



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Visitacion Valley / Schlage Lock Community Workshop Summary

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The third community workshop for the Schlage site took place on Saturday, **May 18, 2013** at the Visitacion Valley Public Library. Approximately 70-80 participants attended.

Community participants: 1) heard a summary of changes to the site plan and strategies for addressing potential concerns with the changes; and 2) looked at revised programming for the Leland Greenway Park given its new location and configuration.

While the main focus of this third workshop was on the programming of the Leland Greenway, some participants also expressed concerns about other issues taking place or affecting the Visitacion Valley community such as: 1) division in the community and how that may affect access to any new amenities in Schlage; 2) how the redevelopment of the Sunnydale HopeSF project relates to the the Schlage project and other changes in the area; and 3) how to deal with the basic health and financial challenges many residents face. While the Schlage project cannot directly address all of those concerns, the issues provide an important backdrop to be considered in any changes proposed in the Visitacion Valley neighborhood.

The key points and questions the community raised related to the Leland Greenway are summarized below:

### **Leland Greenway Open Space Programming**

#### Top 10 Amenities Desired (*most commonly desired amenities in italicized font*):

1. *Playground / children-play space.*
  - i. *Could part of it be covered / in the shade? Could it be enclosed? – one table.*
  - ii. *Consider a non-traditional play area for children that does not require traditional equipment (since the other park will have a playground), such as child-oriented play and nature features.*
2. *Spaces for sitting (particularly for seniors).*
3. *Picnic area and seating near the playground – to allow for supervision of the children.*
  - i. *BBQ element (one table).*
4. *Pagoda / pavilion / gazebo / pergola type feature.*
5. *Multi-use space (prefer active uses for multi-use area and some covered space for rainy days).*
  - i. *For farmer's market, Sunday Streets, street fairs, Tai Chi, exercise/stretching, etc.*
6. *Flower / sculptured / rain garden and trees (use trees to provided shaded-sitting areas).*
  - i. *Community garden.*
  - ii. *Consider pretty plants, some Asian-themed plants, edible plantings, etc.*
7. *Graffiti/mural/public art (including changing art pieces).*

8. *Plaza* (possibly in the middle of the park as “option 2” design could allow – one table only) for events.
9. Terraced steps.
10. Raised / patterned crosswalk.

Other ideas/elements (some new ideas):

11. Exercise area for youth and seniors (1/2 basketball or otherwise – some tables expressed this park given its new location on Leland should not have a basketball court).
12. Labyrinth / meditative walk area.
13. Street skating area (50 x 50) or other non-traditional space for youth (playground typically only for younger children) to use.
14. Bulb outs on the South side of Leland (on the path in the middle between parcels 1 & 2).
15. Drinking fountain and water features.
16. Cistern (several tables – for rain water).
17. Windmill and harnessing wind for electricity production (at the park or elsewhere on the site).
18. A meeting space somewhere (the community is lacking a bigger space – this could be in the Old Office building), including artists space.
19. Dog play / walk / run area.
20. A public toilet (is this possible for easy access for children and seniors? Note: It is more likely one or more of the retail uses will have a restroom).
21. Multi-lingual signs.
22. Less hard-scape, make it as green as possible.

Other Leland Greenway comments / questions:

- Address wind-factors (a key concern otherwise community feels people may not use park as much if it is a wind tunnel) with landscaping, functional art (a wind sculpture), trees and through building design and provide a wind-sheltered area.
- Option 2 (3 flat areas) may provide more useable space – 1 table expressed desire for option 2 scheme.
- Seating areas should be lower to protect from wind.
- Safety features – good lighting and design for safety (very important).
- Sheltered areas (seating, tai chi space) for rainy days and shade – several tables.
- Family-oriented programming.
- No low bushes (for security reasons).
- Community police or kiosk, and security-camera and signs - one table.
- Un-programmed open space not as good, prefer active uses and programming for seniors, children, youth.
- Emphasis on healthy activities.
- Electrical plug-ins for sound / amplification system for community events.
- How will it be maintained?
- Just get it built! When does the park get built relative to the buildings?
- How does a rain garden work? Where does it drain – collection cisterns?

**Other General Comments/Questions:**

- Ensure green energy and solar power included (in the project and the parks).
- Jobs / economic development
  - Activation of retail including night-time uses (a 24hr fitness or late night restaurant), business signage at entrance of Leland extension, etc.
- Community wants retail on both sides of Leland.
- Addressing issues of cultural change and gentrification / displacement.
- Mental health issues.
- Concern about bulk along Bayshore (currently 2-3 stories).
- Address congestion.
- Affordable housing.
- Parking.
- How do all the things happening in Leland affect the community / influence each other – the Sunnydale HopeSF project, Schlage, SFMTA Auto Return facility, Recology recycling center and transfer station in Brisbane, Invest In Neighborhoods and Green Connections proposals?