

DATE ISSUED:	June 6, 2014	REPORT NO: 101
ATTENTION:	Park and Recreation Boa Agenda of June 19, 2014	
SUBJECT:	Fenton "Piazza Famiglia" at India and Date streets – General Development Plan	

SUMMARY

<u>Issue</u> – Should the Park and Recreation Board recommend approval of the proposed General Development Plan (GDP) for the Fenton India and Date Street Project ("Project") and approve naming of the proposed plaza "Piazza Famiglia"?

<u>Director's Recommendation</u> – Recommend approval of the proposed General Development Plan (GDP) for the Fenton India and Date Street Project ("Project") and approve naming of the proposed plaza "Piazza Famiglia" as presented by Civic San Diego ("CivicSD").

<u>Other Recommendations</u> – The following groups have reviewed and considered the proposed project:

- On April 9, 2014, the Park and Recreation Board Design Review Committee voted 8-0 to approve the Piazza Famiglia General Development Plan as presented with a request that additional information on the fountain, piazza paving materials, and signage be presented for review at a future meeting.
- On March 26, 2014, the CivicSD Board of Directors ("Board") voted 7-0 to support approval of the Project.
- On March 19, 2014, the Downtown Community Planning Council (DCPC) voted 21-0 to support the staff recommendation. The DCPC questioned the placement of the bollards and recommended that their location in the plaza be re-evaluated.

<u>Fiscal Impact</u> – The Project would require the allocation of a maximum of \$1,000,000 in Development Impact Fee (DIF) Funds. These funds are currently available in the Centre City DIF Fund and are proposed for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 City of San Diego ("City FY15") Budget.

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<u>Water and Energy Conservation Status</u> – The proposed Project will comply with all water and energy conservation guidelines contained in Council Policy 200-14.

Environmental - The environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the 2006 Downtown Community Plan (DCP) and the Centre City Planned District Ordinance (CCPDO) were evaluated by the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the DCP, CCPDO, and 10th Amendment to the Centre City Redevelopment Plan, certified by the Former Redevelopment Agency ("Former Agency") and City Council on March 14, 2006 (Resolutions R-04001 and R-301265, respectively) and subsequent addenda to the FEIR certified by the Former Agency on August 3, 2007 (Former Agency Resolution R-04193), April 21, 2010 (Former Agency Resolutions R-04508 and R-04510), and August 3, 2010 (Former Agency Resolution R-04544). The FEIR is a "Program EIR" prepared in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15168. In accordance with the provisions of the FEIR, an evaluation of the proposed amendments was conducted to determine whether the environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendments were adequately addressed in the FEIR, and to verify that there is no change in circumstance, additional information, or project changes to warrant additional review. It was determined that the proposed amendments required the preparation of an addendum to the FEIR, but not a subsequent or supplemental EIR pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 and CEOA Guideline sections 15162 and 15163. The Sixth Addendum concludes that the proposed Project does not substantially change the original Project, introduce new or more severe significant environmental impacts, require major revisions to the FEIR, increase previously identified significant effects, make previously infeasible mitigation measures or alternatives feasible, or require adoption of additional mitigation measures or alternatives.

BACKGROUND:

H.G. Fenton Development Company, LLC. ("Developer"), in collaboration with the Little Italy neighborhood, is seeking to create a public plaza within a portion of the 80-foot right-of-way within Date Street between India and Columbia streets. The public plaza is part of an overall development within the neighborhood, which includes the following key components:

- Mixed-use residential development on the north side of Date Street;
- Affordable mixed-use residential development on the south side of Date Street;
- Vacation of Date Street between India and Columbia streets;
- Construction of a 11,200 square-foot public plaza within a portion of the vacated 80-foot right-of-way within Date Street between India and Columbia streets; and,
- Construction of two-and-a-half levels of below-grade parking in order to provide parking for residential tenants, as well as approximately 50 public parking spaces to be operated by the Developer.

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PIAZZA FAMIGLIA

As a means to augment and provide variety to downtown's park and open space system, Policy 4.1-P-8 of the DCP's Parks, Open Space and Recreation Element encourages CivicSD to pursue the creation of public plazas, pocket parks, and linear parks in conjunction with development projects. The Developer's desire to work with the neighborhood to create a public plaza along the vacated portion of Date Street is a unique opportunity. The proposed plaza would be open to the general public 24 hours a day, seven days a week with the potential for the Little Italy Association (LIA) or other organizations to obtain special event permits in accordance with the procedures for other public open spaces.

Community Outreach

The Developer held the following three public workshops in the Little Italy neighborhood related to the design of the public plaza:

- May 30, 2013 The intent of the first workshop was to introduce the plaza concept and obtain feedback from the community on the design of the plaza. The Developer presented images of a variety of public plazas, mostly located in Europe, to provide examples of successful public spaces in character with the Little Italy neighborhood then invited the participants to gather outside to experience the future space and encourage their input.
- June 20, 2013 The design team developed conceptual plaza designs based on input received from the community at the first workshop. The Developer's goals were to collect perspectives on existing conditions, needs, potential opportunities and constraints, and their vision of what should be included in the plaza.
- September 17, 2013 Based on input received from the community, the Developer finalized their conceptual plaza design, which was presented and accepted by the community subject to further review and approval by the LIA Board of Directors, CivicSD Board, and the City Park and Recreation Board.

Plaza Design

The proposed 11,200 square-foot plaza takes its inspiration from the traditional Italian piazza and has been designed to be simple and maintain maximum flexibility to accommodate a variety of uses and maintain open views to the bay.

The piazza design contains the following key elements:

• Enhanced paving with chalk squares for yearly art exhibits

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- Multi-purpose light fixtures to allow Tivoli lights and banners
- Signature water feature
- Space for moveable mercato stalls and stage for events
- Flexible seating (tables and chairs)
- In-ground street trees and moveable planters
- Christmas tree relocated from the northeast corner to the southeast corner of India and Date Street

DIF and Maintenance

The Developer has estimated the design and construction costs of the plaza to be approximately \$2M. The Developer is proposing to utilize up to a maximum of \$1M in DIF funds for the construction of the proposed plaza improvements through a reimbursement agreement with the City. The Developer would be responsible for any costs associated with the construction of the plaza in excess of the \$1M allocated from DIF funds, including but not limited to, the processing of applications, preliminary design of the plaza and preparation of construction drawings, and building permits for the plaza. The public plaza, while privately owned, would be covered by a public recreation easement and be maintained by the LIA. The LIA has agreed to enter into maintenance agreements with the City to maintain the public improvements. The LIA currently maintains a variety of enhanced improvements in the neighborhood including the neighborhood sign, tables and chairs, hanging baskets, planted pots, and the Piazza Basilone at India and Fir streets. In order to ensure that the plaza is adequately maintained, the Developer will provide a \$250,000 (estimated for five years) Letter of Credit that will remain effective for 10 years from the date the Maintenance Agreement becomes effective in the event that LIA fails to perform as required. The allocation of DIF funds for this public plaza is included in the list of projects for the City's FY15 Budget recommended by the Capital Improvements Program Review and Advisory Committee and the DCPC.

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ALTERNATIVES

- Recommend approval of the proposed GDP for the Project and the naming of plaza as Piazza Famiglia" with modifications; or,
- Do not recommend approval of the proposed GDP for the Project and the naming of the plaza as "Piazza Famiglia".

Respectfully submitted,

as

Senior Planner, CivicSD

Concurred by:

Andrew Phillips Interim President, CivicSD

Brad Richter Assistant Vice President – Planning, CivicSD

Attachment: General Development Plan

cc: Council District 3

S:/Contreras/DEVREV/2013-10 IndiaDate/Overall Development/Other Agencies/Park and Rec/Final Piazza Famiglia Report (2).docx



HG FENTON COMPANY

GILLESPIE MOODY PATTERSON 4125 SORRENTO VALLEY BLVD. KD. SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 182121 (858) 558-4977



Sales: 11' Aluminum Umbrella

Crank. Color: Blue or Red SEATING AREA FURNISHINGS



Fermob 4102 Armchair in Cedar Green



Fermob 4134 Table 32x32 in Black

NW OLE Quickcrete Cascade Planter QS-CE244830P

ON-SITE PLANTERS







SITE LIGHTING ELEMENTS

Example fixture with radial shade option

Oxford Base with Planters



Foture with radial shade

Sheet 3

C 2018 Antilante Cam

MARTINEZ + CUTRI

CORPORATION

402 W Brondway, Sulte 2600 0. CA 9210



SITE PLANTING

HG FENTON COMPANY

7577 MISSION VALLEY ROAD #200, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92108 (619) 400-0134



Planted Upright Rosemary

Re-Located Christmas Tree



Sweet Bay



ON-SITE PAVERS

PIAZZA FAMIGLIA LITTLE ITALY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

SITE FURNISHINGS + PLANTING GILLESPIE MOODY PATTERSON

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