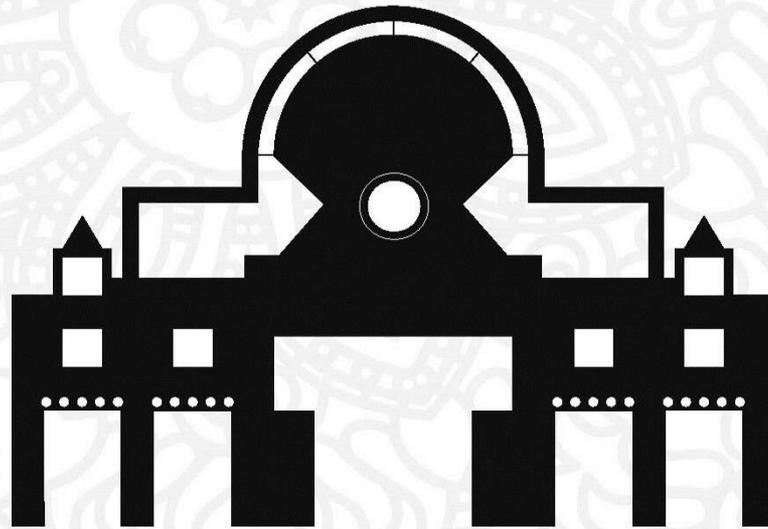
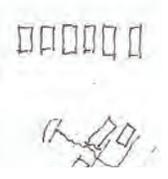
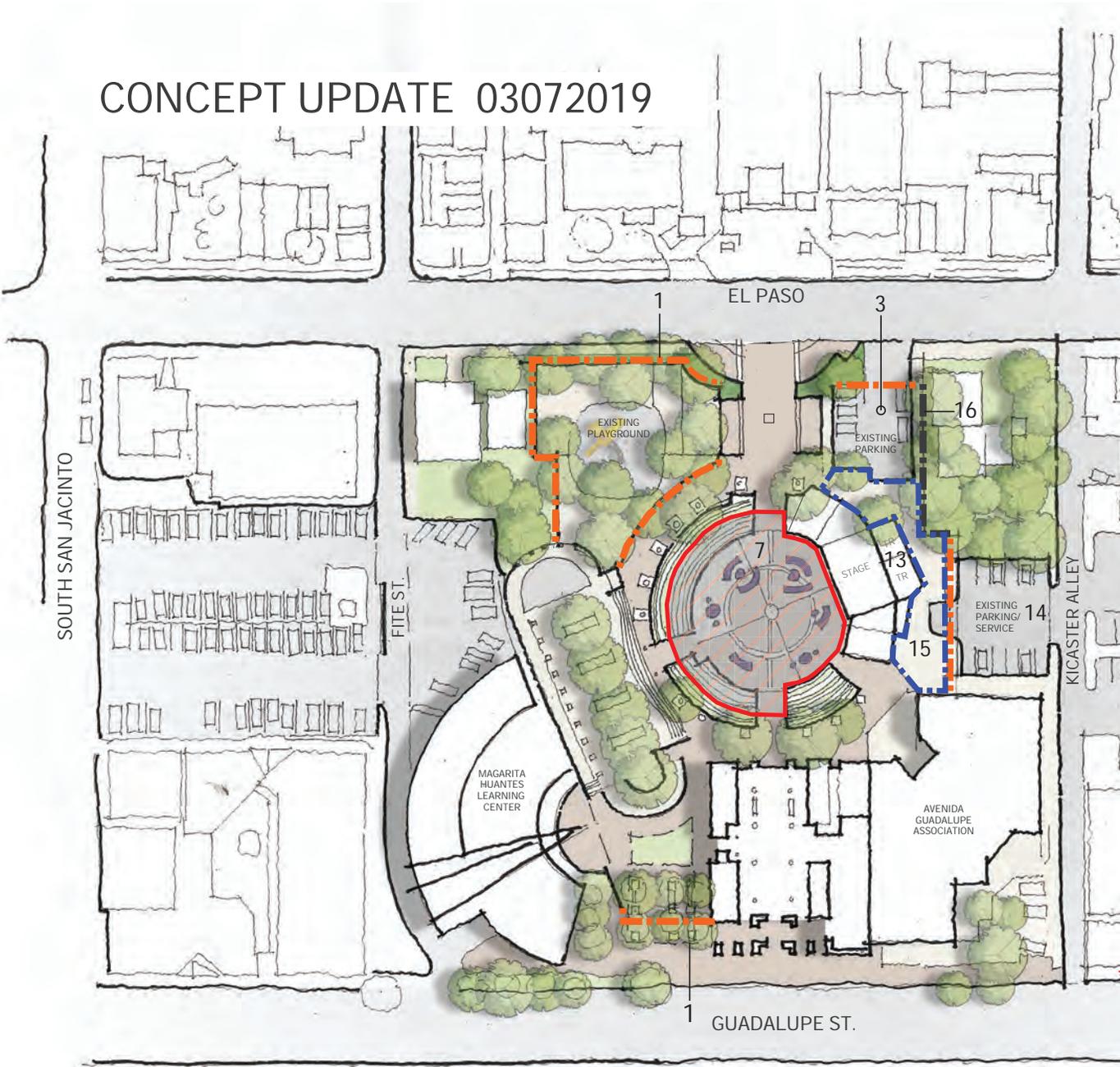


PLAZA GUADALUPE

Proposed Improvements



CONCEPT UPDATE 03072019



- 1 Fence + Landscape Improvements
- 2 Gate
- 3 Existing Parking
- 4 New Toilet
- 5 Community Hub
- 6 Softscape + Community Activity
- 7* Shade Structure + Plaza Furniture
- 8 Storage + Greenroom
- 9 Future Trellis
- 10 Future Landscape Expansion
- 11 Future Outdoor Space
- 12 Great Hall
- 13 Existing Restrooms
- 14 Existing Parking + Service
- 15 ada access improvements
- 16 existing fence

*note: shade structure cost studies will inform time frame for construction



Who did the City of San Antonio talk with?

CCDO and District 5 held six public meetings to discuss the revitalization of Plaza Guadalupe. San Antonio Residents were invited to attend, with a specific focus on inviting residents of the neighborhood near Plaza Guadalupe and community stakeholder groups.

How did the City of San Antonio communicate information and gather input?

Information about the meetings was shared online and through social media and Nextdoor, through eblasts, mailings to past meeting attendees, and through direct outreach to neighborhood and community groups.

listening session //
sesión de escuchar
04.19.2017



01
plaza vision //
visión para la plaza
08.21.2018



02
neighborhood conversation //
reunión de vecinos
09.25.2018



03 community
plática //
plática comunitaria
10.29.2018



04
listening session //
sesión de escuchar
12.04.2018



05
plaza review //
examina el plan para la plaza
12.18.2018



06
open house
03.07.2019

Courtesy of AIA San Antonio - Latinos in Architecture
& Center City Development & Operations



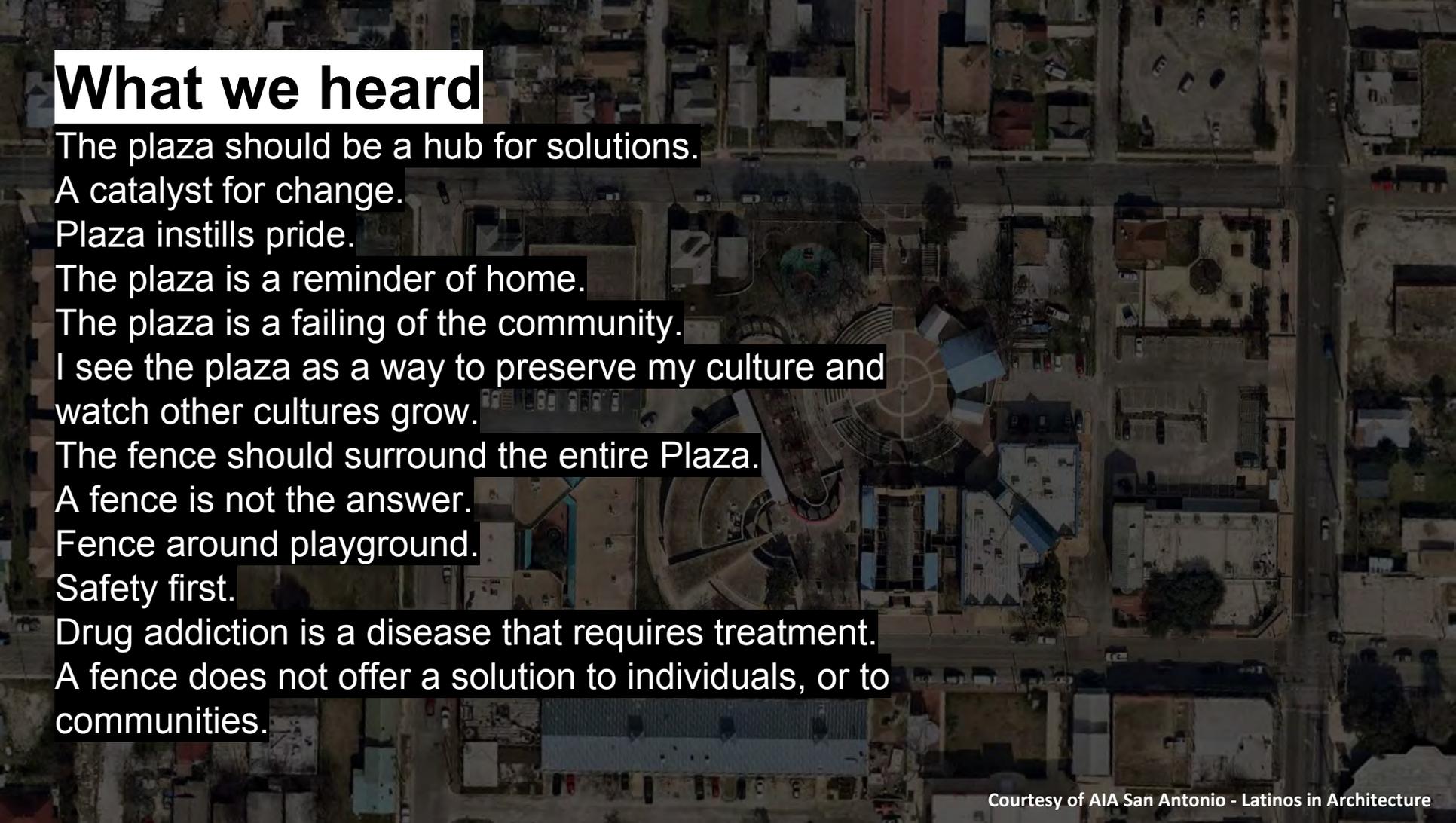
What did they tell us?

Residents had several opportunities to share feedback about the type of programming and physical improvements they wanted to see at Plaza Guadalupe. Residents were encouraged to share this feedback at the six public meetings on Plaza Guadalupe.

Community feedback regarding the Plaza Guadalupe design concept was collected at the December 18, 2018 and March 7, 2019 public meetings. Additionally, residents had the opportunity to offer feedback on SASpeakUp.com from March 14-29, 2019.

Community Feedback

- Culture, Art & Music
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Health & Nutrition
- Human & Social Services

An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood, likely in San Antonio, Texas. The image shows a grid of streets with various houses and buildings. In the center, there is a prominent circular plaza area with a blue roof structure. The overall scene is a mix of urban and suburban architecture.

What we heard

The plaza should be a hub for solutions.

A catalyst for change.

Plaza instills pride.

The plaza is a reminder of home.

The plaza is a failing of the community.

I see the plaza as a way to preserve my culture and watch other cultures grow.

The fence should surround the entire Plaza.

A fence is not the answer.

Fence around playground.

Safety first.

Drug addiction is a disease that requires treatment.

A fence does not offer a solution to individuals, or to communities.

An aerial photograph of a city block, likely in San Antonio, Texas. The central focus is a large, circular building with a prominent circular courtyard or plaza in the middle. The surrounding area consists of various residential and commercial buildings, streets, and parking lots. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark layer containing white text.

What we heard

How do we know we are being heard?

Restrooms need to be renovated.

Lower impact activity surface.

Develop fitness programs.

More educational programs.

Emphasize partnerships with other organizations.

Sinks and water fountains.

Changing tables in the bathrooms.

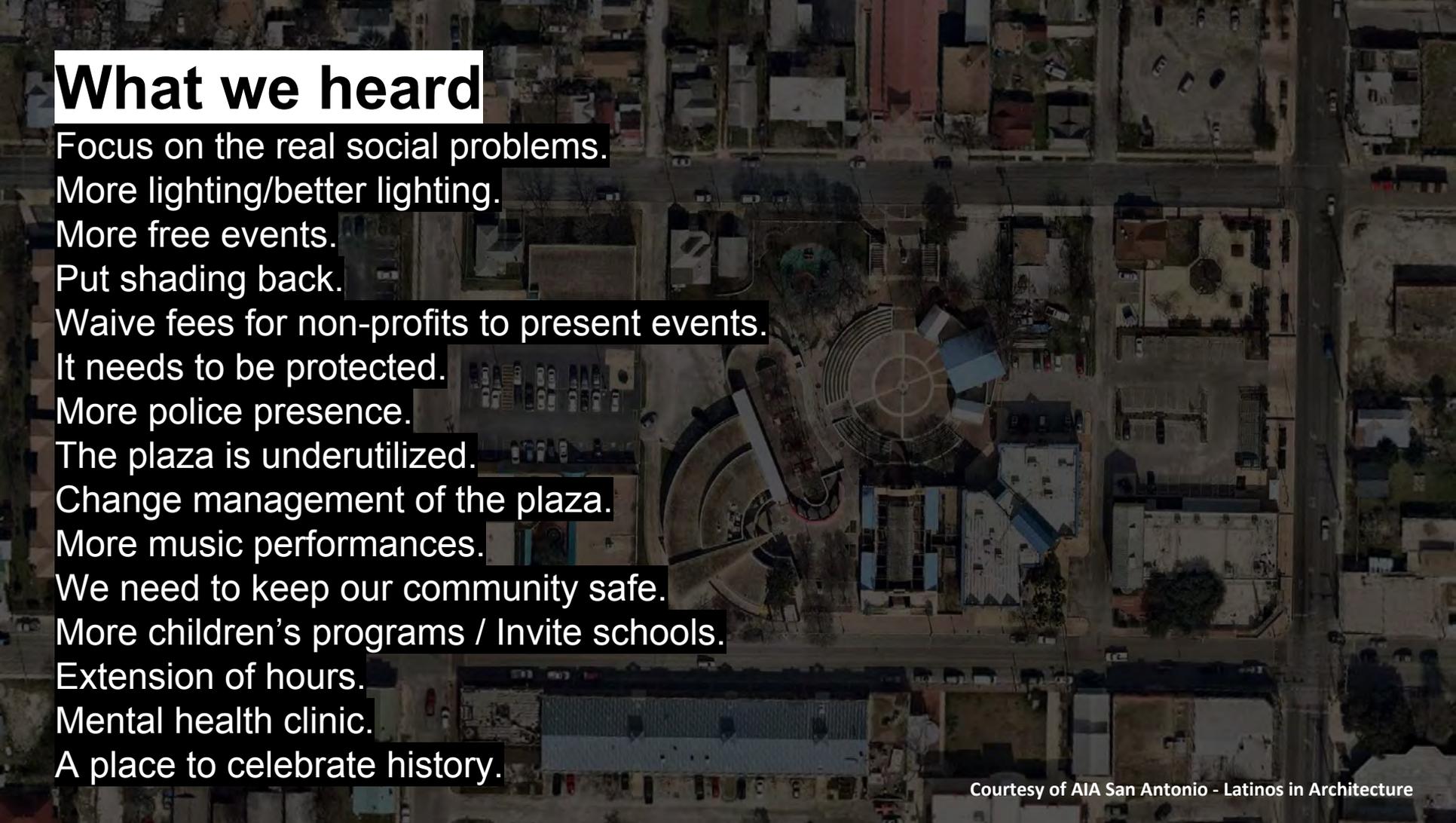
Needs ADA accessibility.

Connect to UTSA downtown campus.

Public Library presence.

Public art.

I am sure my organization would help maintain it.

An aerial photograph of a city block, likely in San Antonio, Texas. The central focus is a plaza area with a circular structure, possibly a fountain or a public art installation, surrounded by buildings and parking lots. The image is darkened to serve as a background for the text.

What we heard

Focus on the real social problems.

More lighting/better lighting.

More free events.

Put shading back.

Waive fees for non-profits to present events.

It needs to be protected.

More police presence.

The plaza is underutilized.

Change management of the plaza.

More music performances.

We need to keep our community safe.

More children's programs / Invite schools.

Extension of hours.

Mental health clinic.

A place to celebrate history.

PHYSICAL

SAFETY + SECURITY

ADA CONSIDERATIONS

RESTROOMS (NEW + RENOVATIONS)

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

SHADE + SEATING

INFORMATION KIOSK

LIGHTING

DRINKING FOUNTAINS

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concepts

December 18, 2018 Community Feedback

| What I like about the design: | What are the most important things you heard today? Why? | What compromises are you willing to make? | Additional comments |
|---|--|--|--|
| The design is attractive and incorporates features already there. NO FENCE! | That you will try and preserve what is there already. | Having more shrubbery than is necessary. | Please include the AGA in the final decision making. |
| No fence | I like the shade | | La estatua del Gen. Zaragoza es muy importante. Hay que exponer a la joven por la historia de este hombre nacio en Tejas. Mexico regalo! La estatua a San Antonio, puebla represento. |
| Openess - limited fence Fence | Like lighting. Becomes more inviting to public. Fence & ADA | Willing to come to middle ground - win win None | Is AGA willing to work with City and more important with the community - what about the statue (General Zaragoza)? |
| Limit fence to children's area, add food heating source to allow for birthday parties, kindergarten graduation celebrations | | | Still need collaboration with SAISD, SAHA. SAISD & SAHA - management and families in their yearly planning - plan and evaluate SAISD and SAHA and local non-profit orgs to collaborate. |
| I didn't see very well, but what I see, I liked. | I liked everything. | | Enjoying the conversations. |
| The lack of fence and its aspirations beyond securing and keeping people out. Fence No fence | Programming Safety | The optics of a fence in this community is not a positive one. The identity of the plaza should be prioritized. What's the "(can't read) moment"? Name tags! Should always be made available. | Like design |
| Fence only around children's playground. I love the lighting and seating ideas. Especially shade! | Making it a community utilized space at all levels because unlike the downtown plazas it's in a neighborhood. | #NoFencesNoWalls | Make programming easier for folks doing non-profit work without having non-profit status. All restrooms need repairs. Still no fences, security gates ok. Still needs LED lighting, playground needs more space. |
| Shading, lighting, seating, new bathrooms, programming, storage rooms, diaper stations Thoughtful | Need for social services as perceived problems at plaza go beyond design; rental prices will be posted Joining lanscape with fencing | Fence around playground , increased security - Park Police? However would prefer a community patrol. ? | Paleta vendors should not be closed out of the plaza; vendors should be encourage; street performers, artists should be allowed. Symbiotic relationship to surrounding neighborhood is missing. What happens or does not happen affects the neighborhood. |
| No fence. A public space should not be treated like a private space. | I did not hear a change in attitude towards the community: barrio cannot be trusted to value, keep and protect nice things | What is the City willing to give the barrio? COSA's approach to the plaza is to shift the responsibility/blame to the barrio for keeping it safe. The City's attitude exemplifies the poor view it has of the barrio - that we don't value what we have. | |
| Space is open to everyone as plazas should be. Allows for creation of jobs, gardens, veladores to watch plaza movies coming to plaza and Westside. No fence! No fence! Keep up with management to do their job, programming. Fence | If fence has to come down DO NOT PUT UP GATES! I like to be safe in plaza | None | This was a waste of time created by another organization. |
| Acknowledging the fact that there is a reality here. | The support of an objective team. | Be proactive in inviting folks to come and be active at the plaza. | |
| Lighting, great hall, security cameras Incorporating landscape to reduce impact of fence or help define space | The two options had a lot of great additions to the plaza. That comments from all sides appear represented | I am willing to make a couple of compromises that are positive impacts to the plaza. More hours, access, availability | Let's move forward and quickly |
| Security in a community that deals with undesireables | How we can resolve the problem of the fence problem. We need some kind of security. What are the things to do to change management - management issue | An artistic type of gate ? | Programming and management is the main issue |
| Lighting and shading good. Extra bathroom good too. Landscaping needed! | That there is no resolution on management. | | |

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concepts

December 18, 2018 Community Feedback

| What I like about the design: | What are the most important things you heard today? Why? | What compromises are you willing to make? | Additional comments |
|---|--|--|--|
| Well thought out. Quality, creative human scale lighting, no fences, transparent low fence @ playground, engage all spaces, shade | Call to AGA to engage w/community and provide plaza to residents @ all hours (no only daytime). Call to City for funding & programming. Community will come. | The plaza can't be perfect based on its limitations of original design but a fence does not solve the systemic oppression and criminalization of the neighborhood. | This plaza should be accessible to neighbors and activated by people, vendors, and tenants. Hours of operation must go until 12 AM when it is cooler after work, school & dinner. Food vendors, musicians, and artisinal vendors should be allowed free of permits and fees. |
| That it allows for folks to have easy access to the plaza and feel included in the community. | I really like the added light components because it does create an active plaza. | | |
| I like the return of shading, addition of water fountains, and open accessible feeling of the space. | | Having part of the plaza fenced is already a compromise, which is a compromise that makes sense. | It is frustrating that the neighborhood is still being demonized in both plans and that design is being seen as the ultimate solution when really the City nees to invest in more social service programs. |
| | That open spaces connect community. Fences represent DISTRUST. | Low beautiful green fence around playground | I am from this neighborhood. Given the problematic relationship between people of color and the police I found it very inappropriate and disrespectful for the stand-offish intimidating presence. I don't see 3+ police at other COSA meetings. |
| Shade and more green space; lighting | That LIA didn't get paid and tried their best. | There's already a border along El Paso St., but is a shorter fence needed to completely surround the playground then so be it. | No fences, no walls; police presence only helps to criminalize the neighborhood folks; no private bathroom for kids makes sense |
| Open design | Safe space for everyone | | Youth - elder connection was mentioned a lot in previous meetings. Most importantly more health related and social services. |

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concept Comments

March 2019

How often do you visit Plaza Guadalupe?

- Every day
- A few times a month
- A few times a month
- About once a week
- Less than once a month
- Less than once a month
- A few times a month
- Once a month
- Less than once a month
- A few times a week
- Less than once a month
- A few times a month
- About once a week
- Less than once a month
- Every day
- Once a month
- Less than once a month
- Every day
- Less than once a month
- A few times a month
- Every day
- Less than once a month
- A few times a month
- Once a month
- A few times a week
- Less than once a month

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concept Comments March 2019

- Less than once a month
- Less than once a month
- Less than once a month

What I like about the design:

- The proposed fencing does not provide security for the plaza. It only promotes private event uses. There were more comments/requests for improved lighting and visibility which would do more to create a safe plaza. By allowing general free use to the public on a regular basis it will create a vibrant and safe public space.
- These renderings were difficult to view. Feels like they were purposefully discreet to hide the fence additions that were protested so fiercely by west side community members. Once again we are perpetually the negative stereotypes & criminalization of our brown communities. Thoroughly disappointed!
- ADA feature, shade
- I like that the playground is fenced but do not understand the need for an additional fence around the plaza.
- Need to explain in detail. This meeting was shameful! Que lastima!
- Enclosure appealing
- Everything. If someone wants to have an event where you charge admission that 5 foot fence is not going to work.
- Everything
- It will be safer for kids
- Should be no fences except at playground. As an architect, I found the drawings to be very hard to understand and they seem purposefully unclear.
- The greenery/landscape. Health and wellness classes
- I think it's a great plan for a start. Hope we get more improvements to the area.
- Unfortunately, the gates were removed from the overall design. Compromise is acceptable.
- Family friendly
- Lighting and limited access
- Brings back a community piece and vibrance missing to the area
- Family friendly, safe, and evolving with the growth in the downtown area/West side.
- Shade structure would be nice
- I like the idea of shade structure.
- Design
- The shade structure

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concept Comments

March 2019

- I like the proposed design, but actually do have a preference for gates at the entrances. Having no gates during off hours of operation prevent the plaza from being safe making it conducive to nefarious activity. Planters will contribute to making the plaza a beautiful relaxing place which is what it was originally intended to be.
- More inviting
- The gate around it and the performance stage
- Looks promising

What are the most important things you heard today? Why?

- We're substituting a rent a fence for a wrought iron fence? No walls!!! More shade.
- That you don't respect and honor voices.
- That we're not heard
- Must be secured and accessible
- The fence. This is good.
- Addresses issues of security, plants and accessibility
- Fence in the playground
- The public was not listened to. I attended all meetings and the overwhelming opinion was that the plaza should not be fenced, secured from public use.

Additional comments:

- No fence except at playground
- Shade structure. Make stage with new floor for dancers. Add dressing room. Plazas are historically open without enclosures. Compare sanctions at Alamo Plaza with the proposed fencing at the plaza.
- No fence
- Why can't fence go away?
- We really don't want fence
- Consider gates that are left open 24/7 but can be closed for special events and secure plaza 11pm-6am (auto close)
- We need lots of trees, shade
- This process started as a protest to a temporary fence, followed by many meetings where residents said they want an open and accessible plaza and now the presentation shows an enclosed plaza that is available to rent from AGA.
- In the midst of a national, even international, conversation about walls or fences it seems strange that our progressive city would be eager to build one in the heart of San Anto's west side. Realistically, there is no reason for a fence outside of racist and anti-homeless comments rooted in deep, deep systemic issues. We're in Texas and it's hot as h***!! I can't believe that we're willing to drop money on a fence (!!!) and wait until later to build shade within the plaza. What the h***? I don't spend much time there because the pavement is hot and it burns to just touch it. Summer's not too good to us here, and it's only bound to get hotter. Think of the people, always.

Plaza Guadalupe Design Concept Comments

March 2019

- The gentleman that spoke in Spanish began by acknowledging the community and its age demographic. His concern was about the elderly and disabled falling and getting serious injuries or leading to death. He wasn't able to articulate or be specific about the cause of accidents but when he gave examples I believe he was referring to paving conditions. My side note and as someone who has attended afternoon events, I think both lighting and pavement improvements need to be made in order to have a safe access from the most vulnerable members (youth and elderly). We can have the best plaza, but it won't be used by the community if the streets don't become part of the plan/vision. Community – streets – plaza (they go together).
- We demanded that the City take down a fence that has limited access to the Plaza for 2 ½ years. Now, this plan maintains a 5ft fence across El Paso St. and along Guadalupe and stops access to an existing eastern exit/entrance. Community asked for a shade structure that was in existence for so many years. But without shade structure, we really can't use plaza for events, too hot. Why prioritize fence when shade structure should come first, ADA bathrooms as well.
- What happened to the lighting? If security is such a concern, why was this not incorporated? Also, the cost of renting plaza is more expensive than COSA park rentals – Outrageous!!!
- No fence. It criminalizes our communities.
- I see there are no gates at entrance of Guadalupe and El Paso Streets. I believe gates are needed at night due to damage and graffiti already showing up during the day. Can you imagine the damaged that will be inflicted with the plaza open 24/7. There has to be some control of the environment.
- I have seen the problems the plaza has survived. The temporary cyclone fence has let it spring some regrowth. I hope that the new improvements mixed with 24hr controlled access will spark some vigor in the community and it becomes accountable to their plaza.
- Very nice design
- Thank you for recognizing this valuable asset and making it safer
- Security, care of the City's investment in both time and funds by providing protected options such as rules, fences, cameras to keep all bad behaviors out, such as drugs, and vandalism.
- Need gates for closure after hours
- Glad it's about to finally get started.
- Food trucks would be good
- I believe Avenida Guadalupe has done a great job and am certain that they will continue to expand and cultivate the right culture that the westside is known for. I am looking forward to how the city will help Avenida make this a beautiful project for enjoyment of generations to come.
- Is there a plan of action to engage immediately in the event that the previous challenges resurface? i.e. needles and illicit activity



How will their input be used?

Community feedback received at the Plaza Guadalupe public meetings was used to inform programming and proposed physical improvements to the plaza. Upon the suggestion of residents, CCDO and District 5 hosted several free movie nights in the plaza in fall 2018, and are gearing up for a full spring and summer season of family-friendly programming including entertainment, health fairs and more.

Community feedback regarding fencing around the plaza and the playground, making the plaza more accessible, and adding shade structures was heavily taken into consideration before and after design concepts were presented to the public.

How will we follow up with respondents?

The plaza revitalization work is currently under review. The City will continue to update residents on the progress of the plaza revitalization. Residents will be invited to future Plaza Guadalupe events, and community groups will be encouraged to bring events to the plaza.



Plaza Guadalupe

Place for healing.

Place of giving back.

Place of community.

Heart of the community.

A reminder of home.

Symbol of the beautiful west side.

A safe place for families.

The plaza brings everyone together.