

Interim Castro Street Pedestrian Mall – Downtown Outreach

January 18, 2023: In-person staff hours on 100-300 blocks

Staff: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Aruna Bodduna, Transportation Planner

Attendees: Udon, Red Rock Café, Agave, La Vida & Doppio Zero, 3 Kingdoms, Fu La Mum, Olympus, Monte Carlo, QBB, Ava's, and Crepevine

Meeting notices were sent to businesses and property owners along Castro Street between Evelyn Avenue and California Street

Staff presented the handout to the businesses.

- Several businesses commented on the prohibition of Mushroom top heaters as they provide the greatest warmth and dispersion of heat. The flame heaters are more for show and less effective.
 - o Staff clarified that mushroom cap heaters posed safety challenges and won't be allowed going forward.
- Need more overhead lighting near the breezeways where there is a gap now.
 - o Staff clarified breezeway entrance lights have been replaced with high-wattage lights; City is exploring additional options to increase the overhead lighting.
 - o Business tying into City electric outlets has been causing issues and resulting in blackout on the newly installed overhead lighting.
 - o Some outlets at the base of trees appear to be dead or not working (Near Doppio Zero)
- How disruptive is the summer construction? Prefer this does not occur during peak summer months.
 - o Staff clarified that City would take steps to ensure minimal impacts with the paving project; business can still be open and have access from the sidewalks; one step to minimize disruption is to pave all the 3 blocks at the same time, instead of one block closure at a time.
- Will the intersections be modified with the summer construction project?
 - o Yes, intersection width will be narrowed.
- What is the construction timeline for grade separation project?
 - o Staff clarified the first phase of the project will be connecting two legs of Evelyn and the Evelyn ramp to Shoreline and next phase is the pedestrian and bicycle undercrossing; The project is in the final design phase and first phase construction is not expected to begin until a year or two from now. City will soon have a public meeting on this project and will send the meeting notice when it is scheduled.
- Will the businesses between two legs of Evelyn be able to operate outdoors?
 - o Yes, until the Evelyn Ave construction begins, businesses will be able to operate within the existing space.
 - o Staff will meet with these businesses separately on the spatial layout of the outdoor dining areas.
- Corner restaurants
 - o Agave & Red Rock Café were concerned that the existing bus stop shelters would limit their opportunity to expand outdoors. Staff clarified that the plan was to repurpose the

shelters as public seating areas; the existing bus stops are located at the corner entry points into the pedestrian mall; and these areas were identified on the plan as social spots. Crepevine expressed both concern and interest regarding the availability (or lack thereof) use of excess square footage that results from the bulb out and corner location.

- Crepevine commented that if the neighboring business/property does not consent to the expanded dining area, they would not be able to have a meaningful outdoor patio area given the challenges associated with the bulb out/corner location. A substantial reduction in his patio area would have an impact on the additional 35 team members that he hired to support the greater space. Wants to know as early as possible the amount of space he may be able to use in case he needs to augment workforce.
- Staff suggested meeting with these two businesses separately.
- Agreement: Insurance limits required with the Sidewalk Café program were high and were generally cost prohibitive to the businesses. Given the pedestrian mall situation with no through traffic on Castro, can these limits be lowered?
 - Staff to check with the risk management/legal teams.
- Street cleaning: If businesses provide approval, can City staff clean the outdoor patios as well when doing standard clean up?
 - City will have to consider any liability issues with this request. But will bring the comment back to City team for further review.

January 19, 2023: Virtual meeting

Staff: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Aruna Bodduna, Transportation Planner; Jim Lightbody, Consultant

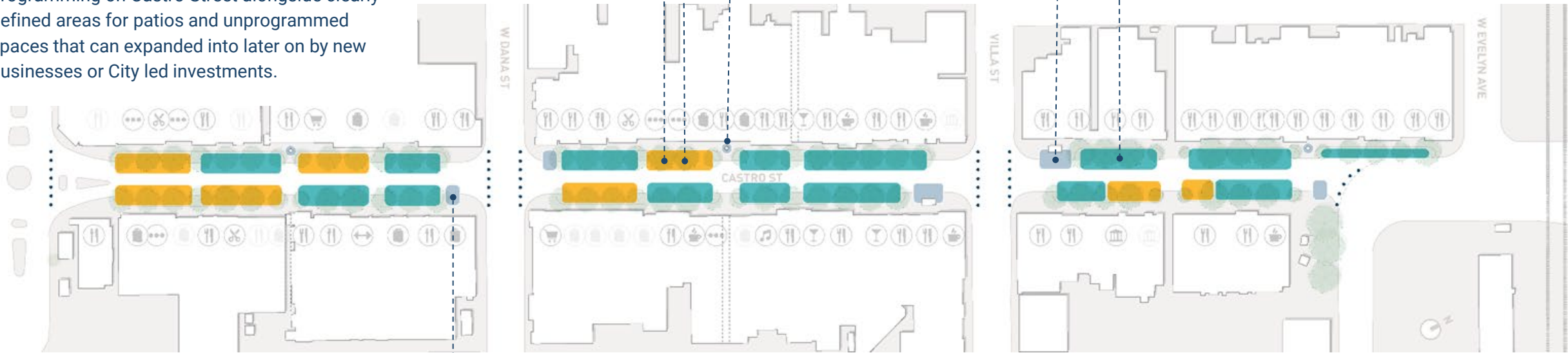
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One member of the public was present representing Books, Inc.

- Questions related to construction schedule and duration.

Program Plan

The Program Plan outlines a Phase 1 investment in City implemented and operated social eddies that will provide a baseline minimum for public programming on Castro Street alongside clearly defined areas for patios and unprogrammed spaces that can expanded into later on by new businesses or City led investments.



Areas designated for potential social eddies with a minimum of one social eddy per block

Social eddies on each block provide opportunities for public seating, play spaces and moments of respite

Potential for social booths to be rebranded and used for wayfinding

Potential for existing bus shelters to be used as service areas for public seating

Areas designated for potential dining patios

300 Block

200 Block

100 Block

Note: The illustrated plan above is conceptual and should be interpreted as a representative condition. The final layout will be dependent on further refinement based on ongoing discussions with key stakeholders.

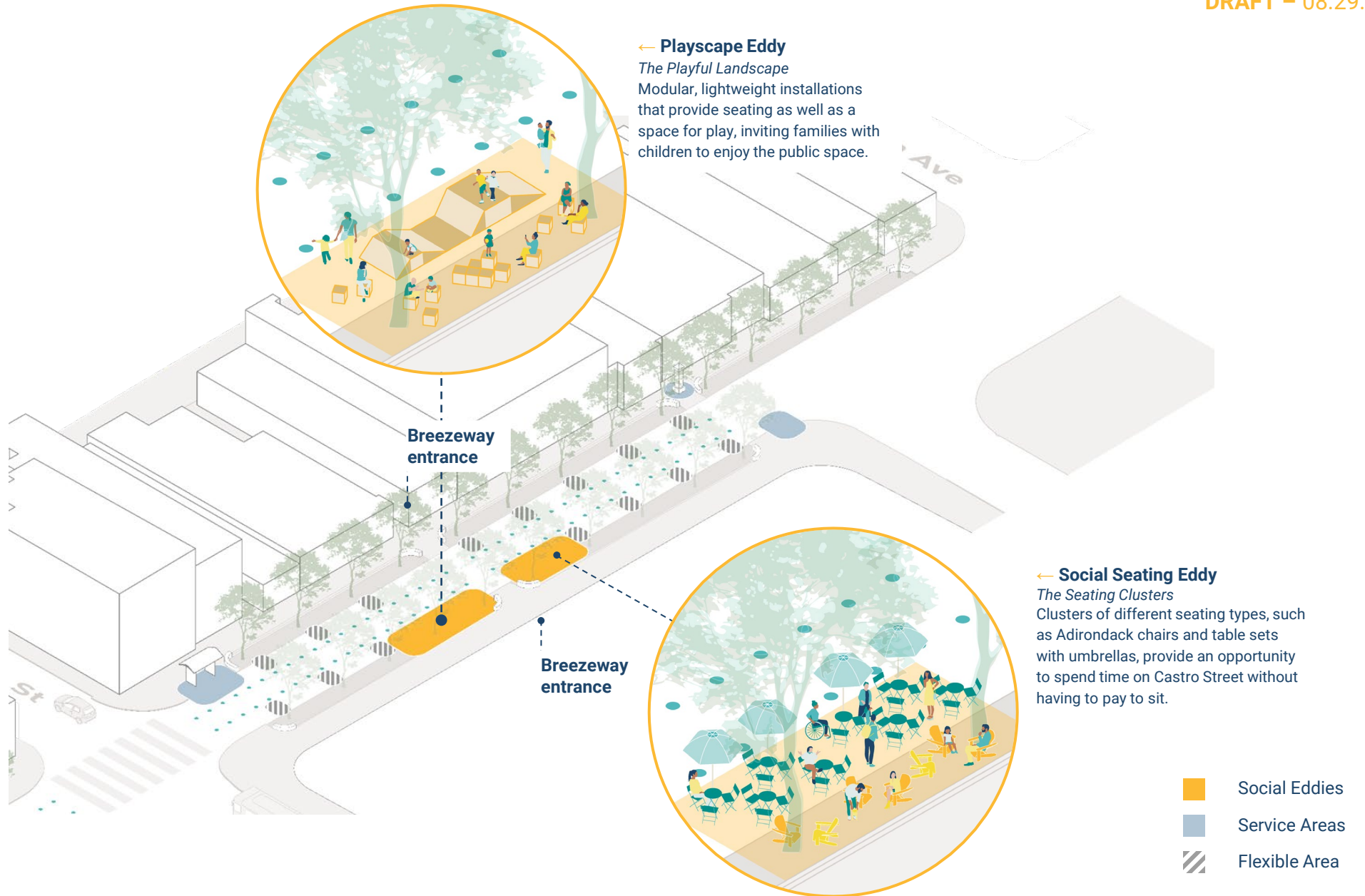
Leverage existing infrastructure at intersections, such as bike parking, to create designated service areas at intersections with wayfinding, and bike/scooter parking, and/or trash bins

- Existing Business
- Vacant Business

- Social Eddies Potential Area
- Outdoor Dining Patios Potential Area
- Service Area

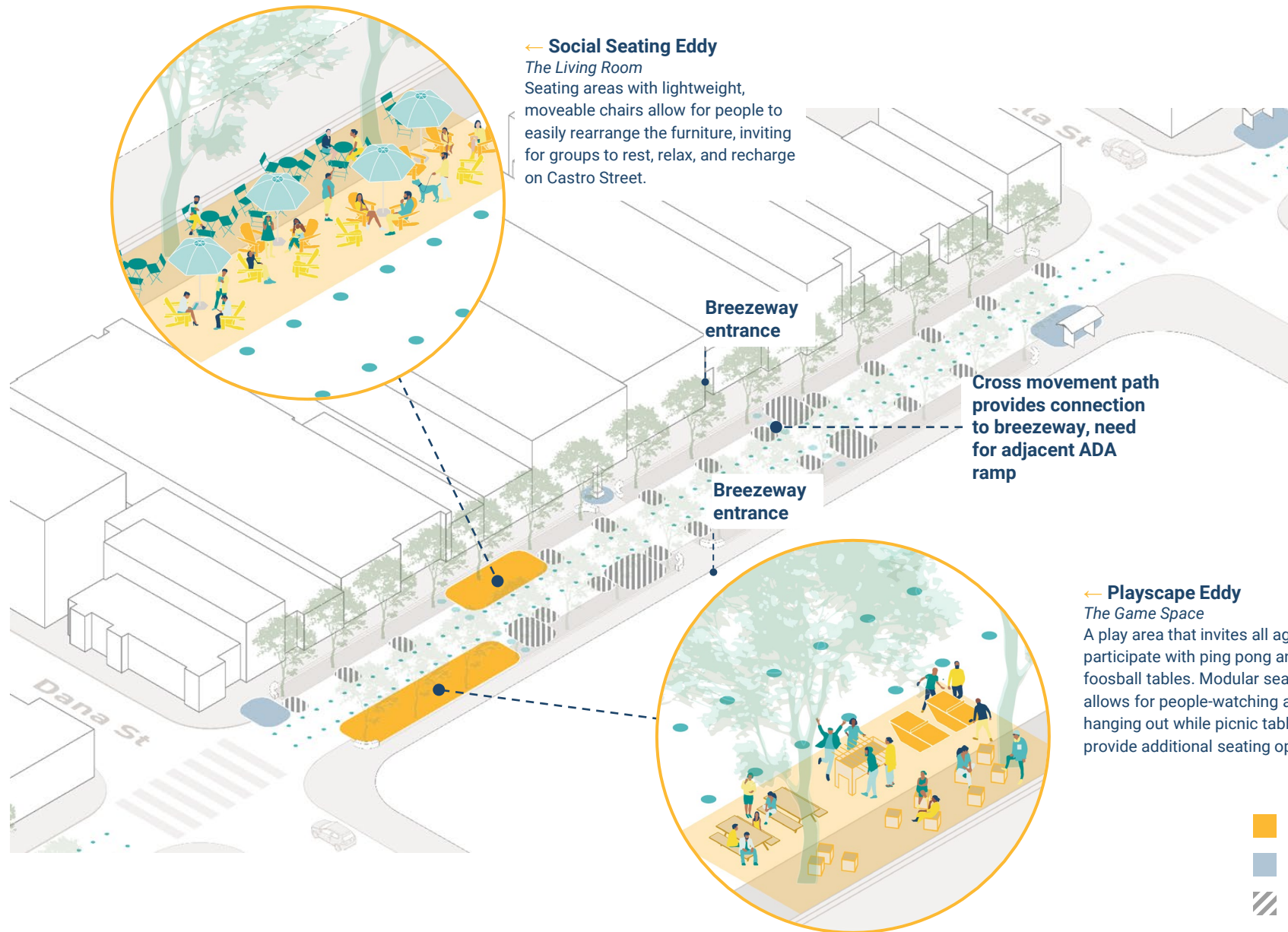
Note: Patio barriers required if business has ABC license

Social Eddies 100 Block



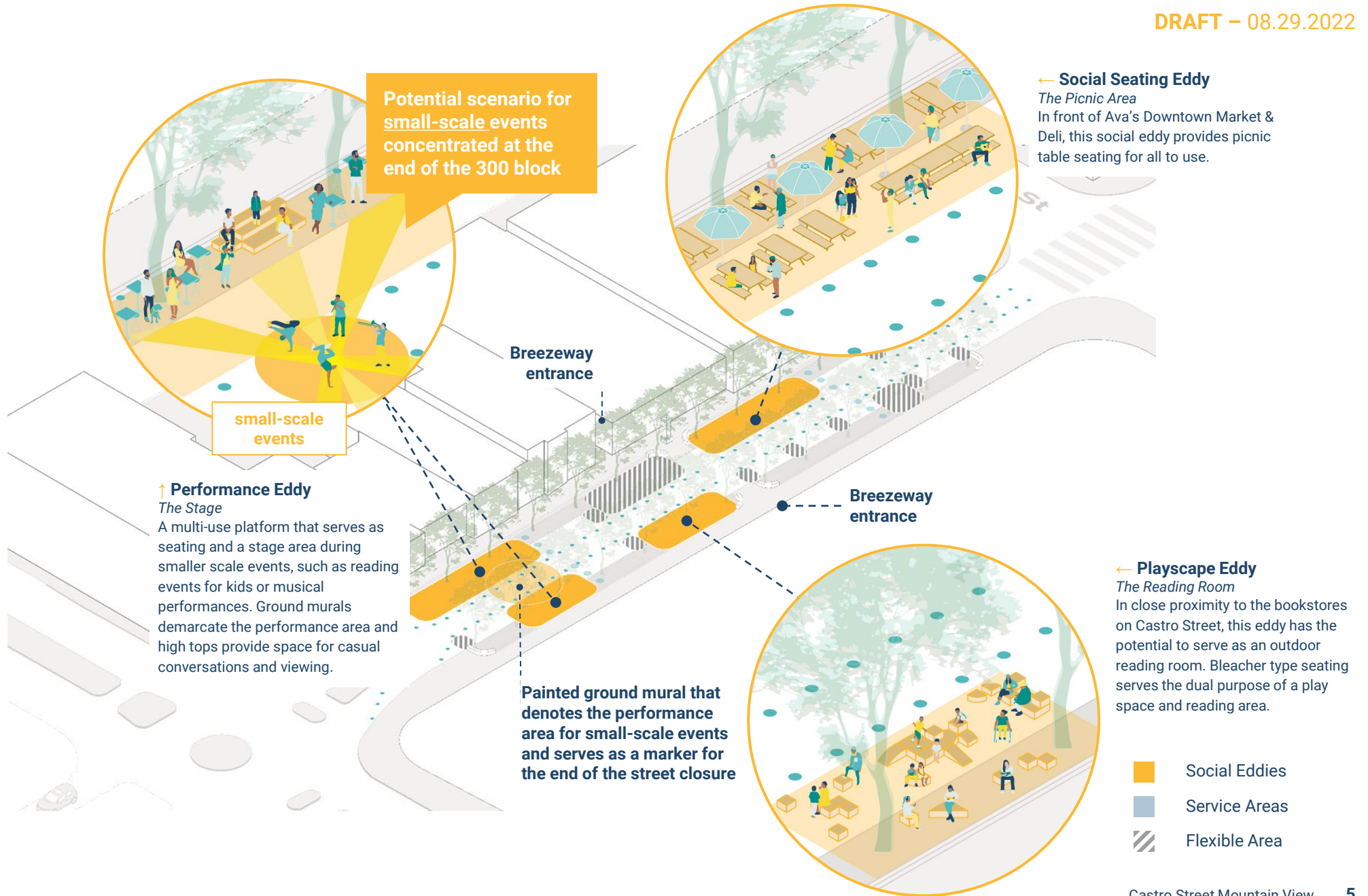
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Social Eddies 200 Block



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Social Eddies 300 Block



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Patio License Areas – Business Responsibilities



- Outdoor patio permitted in the sidewalk area and program zones
- All items shall be easy to remove for events and street cleaning; No permanent fixtures are allowed
- Shall comply with local, state and federal regulations, such as ADA & ABC



Seating



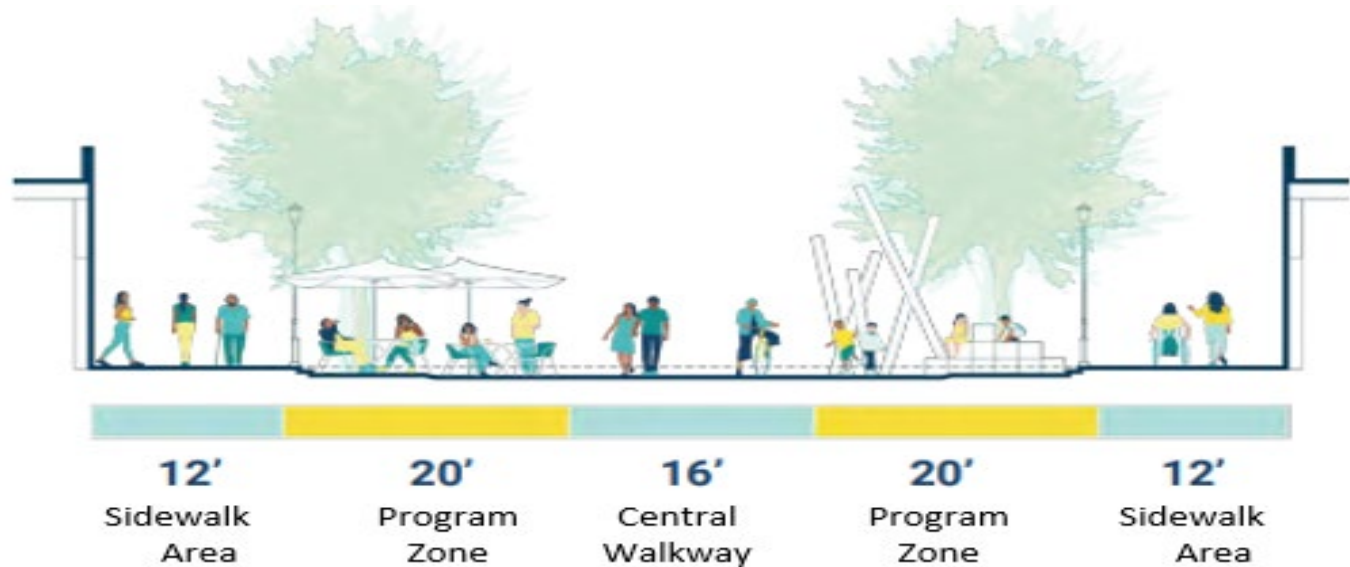
Umbrellas



Heaters



Other Amenities



Seating



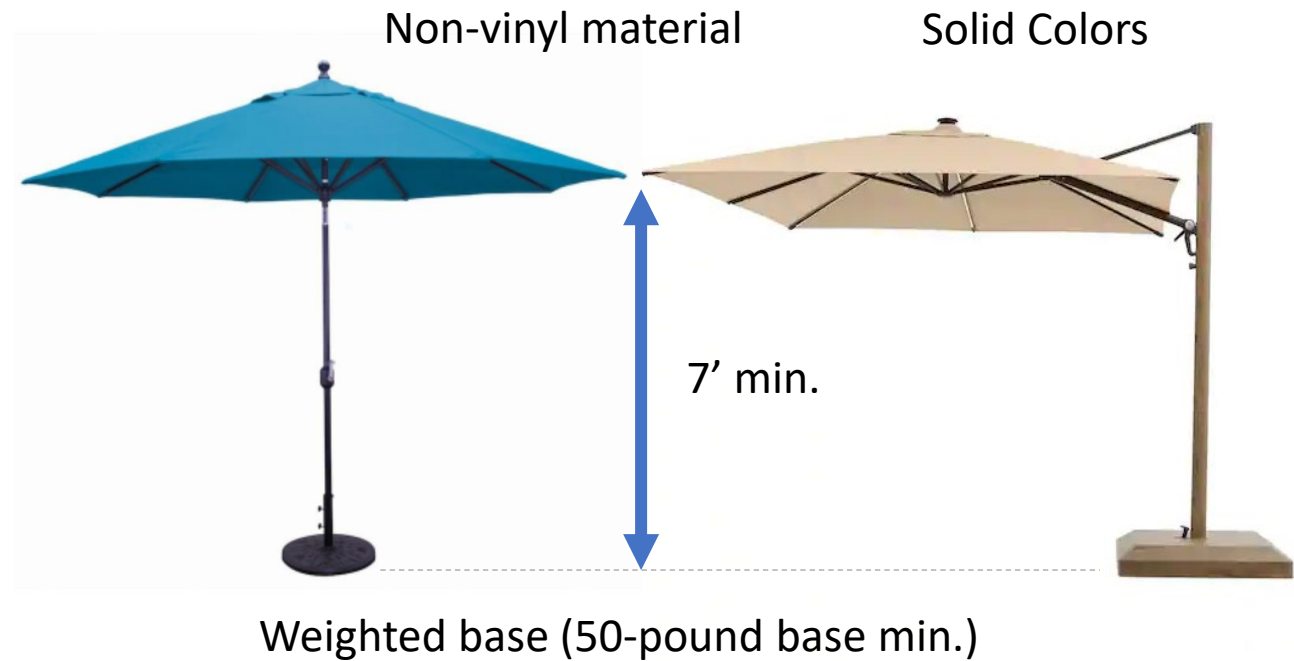
- Outdoor rated furniture only
- Shall provide ADA compliant accessible seating options
- Should be easy to remove for events and street cleaning
- All furniture shall be properly maintained and cleaned regularly
- Businesses may choose style and color



Umbrellas



- Shall not block sightlines through or along Castro Street
- Shall not extend past the patio footprint onto the street or sidewalk
- Neon colored umbrellas are not permitted
- Graphics on umbrellas are not permitted
- No shade structures with side panels or flaps
- “Tent-like” structures are prohibited



Heaters



- Only pyramid style and directional heaters are permitted
- Propane tanks should be properly stored (per City requirements) and not within the ped mall area
- Cannot be located within close proximity of tree trunks, foliage, umbrellas, or other combustible materials
- Mushroom cap heaters not permitted
 - Were only permitted as a pilot test with Sidewalk Café program
 - Safety concerns identified



Other Amenities



- If provided, shall be within the licensed patio area
- Planters – easy to move, do not drain into the street
- Lights – solar powered table-top lights only





Businesses will be responsible for

- Patio License Application
- Patio Implementation
- Patio Operation & Maintenance

Interim Pedestrian Mall Tentative Timeline

Action	Responsibility	2022		2023												2024 & beyond
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Street Improvements & Furnishing	City															
Pavement Resurfacing				Finalize Plan			Design & Bid			Construction phase 2-3 weeks in this timeframe						Complete in 2025/26
Intersection Improvements Phase 1 Dana & Villa - (with resurfacing, including new bollards)				Finalize Plan			Design & Bid			Construction phase 2-3 weeks in this timeframe						
Phase 2 (California and additional improvements at Villa, Dana)				Finalize Plan			Design & Bid			Construction phase 2-3 weeks in this timeframe						
Street Furniture Purchase and install ADA Ramps, Bike Racks, Trash Receptacles, Social Eddy Equipment				Finalize quantities and specs			Procurement			Installation (occurs after pavement treatment)						
Patio Barriers				Finalize patio barrier selection			Procurement			Install with approved patio installations						
Outdoor Patio Guidelines	City															
Develop and approve guidelines		Develop Guidelines		Council Approval												
Finalize and publicize guidelines						Publish Guidelines										
Outdoor Patio Installations	Businesses															
Submit applications (City review and approval)								Submit applications		→						
Complete patio installations										Patio installations		→				