MILPITAS
General Plan Update

GPAC Meeting #7
Community Design
May 30, 2018
Purpose of Today’s Meeting

Receive the GPAC’s input on:

- Milpitas’ Community Design Elements
- General Plan policy direction for Community Design

* Community Design is an optional General Plan topic (not mandated by State law)
Community Design

Community Design refers to how the community’s physical form shapes its identity.

Elements include:

- Buildings
- Open spaces
- The natural landscape
- Streets and pathways
- Lighting, street furniture, public art, and other amenities
- Signage
Physical Elements of Community Design

Community Design defined through categories of physical elements.

- Edges
- Neighborhoods and Districts
- Paths
- Gateways
- Nodes
- Destinations and Landmarks
Edges

Linear elements that serve as a visual or physical boundary, barrier or transition.

- Freeway
- Flood Channel
- Natural Feature
- Landforms
Integral areas that possess identifiable character due to design, streetscapes, land use, and/or topography.

**Neighborhood - Residential**

**District – Nonresidential or Mixed-Use**
Linear elements that provide passage from one location to another and form boundaries.
Gateways

Announce arrival into a community, district, or neighborhood.

Arch, Piers, and Unifying Architecture

Public Art and Landscaping
Activity centers where uses concentrate, people gather, and/or paths converge.

- Commercial Center
- Transit Station Area
- Open Space
Uses that generate special trips within the community and region.
Landmarks

Provide a point of reference or serve as community identity marker.
Other Community Design Topics

- Community, land use, and architectural character
- Historic preservation
- Open space
- Landscaping
- Signage
- Public art
- Utilities
- Scenic views
Placemaking

• The creation of a unified, unique community identity through the inclusive, community-base design of open spaces.
• Embodies shared local values
• Promotes health and well-being
• Key attributes of a well-designed place:
  – Socialbility
  – Uses and Function
  – Access and Linkages
  – Comfort and Image
WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

The Place Diagram

KEY ATTRIBUTES
- Street Life
- Interactive
- Welcoming
- Volunteering
- Neighbourly
- Pride
- Friendly
- Evening Use

SOCIABILITY
- Fun
- Active
- Vital
- Special
- Real
- Useful
- Indigenous
- Celebratory
- Sustainable

USES & ACTIVITIES
- Local Business Ownership
- Land Use Patterns
- Property Values
- Rent Levels
- Retail Sales

PLACE
-六
- Access & Linkages
- Comfort & Image

INTERACTIVE
- Continuity
- Proximity
- Connected
- Readable
- Walkable
- Accessible

MEASUREMENTS
- Traffic Data
- Mode Splits
- Transit Usage
- Pedestrian Activity
- Parking Usage Patterns

INTANGIBLES
- Community
- Culture
- Identity
- History
- Atmosphere

PROXY VALUES
- Safety
- Clean
- "Green"
- Walkable
- Sittable
- Sanitation Rating

PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES
How Does the City Currently Address Community Design?

- General Plan
- Zoning Code
- Midtown and Transit Area Specific Plans
- Streetscape Master Plan
- Trail Master Plan
How Can the General Plan Further Address Community Design?

- Consolidate comprehensive design-related content into the Community Design Element.
  - Existing Conditions and Key Opportunities
  - Policy Framework

- Update design-related content in remaining elements.
What Other Tools May be Encouraged by the General Plan?

- Communitywide Design Guidelines
- Zoning Code Update
- Design Guidelines for Trails
1. Use the markers and stickers to identify where the community design elements are or should be located.

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<td>Neighborhoods</td>
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2. Use the black pens to add notes to each element, answering the following questions

- Which of the elements exhibit high quality design and positively contribute to the city’s image?
- Which would benefit from aesthetic enhancement?
Discussion –
Other Community Design Topics

1. What other areas exhibit high quality design and positively contribute to the city’s image?

2. What other areas would benefit from aesthetic enhancement?

3. Would any of the following topics benefit from design-related policy direction? If so, what are the important considerations?
   • Community and architectural character
   • Open space
   • Signage
   • Public Art
   • Scenic views
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<td>Economic Development / Fiscal Sustainability</td>
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<td>August 1st</td>
<td>Review policy sets for Air, Energy, Community Services, and Utilities</td>
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<td>August 15th</td>
<td>Land Use Alternatives Report Review</td>
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Stay Informed

The General Plan Update Website will be a great resource for reports, maps, newsletters, meeting agendas, meeting summaries, and upcoming meeting dates:

milpitas.generalplan.org