

9.14.21 City Council Meeting Emailed Public Comments

From: Amoreena & Scott [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 12:15 PM
To: Susan Funk <sfunk@atascadero.org>; Heather Moreno <hmoreno@atascadero.org>; City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>; Charles Bourbeau <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>; Mark Dariz <mdariz@atascadero.org>; Heather Newsom <hnewsom@atascadero.org>
Subject: East Mall at Centennial Plaza

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Hello City Council Members

I am writing regarding the agenda item to review the East Mall at Centennial Plaza. You have a wonderful opportunity to craft an area that will be useful for residents and visitors alike. As our restaurant and retail space expands downtown, this area would be a terrific place for a family-friendly space to mingle while waiting on a table or to enjoy a scoop of ice cream after a movie.

In order to make this space suitable for these type of events, a public restroom and an interactive play space would be ideal. This would allow visitors and residents alike to spend more time downtown, and thus likely generate more revenue.

As Atascadero continues to grow, family-friendly public spaces are going to help set the tone that will bring families to live and work in Atascadero.

Sincerely,
The Anker Family

On Sep 14, 2021, at 10:41, Liz Enriquez-Phillips [REDACTED] wrote:

Esteem members of the City Council,

What a great opportunity to make the Centennial Plaza area in the Sunken Gardens more suitable for our community as a whole and attractive for tourists and events.

A playground with a public bathroom and outside additional electricity access, like you see in other successful urban parks in Paso Robles or San Diego, would be ideal and essential. It will bring more visitors downtown, provide restroom facilities for families and events, and create a gathering area that will increase attendance and revenue at local businesses.

A sculpture playground that not only looks good aesthetically, but is educational and provides an area for families to gather. Together with the public restroom with a family accommodation....families can use this area more often and it will help keep the area clean and safe for all.

The sculpture playground could be spread out in three or four areas, like a trail and each location could incorporate natural elements of our creek and oak forest community that makes Atascadero very

special. It would also tie into the mural at Bru Coffehouse. Helping to increase awareness of our unique natural resources for our community and visitors.

Keeping this an outdoor spot for everyone to use would ensure that the common green spaces are protected and is much needed to preserve the character of our town.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Enriquez-Phillips

On Sep 14, 2021, at 09:13, Laurie Ferguson, Psy.D. [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear City Council,

It's an exciting opportunity to make the Centennial Plaza area in the Sunken Gardens a magnet for families, travelers, and our community. A playground with public bathroom, similar to Paso Robles, brings more people downtown, provides restroom facilities for events and the farmers' market, and creates a gathering spot that will increase revenue in local businesses.

Increase community engagement by welcoming various ages and uses, with picnic benches to eat a lunch purchased at one of our many nearby restaurants, big kid swings, electricity for events, a small stage area that could be rented out to school groups and private parties (with rotating interactive art exhibits at other times, like SLO Mission Plaza does during holidays, such as "selfie walls" of flowers during Mother's Day), and ADA access to all areas.

Creating something unique, such as an unusual play sculpture to climb on or other features that no other playground has in the county, would draw visitors to our town.

Keeping this an outdoor spot that is for everyone to use would also honor the original spot where Colony Days Tent City was held.

Thank you!

Laurie Ferguson, PsyD
Licensed Clinical Psychologist PSY20842
Director, Spark Psychological Services
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follow me on Twitter @DrLFerguson

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

From: Museum <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 5:46 PM

To: Lara Christensen <lchristensen@atascadero.org>

Cc: Rachelle Rickard <rrickard@atascadero.org>; Phil Dunsmore <pdunsmore@atascadero.org>

Subject: City owned lot on East Mall

Good evening Lara,

I'd like to express my views on the two city owned lots on the east mall in front of the Colony Museum. I think a parking lot would be best suited for that location, with an enhancement to the centennial Plaza, possibly more seating or landscaping in the parking lot area.

A commercial structure would put an privately owned Business in between Centennial Plaza and the current city-owned parking lot.

Restrooms even though they're desperately needed downtown, Would only add a better draw to more encampments to set up in the location where we already have issues.

Again I think a parking lot with enhancements to Centennial Plaza would give the city and the community the best visual enhancement to that area.

Thanks for your time

Jim Wilkins

President

Atascadero historical society