2.8 TRANSBAY PARK

Transbay Park is a 1.1-acre site within the Transbay project area designated for recreational open space. Surrounded by proposed mixed-use residential developments and adjacent to existing commercial uses and the Financial District, the anticipated site users will be the newly emerging neighborhood residents as well as office workers.

The team’s analysis of adjacent open space within the greater framework of parks, boulevards, mews and plazas surrounding the Transbay project area, combined with an understanding of the scale of this site relative to other urban parks, informed this park program. The scale of the site requires the development of a park that has an inherent capacity for multiple activities that are unprogrammed so that a “layering” of uses can occur. A program was developed to facilitate informal play and recreation framed within a creative and sculptural expression. Design and programming objectives include the integration of the adjacent alleys, Clementina and Tehama, and the living street linear parks, at Main and Beale Streets, providing expanded recreational real estate.

Circulation through the site was designed in a number of ways. A more defined and formalized approach occurs along the walks, sidewalks and alleys, facilitating directional and diagonal corner-to-corner movement and plaza access. Seating, water elements, sculpture and artistic lighting are all integral to the park’s composition and have been developed as a “family” of park site furnishings. They also maintain a strong relationship to the Transbay District streetscape furnishings.

THE PLAZA

The elliptical plaza is sited adjacent to Clementina and the residential townhouses. With excellent solar exposure, this zone will provide an appropriate scale for many types of users, from informal marketplaces to small neighborhood gatherings. The tilted water wall and basin create a sculptural backdrop and edge to the plaza. Interspersed series of carbon fiber rods with lighting components reach skyward and provide kinetic and nighttime lighting interest. A columnar ginkgo “bosque” extends from the plaza into the alley. The surfaces are further expressed as extensions into the alley paving treatments and visually connect to the mid-block Clementina-Folsom passageway, which is lined by columnar pears.

THE WATER WALL

The water wall is effected by a uniform and thin sheet of water that flows over a smooth charcoal grey granite surface. The shallow basin at the foot of the wall is created by a sloped coping and is intended only for splashing, and as such, is no deeper than six inches. The water wall will comply with all applicable codes in effect at the time of its construction. Storm water reclaimed from the park landforms will pass through structural cellular networks under the park turf and will subsequently be purified, treated and stored in tanks under the landforms prior to its recirculation through the water wall.

THE GREEN

The remainder of the park site has been developed into a sculptural “green”, utilizing topography expressed by a series of undulating waves and tilted planes that define the site. Intersecting into these waves are the lateral pathways of the living streets, furthering the park’s integration with its edges. At this juncture with the sidewalk, the grass waves also provide informal seating and play for all ages. Accessibility has been provided by the primary and secondary path systems that cross the site, which also partition the remaining green through surface treatment and topographic changes, providing for a multiplicity of simultaneous uses.

The green also provides an opportunity for sculpture, either of a temporal nature or permanent installations. Interactive art expressions are anticipated and would contribute to a playful environment.
**PARK FURNISHINGS**

- Granite setts: sidewalk and plaza banding, and seating field
- Linear stone paving in plaza
- Punto garbage can [Hess]
- ‘Frederik’ bench in plaza [Via Futura]
- Bollard Type I
- ‘Frederik’ perch seating along terrain walls
- [Via Futura] with custom base from Hess to integrate family of site furniture
- Light patterning within plaza, along paths and flush mounted along terrain walls
- L.E.D. paving bricks [Hess]
- Carbon fiber L.E.D. rods in plaza
- Flush wall-mounted luminaires [Bega]

**PARK INSPIRATION**

- **WATER ELEMENT**
- **PLAY**
- **TOPOGRAPHIC MANIPULATION**
- **SCULPTURE**
- **SEATING**
- **ILLUMINATION**

**PLAZA:** Water as sculpture, form, light canvas and interaction
Plaza: “Water as Sculpture, Lighting as Kinetic Art”

Open field: “Open Space: Programmatic Flexibility”
Pedestrian mews looking north: “Park Integration with Street”

Linear park street and park perspective: “Topographic Manipulation”
TRANSBAY PARK DESIGN FEATURES

1. Plaza paved in 4" x 24" black granite pavers
2. Gingko trees
3. Water basin
4. Black granite wall
5. Black granite paving extending to mews
6. Concrete walls
7. Undulating "waves" of turf
8. Black granite 8" pavers with in-ground LED lights
9. Medium gray concrete path with intermittent seat walls & lights
10. Benches
11. Extension of linear park sidewalk
12. Groundcover plantings at Beech trees
13. Black granite sets in field of medium gray concrete
14. Play Area
15. Field
16. Private Open Space

Transbay Park - Illustrative plan

TRANS BAY PARK 2.8

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