



July 31, 2011

Tin-Wah Wong, Landscape Architect
Park Planning and Development Services Division
City of Sacramento
915 I Street, Fifth Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA EMAIL

RE: 19th and Q Street Park Concept Drawings

Dear Ms. Wong:

WALKSacramento appreciates the opportunity to comment on the two concept drawings for the 19th and Q Street Park. We seek neighborhood parks that provide desirable walking trip destinations and walking space.

Both concept plans should result in a park to which people will want to walk. Concept 2, though, provides the best overall pedestrian-oriented design because it has the most number of canopy trees, which are placed where they will shade sitting areas and hardscape. Concept 1 has very little of the sitting areas and hardscape shaded by trees.

There are several features in Concept 1 that should be integrated into Concept 2. First, the community garden would be a positive addition to the park because it will attract many people from the neighborhood. Second, the walkway from the street corner into the park in Concept 1 will allow people to walk directly into the park from the intersection, rather than having to walk around, or through, the planter in Concept 2. The planter may look nice from the corner, but it will be an obstruction to park visitors. Third, the large informal play area in Concept 1 may be more used and allow for more interaction than several small informal play areas in Concept 2.

Both concept plans have several aspects in common that we would like altered. A canopy tree should be added to the street planter south of the bus stop pad on 19th Street. Both drawings show the planter without a tree. A tree there would provide mid-day shade for people waiting for buses, and the canopy trees in Concept 2 might extend the shade to late afternoon.

Also in both concept drawings, there is a driveway on Q Street that if it is unnecessary should be replaced with a street planter and canopy tree.

Finally, both concept drawings show planters added between the ADA ramps. Modifying the ramp flares would be unnecessary construction and maintenance expenses.

WALKSacramento encourages people to walk and bicycle in their communities. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods. *WALKSacramento* is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and bicycling.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or cholm@walksacramento.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Holm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Holm

Project Analyst