

NEXT Peoples Park Advisory Board meeting

MON. NOV 5th 7pm

7pm Trinity Church

2362 Bancroft/ Dana
Berkeley

PEOPLE'S PARK

Assessment & Planning Study

This will be
the last opportunity
for public comment
before this
document is
"finalized"

DRAFT Summary Report
October 1, 2007



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MK Thinks motto: the ideas company for the BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	4
Phase I: Discovery & Audit	8
Goals	
Process	
Findings	
Concerns with Process	
Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis.....	14
People	
Programs	
Places	
Concepts	28
Planning Concepts	
Programmatic Concepts	
Acknowledgements.....	34
Appendices.....(not included in this draft)	
1. Stakeholders List	
2. List of Meetings	
3. Questionnaire and Responses	
4. Map/List of Social Services in Berkeley	
5. Census Data	
6. Benchmarking Research	
7. Activity Log in People's Park	
8. Correspondence	
9. Meeting Notes	

Executive Summary

OVERVIEW

Few parks in this country have as rich or tumultuous a history as People's Park in Berkeley, California. The park arose as a result of a late 1960's conflict, in which a group of students and local residents assembled on a vacant plot of land to the south of the University of California, Berkeley campus and claimed it for "the people". People's Park is an often studied example of the social and cultural movements prevalent in Northern California during the 1960's, and is a place that still has historical ties to the events and ideology that defined the era.

People's Park is often characterized as a battleground between park activists (also known as the "user development group") and the University of California, that holds legal title to the property. Over the years, People's Park has become a symbol of the ideological struggle between institutional authority and popular claims to autonomy. Throughout its history, the park has been viewed by many as a nexus of progressive political ideals and social inclusiveness. Today, the progressive social ideals upon which the park was founded exist in a somewhat diminished form. Many neighbors, residents, UC students, and community institutions feel excluded or unwelcome in the park founded as "a park for all people." Similarly, the premise of environmental stewardship and care for the land has been lost; today the park is often littered with clothing, food waste, and refuse.

It is unclear whether or not People's Park empowers the people who seek it as a sanctuary, or the extent to which it contributes to the availability and effective delivery of social services. Many people in Berkeley view the park as having a detrimental effect on nearby neighborhoods and institutions. This report assesses the current use patterns, programming, and physical conditions of People's Park, and puts forward emerging directions for restoring the space to a valued and desired community resource.

PROCESS

Over the past nine months MKThink, under contract to the University of California, Berkeley, and in consultation with the People's Park Advisory Committee, has conducted an extensive inquiry into the people, programs, and place that define People's Park. The perspectives of a wide range of local community constituents and stakeholders have been collected, reviewed, and assessed. The findings, emerging directions, and concepts are meant to address the specific project goals of:

- Making People's Park safer
- Generating greater use by a broader range of community members

No mention of
UC's abuse of
emminent domain
and the
bulldozing of
the neighborhood
here.

Park gardened with
organic permaculture
principals and seed saving

UC continues to
destroy a free clothes
distribution box

Executive Summary

FINDINGS

There is a broad desire for People's Park to remain—to some extent—a publicly accessible open space. This finding reflects a general consensus among stakeholders that parks are a valuable neighborhood resource and that the history of People's Park is important to the fabric of the city of Berkeley. There is strong interest in revitalizing the space to better fit the needs and interests of the local community. The interest in park revitalization, however, is viewed from different perspectives. Some current park users hold that the park should adhere to an ethos of "user-development"—the notion that the park belongs to the people and that any change or improvements should be conceived and implemented by the people. Some local residents and merchants envision the space better serving the community through redevelopment that would include built, secured structures. The majority of stakeholders, however, share the vision of transforming the space into a resource that serves the needs of a broad community.

Members of the community have offered concerns and insights regarding the park's current condition. Enthusiasm and commitment to open dialogue, seen particularly in the final stages of this process, suggest a real prospect for change. The perception among stakeholders who favor improvement to the space is that People's Park lacks coherent guiding principles, long-term planning, and a depth of programming that will successfully anchor it to the local neighborhood. A broad range of park stakeholders have consistently expressed the view that People's Park is not a safe place, citing the presence of drug-dealing, illicit or anti-social behavior, camping, and chronic homelessness.

Some characterized the park as an ad-hoc accumulation of turfs and territories, formal and informal activities, and eclectic landscapes that fail to support the vision of a people's park. In its current state, the delivery in the park of food and social services for at-risk populations is incompatible with the broad objective of making this space enjoyable and welcoming for all community members.

Viewing People's Park from the perspective of people, programs, and place requires recognizing People's Park as part of a dynamic neighborhood, host to a range of shifting issues, and changing places. Integrating the park's past into a present that accounts for the growth of UC Berkeley, the economic challenges along Telegraph Avenue, and the needs of both local residents and the at-risk population for whom the park is a sanctuary is the fundamental challenge in planning for the future.

People's Park requires greater intervention and oversight than currently exists. This intervention should involve a comprehensive, integrated approach that addresses the physical planning of the space and the programming that attracts people to the park.

Improved sight-lines and pedestrian connections to adjacent neighborhoods will encourage foot traffic and provide a sense of security. Programs that encourage community members to use the space for formal events (fairs, concerts, workshops) and informal activities (picnics, games, relaxation) will bring more people into the park. More use by more people will, over time, cause the park to be perceived as a safe place that welcomes all people.

Professionally administered comprehensive care is the most appropriate means of providing self-empowerment skills and medical care needed to deal compassionately with homelessness and mental health issues. The park does not have the infrastructure or means to provide social services at the level achieved by nearby organizations. The park can, however, form an identity around humanistic values, responsible citizenship, environmental stewardship, and open dialogue, leveraging the park's history to define its future. Formal recognition of the park's history will mobilize concerned stakeholders towards supporting comprehensive change to the park.

read:
cutting trees
+ vegetation
+ removing
the berm

yes, win-win

huh?
The park
needs to
be recognized
for the
diverse +
important
support +
community
it does
provide.

Most at no
cost to
tax payers.

Executive Summary

EMERGING DIRECTIONS

The role of the People's Park Advisory Committee will be to guide the community towards a vision of the park that builds on shared ideals and reconciles disparate concerns. The following emerging directions suggest improvements to the park the advisory committee may include in a consolidated plan that addresses the people, programs, and places that define the park, and ensures People's Park is a park for all people.

People

The following emerging directions have a direct relationship to people and their decision whether or not to visit the park and engage in activities supported by the park:

- Enforcement of existing regulations pertaining to camping in the park.
- Enforcement of laws pertaining to public behavior and drug and alcohol use.
- Collaboration among the University, social service organizations, community groups, and civic organizations to increase and improve outreach to at-risk individuals.
- Improved park cleanliness through better signage, additional trash and recycling receptacles, and greater maintenance resources for park management.
- Increased sunlight and visibility in the east end, achieved by thinning the foliage.
- Management of the community gardens through the development of charter or plan that outlines the best use of the gardens as an open community resource, sets boundaries, clarifies roles, provides for appropriate oversight, and reflects broadly held values and interests.
- Formal recognition of the park's history and its significance to the community and the City of Berkeley.

Programs

The following emerging directions focus on enhancing and expanding the breadth and scope of program activities supported in People's Park:

- Promote and expand special events and recreational activities in the park.
- Encourage smaller, community-based events such as theatrical performances, poetry readings, art installations, farmers' markets, and outdoor workshops.
- Support University-sponsored campus programs in the park, including recreational, educational, and ongoing cultural activities
- Ensure any social services provided in the park are structured, comprehensive, meet all applicable codes, and administered by trained professional personnel.

Place

The following emerging directions address the physical conditions in and around People's Park:

- Activate the park's corners through landscaping, signage, and hardscaping. — read: paving
- Explore ways to connect the park to Telegraph Avenue and adjacent merchants.
- Relate the park to adjacent uses including those at Anna Head, Vedanta Society, First Church Christ Scientist, American Baptist Seminary.
- Provide clear sightlines and logical access points into the park by thinning and/or removing the vegetation along the park's corners and in wooded areas.

Welcome the
Police
state.

Place (continued)

- Improve drainage.
- Improve park lighting to optimize visibility, minimize light pollution, and reduce energy costs.
- Provide clear, comfortable, well-marked pathways through the park, with seating in appropriate locations.
- Improve ADA accessibility throughout.
- Improve the stage platform to support performances, festivals and authorized exhibits/events. Relocate the stage to mitigate sound transmission to residential areas.
- Consider appropriate scale, location, and form of office/restroom building.
- Consider addition of buildings to support structured uses and to connect park to surrounding urban fabric.
- Consider removal or relocation and replacement of children's play area with one that is code and ADA compliant and of appropriate scale and design.

CONCLUSION

A significant opportunity to improve People's Park exists. Many in the community voice concerns that the park has become stagnant and a source of public nuisance. Many now are willing to support an innovative and compassionate approach to park revitalization. Cooperation between the University, the City of Berkeley, local institutions, and willing segments of the local community will support a re-visioning of People's Park along the lines of its founding principle: a park for all people.

Peoples Park Founding principles: ?

- Community reclaiming land illegally seized
- User development / Do it yourself
- Ecology
- Sharing
- Free speech

Phase I: Discovery & Audit

MK thinks "Discovery process" focused mainly on outreach to groups of people who might use People's Park if it were different. It only gave cursory input to the people who currently use the park for their input for betterment.

GOALS

The goals of this study are both strategic and tactical.

Strategic goals:

- Make People's Park safer.
- Generate greater use by a broader range of community members.

Tactical goals:

- Facilitate community discussion regarding the future of People's Park.
- Identify core principles to guide future improvements to the park.
- Generate design and programmatic concepts for park revitalization.

This section summarizes Phase I of the study. Information was gathered through individual and group interviews, responses to questionnaires, analysis of statistical data, and secondary historical research in an effort to shed light on the people, places, and programs that define People's Park.

PROCESS

The objective of the Discovery and Audit phase is to develop a clear understanding of People's Park. The process began with the identification of key constituents and stakeholders. The Community Advisory Board and the UC Community Relations office supplied a preliminary list of

stakeholder groups (see Appendix 1) and individuals from the fields of healthcare, low-income and homeless housing support services, employment training, youth services, food and nutrition, education, public safety, as well as UC students and members of local religious communities and neighborhood associations. This broadly inclusive process was essential to facilitating open dialogue regarding the issues confronting People's Park. Constituents and stakeholders provided information through a variety of means including group meetings, individual interviews, community forums, and survey responses.

Additional information played an important role in this study:

- The history of People's Park (as described in popular records and official sources).
- Park usage studies including organized activity evaluations, attendance records, and observed daily patterns of use.
- Law enforcement records provided by UC Berkeley police and the Berkeley Police Department.
- Census data (local population and demographics).
- Identification of local social programs, services, and community anchor institutions.

MK Think did not facilitate "discussion". They met with little specialty groups and recorded their responses. They did not facilitate community discussion about People's Park.

Sounds war-like

again it was "not open" nor a "dialogue"

PROCESS (continued)

Data collected through interviews and surveys focused on five areas of inquiry:

- Frequency of park visits; reasons for using/avoiding the park.
- Awareness of and satisfaction with the current facilities, programs, and amenities; desired improvements and alternatives.
- Distinguishing characteristics of People's Park.
- Positive and negative characteristics of People's Park.
- Characteristics that define a successful park.

These categories served to initiate a dialogue among constituents and stakeholders regarding the identity of People's Park as defined by current park activities, activities desired but not currently provided in the park, the physical location and configuration of the space, and ways in which the park performs or fails to perform according to standards of ideal use. Survey responses from student group and neighborhood association meetings are summarized in Appendix 4.

FINDINGS

People's Park has ties to a socially progressive past. Historically defined by conflict, it is still a focus of controversy. While the park is supported by certain segments of the Berkeley population, others view it as detrimental to surrounding neighborhoods, and still others see it as a symbol of local and institutional failings.

Stakeholders consistently expressed a desire to see the park as a welcoming open space used by neighbors, students and the broader community. The need for open, green space on the south side of campus was a general point of consensus; few advocated repurposing the space for a different use. Census data support the need for open space: 18,000-20,000 people live within a ten minute walking radius of People's Park, including students in residence halls, primarily first-year undergraduates (see Appendix 6).

The nearest public open spaces are Willard Park to the south and the UC Berkeley campus to the north.

Developing a solution for revitalizing People's park will require addressing the following important considerations:

- Park history.
- Park safety.
- Children's resources.
- Linkage with Telegraph Avenue.
- Which People's Park?
- Social services delivery.
- Governance and management.
- Design and physical condition.

Park History

People's Park has been the subject of intense controversy for years. The passionate debate which marks the park's history is also testimony to its cherished status in the minds of many. Most respondents believe that this history should be acknowledged in a way that provides park visitors with insight into the founding of the space and the events that defined its character. Art installations, memorials, and museums were suggested as vehicles for communicating the park's historical significance.

Park Safety

Most agree that the park has a reputation for being unsafe – whether it is unsafe in perception or in reality was the subject of debate during most group meetings. Many students expressed the belief that the park is unsafe; many also described attending student functions at the park, suggesting that students use People's Park if they have reason to do so. Neighbors walking past or through the park reported behaviors (arguments, yelling, and incoherent speech) leading them to perceive the park as unsafe. Poor visibility at the east and west ends due to overgrowth of trees and low lying branches reinforce this perception and provide visual cover for drug use and drug dealing. Others cited Berkeley crime statistics showing that the park has a high incidence of drug use/drug dealing, violence, vandalism, and other crimes. A review of UCPD and BPD

Phase I: Discovery & Audit



1.1: Open spaces within 10-minute walk

Phase I: Discovery & Audit

No-

Yes-

published crime statistics validated the perception of the park as unsafe. Effective and consistent monitoring of the park, combined with activities designed to attract a broad section of the community, can initiate a self-sustaining cycle of improved safety and improved perception of safety as more people use the park on a regular basis.

Children's Resources

Many people identified the presence of children and activities and facilities for them as characterizing successful parks. A central recommendation of the 1997 study of People's Park was the building of a children's play structure. The poor condition of the current play structure and the presence of drug use and drug dealing in the park, however, deter parents from bringing children to the site. Decisions regarding appropriate scale, design, and placement of children's resources in People's Park should consider the relatively low proportion of children in this census tract. Nearby Willard Park, mentioned by many respondents as an example of a space appropriate for children, features a large fenced children's play structure with a cushioned surface and a large open lawn area. Although The Willard play area may meet the needs of the neighborhood as the primary children's play area, a play area in People's Park would likely be well used during events.

Connection to Telegraph Avenue

Successful urban parks can create economic benefit for cities, providing a concentration of potential customers to local businesses. The health and vitality of urban parks are often connected to the vibrancy and success of their local business districts: when a park draws a high volume of users seeking recreation and entertainment, local businesses stand to benefit from the increased foot traffic. Conversely, businesses can stand to lose if a park is viewed as a source of public nuisance. In the case of People's Park, many have noted historical ties to Telegraph Avenue, and there is a

general sentiment that the future of the park is directly connected to the future of the business district along Telegraph Avenue.

A recent downturn in the local business climate has affected many businesses with long-standing ties to Telegraph Avenue, most notably the recent closure of Cody's Books. Many business owners cite undesirable street behavior as an issue of great concern, and some blame the prevalence of such behavior to its presence in the park. Aggressive panhandling, drug dealing, and loitering on the sidewalk were mentioned as specific concerns for business owners. While many within the business community have expressed a preference for preserving People's Park as a predominantly open space, some have suggested that the park might better compliment local businesses on the Avenue if it were to support structured uses and activities such as a museum, movie theater, or plaza with seating.

Which People's Park?

Extending park use to a broader range of constituents and stakeholders is an area of disagreement. At the center of the disagreement is the phrase "wider range or diversity" of users. Active park users claim the current mix of park users represents greater diversity of income level, social status, *race*, and age than that of other nearby parks. They also reference activities with very high student attendance such as Hip Hop in the Park, Berkeley World Music Festival, and Bear Fest as verification that UC Berkeley students are among the diverse users of People's Park. Others, however, believe that the park is not inclusive. The phrase "Some People's Park" is used to express their sense of being unwelcomed. The general sense among these respondents is that the behaviors exhibited by many active park users (drug dealing, drug and alcohol use, camping, arguing, and physical altercations) are tolerated by the City of Berkeley and UC Berkeley, and protected by park activists. Such behaviors discourage them and many of their acquaintances from visiting the park.

Delivery of Social Services

No There is general agreement, but not unanimity, that the park should not serve as a hub for social services (e.g. food and clothing distribution, mental health and other health-related services). These services are widely available throughout the city and provided more competently by organizations that specialize in the delivery of these services. Figure 2.1, with a full map and list appearing in Appendix 5, shows the locations and types of services offered by the established organizations in the City of Berkeley. There are several organizations and institutions providing meals, mental health and other health related services, shelter, and shower facilities within a 10 minute walk from People's Park. Additional assessment and analysis is recommended in order to fully understand whether these services are needed in the park or whether the park should encourage use of organizations and institutions currently providing these programs and services.

Governance and Management

We believe UC obtained the land by abuse of eminent domain + therefore do not believe UC "owns" the park. please!

The group that identifies themselves as the "user-development group" takes issue with the University exercising its legal authority as the landowner to make changes to the park and to enforce rules and policies. This group holds the view that the park belongs to "the people" and any changes to the space should be conceived of, planned, and implemented by "the people." Some in this group perceive financial investment in the park by the University as a means to exert greater control over the property, thereby diminishing "the people's" ability to control and make decisions with regards to the programs, services, and landscape of the park.

Others, however, are concerned that the University is not fulfilling its responsibility as a property owner to monitor and maintain the park. There is an understanding, however, that the threat of violence any time the University attempts to make improvements is the cause for the poor condition of the property, not negligence on the part of the University. Those dismayed by the current state of the park welcome the

University taking a strong, active stance against activities and behaviors that occur in the park that they deem as inappropriate, such as camping, drug abuse, and aggressive behavior. They support the maintaining and grooming the landscape in a manner that would discourage inappropriate behavior and/or illegal activity, including tree trimming and thinning on the east end, and berm removal.

Design and Physical Condition

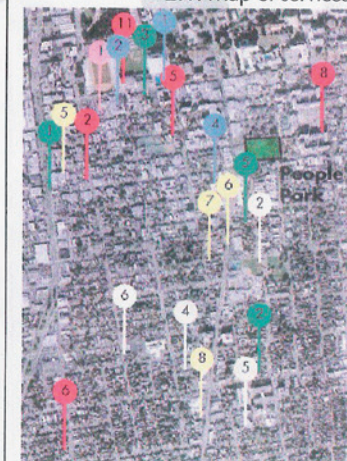
Unlike most parks in the region, People's Park is unique in that it has never benefited from a formal design and planning process. Even to the untrained eye, it is clear that the park's landscaping and physical layout could be improved, though there are a number of successes: the community gardens offer an interesting arrangement of shaded pathways and – at times – lush vegetation, while the basketball courts and park office enjoy active use. But even these relatively successful spaces offer room for improvement: the restroom facilities are often dirty, and park staff report repeated incidents of drug-use, vandalism, and graffiti. Similarly, the comfort offered in the shade of the community gardens is offset by the concern that the density of foliage prevents proper and appropriate monitoring of this space, leading to its use by drug and alcohol users and drug dealers. The open lawn area, which should serve to unify the spaces at the park's periphery, instead acts as an island or buffer that fails to unite the regions of the park into a coherent composition. This area serves as the primary point of assembly for park events, especially when the stage on the area's western edge is in use. Due to poor drainage and an un-level grade, however, it fails to provide an adequate place for assembly or relaxation. The People's Park stage, built by park enthusiasts to host an array of events, would benefit from reorientation as a means to reduce the amplified noise reverberating through the adjacent neighborhoods.

Phase I: Discovery & Audit

these "behaviors" do not go away by "taking a strong stance."

they go away by helping people find alternatives.

2.1: Map of services



- Multi-Service Providers
- Food
- Clothing
- Healthcare
- Housing and Shelter
- City Parks

Phase I: Discovery & Audit

These challenges can be addressed through simple or comprehensive improvements to the physical configuration of the park. Improving visual and pedestrian access, and accentuating and activating park entrances, would raise the park's street presence, leading to more use and an improved image within the community – as a safe and welcoming place for visitors.

CONCERNS WITH THE PROCESS

Several concerns were raised during this process. Over the course of the "Discovery and Audit" phase of the project concerns were raised in regard to the intentions of the University and its consultant. Doubts were raised as to the fairness of a public process led by a consultant being paid by the University, and some constituent/stakeholders chose not to participate in parts of Phase I. The following questions are representative of the concerns expressed by some stakeholders and constituents:

- Why will this process be different from any previous attempts by the University to revitalize the park?
- Is the University committed to seeing the recommendations through without backing down to pressure groups?
- How much money is committed for this process and the implementation of the recommendations?
- What are you going to do with the data that is collected and will it be made available to the public?
- Why hasn't there been a large assembly or widely publicized forum for public input?
- Why hasn't there been any attempt to gather various stakeholders together to search for common consensus on ideas for park improvement?
- Why has who you have been meeting with and input from those meetings been kept secret from the public?

*double speak
for removing
oxygen producing
plants and replacing
with "hard scape".*

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis

PEOPLE

People's Park was founded in 1969 on the premises of freedom of speech and "power of the people" to claim and control the land. The park's past has included violent and non-violent confrontation with the University and governmental authority. Today there are still those within the Berkeley community that firmly reject the University of California's claim to ownership of People's Park and oppose any change to the park initiated or overseen by the University. There exists, however, a large and diverse group of people willing to discuss, envision, and support change in People's Park.

Many of the park's most committed stakeholders—people who spend each day in the park, depend or have depended on the outreach services the park hosts—have discussed with candor and sensitivity the current problems with People's Park during interviews, workshops, and public forums. Homeless and formerly homeless park users have discussed the important role People's Park plays in the lives of the homeless and other at-risk individuals, and they have listened to residents from adjacent neighborhoods who view the park as an unsafe place. Telegraph Avenue merchants have offered their views on how the park might revive the

reclaim

vitality of Telegraph Avenue and local church groups have discussed their need for a safe place to bring their congregations and their desire for improved safety and order in the neighborhood. These constituent groups and stakeholders have identified opportunities for collaboration and programming suitable to making the park a valuable community asset.

The commitment to open dialogue among these constituents suggests an opportunity to re-envision and re-create the role of the park within the community from one defined by conflict to one dedicated to responsible citizenship, open dialogue, programs that promote community, and a safe and welcoming place for all who desire to use it.

→ good idea.
let's try it!

Current Park Users: Turfs And Territories

East End Users

Park users along the park's east end (along Bowditch Street) often stake claim to portions of this heavily treed space, frequently creating the atmosphere of a permanent campground. This area of the park is often strewn with food scraps and other litter, and the personal belongings of homeless park users. Local community organizations and well-meaning residents serve meals to and leave food for the homeless in the park, further contributing to the accumulation of refuse and debris. Some of the homeless who frequent the park make considerable efforts to keep the space clean. Others, however, create a chaotic environment that leads to the perception that this area of the park is a campground. Its relative seclusion, shade, and lack of visibility make it a place to hide antisocial and illicit activities. As a result, many residents and students choose not to visit.

Recommendation: Enforce existing regulations pertaining to camping in the park.

Recommendation: Enforce laws pertaining to public behavior and drug and alcohol use.

Recommendation: Foster collaboration among the University, social service organizations, community groups, and civic organizations to increase and improve outreach to at-risk individuals.

Recommendation: Improve park cleanliness through better signage, additional trash and recycling receptacles, and greater maintenance resources for park management.

Community Gardens

Along the park's western edge are the community gardens. Some of the community gardeners keep well maintained, diversely planted plots and grounds that enliven the area, while others do not. Many of the plots are not maintained and may receive no attention for several weeks or months, becoming overgrown with knee-high weeds and dying plants, and littered with rotten fruits and vegetables. Plots are occasionally vandalized, sometimes the result of innocent misunderstandings between fellow gardeners and managers, at other times intentionally inflicted by park users.

Recommendation: Improve governance and management of the community gardens through the development of a charter or plan that outlines the best use of the gardens as an open community resource, sets boundaries, provides for appropriate oversight, and reflects broadly held values and interests.

Building on the current programs related to the community gardens (e.g., community and student work days) to include workshops in food security infrastructure, garden tours, and classes in sustainable agriculture can reinforce the purpose of the community gardens, help organize the space, and make the space more attractive to gardeners who do not currently participate in the park's community gardening activities.

Of more immediate concern is the community gardens' use as a primary transaction ground for drug-dealers, who benefit from the proximity of this area to the pedestrian traffic along Telegraph Avenue. This area of the park, particularly at the northwestern corner of the park along Haste Street and the southwest corner along Dwight Way provides a secluded place amenable to drug transactions; a seller can solicit along Telegraph Ave and make the exchange in the park or vice versa.

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis People

Not true.

Many plants are left till seeds mature + are collected

Most vandalism is from UC employees.

Good idea.

Destroying plants does not stop people from using drugs.

Many students ask me for drugs when I garden. I believe if we stop saying the park is full

of drugs, people will stop trying to buy there.

Maybe we should appreciate the role the park plays in buffering + keeping "antisocial" activities out of neighborhood + off Telegraph Ave.

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis People

The community gardens require responsible stewardship, which consists not only of working with the earth but also ensuring that this area does not encourage illegal or antisocial activities. Encouraging more foot-traffic through the gardens through better management and a greater array of programs could make this space less attractive to drug dealers. Changes to the physical configuration of the space (e.g., thinning trees, providing for more formal entries and clearer sight-lines) will further discourage undesirable activity.

Other Park Users

People's Park has other frequent users: students and community members regularly use the basketball court on the park's northern edge, borrow athletic equipment and games from the park office, and attend performances and other events held on the stage. Local churches and Food Not Bombs make use of the open lawn and stage areas for meal services. On a day-to-day basis, however, many feel that People's Park is not as inclusive as it should be, and do not visit the park because they feel unwelcome, that it is not their turf.

Future Park Users: A Park For All People

The division of People's Park into turfs and territories controlled by particular users undermines both the original function of the park as a place for free assembly and the vision of the park common across constituents as a place inclusive to everyone: "People's Park" – and not "some people's park", as a number of community members characterize the more broadly inclusive future they envision. Many students and community members of Berkeley's dense south side neighborhood experience a shortage of available open space and express a strong desire to use the park. Encouraging these potential users to come to the park through a wider range of park programming, improvements to the landscape, and expanded outreach would result in a broader range of users.

People's Park is surrounded by a diverse community dedicated to pursuing a more inclusive future for the park. There is a general appreciation for the historical significance of the park and for the circumstances of its founding 40 years ago in an age of social upheaval. People's Park's history as a site of conflict between the proprietary claims of an institution and the perceived rights of individuals can be recognized; today, this same site can serve as a place of reconciliation.

Recommendation: Formally recognize the park's history and its significance to the community and the City of Berkeley.

*This is
invented
by MEthink.
It is a natural
phenomena that
people congregate*

How + when does
the public get
this info to
input on?

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Programs

PROGRAMS

People's Park is a combination of formal and informal events, activities, and gatherings (Table 2.2). Formal events include community-wide scheduled concerts and gatherings, such as the People's Park Anniversary Celebration, the World Music and Festival, and Hip-Hop in the Park. These events typically attract a cross-section of the Berkeley community. Other events, such as basketball tournaments and UC Berkeley's Bear Fest for resident hall students are well-attended but serve specific subsets of the community.

Both types of programs reflect community desires and expectations for the space. A contingent of the community seeks more community-wide events of broader topical and aesthetic breadth. People's Park is often envisioned as a place able to accommodate frequent performances, presentations, lectures, workshops, and exhibitions accessible to the entire Berkeley community. It is also viewed as a place for community meetings and gatherings that would make the park a local, inclusive, and active destination.

Recommendation: Continue to promote and expand event-oriented and recreation-based activities in the park through sustained programming across the spectrum of local and regional interests.

Events such as the World Music Festival suggest that the park is capable of being a regional draw. There is also sustained interest in smaller, more community-based events covering a broad array of interests including opera, theater, poetry, art, design installations, a farmer's market, and outdoor workshops.

The day-to-day use of People's Park—social gatherings, conversations, exercise, meditation, and community gardening—result in highly fluctuating activity levels in the park. Increasing the scale and frequency of formal programs in the park would have the added benefit of making the space a less attractive place for undesirable activities like drug-dealing and drug and alcohol use, while deterring other antisocial behavior through a greater community presence on a day-to-day basis.

People's Park's socially progressive past has led to it becoming a staging ground for a host of social services catering to the park's homeless and impoverished users. Groups like Food Not Bombs and many local churches, with the best of intentions, assemble frequently to provide meals to the public, often overlapping efforts with other providers.

that's
advanced!

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Programs

Activity	Frequency	Occurs	Participants
Community Action Day (CalCorp)	Annual, one day	October (Saturday) 14, 2006	15 - 20
School of Public Health	Annual, one day	August (Friday)	15 - 20
Berkeley Project Garden Day	Twice Annual, one day	November (Saturday) 11/11/06 3/17/07	- 5 - 20 50
People's Park Anniversary Celebration	Annual, one day	April (Sunday)	200 - 500
Hip Hop in the Park	Annual, one day	May (Saturday)	300 - 400
World Music Festival Concert	Annual, weekend	June	100 - 200 400
RHA Bear Fest	Annual, one day	November (Saturday)	150 - 300
Athletes United for Peace Basketball League	Twice Annually, month-long	June, September (Every Saturday)	65 each day
Chess Tournament	Annual	September (Sunday)	10 - 15
Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church meal provision	Monthly	Fourth Saturday of every month	50 - 75
Homeless Ministries outreach	Weekly	Saturday	75
Knights of the Catholic Worker meal provision	Weekly	Sunday Breakfast Only	100
Mayback High Basketball	Weekly	Wednesday 11 am - 12:30 pm	20 - 30
Disabled Therapy Group Basketball	Weekly	Tuesday mornings	5
Community Gardening	Weekly	Sunday afternoon	1 - 5 2-10
Berkeley Presbyterian Korean meal provision	Bi-weekly	Every other Saturday	75 - 100
Food Not Bombs meal provision	Daily	Monday thru Friday	20 - 100
Berkeley High Basketball	Occasional	Weekday afternoon	10
Tai Chi	Occasional	7 - 9 am	2
People's Poetry	One time only	March 2007 (Saturday)	50
I Love People's Day	One time only	May 2007 (Saturday)	80 - 120
Global Warming Rally	One time only	April 2007 (Saturday)	25 75
Mayback Student Group Gathering	One time only	Spring 2007	20 - 60
Organic Gardening Event	One time only	March 2007 (Scheduled, did not occur)	0 mar 17
Tea Party and Old Time Music Jam	One time only	May 2007 (Scheduled, did not occur)	0 4/21
Bike Repair Fest Workshop	One time only	May 2007 (Scheduled, did not occur)	0 May 29
Children's Garden Day	One time only	March 2007 (Scheduled, did not occur)	0 May 27
Calping Garden Day	Annual 1 day	April 14 2007	15

See photos of
successful events
that
MKThink claims
"did not occur"

Table 2.2: Representative events and activities in People's Park (scheduled, published, and observed Spring/ Summer 2007). List not intended to be a comprehensive schedule of park use.

PROGRAMS (continued)

Community groups serving unscheduled and ad-hoc meals in the park is one of the most controversial park uses. If such services do not comply with federal food safety and quality compliance codes, UC Berkeley, the property owner, could be found liable in the event of illness related to the consumption of food knowingly provided on UC property. Food waste has been an ongoing problem in People's Park and the park lacks the staff and resources to adequately monitor the proper disposal of food waste, creating a vector control problem. Finally, there is significant doubt as to whether public parks are appropriate places for providing meals to those in need, and whether it is constructive to offer such a narrow scope of outreach services that encourage sustenance to the detriment of recovery and self-sufficiency.

Recommendation: Ensure any social services provided in the park are structured, comprehensive, meet all applicable codes, and administered by trained professional personnel.

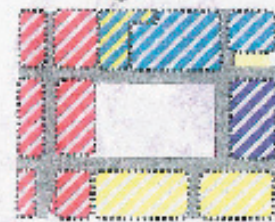
Future

The future programming of People's Park could influence the future layout and configuration of the space. The most common desire for the park is a recreation-based space with adequate facilities for an expanded program of events and activities that serves as a true community resource, reflects the diversity of the Berkeley population, and meets the needs of local students and residents. While the issue of providing social services in the park is divisive, the Berkeley community seeks a mindful and empathic approach to mediating the needs of the homeless and at-risk with the needs and standards of the community. Successfully negotiating this issue in planning the future of the park could make the park prototypical for inclusive and compassionate park revitalization.

This is a back door attempt to try to regulate out the community groups and individuals who share resources in the park.

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Places

2.1: Land Use Map



- Commercial/Retail
- Education
- Church
- Residential
- Public Use/Residential

*currently Anna Had
plans for
residence
building*

PLACES

People's Park is a 2.8 acre parcel of land situated to the south of the main UC Berkeley campus. It lies between two major thoroughfare corridors, Dwight Way and Howe Avenue, acting as a buffer between dense residential blocks to the south and commercial and institutional properties to the north adjacent to the University. Recent census data (Appendix 6) suggests that there are 18,000-20,000 Berkeley residents within a 10-minute walking radius of People's Park. There are only two other significant public open spaces nearby: World Park and the UC Berkeley campus. People's Park is properly programmed and managed, could be a place that functions as a public commons, safe, open space that complements the neighborhood and its neighbors.

URBAN CONTEXT

A direct adjacency analysis (Figure 2.1) of the urban edge bordering People's Park illustrates the dynamic nature of the areas immediately surrounding the park. To the north, the park is bordered by a block of academic buildings, student housing, and spaces that support academic functions (e.g. the Anna Hagedorn). To the south, the park is bordered by blocks of mixed student and family residences. To the east are a number of religious institutions, one being the historic First Church of Christ, Scientist, listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

To the west the park is cut off from Telegraph Avenue by housing, restaurants and retail spaces that face away from the park.

Despite the potential of this location, where commercial, institutional, and residential land-use zones might coalesce from an expansion of programming into the park, People's Park's physical configuration suggests an inward orientation and insular identity. As a space, it does little to encourage or enhance the functions along its borders.

BENCHMARKING RESEARCH

Urban parks in the United States and Europe have faced challenges similar to the ones encountered in People's Park. Many of these parks have become vibrant centers of their neighborhoods by implementing a variety of education and design strategies (Appendix 7) some as a full result of relevant benchmarks that offer insight into possible directions for People's Park. These benchmarks arose as a work product of "Project for Public Places" and by the briefing papers produced by the City Parks Council, a program of the American Planning Association, media articles, and local government information websites.

1. Project for Public Places: www.pps.org
2. City Forum Papers: www.planning.org/cfp/

BENCHMARKING RESEARCH (continued)

A common finding is that with proper local provision, and time, parks can become catalyst for community revitalization, and in turn attract additional investment. Park programs can foster community engagement, increase property values, attract talented workers to the area, create safer neighborhoods, support green infrastructure and biodiversity, and children learn and develop, strengthen local arts and culture, and improve public health. Sociability is viewed as the primary function that a park of any size must address. *Forum for Public Spaces* describes a successful park as "a place that people visit or as their own outdoor living room, where they feel connected to their city and fellow citizens."

Compu Museum Park (Miami, FL) and Foley Greenhouses, Union Square, and Bryant Park (New York, NY) are neighborhood and urban parks. Sculptures, fountains, skating rinks, and performances augment these parks, connecting them to the local history and identity. Union Square Park features a regular farmers' market that is partially responsible for the success of several restaurants in the vicinity that specialize in seasonal, local food, and acts as a focal point for sustainability-minded community meetings. Koi's Côté Park (New Orleans, LA) creates a safe children to grow up, own food, and village for the Atchoula Humanities (Philadelphia, PA) was built, named, and dedicated by the unemployed residents of the depressed area. It is spawning on-site organization and revitalizing a 250-acre area around it. Morningstar Park (New York, NY) links the gap between Columbia University students and Harlem residents through organic community, mentorship, activities. Yerba Buena Gardens (San Francisco, CA), Gary Cramer Gardens (Los Angeles, CA), and Millennium Park (Budapest, Hungary), are critically connected to the cultural institutions around them. Integrating built structures into a natural setting, Delores Park (San Francisco, CA), Levee Park (Winnemuccia, NV) and Paterson Park (Paterson, NJ) provide a range of physical activities in addition to event space.

ACTIVATING THE CORNERS

The "hidden" focus found in People's Park is a large part is a consequence of the layout of the park. The park's corners are the primary points of access. The corners, however, are the most densely wooded and shaded, providing limited view corridors into the park. This condition is most pronounced at the park's northwest corner, where its proximity to Telegraph Avenue could create a powerful link between the park and the Avenue. Instead, the park is hidden or non-descript when viewed from the corner of Telegraph and East Street.

Recommendation: Activating the park's corners through landscaping, signage, and landscaping will open the park's edges to the functions at its boundaries, and will benefit both the formal and informal uses of the park.

Accentuating the park's openings on the surrounding blocks will bring increased activity to the park, as the functions around the boundaries cross over into the park and end up in park activities.



2.2: Park corner near Telegraph & Hustle

"BULLDOZE
THE
BORN"

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis
Places

Yerba Buena Park:
One may want
to refer to the
historic destruction
of a working class
neighborhood in
this spot.
Now this park is
carefully engineered
to keep out those
who inherited
broken lives from the
redevelopment policy.

2.3: Benchmarking Research
(see Appendix 7)

Parks that have overcome similar
challenges faced by People's Park and
become social centers of their
communities by focusing on leisure and
physical activity, performance, local
arts, or volunteer-based stewardship of
nature.

MIT THINKR 2007



2.3a: Mission Dolores Park, San Francisco



2.3b: Yerba Buena Park, San Francisco



2.3c: Kid's Café Pocket Park, New Orleans



2.3d: Campus Mauritijs, Detroit



2.3e: Morningside Park, New York



2.3f: Village of Arts, Philadelphia



2.3g: Getty Center Gardens, Los Angeles

No fences in PP

PEOPLE'S PARK: Assessment and Planning Study - DRAFT Summary Report - October 1, 2007

PARK CONDITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

There are small but significant improvements to the park that can provide immediate benefits. These changes can lay the foundation for future, more ambitious improvements, and if enacted in tandem with structured community programming in the park, can work towards making the park a valuable community resource.

East End

The density of foliage on the east end (Figure 2.4a) of the park obscures sight lines and provides a potential hiding place for undesirable activities. A few of the trees along the eastern edge date to the park's founding. Viewed from Bowditch Street (Figure 2.4b), the park's heavily treed eastern edge provides shade but blocks visibility towards the park's other amenities, contributing to the perception that the park is divided into zones or "turfs". Inside the area on the park's east side (Figure 2.4c), the bare ground and relative darkness are more consistent with the feel of a campground in a national forest than that of an urban park. A lack of visibility from the street and difficulty in discouraging undesirable activities is a frequently cited concern from neighbors.

Positives:

- Provides shade.
- Forest environment in urban setting.
- Historic element (some trees date to the park's founding).

Challenges:

- Obscured sight lines make the area difficult to monitor.
- Often treated as a campground or storage area.
- Often littered with trash.
- Weak connection to adjacent streets and sites (First Church of Christ Science and student housing in particular).

Recommendation: Thinning the vegetation along the park's corners and in the east end will improve sight lines and provide logical access points to the park. Reducing full-day shade from the trees will create an environment more consistent with successful urban parks and discourage illicit activities.



2.4a: East end of park



2.4b: View from Bowditch Street



2.4c: East end of park

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Places

Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Places

City Dwellers
need places
of refuge in
natural settings.
"Sight lines"
"hardscaping"
and removal
of the sense
of being in
nature is
detrimental.
Health not Fear.

Community Gardens

The community gardens (Figure 2.3) along the park's west end reflect the commitment of some community members to maintaining and beautifying the space. Low visibility, a lack of formal guidelines and oversight have been known to result in vandalism, derelict plots, and undesirable activities.

Positives:

- Public use and user-development.
- Some well-maintained and aesthetically pleasing plots.
- High diversity in plant species including edibles and natives.
- An opportunity for hands-on education in food production and ecology for urban youth.
- Network of walking paths.
- Picnic table and pergola for relaxation.

Challenges:

- Lack of formal organization leads to inconsistent maintenance and appearance.
- Obscured sight lines make monitoring difficult (solicitation of drugs and alcohol use are particular problems).
- Weak connection to adjacent streets, particularly Telegraph Avenue.

Recommendation: Drafting a charter or plan for the best use of the community gardens, including guidelines on maintenance of plots, will help ensure that the gardens are well-maintained. Explore partnerships with local gardening, nutrition, and environmental groups.



2.5a: Community garden plot



2.5b: Adjacent pergolas



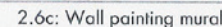
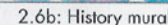
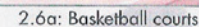
2.5c: Paths through the gardens

The basketball court area on the park's northern edge also contains the park's restrooms and office, and is used extensively. The park office provides athletic equipment, games, park information, and referrals to local services.

- Heavily used by players and observers.
- Strong connection to adjacent streets and sites.
- Murals with park history and artistic expression.
- Availability of rental equipment.
- Availability of local service and event information.
- Well-lit, well-supervised space.

- Restrooms often in very poor condition due to vandalism and inappropriate use.
- Future nearby development may be affected by light from late night use.

- **Recommendation:** Improve park lighting with installations that minimize light pollution, optimize visibility, and reduce energy costs.



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Phase II: Evaluation & Analysis Places

Open Lawn Stage Area

The stage and lawn areas are central to the Park's identity and provide a location for concerts, fairs, and other large community events. The lawn is used by students and local residents as a place to relax and socialize. "Open" or "green space" were frequently given as positive characteristics of the park and reasons for visiting (see Appendix 4).

Positives:

- Place for open assembly and events.
- Concerts are best-attended park program.
- Sunny open space in an urban setting.

Challenges:

- Poor drainage.
- Grade not level or intentionally sloped.
- Orientation of stage to open area does not adequately contain sound from events.
- Irregular sight lines from lawn to stage.

Recommendation: Improve drainage

Recommendation: Improve and reorient stage to mitigate sound transmission to neighbors

Recommendation: Provide better seating.



2.7a: A small event on the lawn



2.7b: Stage



2.7c: Edge of the lawn

III. Concepts

OVERVIEW

The following concepts are intended to stimulate discussion around possible organizing principles for revitalizing People's Park. Planning concepts describe physical configurations designed to support the needs and desired uses of the park while addressing its current physical issues. Programmatic concepts define thematic organizing principles that can serve to guide development of specific programs and inform specific physical changes to the park. These concepts are not mutually exclusive; rather, they can be combined and drawn upon to varying degrees as part of developing a vision for People's Park's future.

Removal of a fruit tree +
green corner + referring to
the paved spot as "commons"
The whole park now is the "commons".

URBAN PARK

Organizing Principle:

Welcoming green space with strong visual and pedestrian connections to surrounding urban fabric.

The successful urban park builds on the elements of the current space and improves the connection of the space to the fabric of the adjacent areas. This space provides a range of uses and activities both passive and active; it is easy to access and connects to the surrounding community; it is safe, clean and attractive; and it is a place that encourages and supports social interaction. It is an urban space left predominantly open and serves as a release for the neighboring high-density population. It is safe, peaceful, and natural. It is a space that captures the heart and mind of its community.

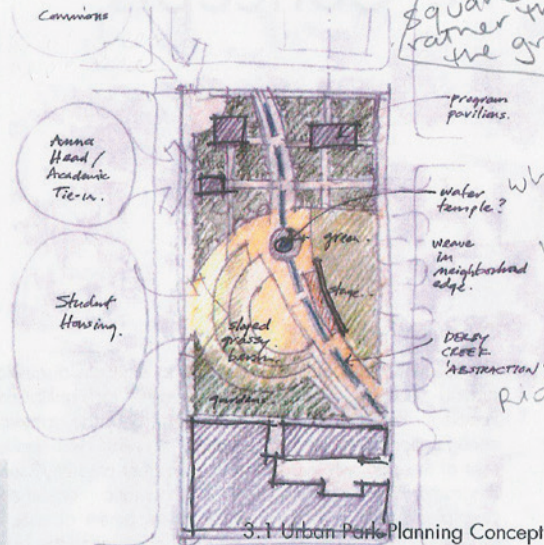
The Park and its programs could have a strong connection to a revitalized Anna Head site. Indoor and outdoor research, experiments and exhibits of the latest technology and their effects on the environment can be experienced through the park. *that's what we're afraid of.*

Design Ideas

The design concept illustrated in Figure 3.1 centers around an open green space, program pavilions, and a dry creek to reference Derby Creek.

Features may include:

- Soft, inviting edges
- Sloped landscape provides seating to enjoy performances and relax.
- Program pavilions spill out onto green space providing opportunities for activity, art installations and performances.
- Proposed student housing at Anna Head site offered an inviting view into the heart of the park.
- Corner plaza and program pavilions invite students from Dining Commons.



III. Concepts Physical Planning Concepts

square rather than
the graceful
meandering
paths

program
pavilions.

water
temple?

venue
in
neighborhood
edge.

DRY
CREEK
'ABSTRACTION'

3.1 Urban Park Planning Concept

- Cuts area for public gathering drastically
- where's the basketball + bathrooms?

NOT
LIKELY!

III. Concepts Physical Planning Concepts

STUDENT AND COMMUNITY CENTER

Organizing Design Principle:

Pathways and open spaces integrate small scale built structures with the surrounding blocks.

The student and community center connects high density residential, commercial and commons through the park's open space. This space provides opportunity for students to connect with adjacent residents and businesses as they transition between their residential and academic lives. This central zone is a dynamic meeting ground providing spaces for interaction, decompression, socialization, learning, as well as community events and club meetings.

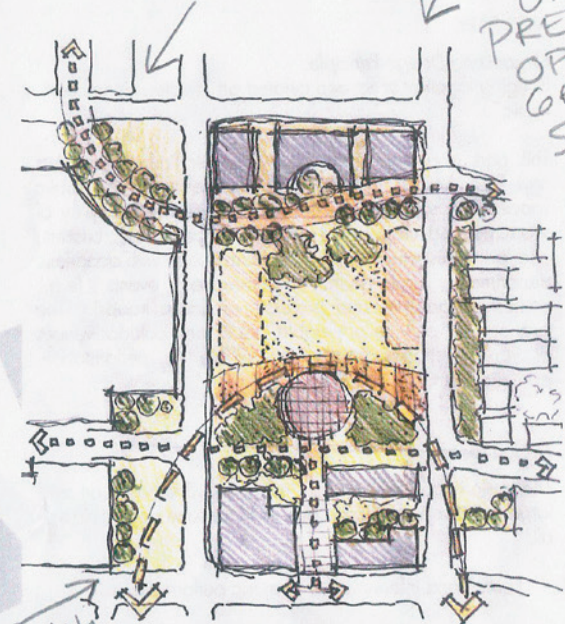
Design Ideas

The design concept illustrated in Figure 3.2 is based around a central pathway lined with pavilions that would provide meeting and event space and draw passersby into the life of the community.

- Connect high density residential, commercial and commons to open space.
- Center serves as a meeting ground for students and clubs, with opportunities to engage the community.
- Paths allow for traffic flow to and from academic, residential and commercial usage.

Destroys historic + beautiful Anna Head Building

NO BUILDINGS ON PRECIOUS OPEN GREEN SPACE!



3.2 Student and Community Center Concept

Privately owned

Bulldoze Cafe Med?

VC has no lack of meeting space for students

III. Concepts Physical Planning Concepts

ARTS PARK

Organizing Design Principle:

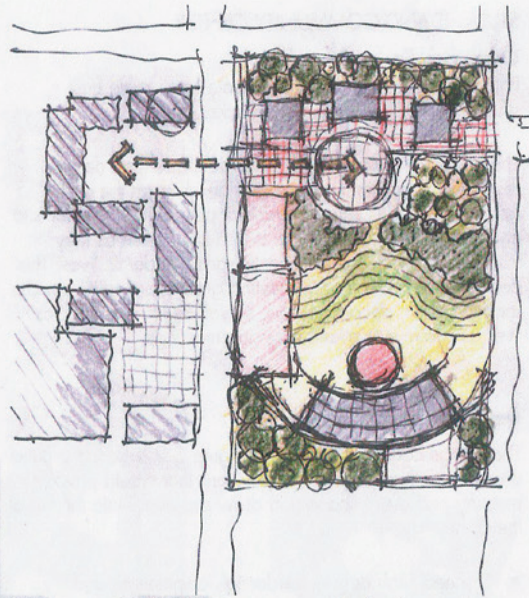
Bringing together street and curated art, theater, dance and music.

This park is a place that brings together Performance Arts and Fine Arts so both can be experienced in a public space. The space allows for the exhibition and display of structured and unstructured arts—street performers, buskers, and local artist and musicians to share space with academic departments and formal performance events (e.g., orchestras, galleries and professional dance troops). The space might provide adjustable indoor and outdoor venues of varying shapes and sizes suitable for performance, exhibitions and instruction.

Design Ideas

The design concept illustrated in Figure 3.3 is based on a large outdoor performance and exhibit space accessible to all.

- Formal and informal art and music performance.
- Performance and exhibit space pavilions provide for opportunity to showcase work of artists and musicians.
- Amphitheater auditorium flexible for smaller indoor performances opening onto tiered grass area for larger performances.



3.3 Arts & Entertainment Park Planning Concept

This whole report misses the special uniqueness of PP as a place that has been created + evolved from the community. Sweeping architectural reworkings are completely anti-thetical to the concept of People's Park.

Nor do any of these designs honor how the paths, uses, structures of the park have come from use + volunteers.

III. Concepts Programmatic Concepts

The following programmatic concepts could be applied to or accommodated by any of the preceding physical planning concepts.

NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION

Provides outdoor recreation space that supports all ages.

Organizing Principle:

Variety of activities for neighbors and opportunities for interaction.

People:

- Students
- Community members
- Children
- Teens
- Families
- Faculty

Place:

- High degree of visibility (safety)
- Suitable for UC students to study
- Flat, open outdoor space
- Comfortable seating
- Cafe *NO, unless it's free food.*
- Wifi access points
- Play areas

Programs:

- Family picnic areas: tables, grills
- Basketball
- Skateboarding
- Exercise/games

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Provide information and referral regarding social services and support provided to the local community. Programs, discussion, and workshops on topics such as: strategies for the successful delivery of social service, strategies to house the homeless, and mental health trends and support services. Work with the City of Berkeley to help craft policies and strategies to tackle community social service issues and concerns.

Organizing Principle:

A one-stop-shop for social service information, referrals, and support, providing opportunities to discuss local and regional concerns.

People:

- Relevant UC departments
- Neighbors
- City Social Service Workers
- Students
- Academic Faculty
- Consumers of Social Services

Place:

- Building with small and large meeting rooms *NO*
- Stage area for forums
- Resource library and kiosks

Programs:

- Information Dissemination
- Referrals
- Weekly Brown Bag Lunch Seminars
- Health and Wellness Fair
- Workshops
- Public meetings

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Promote a better understanding of holistic wellness as it relates to the UC community, local residents and businesses. Provide classes, workshops and seminars on all aspects of wellness for all constituent groups. Actively engage the outdoor environment, bringing life and vitality to the space.

Organizing Principle:

A clean, safe, healthy, comfortable and inspiring environment for the pursuit, modeling and advocacy of wellness.

People:

- All ages
- All economic levels
- Wide range of people (neighbors, child care, students, business owners, etc.)

Place:

- Series of indoor and outdoor "room" spaces with some common connections
- Each space has a unique design that invites the user to engage one or more aspects of wellness.

Programs:

- Physical, intellectual, social, psychological, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing
- Gardening
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Meditation
- Art
- Lecture, workshops, community events
- Structuring mental culture

Yuck. You miss
the point of Ecology.

TRY PERMACULTURE
+ Native Gardens
with wildlife habitats

ECOLOGY & SUSTAINABILITY

Emphasis on sustainable design and operation of an ecosystem with the goal of exhibiting highly reduced carbon footprints in an urban setting. Support indoor and outdoor research, experiments and exhibits of the latest technology and their effects on the environment throughout the park.
Contradicts true ecology!

Organizing Principle:

Facilitating display of sustainability concerns, practices, and research.

People:

- Based those affiliated with UC
- Faculty and students from UC departments
- Broad age diversity
- Adults/Community interested in Ecology and Sustainability
- Professionals

Place:

- Native plant gardens and local resource exhibition
- Resource library
- Outdoor exhibit area
- Education space (lect, seminar space)

Programs:

- Community programs
- Field education center
- Privately funded programs
- Consulting center
- Retail upcycling

III. Concepts Programmatic Concepts

PEACE AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Community, including UC students, faculty, and staff converge to discuss the complex issues of the world, develop strategies to resolve conflicts, and peacefully learn from one another.

Organizing Principle: Public Forum

People:

- UC Faculty and Staff
- Students
- Community Members
- Community organizations

Place:

- Spaces to accommodate large, informal, large, small, indoor and outdoor meetings.

Programs:

- Public forum
- Conferences
- Workshops
- Café
- Research

How about bringing
a community
TOGETHER to
better our
common land.

Acknowledgements

UC Berkeley

Emily Mortensen, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Physical and Environmental Planning, Facilities Services

John Hogeby, Director, Community Relations

Kerry O'Brien, Principal Planner, Physical and Environmental Planning, Facilities Services

Devon Woodhams, People's Park Site Coordinator, Community Relations

People's Park Advisory Board

George Bole

Mike Bishop

Sam Davis

Maria Dixon

John Gans

Jon Halperin

John Markowitz

Dore Mendelsohn

Ida Faye Mikolaj

George Rinaldi

John Scoway

Report prepared by McKinley, Inc.

Note:

There are many good ideas and an opportunity here to actually improve the Park in ways that most will agree upon.

But it requires getting together different people and finding the actual points of consensus.

To forcibly implement changes that "shoo away undesirables" in order to make the park a "park for all people" is not a recipe for peace.

We must find ways to truly be together and create peace, health and beauty.