3b. Vibrant Public Places

Public spaces such as community parks, sports and recreation facilities, Town Centers, and neighborhood farmers’ markets can be more than physical locations. Vibrant public spaces for people to gather can be the backdrop for where communities come alive, relationships with friends old and new are cultivated, and a sense of place and belonging in a big city can grow. These vibrant public places can also attract economic investment in the area, such as new businesses offering desired amenities and services, that complement the liveliness of the place and make it a standout destination.

MURAL PROGRAM TO ANIMATE PUBLIC SPACES
Downtown Los Angeles' Arts District has numerous wall murals that reflect the cultural diversity of the community. This public art enlivens public spaces and strengthens the City's identity as a regional center for the arts.

EATING AND DRINKING OUTDOORS TO ENJOY THE SURROUNDINGS
Downtown Palm Springs has numerous restaurants, bars, and cafes that line the sidewalk to offer outdoor dining with serviced tables and chairs. The outdoor, street-facing dining supports a lively atmosphere along the sidewalk/street and can attract further economic investment in the area.

CHARACTER-DEFINING ARCHITECTURE AND BRANDING
Santa Fe has a distinctive Native American and Spanish-influenced architectural style that gives locals and visitors a clear sense of place and city identity. The unique architectural themes and strong city branding of being a place to share history, culture, art, and nature support tourism and give personality to local residential neighborhoods.

LIVELY PUBLIC PLAZAS WITH ACTIVITY DAY AND NIGHT
Victoria Gardens in Rancho Cucamonga is an open-air town center with lively public spaces that are landscaped and include benches, tables, chairs, and shade canopies to encourage people to gather throughout the day.

NIGHT MARKETS
Orange County, Los Angeles, and the Bay Area host night markets with food stalls/food trucks, specialty shopping, arts and crafts, and live music and entertainment. These events bring locals and visitors together in a family-friendly atmosphere that offers something to do for everyone and at every budget.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS
Moreno Valley organizes special events for the community such as the Day of the Dead/Artfest, MoVal Rocks, and the Race Across the Base. These free and low-cost events are welcoming opportunities to gather with family and friends and build a sense of belonging in the city.

OUTDOOR MOVIE SCREENINGS
The neighborhood of Playa Vista in Westside Los Angeles sets up an inflatable screen at their local park during the summer months to host free screenings of family-friendly movies. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and folding chairs and sometimes food trucks stop by to make the events extra special. These events offer passive, non-physically demanding recreation in a unique atmosphere outside of the home.

Through outreach efforts including pop-up events and a community-wide online survey, community members have expressed an interest in the programming and design of public spaces to reflect Moreno Valley’s cultural diversity, as a majority Hispanic/Latino community.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS
Fill out a comment card and tell us how to create public spaces that reflect the cultural diversity of Moreno Valley.

Place a dot on your favorite ideas below: