



London N. Breed, Mayor
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Buchanan Street Mall, Turk – Golden Gate

Let'sPlaySF! Tier 2 Project

1/19/2021 Virtual Community Meeting Minutes

Approximately 40 people gathered on Zoom Tuesday evening, 1/19/21, to help refine the design for the eminent renovation of the Turk-Golden Gate block of Buchanan Street Mall. The project and outreach teams shared the history of the Buchanan Mall project, clarified funding and project timelines, summarized design development to date, and facilitated conversation based on the questions on which the designers are currently seeking community input.

Project Overview

The Western Addition community has been driving a new vision for Buchanan Mall since 2014. A Vision Plan was published in March 2017 and the conceptual design for all five blocks was approved in April 2020. Each block has its own focused theme, and all blocks aim to meet the core project goals:

1. Safety, lighting, and beautification
2. Connect all blocks and unify the community
3. Tell the story of the community and the neighborhood
4. Social interaction and multi-generational recreation
5. Skills training and jobs creation

With the passing of the Health and Recovery Bond in November 2020, the Recreation and Parks Department has secured funding to renovate the first block between Turk Street and Golden Gate Avenue! The Turk - Golden Gate block includes new gardens, lighting, and pathways, as well as seating areas, space for a micro-enterprise kiosk, a flexible event plaza, and a play area for all-ages.

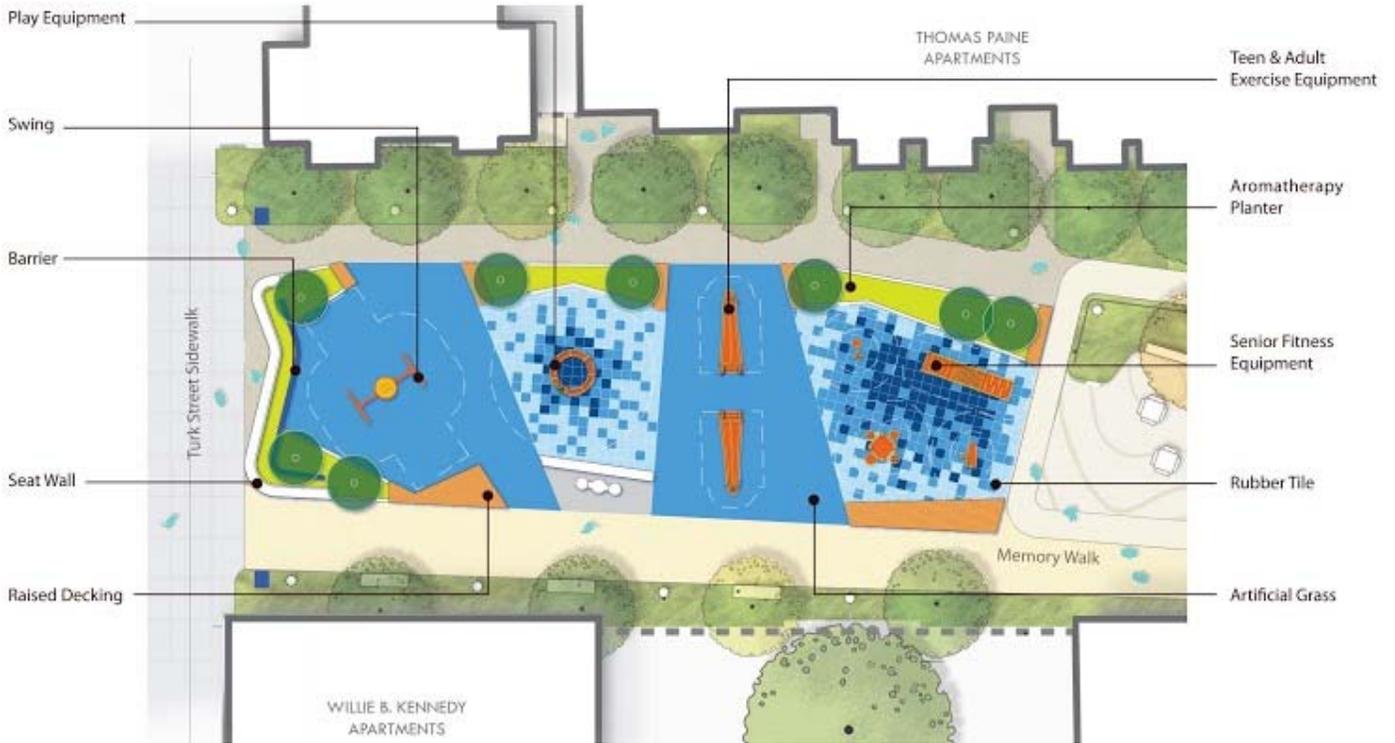
The current focus for design refinement is the all-ages play area at the north end of the Turk – Golden Gate block. Note that this play area is intended for older youth, adults, and seniors, and that a playground for younger children (up to 5 years old) is planned for the south end of the Eddy – Turk block, just across Turk Street. The playground on the Eddy – Turk block will be enclosed by a fence for safety purposes.

The presenters walked through portions of the project design, and broke into smaller groups to discuss. Below is a summary of the presentation and public comments received, separated into three sections: overall look and feel; specific equipment and furnishings; and final thoughts.

Community members may provide input by participating in a survey by 2/14/2021:
<https://tinyurl.com/BuchananSurvey>

Section 1: OVERALL LOOK AND FEEL

CONCEPT 1: Bright colors | Open (no fence) | Play / All-Ages Fitness / Senior Fitness



CONCEPT 1: Look & Feel



CONCEPT 2: Natural colors | Fenced | Play / Adult & Senior Fitness



CONCEPT 2: Look & Feel



Do you gravitate toward a more natural aesthetic, or do you prefer something more vibrant?

I love the bright colors and; Prefer real grass to artificial grass.

Loves the idea of the gates and the colors. Need swings of some sort. This is one of the main attractions of the current park.

Like the natural feel, long term sustainable

Like bright colors in certain areas, particularly in playgrounds or where there is direction/ practical use

Importance of offering a variety of styles

Surfacing - rubber/natural material

Laguna Park surfacing

Sand is not great

Rain/water proof

Are you comfortable with the play & exercise area (age 5+) not being fully enclosed?

Our landscape architects advise having some sort of barrier between busy Turk Street and the All-Ages Play Area. However, with the play equipment targeting older youth, and the desire for elder-youth interaction, a fence surrounding the kids playground may not be the best design choice. Note that a playground for children <5 is planned for the Eddy-Turk block and that play area will be fenced for safety.



3A
Seatwall Planter



3B
Simple Metal Fence



3C
Decorative Screen

3C is more secure for the little ones.

Loves fencing for safety purposes.

Clarifying comment - This play area is meant for slightly older kids 5-12

Some fencing would be appropriate for younger childrens.

Section 2: SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS

Which pieces of children's play equipment do you like the most?



4A
Climbing Tower



4B
Climbing Loop



4C
Spinning Ring



4D
Play & Exercise Structure

4C from chat

Remove 4A, looks like it would be harder for kids to be in group play

I like 4 A and 4 C Looks like a lot of fun

4A seems boring 4C includes a slide and love 4D

Kids really want slide!

Suggestion to get kids and adult feedback

Combine traditional elements with new/ provide a mix; provide for kids with disabilities; make Buchanan Mall different from other playgrounds

Provide tactile and sensory variety to help developing brains; include natural landscape

4C - Spinning ring

What type of swing do you like the most?



5A
Disc Swing



5B
Pendulum Swing



5C
Traditional Double Swing

Fillmore is a close-knit community and swings that folks can use together are appreciated

Like a variety, especially 5A since it looks accessible (ADA)

5A and 5C the traditional bucket swings allow for competition and diffusing arguments. 5B could create awkward interactions with non-family users.

YES! Swings

Multiple swings and multiple styles!

Is there specific exercise equipment that you can you see yourself using?



6E, 6F, 6G typical work out equipment; steppers are also useful (people are currently using the curbs for that purpose)

6A and 6C would tempt me to use these as I cannot replicate this on my own. Maybe the 6B
Not everyone can afford bikes so this could be useful for this project.

There will be a variety of furnishings throughout the block. Do you favor concrete, wood, or metal for seating? Would you sit on porch swings?

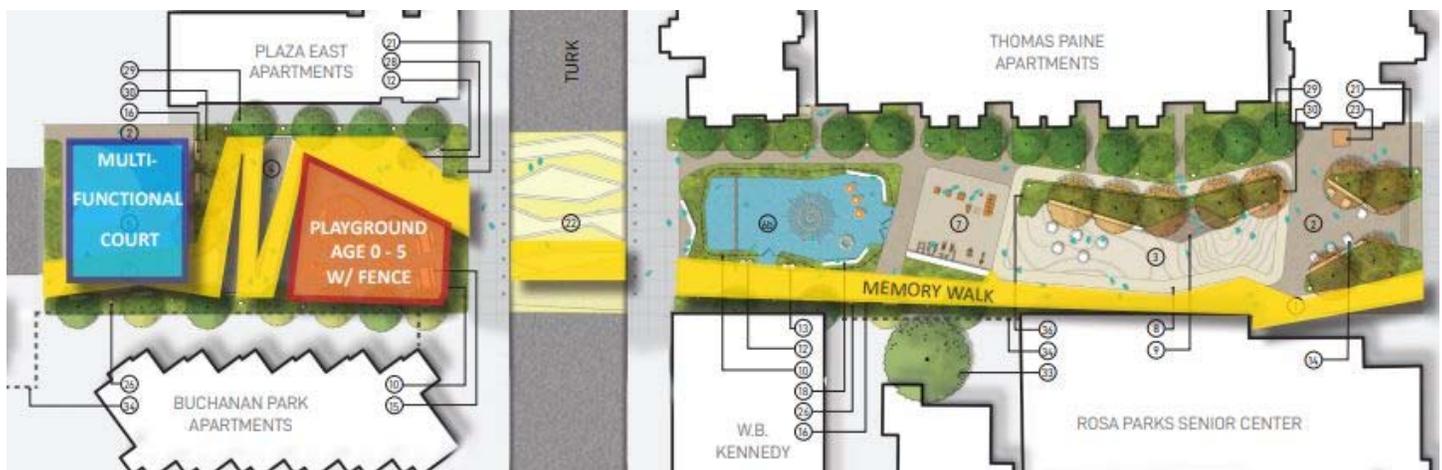


Like the porch swing

Session 3: FINAL THOUGHTS

Project Possibilities

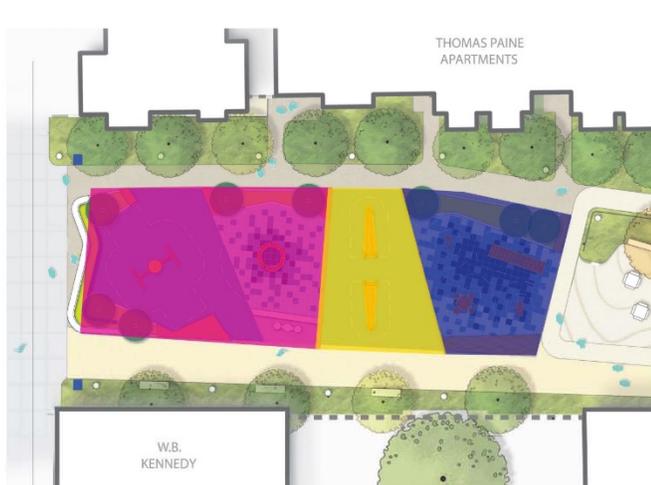
The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department has secured funding to design and build the Turk – Golden Gate Block. In collaboration with the Trust for Public Land, the department is also seeking Prop 68 Statewide Parks grant funding to design and build the Eddy – Turk block, as well as the memory walk on both of the northern two blocks. The key program elements that Prop 68 grant funds would support are called out in the image below.



Prop 68 Grant Scope: Eddy-Turk block construction, plus design and construction of memory walk in northern two blocks



Major program elements on Turk-Golden Gate block; current focus of design refinement is all-ages play & exercise area



PLAY SPACE CONCEPT 1:

- 50% Play
- 25% All-Ages Fitness
- 25% Senior Fitness



PLAY SPACE CONCEPT 2:

- 66% Play
- 34% Adult & Senior Fitness

Comparing Concepts 1 & 2: Proportion of play and exercise areas dedicated to different user groups

Is there anything else you'd like the project team to consider as we continue refining the design?

Make sure that people are being consulted and included, esp. Black run organizations in Western Addition

Use bright colors and consider using prints, connected to African heritage. Multi-functional space. Space that everyone can use.

We need a stronger representation within the community

Engage larger community in this process (Hayes Valley Playground/Western Addition)

Other communities need to be informed of this process as well

This community needs spaces for "Circle Work"

Including restorative justice circles, larger community celebrations, vigils/spiritual ceremonies for those who pass away, etc.

Generational connectivity between youth and seniors is critical to prioritize and encourage