



# City of Santa Barbara

## DE LA GUERRA PLAZA REVITALIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES JULY 31, 2020

10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

This meeting was conducted electronically

[SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### City Council

Kristen Sneddon *Chair*  
Meagan Harmon

#### Planning Commission

Lesley Wiscomb *Vice Chair*  
Barrett Reed

#### Historic Landmarks Commission

Michael Drury  
Julio Juan Veyna

#### Parks and Recreation Commission

Beebe Longstreet  
Roger Perry

#### Santa Barbara Certified Farmers' Market

Sam Edelman

#### Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

Anne Petersen, Ph.D.

### ALTERNATE MEMBERS:

None

### STAFF:

Brad Hess, Principal Project Manager  
Sara Iza, Senior Planner  
Phil Davis, Engineering Technician

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### CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Sneddon opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

### I. ROLL CALL

Kristen Sneddon, Lesley Wiscomb, Meagan Harmon, Barrett Reed, Michael Drury, Julio Juan Veyna, Beebe Longstreet, and Anne Petersen, Ph.D.

Absent: Roger Perry\*, Sam Edelman

\*Arrived after Roll Call

### STAFF PRESENT

Brad Hess, Principal Project Manager  
Sara Iza, Senior Planner  
Kathleen Kennedy, Project Planner  
Nicole Hernandez, Associate Planner/ Urban Historian  
Brian D'Amour, City Engineer  
Phil Davis, Engineering Technician

### INVITED SPEAKERS

Lief McKay, RRM Design Group  
Debbie Lagomarcino Rudd, RRM Design Group

## II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### A. Announcements

No announcements.

### B. Agenda review/Changes

No changes to the agenda

## III. AGENDA ITEMS

**TIME: 10:04 A.M.**

### A. Update to Draft Concept Drawing ([Click here for Staff Report link](#))

Mr. Hess summarized the latest activity of the concept drawing and discussions with local stakeholders.

Mr. McKay and Ms. Lagomarcino Rudd gave the consultant presentation. After the presentation of the updated concept drawing, Mr. Hess requested that the Committee focus its attention on finalizing a preferred location for the restroom, the stage and arcade, and the food kiosk, and to provide direction for type of trash enclosure. The Committee reached the following conclusions regarding the topics listed below:

#### Restrooms

- Make design discrete.
- Locate in the Storke Placita corridor
- Approves of concept to select family style restrooms with self-cleaning capabilities.
- Planned for passive use; whereas planned events would bring portable restrooms as needed.
- Approves of concept to have a self-timed unlocking feature to prevent unwanted encampments in restroom.
- Consider moving the restroom closer to State St in Storke Placita so the roof lines of the restroom and the adjacent building do not conflict.

#### Trash Management

- Considered above ground trash enclosures, however, partial to selecting an underground collection enclosure
- Requested that presenters determine if the trash receptacles for the underground collection enclosures can match other trash receptacles elsewhere in the plaza.
- Advised to position the main trash collection point close to the restaurants to avoid trash dripping/leaking onto plaza. Therefore, it's not advised to locate trash enclosures on east side of Plaza, the City Hall side of the Plaza.
- Locating trash collection enclosures on State St, the front side of the Plaza businesses, may present difficulties for Marborg to pick up trash. If State St remains closed to vehicles, there may be limitations to pick up times on State St.
- Disposal of grease from restaurants will still be accommodated with regular pickup that is separate from the planned trash collection enclosure.

- Recommends to research other designs of underground street receptacles/enclosures.
- Committee requests staff to analyze the expected volume of trash generated from the Plaza businesses. Committee can better offer input on design and location of trash enclosures once the quantity of needed trash enclosures and logistics of volume of trash has first been determined.

### Food Kiosk

- Favors including kiosk into Plaza concept.
- Initially considered locating on De La Guerra St by State St entrance to entice people to come into the Plaza from State St. Exact location of kiosk still dependent on vehicle traffic use of De La Guerra St, however, there are already businesses that provide coffee in this area.
- More consideration given towards locating food kiosk in Storke Placita next to proposed location of restroom to activate the area to provide more surveillance over the restrooms. Locating food kiosk in this position will depend on the status of the historical significance of the adjacent building.
- Should have a visible presence, but not distract from the overall Plaza experience.
- Considered scaling down the size of the food kiosk with the first iteration of design, limiting the food and beverage choices to not compete with nearby businesses and sharing the kiosk for flexible uses such as an information booth.

### Stage and Arcade

- Permanent stage is modest in size and not intended for large events, however, large events can set up larger temporary stages to accommodate staging needs.
- Old Spanish Days approves and is excited about stage and arcade concept, noting that the current concept of the stage would leave enough audience space, and any portable stage set up in the Plaza can be reoriented differently than the permanent stage if needed.
- Old Spanish Days communicated their preference to position the stage and arcade on longer side of the Plaza to have a wider audience space as opposed to positioning the stage and arcade on the shorter side of the Plaza which would result in a more narrow audience space.
- Old Spanish Days staff currently re-organizing layout of booths with a goal to standardize the booth sizes, given the new orientation of the stage and arcade. New proposed stage and arcade layout should result in enough space for the same number of booths if not more.
- Staff reminded Committee that although Old Spanish Days is a primary stakeholder of the Plaza for the annual Fiesta event, the layout of arcade and stage is not specifically designed for the sole use by Old Spanish Days, rather the stage and arcade can be flexibly used by other events.
- The angled footprint of the arcade and stage should not significantly decrease the amount of space in the Plaza, and provides an aesthetic quality.
- The center archway of the arcade which serves as a pedestrian walkway provides a welcoming presence.
- Discussed including a second arcade on the west side of the Plaza at the Storke Placita entrance, however, an arcade in that area may interfere with the openness of the Plaza, and crowd that entryway, since the restroom is already planned to be located in the Storke Placita entrance.

#### Parking and Traffic

- Closure of De La Guerra St still pending the results of the parking and traffic study as well as the decision of closing State St within the downtown corridor.
- The Plaza design is planned to include De La Guerra St and will be influenced by amount of vehicle through traffic, if any.
- All service and emergency vehicles will be able to drive into the Plaza.

#### Landscaping

- The landscaping shown in the current concept drawing is not a final decision and types of trees have not been selected yet.
- Committee approves to remove the non historic olive tree that is in front of, and causing damage to, the historic adobe wall.

#### Adjacent Buildings

- Staff to determine from Historic Structures Report if building next to proposed location of restroom, 725 De La Guerra Plaza, is historically significant.

#### Approval Process

- Staff confirmed that the City Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) will be the designated committee to give approval on the final design.

### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comments from members of the public pertaining to items on the agenda or on any subject within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee. Due to time constraints, each person is limited to two minutes.

Public comment opened at 10:57 a.m., and the following individuals spoke:

1. Marilyn Loperfido expressed content for the meeting.
2. Jaime Slone inquired on the type of trees being proposed on De La Guerra Street in front of his business, a wine tasting room, and is interested if any construction dates are set yet. Mr. Hess confirmed that no construction dates have been proposed yet, and the types of trees have not been determined yet.
3. Dennis Wayland inquired on the pavement design and raising of the pavement surface. Mr. Hess confirmed that no selection has been made yet on the pavement design and raising the pavement surface is the current concept, but not yet finalized with an exact design.

Public comment closed at 11:00 a.m.

### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Sneddon adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

September 11, 2020, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Meeting to be held remotely.