Civic Center Plaza Playgrounds

imagining a new place to play

January 7, 2015
Latino/Hispanic Meeting Room, San Francisco Library, Main Branch
Existing playgrounds

South Playground, opened in 1998

North Playground, opened in 1993
Playground Design / Outreach Process

- **July 15 - First Community Meeting** - Presented the project, existing conditions and gathered information
- August 6, 2014 – Site Focus Group
- September 03, 2014- Tenderloin Network Bay Area Women and Children Center Focus Group at Library
- **October 02 – Second Community Meeting** - presented two concepts
  - October 21th (noon to 4pm) – Site outreach at playgrounds
  - October 23 – Kids focus group at Tenderloin School- Homework Club 1st to 6th grade
  - November 5 - Kids focus group #2 at Tenderloin School- 5th grade
  - November 6th - Tenderloin Network Bay Area Women and Children Center Focus Group at DeMarillac Academy
- **January 7 – Third Community Meeting** - present concept
Civic Center Playground Goals

- Create an inviting, inspiring, fun and safe place for families
- Create unique and artful play spaces that fit with the scale of Civic Center
- Increase connections with cultural institutions
- Engage and activate children’s sense of play
surprise + delight
retreat + escape
explore + roam
experiment + investigate
challenge + thrill
Discussion:

- Can the playgrounds accommodate all ages—very young to teen?
- Can the playgrounds be complex and imaginative spaces?
- How can the two areas relate to each other?
- Consider how to reflect natural environment, too. Everything in the neighborhood is so built up.
- As an iconic place in the city – consider how to make it reflect San Francisco and be unique to the city.
Cloud Forest
main play feature: slide ribbon

inspiration images
Cloud Forest
main play feature: climbing cloud

ingpiration images
Discover island
main play feature: Crow’s Nest
Discover island
main play feature: Farallones
Community meeting 2
10.02.2014

Discussion:
- Cloud Forest is a more civic scale and unique to San Francisco
- Light and transparency are important
- Ball area is a fun idea
- Provide area in young child play space for parents to socialize
- Consider the placement of trees and views to City Hall
- Maximize play value: nooks and crannies give more play area
- Consider the number of swings
- Creative solution to age separation
School workshops
IDEAS
What do you like doing at Playgrounds?

SPORTS
BURST BALLS

SWINGS
BASKETBALL, GAMES
BIG METAL SLIDE SLIDES
TIRE SWINGS
MONKEY BARS

SPACES TO RUN

RIDE BIKES
SNACK BAR

MAKE SURE BALL DOES NOT GO INTO STREET

I LIKE THE CLOUD FOREST ONE
IT IS COOL ARCHERY!
Playground Design / What We Heard

- **Equal**: Two Equally Great Play Areas
- **Inclusive**: Play for all, each playground includes all ages and abilities
- **Safe and Secure**: Playgrounds are enclosed and well lit with open sight-lines
- **More Fun!**: Play experiences are enriched
- **Location**: Playgrounds are next to other key destinations
- **Key experiences**: Include swinging, sliding, connection to nature
- **Comfort**: Add seating, shade
Inspiration
Cloud Forest
Concept diagrams

two symmetrical playgrounds
light connection
cloud forest
Concept site plan

City Hall

Grove
Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

Main Library

Fulton

Asian Art Museum

Larkin

McAllister
South Playground

- fence
- planting
- steps
- trees
- slide
- platform
- playhouse
- pathway
- berms
- gate
- tire swing
- steps
- slide
- pathway
- seats
- fence
- planting
- climbing platforms
- gate
- steps
- swings
North Playground

- fence
- planting
- slope
- baby swings
- trees
- hut
- climb + slide
- nets
- climbing bars
- platforms
- gate
- chalkboard
- seats
- steps
- 8' hoop
- pathway
- steps
- fence
- planting
- seats
- steps
- ramp
- gate
- bridges
- slide
Site amenities

- trash cans
- water fountains
- bicycle racks

*exact locations and product design to be determined, but intent is for the site amenities to be outside the play areas.*
Planting

*exact locations of trees, plant selection and fence design to be determined.*
Lighting

Light Threshold

Relocated existing fixtures

Suspended cloud

*exact locations and light fixtures to be determined.
thank you.