

**Buchanan Street Mall – Turk to Golden Gate  
Civic Design Review  
September 2021**

Design Statement

The concept design for the Buchanan Street Mall renovation will create a strong connection across all five blocks through key design strategies: developing functional exterior spaces that promote community, connectivity, and socialization; providing accessible circulation and wayfinding; clarifying boundaries between public and private spaces; renewing existing streetscapes; and celebrating the neighborhood's culture through visual and artistic display.

Schematic design of the Turk to Golden Gate block builds on the community-driven approach of the concept plan and further articulates circulation, connectivity, programmatic needs, and spatial relationships. The design honors the community's goal of having a safe place to play, exercise, and connect for everyone, with the creation of a multi-generational play and fitness area that offers a variety of equipment for children, teens, and adults of all ages.

Seat walls, benches, and picnic areas provide an opportunity to gather and socialize in small groups across The Mall, while a plaza and multi-tiered stage can host larger social, fitness, and artistic events. The hexagonal form of the stage is repeated in a honeycomb-like arrangement of modular planters that support communal gardening programs and reference the importance of social connectivity and collaboration.

Planting themes throughout the mall include rain gardens for stormwater infiltration, aromatic ornamentals, and native plants selected to attract pollinators. A combination of new shade and ornamental trees will be added to the park, and all plantings will be drought tolerant.

The design accommodates the future vision of a Memory Walk, an area of special paving that will link the five blocks of Buchanan Mall, as well as a microenterprise kiosk. These elements will be designed by others and incorporated into the Mall renovation at a later date.

Pedestrian and nighttime safety, which was identified by the community as a major concern, will be enhanced with new pedestrian-scaled pole lighting, ambient recessed lighting at benches and seat walls, and a catenary light system over the plaza.

Community Engagement Statement

Project staff have shared the 9/20/21 Civic Design Review date with the Buchanan Change outreach team, who are distributing via informal conversations and social media, a blog post has been added to the Recreation & Parks website, and the Rec & Parks project manager will email hundreds of local residents, leadership at community institutions, and property managers for the housing adjacent to Buchanan Mall.

Note that many neighborhood residents have reported not receiving past postcard mailings.