhaneey gave heartfelt thanks to the community for participating and enriching the process to improve St. Andrew's Plaza.
- Golden Associates presented the preferred Conceptual Plaza Design, including tree types, plant material, boulders, selected light, and trash/recycling receptacle.
- Golden also presented the options on which the community would be voting.

Community Input

- Golden Associates led an open discussion about design of the plaza.
- We recorded comments pertinent to design of the plaza, but not comments made multiple times. We typed up these comments. Please find them attached to these notes.
- In general, the group wanted a variety of decorative elements added to the fence.
- After the comment period, each person was given 6 green stickers to use for voting.

Voting Results Summary

- **Fence Top Treatment Options**
The community preferred the simple fence top treatment.
Security – 0 votes
Simple – 9 votes
Finial – 2 votes
No Fence (write in) – 2 votes
- **Potential Options if Additional Funding becomes Available**

1. Decorative Fence Treatments

The community preferred the oak leaves and oak tree themes.

Victorian Theme: Gothic Swoosh – 0 votes

Victorian Theme: Thistle Curl – 0 votes

Oak Theme: Leaves & Acorns – 13 votes

Oak Theme: Oak Tree Logo – 12 votes

Diversity Theme: Neighbors Holding Hands – 7 votes

Diversity Theme: Encourage Love – 9 votes

2. Community Message Board

The community would like a 2-sided board, mounted on posts inside the fence

Yes, Message Board – 9 votes

No Message Board – 8 votes

Mounted on Fence – 0 votes

Mounted on Posts – 10 votes

Inside Fence – 9 votes

Outside Fence – 1 vote

- **Please see the scanned boards for all voting, comments, ideas, and suggestions.**

Conclusion

Discussion continued until the last minutes of the meeting. The overall feeling was satisfaction with the consensus the community reached.



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Additional Comments from the Community (in addition to results of voting exercise)

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- Will the contractors have to be community based?
Answer: Using on-call contractors, there is a preference for being local.
- Diversity Theme: Elders should be included.
- Logo Tree + Children? Combine themes.
- Can a green tree be on brown fence?
Answer: All one color due to powder-coating process.
- Fence height of each option.
- Answer: 7' for security fence only. The other two options are 6' tall.
- Concern about the security of the fence
Answer: Discussion regarding Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Criminality on Psyche of Children (reason for not using a high-security fence)
- Somebody who wants to climb fence will be able to – any design
- Safety depends on ownership – how the community uses the park.
- Events will give the community a reason to use the plaza.
- City will help community to organize themselves to create events and ownership
- Maintenance?
Answer: Regular maintenance by City
- I don't think this is the final design.
Answer: We are taking input and can make minor tweaks to layout. We are taking input about fence design. We will design based on voting.
- What we decide today is what we will live with.
- Options will be based on cost so how will decisions be made – one choice over another?
- Fence color being suggested? Powder-coated to look like corten (Rust)
- No finish – let it rust?
Answer: We'd need to put a finish on the fence to prolong the life of the fence.
- Why would I go in park? Rocks?
Answer: Vendors will bring tables and chairs.
- Double-sided event board? Inside park – can be read outside.
- Cost element is not as transparent as straight voting.
- Paint fence instead of powder-coat.
Answer: Hard to maintain – after tagged.

- Who is in charge of message board?
Answer: Representatives of the Community.
- Best not to include acorn because of gang name.
- Add art over time?
Answer: Will require review process.
- Approval for plain fence now. Add art later?
Answer: Possible, but not preferred.
- Prefer Oakland logo on main gate – one comment
- Start by using leaves – then work out the rest later.
- One comment: Can't be last meeting (due to art on fence not being properly vetted)
- Fence decorative treatment needs to be "art."
- Art: A lot of moving pieces – go forward without art?
- CAG set priority of where decorative component is applied to fence.
- Temporary art on fence?
- Let's agree to add leaves now – more elements added later.
- Include elements from temporary art (existing on fence)

Options

1. No decorative treatment – artist has clean slate – 2 votes
2. Nine leaves – 12 votes
3. Oak Tree – 8 votes
4. Neighbors (like the hand-holding) – 8 votes
5. People / Animals – 8 votes
6. Community-led process – 13 votes

People agreed 9 leaves on fence – opportunity to do community-led process for additional art on fence.

- Joe says he's committed to community process within one month.
- If happens within one month – can be included in this project if there is \$.
- Oak leaves distributed on 3 sides of park.