



East Santa Clara Street Master Plan – Phase II Community Workshop #1B: Co-Creating the Vision

June 10, 2023 Meeting Notes

Workshop Summary

The Core Companies, Eden Housing, and the County of Santa Clara hosted a second visioning workshop for the East Santa Clara Street Master Plan Phase II project on Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The in-person workshop was held on-location at the corner of North 17th Street and East St. John Street in San Jose. Twenty participants joined the workshop to share their thoughts on possible design alternatives and project goals. The information at the event was the same as the previous Community Workshop #1: Co-Creating the Vision, held on April 24, 2023.

Participants provided feedback on placemaking, architectural character, and building design for the project by placing voting dots and sticky notes on poster boards with a visual preference exercise for each topic. Participant feedback for the visual preference exercise is summarized below:

Placemaking

- Many participants showed a strong preference for landscaping, public art, and pedestrian paseo(s). Other popular placemaking features included courtyards and plazas.
- Participants would like the project to incorporate a feature that will bring people into the area, such as a coffee kiosk.

Architectural Character

- Many participants preferred a contemporary design for the project.
- Some participants indicated that they would like the project to not look like every other new construction project in the area. They would also like building design to vary within the project.

Building Design

- Porches and bay windows were the most preferred architectural elements to be incorporated into the project. Some participants also indicated that they would like to see a welcoming lobby and trellis(es) or other shade structure(s).

- When asked how they would like to project to look in terms of color and material, some participants selected dark fiber cement panel, vinyl windows, and metal features such as a metal canopy and storefront.

Additional Ideas and Community Comments

Project Design

- Would like to see architecture and building design that is timeless and highlights the heritage of the valley, rather than cookie cutter developments that will be redeveloped in a couple of decades.
- Set the buildings further back from the sidewalk with more green space in front of the buildings to integrate the new project with the existing neighborhood.
- Incorporate pitched roofs into the project design.
- Limit large building height to two or three stories when next to or in line of sight of existing housing.

Project Features

- Provide green space, native plants, bird-friendly windows, community gardens, and farmer's markets.
- Playground for families.
- Incorporate pollinator gardens.
- Beautiful landscaping with native plants and community gardens to encourage bike and pedestrian accessibility.
- Open space to serve our community.
- Allow neighbors to walk through areas.
- Would like to see a community center on site for neighborhood groups to use.
- When will the developers be speaking to potential Building 800 users? This area could be used as a theater, community auditorium, or event venue for rent.
- Public art.
- On-site management for residents.
- Concerns about "supportive housing."



Parking and Traffic

- Current parking requirements are too low. Would like to see the City/County developments provide at least one parking spot per bedroom and permit parking for the existing surrounding neighborhoods.
- Would like sufficient parking so each unit has parking space and guest parking for more healthcare and services.
- Parking lots and garages should open towards the street.
- Will public parking be available?

Safety and Security

- Active property management including security guards, property maintenance, and trash pickup to ensure neighborhood protection.
- Make blue phones available for emergency calls along walkways to help make it feel safe to walk through at night.