



Report Back on Friend of San Antonio Park's August 28 Community Visioning Meeting

In partnership with District 2 CP Nikki Bas's Office

Friends of San Antonio Park (FOSAP) is conducting a 3 part Community Engagement Series to ensure that community voices shape the future of San Antonio Park and the current Master Planning Process.

On August 28th, FOSAP, in partnership with District 2 Council President Nikki Bas, hosted the first of three Community Engagement Meetings. The goals of these meetings, and the outreach surrounding them, are to bring neighbors together to create a shared vision for San Antonio Park.

On August 28, over 100 park neighbors of all ages gathered in the Oak Grove by San Antonio Recreation Center. This group included, among others, about 25 students from Roosevelt Middle School and several of their parents. Council President Nikki Bas addressed the community along with community leaders who welcomed neighbors in 4 different languages. 10 facilitators from the San Antonio community hosted 10 listening sessions in small groups of 8 to 15 participants. Facilitators were available to host groups in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. While this happened, activities for kids were provided by trybe on the adjacent lawn. Several City Staff including representatives from OFD, OPRYD, DPW, Human Services, Oakland Library, the City Planning Team attended the meeting as well as our PRAC representative Jinhee Ha, and representatives from CP Nikki Bas and CM Noel Gallo's offices.

What happened in the small group sessions:

- **Listening and Surveys:** Participants had a group discussion about why they did or did not use San Antonio Park, and what changes they'd like to see in San Antonio Park. Responses were recorded on large posters, and each participant had an opportunity to fill out a survey (available in 4 languages) with their personal responses to questions on this topic.
- **Charrettes:** Participants viewed 4 different design ideas to inspire them to think of new possibilities for the park. The designs were presented on large posterboards in each small group, with talking points in 4 languages. After seeing each design, participants had a chance to note their thoughts and questions about each design using post it notes directly on the design boards. The designs included:
 - Design 1: A re-imagined park entryway and expanded Community Center with a Social Hall in the current Recreation Center location
 - Design 2: A Community Center complex with multi-sport deck in the tennis court area
 - Design 3: The City of Oakland's most recent Master Plan options, with various new park amenities, and fire station 4 replacing the bottom two tennis courts in all designs

- Design 4: An amendment to the City of Oakland’s proposed fire station relocation, which includes lifting up all the tennis courts to create a multi-sports deck and adding a new recreation center under the upper 2 tennis courts, to accompany the firestation.
- **Sticker Dot Voting:** Participants had a chance to express support for the things that they most wanted to see in the park, and express opposition to the things that they did not want to see in the park. Each group had a poster board that compiled all the possible park additions presented in the 4 designs. Participants were also able to add to this list other park additions that were not included in the 4 design boards. Then each participant received 5 “yes” stickers and 5 “no” stickers which they could place next to whatever park additions they most wanted to see and that they most opposed.

Surveys were collected from participants on August 28 as well as via an online form, and via surveys distributed to park neighbors who could not attend the event.

Sticker dot voting was conducted by all groups on August 28, as well as with staff of the event who are also regular park users and/or neighbors.

Results:

Surveys are still being distributed and collected, and FOSAP plans to do a few more small group engagement sessions in this format. So far, over 130 people have completed surveys, and over 90 people have participated in Sticker Dot Voting. Based on the results of community engagement thus far, a few trends have clearly emerged.

People like going to San Antonio Park because:

It provides open space, nature, spaciousness, beauty, views, trees, or fresh air

(mentioned by 53 survey respondents)

It’s close and convenient

(mentioned by 24 survey respondents)

Their kids play here

(mentioned by 22 survey respondents)

People don’t like going to San Antonio Park because:

It doesn’t feel safe (mentioned by 52 survey respondents)

The lack of maintenance, trash, dirty, broken, or outdated facilities (mentioned by 25 survey respondents)

Based on Sticker Dot Voting:

Most Popular Possible Addition to the Park is:

A Library (66 yes votes)

Least Popular Possible Addition to the Park is:

A Fire Station (103 no votes, 1 yes vote)