



# East Santa Clara Street Master Plan– Phase II

## Community Workshop #1: Co-Creating the Vision

April 24, 2023 Meeting Notes

### Workshop Summary

The Core Companies, Eden Housing, and the County of Santa Clara hosted the first community workshop on Monday, April 24, 2023, for the East Santa Clara Street Master Plan Phase II project. The meeting was held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in a hybrid format with participants joining in-person at the Roosevelt Community Center (901 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95116) or virtually through Zoom. Twenty-four in-person participants and 15 virtual participants joined the workshop. The primary objectives of the workshop were to introduce members of the community and stakeholders to the proposed project; listen to concerns from the community; answer questions and provide clarification about the project; and gather community feedback on placemaking, architectural character, and building design.

Following a presentation overview by the project architect, Studio T Square, and the outreach consultant, PlaceWorks, workshop attendees participated in a question-and-answer segment with the project team. Questions asked during the Q&A segment included:

- How constituents were informed about this and future meetings.
- Transit accessibility for future residents.
- Whether the project will include dedicated veteran housing.
- Details of how the for-sale development will be marketed for sale.
- Information about the projected cost of units.
- Clarification on the phasing of the project.

After the Q&A about the project, in-person and virtual participants worked in small groups to discuss and provide feedback on three topics. Responses to each discussion topic are summarized in the bullets below:

### Placemaking

- **Embrace agricultural heritage and local culture** - Incorporate edible landscaping such as apricot, pear, cherry, and walnut trees and consider erecting a monument for farmworkers to serve as a testimony to the agricultural history of the area. Murals and statues should be created by local artists to reflect the local cultural diversity in a manner that is welcoming for all.
- **Provide community spaces and amenities** - Provide community amenities and activities such as walking trails, playgrounds, a childcare center, pet-friendly areas, a community pool, food pantries, gathering places for local non-profits, community gardens, vendor spaces, or innovation spaces.

Also consider economic development activities, like farmers' markets or retail, that draw people into an area.

- **Encourage walkability and engaging design** - Encourage walkability by incorporating traffic calming measures and featuring interesting building designs, public art, plazas, paseos, or courtyards to break up buildings. All development should interact with one another to encourage community engagement.
- **Promote safety and inclusion** - Promote a sense of safety by providing adequate lighting and wayfinding signage on site. Additionally, be mindful and respectful of existing unhoused residents by limiting hostile architecture.

## Architectural Character

- **Reflect the surrounding area** - Integrate architectural themes and features that are representative of the surrounding area, which includes a variety of Craftsman, Spanish Revival, California Bungalow, and Victorian styles.
- **Embrace modern design** – Embrace a modern architectural style that features clean lines.
- **Encourage architectural variety** – Encourage a mix of compatible and complimentary architectural styles and materials for each building to increase visual interest.

## Building Design

- **Incorporate natural materials and colors** - Integrate natural materials and textures such as stone walls, Spanish tile roofing, wrought iron, stucco, and plaster. Consider a combination of earth tones like yellow, orange, brown, and green.
- **Provide a mix of design features** – Provide design features like overhangs, archways, trellises, and porches. Also consider activating outdoor areas through balconies, rooftop terraces, and shade structures.

## Community Concerns

- When will the paseo and park be built as part of the Housing Authority project?
- Will the community be secure and well lit?
- How will the proposed project impact street parking and traffic on surrounding streets?
- What can be done about current cut-through traffic to the existing medical facility?
- Will the housing be affordable, or will it be luxury? We need more affordable housing.
- Who will live here, will the project be PSH?
- Will there be services for the residents if it is PSH?
- How much will the rent be? What will the sales price of townhomes be?
- Will there be veteran's housing?
- How will Building 800 be used?
- How will the architecture relate to the surrounding existing housing?
- How can we incorporate regional culture and history in landscape and open space?

- Will the site have a retail component?
- Will local labor be used?
- Will local artists be used for public art?
- Who can we talk to if we have concerns about the existing conditions of the site and the neighborhood, including:
  - Current site maintenance.
  - Unhoused, and unhoused parking.
  - Current traffic issues, not on East Santa Clara.