

A photograph of children in yellow shirts fishing at a park. One child in the foreground is smiling at the camera, while others are focused on their fishing rods in the background.

SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

St. James Park Master Plan

City Council: October 27, 2020

Presenter: Nicolle Burnham, Deputy Director
Katy Martin, Project Manager

Agenda

- **Previous Council Direction**
- **Project Overview**
- **Recommendations**
- **Questions and Comments**

Previous Council Action Overview

November 2015 – Council accepts St. James Park Revitalization Strategy

January 2016 – Council directs City Manager to ensure full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is completed for the project

April 2016 – PRNS issues Request for Proposals for St. James Park Design Competition

March 2017 – Council accepts CMG's winning competition proposal

October 2020 – Presentation to City Council to accept EIR, accept Master Plan and establish appropriation

Project Overview: Goals

1. Increase everyday use and enjoyment of the Park by making it a prime destination spot for downtown residents and the larger community
2. Celebrate and integrate the historic landmarks into the Park and incorporate the historic surroundings
3. Partner with stakeholders in constructing a performing arts pavilion and develop a cultural asset conducive to creating a thriving destination and building community through music.
4. Maintain a safe, clean and healthy facility through improving security and maintenance.
5. Provide vibrant play spaces that are engaging, all-inclusive and accessible.

Community Outreach

Competition Outreach to Select Winning Design

Public Outreach Events to Refine Design

- National Night Out
- Silicon Valley Music and Taco Festival
- Viva CalleSJ
- Community Meeting
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Historic Landmark Commission

Ongoing Coordination

- St. James Advisory Committee monthly meetings



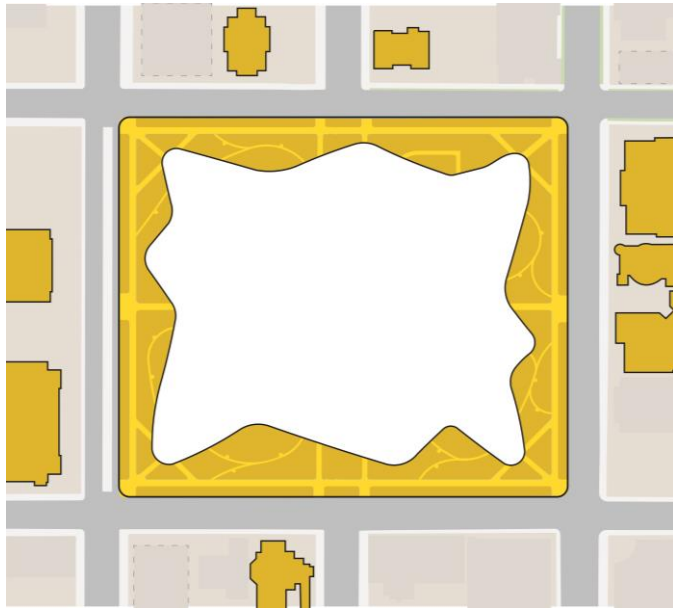
Community Outreach

Refining Design and Program through engagement



Project Overview: Design Strategy

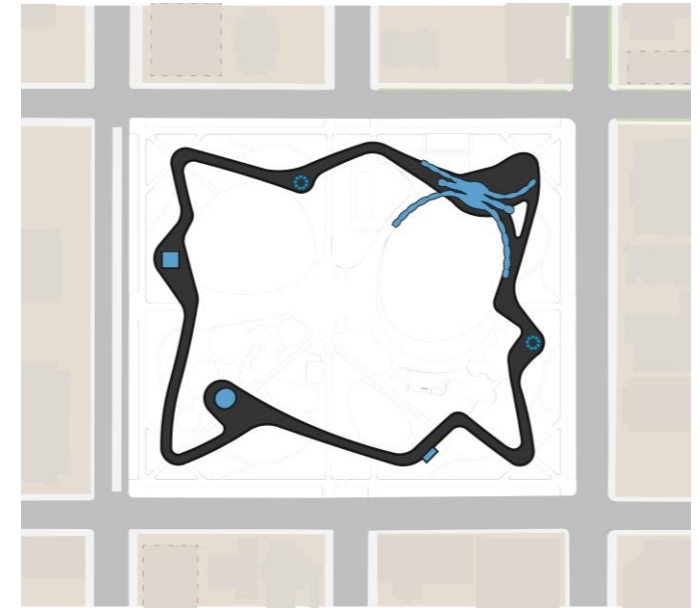
CELEBRATE HISTORIC EDGE



ACTIVATE CONTEMPORARY CORE



INTEGRATE PARK PASEO





Park Features: Memorial Walk



HISTORIC ANALYSIS

TRADITION OF MEMORIALIZATION IN THE PARK

CDF CURRENT CONDITION:

Several memorials have been placed in the park to commemorate significant speeches and individuals associated with the park's history:

- McKinley Memorial (1903)
- Naglee Memorial (1915)
- Robert F. Kennedy Memorial (1968)
- Fireman's Memorial relocated to St. James Park (1994)

DESIGN RECOMMENDATION:

Develop a consistent framework for existing and future memorials to be placed -- as has become tradition in St. James Park.



Park Features: Performance Pavilion



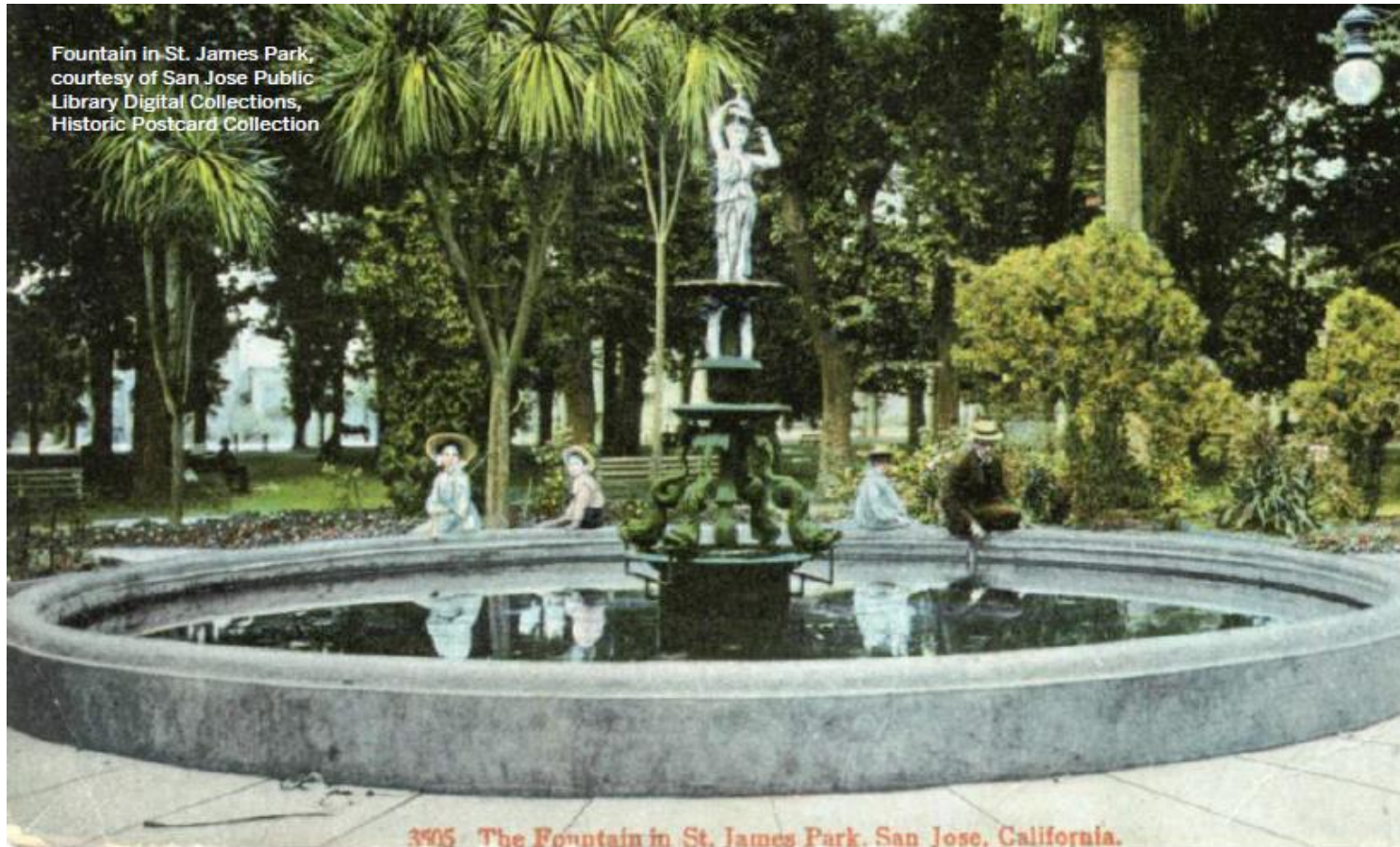
Park Features: Dog Park and Picnic Grove



Park Features: Playground



Park Features: Fountain



Park Features: McKinley Meadow



Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Impacts Identified:

- Significant Unavoidable Impact to Cultural Resources, Noise, Aesthetic, and Recreation
- Less than Significant impact with mitigation measures incorporated for Air Quality, Noise, Biological Resources

Alternatives were identified and analyzed

- Alternatives did not meet the Project Objectives

Recommendations

- a. Adopt a resolution certifying the St. James Park Capital Vision and Performing Arts Pavilion Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and make certain findings concerning significant impacts, mitigation measures, alternatives, and adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations and a related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, all in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- b. Approve the St. James Park Updated Capital Vision (i.e., Master Plan) to guide future rehabilitation of this downtown park.



Questions
and
Comments