

## LA VISTA PARK NARRATIVE

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La Vista Park is a destination park with activities for a large range of users ranging from seniors to toddlers. The range of activities varies from a passive area at the northern end, suitable for yoga, wedding parties and other social events, to active sports on the soccer field and organized events such as Farmer's Markets in the south. The large detention basin would be a recessed lawn area suitable for active play, large gatherings and group events.

The park responds to a unique hillside condition. Its organization is a function of stormwater drainage and detention requirements. The terraced park sits below the future neighborhood and serves a detention basin function for the stormwater runoff generated from the new community.

Thus, the shape of the terrace and the configuration has been partially determined by the hydrologic needs of the site. The site is re-graded with one large flat terrace surrounded by 3 to 1 slopes separating the park from the new community above and the established existing community below.

The design includes amphitheater seating (seat walls) on the perimeter and a stage-like hardscape element at the deep end. During heavy rain events the bowl would detain excess water, as needed, making the area usable within a minimal period of time after the inundation.

Other uses in the park include play areas for toddlers to teens emphasizing educational play adventure and high-tech activities. A promenade acts as a plaza-like space, allowing for events such as Open Markets, garden shows and other programmed events, which could flow over into the

amphitheater area. An area we are calling the 'Science Garden' would sit adjoining the promenade/plaza and provide activity area for technology-oriented activities such as robotic competitions, drone flights, interactive laser shows run by an app on your I-phone, and other high-tech family-oriented educational activities.

The perimeter of the park, which commands 200° views of the Bay Area, is nicely perched high above the existing Hayward community and offers a promenade walk that takes you through the full western perimeter of the park. We have created a series of seating areas for various small events that focus on the dramatic views. We see this promenade as a sequence of events that may include display areas for art, seating areas for small social gatherings and picnic areas dotted along this pedestrian promenade. We see it as a string of pearls with each pearl being an event place or an activity along the corridor.

The park concentrates all of the parking to the upper sector of the park. The parking lot also serves as an ingress and egress roadway to two existing homes which need to be accessed through the park.

#### Summary:

1. Create a major destination for the community.
2. Create a range of activities that are not found in other parts of the community.
3. Create a range of activities from very active sports to zen-like passive events.
4. Serve as a hydrologic water quality and storage basin for the community proposed above the park.

5. Serve as access to existing homes to the north.
6. Take advantage of the fantastic views that overlook the community and celebrate the views of the entire Bay Area.
7. Take advantage of these views by creating a linear promenade along the outer upper edges of the park. This promenade would house the series of events that take great advantage of the view - from art to weddings.
8. Take advantage of the large detention basin space for an amphitheater event space. This low area will be inundated during major storm events. Thus, it must be designed accordingly.