

## **TO**: Hillview Community Center Project Task Force

FROM: Noll & Tam design team

SUBJECT: Small Group Exercise

## BACKGROUND

The design team has developed (3) design concepts for the Los Altos Community Center. All (3) concepts are approximately the same area.

## Concept A: Courtyard

- Plan organization around an interior courtyard with one connecting gallery hallway
- Majority of parking oriented west of building
- Main entry at west elevation/facing San Antonio
- Cafe/Lobby/Reception at Northwest corner of site with adjacent outdoor plaza/terrace
- Seniors accessible from lobby and potential independent entry
- Teens with adjacent outdoor space on north side near ballfield
- Kinder prep separate entry
- Community Room at East side of courtyard Adjacent outdoor space potential to both east and west

## Concept B: Linear

- Linear plan organization with program spaces all accessible from an interior doubleloaded hallway with views out to the south
- Main entry at west elevation with secondary entry from south
- Majority of parking south of community center
- Community Room prominently located off lobby which can be a breakout space for events
- Seniors located northwest corner with strong relationship to the lobby
- Teens with adjacent outdoor space on south side Potential for separate entry
- Kinder prep at south side of hallway

# Concept C: Triangle

- Plan organized so that three building legs create a triangular outdoor courtyard
- While main lobby provides interior access to the seniors, teens, admin, and the community room, the other program spaces are accessible from exterior covered walkways off the courtyard.
- Majority of parking will be south of community center

- Main entry at west elevation with secondary entry from south
- Strong indoor outdoor views and connections

#### DISCUSSION

In small groups discuss the (3) concept options and then be prepared to report out to the large group.

Give each option aprox 8-10 minutes.

The goal would be list the pros and cons of each concept, and then rank in order of preference.

The following questions are intended to facilitate your discussion

### Plan organization:

- 1. In general, which plan resonates with the community of Los Altos? Why?
- 2. Which plan resonates with the intent of a multi-generational community center? Why?
- 3. Which plan has the best indoor/outdoor potential relationships?
- 4. Do you like the building entry?
- 5. The lobby is in the same relative location for each concept. Which works the best? Why?
- 6. The community room is located in different places per concept. Which works the best? Why?

### Design Character:

- 1. For overall design character, which concept resonates most with community of Los Altos? Why? (overall design character includes roof shape, color, windows, entrance)
- 2. Which concept is most inviting? Why
- 3. Which roof shape is most preferred? Why
- 4. In each concept, how do you like building entry?
- 5. Which concept, if any, is timeless, speaking to the past and future of Los Altos?
- 6. Do you feel materials presented with each concept are appropriate for the concept and Los Altos? If so, why?