

Date: January 11, 2022

To: Monica Renn

From: Catherine Somers
Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce

RE: Gray's Lane and the placemaking possibilities the space offers as a public space with outdoor dining.

The Chamber would like to thank the Council for revisiting the Gray's Lane original parklet proposal and for understanding that perhaps there is more we can do to ensure that space becomes the centerpiece in the entire downtown parklet program.

In order for that space to be the central focus, we suggest the following to be considered in your discussion next Tuesday evening.

- Some "Continuity and consistency" between this public space and the other parklets, ie: the rod iron fencing, the planters, the base and the color palate.
- The floor or base of the entire park needs to be one level with ADA accessible ramps installed at either end. In other words, it should not look like a street transformed into a Park. Make it special and unique.
- The dining could be contiguous to the restaurant establishments to maximize the middle common space for public use or Council determines that they want less public space and the restaurants utilize the majority of the space with their own enclosed parklets.
- Council with the help of the Town's Engineering staff should research sound minimizing options for the south end of the Park.
- The Town 'could' invest in hiring an Landscape Architect or Urban Designer whose main responsibility is to develop this space as the centerpiece of the whole Parklet Program together. The Hero Ranch Kitchen owners are working with the architectural firm, Arcanum, who has drawn up a few different options. They may want to take the lead on setting the look and feel for this space.

The biggest question that continues to arise is whether or not we should be planning for the long term "Downtown Streetscape Plan" or are we simply in "stop gap" mode. If we are in the stop gap mindset, perhaps we do just do what

is and cost effective right now and revisit space in a few years? Council needs to discuss and decide.

- Restaurant establishments that reside on Gray's Lane will select their own furniture and umbrellas, etc. and will be responsible for keeping their areas clean, sanitized and maintained.
- The space should be flexible so that various daily uses may be considered before the restaurants open.

Thanks again to the Council for taking a second look at Gray's Lane and dreaming bigger and better. We look forward to having a few speakers at next Tuesday's meeting to help frame the discussion around this public space and what can be done with it that will enhance the charm and character of our entire downtown.