JAPANTOWN PEACE PLAZA VISION PLAN

COMMUNITY MEETING #1
JULY 31, 2018
Welcome and Thank You for attending! Your input is invaluable.

Project Team:
Japantown Task Force - Community Sponsor
Michael DeGregorio - Project Manager, San Francisco Rec & Park Dept.
Toks Ajike - Director of Capital & Planning
San Francisco Public Works - Design Team
Introduction: Project Logistics

Research, Inventory & Analysis: Design Team Presentation

Feedback: Public Comment, Open House, Interactive Exhibits
Please sign in
Silence phones
Direct comments to the facilitator
Raise your hand to speak
Hold questions until the end
Lead a community-engaged design process for Peace Plaza so that Japantown will thrive as a culturally rich, authentic, and economically vibrant neighborhood, which will serve as the cultural heart of the Japanese and Japanese American communities for generations to come.
INTERCEPT SURVEYS
COMMITTEES
COMMUNITY GROUPS
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
INTERCEPT SURVEYS
FESTIVALS
SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE
PRESENT-DAY USE

• 48% of respondents are from the neighborhood and immediate area; 35% from the wider San Francisco city area.

• Top 3 reasons why people visit Japantown: Food, Shopping, Festivals. The number one activity in the plaza is walking through.

• 56% visit 1x / month or more.
• 37% visit 1x / week.
• 40% bring children to the plaza sometimes or always. Child-friendly design is one of the top desires for the future.

• 80% say the cultural importance of the plaza is most important to them.

• Top 4 desires for the future renovation include:
  1. More Planting
  2. More Seating
  3. Senior-Friendly Design
  4. Larger Variety of Activities
Senior Friendly Design
Personal Safety
Colorful Flowers
Emphasize Japanese Design Culture
Bicycle Parking
Trash Cans
Perfect the way it is!

More natural reasons to be there
Historic/Cultural Compatibility
Remove all the clutter
Exercise Area
Reinstall Water Feature
Child Friendly Design
More Shade
• Additional access points could improve pedestrian scale
• Create more space for community activities, youth and families
• Open malls’ storefront onto plaza to activate the space

• Terrace down to Geary Blvd to improve circulation
• Provide push carts kiosk style vendors
• More seating, tables, chairs and space for music, dance and performance

• Pagoda is marker/focal point/visual landmark for Japantown
• Pagoda could be viewed as a memorial for people of Japantown for displacement and relocation of community
• Plaza is natural gathering place for community events, celebrations, protests
Peace Plaza is at once a Community Centerpoint and an International Icon.
NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT

EXPERIENCE

SHOPPING

HERITAGE

FESTIVALS

LANDMARKS

CUISINE

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SAN FRANCISCO RECREATION & PARKS/PUBLIC WORKS

JULY 31, 2018
SITE PLANS

- **GEARY BLVD**
  - **1968**
    - Minoru Yamasaki and Associates
  - **1990 (Unbuilt)**
    - Kimio Kimura
  - **2000 - 2001 (Current)**
    - Murokami Associates

- **POST ST**
  - **PAGODA**
  - **FOUNTAIN**
  - **ENTRANCE**
  - **COVERED WALK**
  - **EAST MALL**
  - **WEST MALL**
  - **PLAZA**
  - **STAGE**
  - **PLANter**
  - **SEATING**
  - **CHERRY TREES**

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Peace Plaza is a retail hub, a community hub, and an events hub.
SITE ANALYSIS: EXISTING CONDITIONS

ENTRY TO BUCHANAN MALL

POST ST

SEATING

ENTRY

SEATING

WEST MALL

ETERNAL FLAME

CHERRY TREES

PAGODA

PLAZA

PLANTER

SEATING

EAST MALL

GEARY BLVD

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SITE ANALYSIS: EXISTING ROOMS

ENTRY TO BUCHANAN MALL

POST ST

WEST MALL ENTRY/EXIT

EAST MALL ENTRY/EXIT

UPPER ROOM

LOWER ROOM
SITE ANALYSIS: EXISTING ROOMS

UPPER ROOM

LOWER ROOM
SITE ANALYSIS: EXISTING BARRIERS
EXISTING FEATURES & CULTURAL ELEMENTS

MONUMENT

CHERRY TREES

ETERNAL FLAME

PAGODA

INSET BOULDERS

CULTURAL WALL

FLAG POLES
FESTIVALS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVERYDAY

FESTIVAL/EVENT DAY

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FESTIVALS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVERYDAY

FESTIVAL/EVENT DAY
FESTIVALS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

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How do we address the challenges?
How do we harness the cultural relevance?
How do we make the plaza a better version of itself?
PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

DAILY
- YOGA
- WORKOUTS

WEEKLY
- MOBILE LIBRARIES
- FARMER’S MARKETS
- FOOD TRUCKS

MONTHLY
- MOVIE NIGHTS
- FIRST FRIDAYS
- LIVE MUSIC

EVENT
- PUBLIC ART OPENINGS
- FESTIVALS
- CULTURAL PERFORMANCES
SITE OPPORTUNITIES

URBAN LOUNGE IN SUNNY SPACE

OPEN THE CONNECTION TO GEARY

FIXED SEATING IN WIND PROTECTED AREA

SEATING
SITE OPPORTUNITIES

SHADE STRUCTURE IN SUN EXPOSED AREAS

TREE PLANTING FOR SHADE

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SITE OPPORTUNITIES

FLOWERING TREES

RAISED LAWN

GARDEN PLANTING

PLANTING

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Thank You

For comments and additional information: Michael DeGregorio - Project Manager, San Francisco Rec & Park Dept. 415 - 238 - 6644 michael.dregregorio@sfgov.org Website: http://bit.ly/peaceplazasf