



1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California 94022-3087

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: Thursday, July 7, 2016
TO: Chris Jordan, City Manager
FROM: Erica Ray, Public Information Coordinator
SUBJECT: RENAMING OF COMMUNITY PLAZA

This memo contains follow-up information regarding the proposal to rename Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. Input regarding this topic was received from community members in several ways:

1. Open City Hall Survey
2. Nextdoor Survey
3. Email

A summary of all feedback received as of July 7, 2016 is included in this memo. Any feedback received subsequent to this date will be provided to the City Council prior to the start of the regular Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2016.

Attachment A

Results from the Open City Hall Survey are attached as follows:

1. Survey results from registered users (n=54; 45% support renaming; 55% do not support)
2. Survey results for *unregistered users (n=87; 37% support renaming; 63% do not support)
3. Survey results with combined results of registered and unregistered users (n=141; 40% support renaming; 60% do not support)

*Open City Hall does not require users to register for the site in order to participate. However, only feedback submitted by registered users is viewable to the public. An unregistered user is someone who posts a statement without signing in, or someone who posts a statement signed in without verifying their email address or agreeing to the portal terms of use. The Open City Hall platform is savvy enough to prevent duplicate postings from registered and unregistered users.

Attachment B

Results from a poll the City posted on Nextdoor regarding this topic. The Nextdoor poll generated 86 responses. Results indicated 30% support for renaming Community Plaza; 53% do not support the renaming of Community Plaza; and 16% indicated indifference.

Attachment C

Emails from community members wishing to provide feedback on this topic were received from three sources:

1. Three community members responded to the City's News & Announcement email that was sent announcing the Open City Hall survey. Two respondents supported the renaming of Community Plaza, one did not.
2. One community member sent an email to the City via a website contact form to the Community Development Department. This individual indicated he supported the renaming of Community Plaza.
3. Forty-one individuals sent emails directly to me (Erica Ray) in support of the renaming of Community Plaza. These individuals were notified of the City Council's plans to discuss the renaming of Community Plaza by Ron Labetich, a Los Altos resident, business owner and Rotary Club member.

Note: There is overlap in the emails of support and Open City Hall survey results. The exact amount of overlap has not been calculated, however, some of the Open City Hall survey respondents provided names which match those in emails that were also sent.

Also, please note these surveys are not statistically valid, however, the information was collected in order to provide additional community input on this topic and assist the City Council in making a decision whether to rename Community Plaza or not.

Renaming Community Plaza

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

All Registered Responses sorted chronologically

As of July 7, 2016, 3:09 PM



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Renaming Community Plaza

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

As of July 7, 2016, 3:09 PM, this forum had:

Attendees:	208
Registered Responses:	54
All Responses:	141
Hours of Public Comment:	7.1

This topic started on June 14, 2016, 1:29 PM.

Renaming Community Plaza

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

Responses

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

		%	Count
Yes		45.3%	24
No		54.7%	29

Would you like to propose another idea to honor veterans?

Answered 40

Skipped 14

all also altos another area been **community** corner do downtown
events from group honor honoring like location los memorial more
name other **park** place plaza renaming s shoup some
statue support t they think veteran **veterans** was well which
who

REGISTERED USER RESPONSES

Signature	Location	Age	Gender	Do you support renaming?	Would you like to propose another idea to honor veterans?
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	75	F	No	Shoup Park has a magnificent statue honoring Veterans. Part of the park is called "Patriots Corner. Does more really serves the entire community I understand the fountain in front of the library could have a plaque or ? if a much used downtown location is sought. Art Commission has suggested an interactive art form here in the Community Plaza which is much more in keeping A great community hero's statue was removed from this plaza....now we want another, then who ? Loss of the name Community doesn't seem right
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	49	M	No	I propose a more specific memorial with the names of Los Altos veterans inscribed upon it. This memorial would most like have the most impact in public Park instead of a community plaza.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	63	F	No	The Community Plaza is the center of our downtown area, a place to bring everyone together. By renaming the plaza to honor only one group, you are taking away from the community feeling. Perhaps there is a place in Lincoln Park, Hillview or Library area which could be used to honor veterans.
melanee murphree	inside Los Altos	65	F	No	If we proposed a site to honor veterans of WWI and WWII from this town, I think that would be appropriate at some other location in this city. Following WWII, the USA has been the aggressor/occupier in most if not all other conflicts/wars in which veterans participated, and it would be difficult to separate honoring those who served while, by association, also then honoring the conflict/war itself.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	Though well intentioned, I don't think changing the name is a lasting way to honor veterans. Until this survey, it didn't really register for me that the plaza had a name already and it would likewise have little meaning if it were called Veterans Plaza - unless you add a statue, monument, etc. Shoup Park already has a statue and by it's nature is a place that could allow more serious reflection on the tremendous sacrifice our veterans have made. A plaque or other well thought out designation there would be more meaningful in my opinion. Or even somewhere in Lincoln Park. Los Altos is constantly seeking to reinforce it's small town community atmosphere. Having a "Community Plaza" , small as it is, seems to be a good fit. I vote to leave the name alone.

Name not shown	inside Los Altos	58	F	No	<p>Love other's eloquent responses and ideas. I donated a brick to the Community Plaza and wish it to stay that name. We are a community with many who have donated time and effort to Los Altos not just our wonderful veterans who absolutely should be thanked often. But not at our community plaza. ☹</p> <p>Can you instead plant a lovely shade tree finally there?? The choices for years have been sad ☹</p> <p>It is the entry to our lovely town ☹</p> <p>Also suggest you place the Singer bust by the history house where it belongs. Let's not celebrate just one person or group in our plaza from our vibrant community.</p>
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	<p>This plaza is the central location for our community, and the name should continue to reflect that. Apparently some people do not realize we have a beautiful sculpture at Shoup Park to honor veterans. Shoup is also where many events honoring vets occur. If we want to expand the formal area to honor vets, it would be more suitable to do so around that statue.</p>
Name not shown	outside Los Altos			No	<p>Instead of recycling the current park. I would suggest to bring more meaning to it, to create a memorial that represented our local veterans with as wall of names, or statue with the names on the stand. The current park represents the community and that is what we are.</p>
Jim Colby	inside Los Altos			No	<p>I would suggest an alternative location that has higher utilization by veterans. Los Altos downtown needs more community. Keep the name Community Plaza and encourage its use.</p>
Casey Roche	outside Los Altos	59	M	No	<p>Yes. "Heart's Delight Plaza" honoring the scenic beauty, mild climate, and thousands of acres of blooming fruit trees this valley was known for before becoming Silicon Valley...and harkening back to the earlier name for the area -- The Valley of Heart's Delight.</p>

Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	The plaza was built by funds donated by more than 100 families whose names are on the bricks and plaques in the plaza. They donated to a place to be named the "Community Plaza." This was a promise made to donors and should not be violated for any reason. This has nothing to do with whether veterans should be honored with a naming place. It is simply the moral, and maybe legal, responsibility to honor donor intent. Some donors are now saying they don't care if the name is changed. Some donors have passed away. Others are alive and oppose violating the promise of the naming. This respondent is in the latter group and believes the plaza was built to honor the entire community.
paul gonella	inside Los Altos	80	M	Yes	
Tracie Murray	inside Los Altos	54	F	Yes	I am writing to you as a resident of Los Altos as well as a U.S. Army Veteran. I believe that changing the name of the Community Plaza to "Los Altos Veterans Plaza" is a fitting tribute to the men and women of our armed forces. It is thanks to all of our Veterans that we enjoy our freedom today. What a small token to say "thank you" for serving our nation and preserving our freedom. ☐ Thank you for your consideration.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Howard Bischoff	inside Los Altos			Yes	
William Closs	outside Los Altos			Yes	
Harry Price	inside Los Altos	64	M	Yes	

Karen and Fred Greguras	inside Los Altos			Yes	I would also like to recommend that the Veteran Statue in Shoup Park be relocated to this site, in addition to renaming the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. The statue is currently hidden down in a corner of Shoup Park, and many residents do not know about it. It is a beautiful tribute to Veterans, and I am sure there would be a lovely space for it in the Plaza.
Herb Deitz	outside Los Altos	68	M	Yes	I think the city should do as much as possible to help Veterans. Naming the plaza in honor of the veterans is the least they can do for veterans
Frank Verlot	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Joe Boscacci	inside Los Altos	75	M	Yes	As a retired U.S. Army veteran with 32 years service as an enlisted man and officer as well as a resident of Los Altos for 30 years, I appeared before the Recreation and Parks Commission to support the renaming of City Plaza to Veterans Plaza. I was also representing the American Legion Post 558 in this city that has its origin in Los Altos since 1938. A substantial number of our members have been veterans from World War I to the present. These Los Altans placed their lives at risk with some making the ultimate sacrifice in order to preserve our democracy and the simple renaming of our City Plaza to Veterans Plaza would be a great honor for them and their families. There is no cost or expense to the taxpayers since our American Legion Post has already erected and maintained the flagpoles and flags. Please support this proposal.
Pat White	outside Los Altos	66	M	Yes	This proposal to honor our Veterans is like a beacon which should shine right between your eyes. People who have grown up over the last 50 or 60 years have all individually been affected by the plight of Veterans. Our Families, our Friends have all been changed, this Plaza should be a statement thanking these Veterans for their efforts!
jerry moison	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Dick Blanding	inside Los Altos			Yes	I fully support this modest proposal to honor those you men and women who have given so freely of their lives to help protect our country.

Duncan MacVicar	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Kathy Lera	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Gary Brown	inside Los Altos	65	M	Yes	
john challas	inside Los Altos			Yes	NO!
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	The Veterans should have a spot that lends itself to quiet reflection on the brave men and women who have served and died for our country. The busy corner at Main and Edith is not that spot. It should continue to be named Community Plaza.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	46	F	No	Have occasional banners across the streets highlighting specific events, times in our military history and the contributions our veterans have made.
Karl Danz	inside Los Altos	59	M	Yes	
Lisa Mark	inside Los Altos	47	F	Yes	
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	no
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	While I fully support our Veterans I do not support renaming a COMMUNITY Plaza to a single group or people. We have a wonderful park that already honors our Veterans, why not continue that theme and consider renaming the great BBQ/kitchen area in the park?
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	72	F	No	No, I am satisfied with the current level of recognition for veterans.

John McBirney	inside Los Altos			No	Create a veterans memorial at Shoup Park, the History house or in another city park.☒ I am very grateful to all veterans, living and passed, for defending my freedom.
Dennis Young	inside Los Altos	73	M	Yes	
Carol Nakamoto	inside Los Altos			Yes	Do we sponsor a parade on Veteran's Day? sorry that I don't know this already. I support recognition for this group of citizens who do so much more than the average person.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	50	M	No	Veterans are important, integral members of our society. However, it is not inclusive nor appropriate of Los Altos to name that plaza in honor of our valued Veterans. Such an honor should be bestowed to a place that is worthy of reflection, honor, sacrifice, and civility. Rather, the Community Plaza is a pastiche of ideas thrown together at a busy, commercial intersection. Or perhaps that's what we want, another reason to commodify something. Let's think of a better place to honor the Veterans. How about in a park with a view of our mountains?
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	68	F	No	The existing statue in Shoup Park honors veterans and seems to be a good way to honor veterans because the statue generates intergenerational conversation about history.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	41	F	No	Keep the name Community Plazaand the focus there on community. Please bring back the Singer bust, too. ☒ ☒ Veterans are honored in many ways in Los Altos, including a wonderful statue at Shoup Park and in many community events. ☒ ☒ Focus more on honoring veterans at events, especially on relevant holidays -July 4th, Memorial Day, Veterans Day. Honoring them with mention or moments of silence at live community events is a more active form of honor than just changing the name of the plaza.

Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	I support the desire to honor veterans however I prefer not to see the Community Plaza renamed to Veterans Plaza since it's intended to be a place where everyone, veteran or not, can feel welcome to gather. We have a statue to honor veterans at Shoup Park and rather than dedicate another space to this, my personal preference to honor veterans would be through community volunteerism and financial donations to legitimate organizations that support veterans through the challenges they face when their service is done.
Penny Lave	inside Los Altos	79	F	No	No,no,no,no,no. The Community Plaza belongs to the WHOLE COMMUNITY. We honor veterans twice at Shoup Park and individual veterans elsewhere in a public park. The Los Altos Rotary club which is proposing this renaming is also funding a veterans plaza as well as other veterans amenities at Foothill College. Please leave the Community Plaza to honor all residents.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	42	F	No	I think that veterans are honored in other spaces in our community, including Shoup Park. I do not think we need another named space.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	I think there are multiple places that currently honor the veterans. I like the plaza to represent all of the community- thus Community Plaza.
David Reeder	inside Los Altos	73	M	No	We already honor our veterans in a corner of Shoup Park.
Ross Lappin	inside Los Altos	72	M	Yes	Perhaps consider naming the plaza "veterans community plaza"
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	37	M	Yes	
Cindy Sidaris	inside Los Altos	62	F		This survey should have another response - that of "have no opinion - not important to me". If this is important to others I do not object

Name not shown	inside Los Altos			No	My husband, a veteran, says it would be meaningless. Honor veterans by donating stuff to the VA Hospital and urging Congress to improve veterans' benefits. Before you donate to any veterans' charities, check them out because (sadly) most are scams and get an F rating on charitywatch.org. One I can recommend is the Semper Fi Fund (not just for Marines) that gets a top rating. Also, bring back the Singer bust to the plaza. He was a notable resident and shouldn't be stored in a warehouse.
Bob Simmons	inside Los Altos			Yes	There are never enough ways for a community to honor those that have served in the armed services. The Community Plaza is the perfect spot to remind all of us about the sacrifices these men and woman have made to keep us safe. They should never be forgotten and the Community Plaza would be a perfect reminder.
Monica Waldman	outside Los Altos			No	A statue, a park not in the middle of our downtown.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	61	F	No	I feel that this plaza truly belongs to the Los Altos Community's. A Veteran's Plaza, Grove ,or Park might be located close to Cradle of Liberty sculpture in Shoup Park or Patriot corner. Or a new location in Redwood Grove as it is being considered for redesign. A more contemplative location allowing families and friends of those who served our country to reflect peacefully would be more appropriate. This plaza is too busy. Create a respectful monument located elsewhere.
Name not shown	inside Los Altos	59	M	No	The location of the Plaza in the heart of the downtown makes it a place to convene; I find the name Community Plaza to be more inclusive. Perhaps another location such as Village Park might be named to honor veterans.

Renaming Community Plaza

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

All Unregistered Responses sorted chronologically

As of July 7, 2016, 3:10 PM



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Renaming Community Plaza

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

Responses

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

		%	Count
Yes		36.9%	31
No		63.1%	53

Would you like to propose another idea to honor veterans?

Answered 35

Skipped 52

all **altos** area **community** do don downtown event from **honor**
honoring just large like logical los memorial more name **park**
people place **plaza** rename **renaming** S sculpture **shoup** small
so something **statue** street **t** they **think** town **veterans** was way

UNREGISTERED USER RESPONSES

Signature	Location	Age	Gender	Do you support renaming?	Would you like to propose another idea to honor veterans?
Name not available				No	I am not sure why this is "a thing." We already have a memorial at Shoup Park, the Rotary Club put in a BBQ pit a few months back there to encourage the community to get out, enjoy the area and reflect on the sacrifices made by veterans. Our small town does not need another memorial. The name "Community Plaza" reflects our ever changing and diverse community. Let's keep the name.
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	I think it's great to honor veterans for they have sacrificed so much. I don't think renaming this small downtown plaza on the intersection busy streets is the appropriate measure. There is a large, impressive statue honoring veterans in Shoup park. Perhaps something more can be done there to honor veterans. Perhaps benches with some way of recognizing veterans or veterans groups. Shoup is a short walk from downtown. There is a section of Shoup park called Patriot's Corner. Maybe the city could consider naming and publicizing the area with the statue to honor veterans. Community Plaza is for all residents and a gateway to downtown. Anything to enhance it should reflect on the 30,000 Los Altos residents as a whole.
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	There is already a very large statue in Shoup Park to honor veterans. The Plaza is for the community, not just veterans, and there is no logical reason to rename this plaza.
Name not available				No	There is no logical rationale for the proposed name. It would be more logical to rename Shoup Park Veterans park because the Los Altos Veterans Memorial is there. ? PS; I object strenuously providing personal information to any 3rd party! For privacy reasons and identity theft reasons, providing information to non-government organization is an invitation to having it stolen and used improperly without recourse.

Name not available				No	There is already a veterans memorial at Shoup Park. There is no logical rationale presented to rename the Community Plaza as suggested. One could easily argue that it is more logical to rename Shoup Park Veterans Park because the Veterans Memorial is there.
Name not available				No	Los Altos Community Plaza is more a more inclusive vision statement in a central location. Commemorating veterans is already part of Shoup Park so it is a more logical renaming candidate. ☒
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	Shoup park statue should suffice or consider something close to civic center in the redevelopment
Name not available				No	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	Continue to provide support to the facilities and programs at Foothill College.

Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not shown	inside Los Altos			Yes	No
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	

Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	How about Black Lives Matter Plaza? How about LBGT Plaza? ☹ I don't think many veterans have asked for this. ☹ A meaningless, politically correct, feelgood gesture that bolsters Rotarian egos, not veterans. ☹ Go down to the VA and get your hands dirty, if you want to help vets.
Janet Harding	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Alexander Glew	inside Los Altos			Yes	
Name not available					
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	plaques in various City buildings

Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	My reason for saying 'no' is that I so enjoy the Shoup Park sculpture, honoring all service men, in such a beautiful setting! My son and I visited this last weekend; have taken pictures of the sculpture and visited the site with others several times including the city's 4th of July event in the park. Elizabeth Powell (a Los Altos downtown triangle resident :)
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	I like the name and the spirit behind Community Plaza. I believe we should find a location, monument that has meaning to the Veterans. Artificially changing the name of a plaza does little to authentically honor our veterans and their service. Providing a facelift to the VFW hall on First street ----hosting a Memorial Day event or 4th of July will do more to connect the action/activity to the deserved vets !
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	

Name not available				No	The word "community" implies a civic area, which is exactly what this plaza does for all the functions that happen there. Renaming it Veterans Plaza, would honor a specific group within our community, which I don't think is warranted for this particular area. Better to erect a monument to our veterans in another area.
Name not available				No	A community plaza should welcome the whole community, not just a few people. Los Altos already has honored Veterans with the statue in Shoup Park and naming various places in individual's names. We don't need to see a reminder of our military history every time we go downtown. If you really want to honor our Veteran's, volunteer your time and money with the true heroes at the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital where they will benefit directly from your effort.
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	No. Los Altos has more important things to deal with.
Name not available				No	No. Los Altos has more important things to deal with.

Name not available				No	<p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> <p>We already have a wonderful statue in the park on University Ave. honoring veterans. Lets give more publicity to that area.</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p>
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	<p>Renaming the underutilized Plaza seems like an empty gesture. A more meaningful way would be to remodel the Plaza to improve utilization by making it a more inviting place. The current design seems to intentionally discourage people from walking through it; instead it should modified to encourage people to use it as a cut-through between Main and State streets and beautified to encourage people to linger.</p> <p>[This may be a repeat of an earlier response that may not have been sent due to some problem on my end when trying to show my response with my name]</p> <p>?</p>

Name not available				No	I think the thought is lovely thought. However, it is the meeting and gathering place for all people, race, color, creed. I love our veterans and think of so many who have given their lives for us. We do have Liberty statue in Shoup, do we not? Maybe on Veterans Day we should have a gathering and the Ye Old Town Band to play in remembrance of our Veterans in COMMUNITY PARK. What a novel idea, rather than just a name, lets have a real event to honor them annually!
Name not available				Yes	Start a tradition of an annual event at the Veterans Plaza on July 4th with dozens of vets invited to participate, maybe giving testimonials about their experiences on active duty, etc. Maybe honor one vet each year who gave the most to defend us, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Nyberg, Publisher Los Altos Town Crier
Name not available				No	There are much better ways to honor our Veterans and support them and their needs rather than another new sign on the Community Plaza. A new sign will make those people proposing the name change 'feel good' but it won't actually do anything for the Veterans.
Name not available				No	Honoring Veterans by renaming an underutilized plaza seems like an empty gesture. Instead the Plaza should be improved to increase utilization: improved landscaping with include low-maintenance landscaping and a cut-through pedestrian path passing near Citibank to provide an attractive and convenient way to walk from Main Street to State Street. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Name not available				Yes	No
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	

Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	Perhaps a part of the civic center campus redesign near police department?
Name not available				No	We already have patriot corner. We are a small city. ?
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available				No	
Name not available					The Community Plaza is quite small and would not be ideal for large group assembly. A better place might be Lincoln Park near the Main Street/Lincoln ave. intersection. A flagpole with a substantial base exists and the surrounding turf and nearby Gazebo would provide a more usable setting.

Name not available				No	
Name not available				Yes	
Name not available				Yes	I do like the name of the Community Plaza however I would not be against changing the name if, in fact, a plaque, or statue was erected to really drive the point home. Just to rename it and keep the "look" the same would not work for me. I personally was upset when they took away the Walter Singer statue. I thought that gave some depth and history to our town. I don't know whether he is in storage now or at the History Museum.
Name not available				No	Volunteer to serve in the arm force.
Name not available					
Name not available				No	We already have a dedicated spot in Shoup park
Name not available				No	I feel there are adequate other ways to honor the sacrifice our veterans have made. There is a statue in Shoup park, as I recall. There is only one, central, community plaza, and that should remain named for the entire Los Altos community.

Name not available				No	<p>There is absolutely no purpose or connection that can be made to support renaming the Community Plaza for any reason. Los Altos currently has Patriot's Corner on the left side of Shoup Park. On the right side of Shoup Park is a large bronze sculpture of a soldier holding a child. That is a large and active park. For a city of our size, I believe these are significant ways to honor veterans who have served our country. My late brother served honorably in Vietnam and I am respectful of his service and that of thousands of others in all wars and conflicts.☐</p> <p>In 1992/93, in cooperation with the City, the Community Plaza was created and funded largely by hundreds of people in the community through sales of engraved bricks and plaques that honor many local individuals, families, sporting, social and neighborhood groups. That effort represents Community, and the Plaza is well named. I recommend that decision makers stand and read the many inscriptions. Together they are happy, personal, and sometimes in memory of family and friends and represent Los Altos in the way that our City's mission statement reads, that we are a great place to live and raise a family. These community members and supporters do not deserve to be dismissed as less important than any other groups. Flags fly at the Community Plaza. ☐</p> <p>If there is a perceived need to rename something more for veterans, why not consider Grant Park, a name that was inherited from the Cupertino School District when the land was purchased by the City. Thank you.</p>
Name not available				No	There is already a spot honoring veterans in Shoup Park
Name not available				No	
Name not available				Yes	thank you what a good idea.

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All Responses sorted chronologically

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Responses

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		%	Count
Yes		40.1%	55
No		59.9%	82

Would you like to propose another idea to honor veterans?

Answered 75

Skipped 66

all also **altos** **another** area **community** corner **do** don downtown
from history **honor** honoring just like location **los** memorial **more**
name other **park** people place **plaza** renaming s shoup
some **statue** support t they **think** town veteran **veterans** was
who

City of Los Altos Nextdoor Poll Results

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza?

- No 53%
- Yes 30%
- Indifferent 16%

VOTE | 86

Shared with 1 area in City of Los Altos in General

REPLY | 1

★ Charles thanked you



Jerry M. from Grant Park

29 Jun

I support the renaming of the Los Altos community plaza to Veterans Plaza. We owe to our veterans to acknowledge their service both in the past and those still serving today. Just this morning I receive a photo from a friend showing he was in a vehicle WITH AIR CONDITIONING and it was still 124 degrees. Many from this area are still going in harm's way.

Sun Tzu, the 6th century BCE Chinese leader, said, "Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys. Look on them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death!"

We are lucky that more our citizens are not required to serve in the military but that grace only comes from the sacrifice made by those that do serve. "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by our nation." Renaming the plaza for Veterans is one way to show out support.

Erica Ray

From: Nextdoor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 3:05 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Re: Poll: Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

 Charles Thompson, Los Altos

This is a loaded question. Ask anyone if they support Veterans and of course they would say yes. BUT Los Altos has done a lot to honor veterans with the large statue in Shoup Park and naming a nearby baseball field, etc.

The problem with honoring veterans is these are memorials of those who died in a war which may have been unpopular with some of our local citizens.

When I visit downtown Los Altos, which I do often, I don't want a constant reminded of the wars I personally did not believe in. To be honest, I never knew Mr. Singer and though I made a point to learn who he was, I never felt he was more deserved than a lot of other citizens who helped make Los Altos great.

I would recommend keeping politics, wars, and special people out of this focal area of downtown. Instead stick with an historical landmark, on this corner like the first stage coach stop, church, orchard, or UFO sighting--something that favors no one group and can be enjoyed equally by all Los Altans.

Original post by Erica Ray from City of Los Altos (1 reply):

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza?
Jun 16 in General to 1 area in City of Los Altos

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This message is intended for eraray@losaltosca.gov
[Unsubscribe or adjust your email settings](#)

Nextdoor, 760 Market Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102

Erica Ray

From: Bill via Nextdoor [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 9:54 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Private message: RE: Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

 Bill Crook, Spring - Berry

I would like to see the City make some effort to query the local veterans to solicit their views on this, mostly to ensure this is not just a feel good project on behalf of Council. Foothill College has a fairly active group of returning veterans- ask them what they would like. I have a feeling their response might be a proactive push to involve them in the City- either through employment opportunities, perhaps serving on a City commission, or involvement in some other community activity (contributing their skills maintaining the Festival of Light Parade floats). Perhaps what might be more meaningful to veterans returning from service in our community might be a coordinator who can work with them one on one to assist with their integration back into the community (team up with the Foothill College coordinator). I realize the group up at Foothill may include veterans from Mt. View, Redwood City, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale but some are probably Los Altos residents too- they tend to be young (two/three years out of high school).

[View or reply](#)

This message is intended for eray@losaltosca.gov.
[Unsubscribe or adjust your email settings](#)

Nextdoor, 760 Market Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102

Erica Ray

From: Elizabeth Powell [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 9:01 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Re: City of Los Altos News & Announcements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

My vote would be no. I truly believe that the beautiful sculpture at Shoup Park is a beautiful tribute to all who have served in the military.

Elizabeth M. Powell
226 W. Edith Avenue. #22 Los Altos, CA 94022

On Jun 15, 2016, at 5:14 PM, City of Los Altos <eray@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Renaming Community Plaza

Recently, a group of community members approached the City with a proposal to change the name of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor all military veterans that have served the United States of America.

The City's Parks and Recreation Commission considered the request to rename Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza at its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2016. The Commission felt further community input on how to best honor veterans should be gathered before making a formal recommendation to the City Council.

The City is seeking input from the community on this topic via Open City Hall, its online community forum.

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

Share your thoughts at <http://www.peakdemocracy.com/3768>

[Unsubscribe](#)

Erica Ray

From: maureen smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 9:23 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Re: City of Los Altos News & Announcements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I personally think the "Community Plaza" includes and honors all the residents. The statute and plaque in Shoup Park all ready honor the veterans. Keep the current name. No change needed.

On Wed, Jun 15, 2016 at 5:29 PM, City of Los Altos <eray@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Renaming Community Plaza

Recently, a group of community members approached the City with a proposal to change the name of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor all military veterans that have served the United States of America.

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The City is seeking input from the community on this topic via Open City Hall, its online community forum.

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

Share your thoughts at <http://www.peakdemocracy.com/3768>

[Unsubscribe](#)

Erica Ray

From: Jeane Bennington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2016 8:49 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Re: City of Los Altos News & Announcements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I think renaming the plaza would be fine. I think what belongs in the plaza is the beautiful sculpture which sits hidden away in Shoup Park. Many of us contributed to the memorial sculpture. I have always wondered why it was placed where few people see it. If you are going to dedicate the plaza to veterans, why not have the sculpture where it belongs?

On Wed, Jun 15, 2016 at 5:14 PM, City of Los Altos <eray@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Renaming Community Plaza

Recently, a group of community members approached the City with a proposal to change the name of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor all military veterans that have served the United States of America.

The City's Parks and Recreation Commission considered the request to rename Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza at its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2016. The Commission felt further community input on how to best honor veterans should be gathered before making a formal recommendation to the City Council.

The City is seeking input from the community on this topic via Open City Hall, its online community forum.

Do you support the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza to honor veterans?

Share your thoughts at <http://www.peakdemocracy.com/3768>

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Erica Ray

From: Planning Service
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 10:50 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Form Submission From: Name: Peter Mills

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Web comment! Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: City of Los Altos Official Website [<mailto:info@losaltosca.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 10:25 AM
To: Community Web
Subject: Form Submission From: Name: Peter Mills

Submitted on Thursday, June 16, 2016 - 10:24am Submitted by anonymous user: [107.214.150.25] Submitted values are:

Department: Community Development
Name: Peter Mills

Comments / Requests:

I like the idea of renaming [redacted] Plaza to "Veterans' Community Plaza".
(that is "Veterans", not "Veterans" or Veteran's") This is a plural possessive.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<http://www.losaltosca.gov/node/420/submission/3788>

Erica Ray

From: Susan Meaney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: John Meaney
Subject: Downtown Plaza renaming

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica,

I would like to echo my husband's support for the renaming of the downtown plaza at State and Main streets to Los Altos Veterans Plaza. My husband and I have lived in Los Altos for 22 years and raised our children there. We have a sense for how Los Altos has evolved over time and we have a real appreciation for the community. I have copied the sentiments expressed by my husband in a prior email since I completely agree and believe he articulated our position very clearly.

As a twenty-two year resident of Los Altos, there have been few community actions in which I have personally involved myself, and I consider this a very worthwhile cause. Recognizing military veterans and their families in such a central location in town will bring pride to our town and future generations of Los Altans. Furthermore, I see no downside or reasonable objection to doing what so many of our neighboring towns and cities have already done and at a time when so many Americans and members of our community are sacrificing their lives for this country.

Respectfully,

Susan Meaney

Susan Blake Meaney
Makena Capital Management
2755 Sand Hill Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025

650-926-0515

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Erica Ray

From: John Meaney <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 9:44 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming of Community Plaza in Los Altos to Veterans Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica,

I would like to voice my support for the renaming of the downtown plaza at State and Main streets to Los Altos Veterans Plaza.

As a twenty-two year resident of Los Altos, there have been few community actions I have personally involved myself, and I consider this a very worthwhile cause. Recognizing military veterans and their families in such a central location in town will bring pride to our town and future generations of Los Altans. Furthermore, I see no downside or reasonable objection to doing what so many of our neighboring towns and cities have already done and at a time when so many Americans and members of our community are sacrificing their lives for this country.

Respectfully,

John Meaney
951 Manor Way
Los Altos, CA

Erica Ray

From: Kathy Lera
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 8:10 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Endorsement to Rename our Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Resend with email address corrected.

From: Lee Lera [mailto:]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 8:08 PM
To: eray@losaltosca.gov
Cc: Lee; 'Kathy Lera'; [REDACTED]
Subject: Endorsement to Rename our Community Plaza

TO: Members of the Council, City of Los Altos

"We hold these truths self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness". These words, written by our founding fathers at the birth of our nation, still encapsulate the American dream and the way of life we have grown so accustomed to. These words have embodied us as a people to develop a society and communities that are continually evolving so that we can embrace new ideas, cultures and ways of life. This document has been the guiding document that has led to our government, by the people and for the people. Because of this philosophy of government we continue today to reap the benefits of living our lives freely and pursuing our dreams. It is easy in our busy lives to take these rights and our freedom to do or go wherever we want, for granted. This is something we must never do.

During this time of year we reflect on the words of our founding fathers and thank God that we are Americans and able to live our lives freely. We also reflect on the cost to defend our way of life and realize that, our way of life as we know it and, our freedom, does not come without sacrifice and heavy cost. Many men and women throughout our history, including members of our own families, have been called to serve or, answered the call voluntarily to defend our freedom. All, even in peace time, sacrificed some and some, in war time, unfortunately were called to make the ultimate sacrifice. We owe all these people our deepest gratitude and appreciation. We can never repay what their sacrifices have done for us as a nation and a people.

It has been recently proposed that the Los Altos Community Plaza be re-named the Los Altos Veterans Plaza. We cannot think of a better way to show our appreciation to those who served than by having a place, where people gather as a community, named in their honor. It would allow our veterans a place to reflect upon their service and to realize and take pride that their efforts have allowed our country and our communities to prosper freely. A place of gathering such as this would also allow all citizens and visitors who gather there to reflect on what our freedom costs, to appreciate those who served and to appreciate the unalienable rights bestowed upon us so many years ago. It is truly a way for the Los Altos community to openly express our appreciation for those who have given so much. It will be a place where all can gather to reflect, respect and realize the cost of war. We encourage the members of our Los Altos City Council to approve the name change to honor and thank all Veterans for their sacrifice and service.

Respectfully,

Lee & Kathy Lera
1043 Eastwood Drive

Erica Ray

From: Arrillaga, Jeff <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 3:02 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming of Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica,

I will be unable to attend the July 12th City Council meeting for the discussion of the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. I have been a big supporter of the Veterans for their tremendous service they provide for our country. The name change is a small token of appreciation that our city can do to respect those who protect us.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jeff and Susan Arrillaga

Erica Ray

From: Derek Lubich < >
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 2:44 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: Derek Lubich
Subject: Veterans Plaza, Kiwanis Club of Los Altos

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica,

On April 21st at our monthly board meeting the Kiwanis Club of Los Altos voted in full favor Yes of the name change for the Veterans Plaza in Downtown Los Altos.

Unfortunately we won't be able to attend the city council meeting on the 12th, it's the same night as our board meeting.

Our club is in full support of the name change, from Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza.

Thankyou,

Derek

Derek Lubich
President
Kiwanis Club of Los Altos

(650) 766-6391

Erica Ray

From: Gary Brown < >
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 2:41 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: Gary Brown
Subject: Renaming Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza Proposal...

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good day, my name is Gary Brown. I am Operations Manager at Spangler Mortuaries and I live at 399 S. San Antonio Road in Los Altos. Because I will not be able to attend the City Council meeting on July 12th, I would like to make it known to the City Council that my wife Debbie Brown and myself fully support the proposal to rename the Los Altos Community Plaza to the Veterans Plaza. It is our strong belief that the Veterans deserve whatever recognition can be provided to them as a show of appreciation for all they have given to our community and country.

Thank you very much!

Best Regards,
Gary Brown

--

Gary Brown

Business Operations Manager

Spangler Mortuaries

Mountain View, Los Altos, Sunnyvale, California

Phone: 650-967-5546

Fax: 650-967-7196

Erica Ray

From: Rebecca Maguire < >
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 11:56 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Plaza renaming

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Eric,

In lieu of attendance at next week's city council meeting, I'm sending my vote of support for renaming Community Plaza to Veteran's plaza via email. Hope this helps. Thank you.

Rebecca Maguire

Sent from my iPhone

Erica Ray

From: Bob Sutis ·
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Veterans Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica,
I stand with those who wish to honor our veterans by renaming the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. If you feel some resistance to the name change, think of what it would mean to those who have served and returned often battered physically and/or emotionally. Not to mention the impact their service had on their families and friends. If you just cannot be persuaded, then at least consider some gesture for our veterans such as naming something Veterans Field, Veterans Hall etc.
Thanks so much
Bob Sutis 371 N Avalon Drive

Erica Ray

From: Tracie Murray < >
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 7:17 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Support of Renaming the Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica,

I did respond to the City of Los Altos survey (on-line) however I do not see my response included so I do not know if it went through. I will re-state what I said on the web-site as well as to Mr. Hernandez:

I am writing to you as a resident of Los Altos as well as a U.S. Army Veteran. I believe that changing the name of the Community Plaza to "Los Altos Veterans Plaza" is a fitting tribute to the men and women of our armed forces. It is thanks to all of our Veterans that we enjoy our freedom today. What a small token to say "thank you" for serving our nation and preserving our freedom.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracie Murray, JD, NHA
Administrator
Cedar Crest Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
797 E. Fremont Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408/738-4880

Erica Ray

From: John Forrett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 9:00 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: 'Tracie Murray'
Subject: Renaming of the Downtown Community Plaza to "Veterans Plaza"

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ms. Ray,

I am a member in good standing with The American Legion, Los Altos Post 558 and I writing to you today to lend my support for the renaming of the Downtown Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. I am also a proud LGBT US Army Infantry Veteran.

I am sure you have received may correspondences regarding this matter and I hope that my words here provide some information you may not be aware of.

Since the founding of our great nation, we have gone through many changes that no only met the times but the global arena we are a major player in.

I would like to point out something that most people don't speak of when referring to Veterans and the many services and sacrifices of the men and women described below, who have worn the uniforms of our Nation's Armed Forces.

Everyone who served in the different branches of the military were later allowed to wear the name and badge of "Veteran" for their service. Not everyone was always allowed to serve or have that honored distinction because they were either a Woman, Black, Asian, Hispanic, European, Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender or any other category I missed here. The point is those who did serve were treated as less than the white straight males, simply because of who they were. They had to work harder, prove themselves, undergo discrimination and persecution simply because they were different and yet they served our nation at many critical times in history when we least needed divisions in the rank and file and yet *the served anyway*.

Today, we are a more rational society (or at least I hope so) and what I just explained is not so much a problem, but those who served as I wrote above are just as proud as ever of their service because they love their country.

So when a statue, a monument, a park or a downtown plaza are built or renamed to a Veteran area, we honor those who served in all the wartime and peacetime missions that our great country is either proud or ashamed of, since the politicians are the ones who are responsible for the failed leadership, those who served are honored for their service and sacrifice to be remembered for generations to come. Let's hope that EVERYONE is included in those remembrances and that those generations learn just what it really meant to serve.

Thank you,

John Forrett

Erica Ray

From: Jerry Murray < >
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 7:03 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: I support the renaming of the Los Altos community plaza to Veterans Plaza.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica Ray
Public Information Coordinator of the City of Los Altos.

I support the renaming of the Los Altos community plaza to Veterans Plaza.

Sun Tzu, the 6th century BCE Chinese leader, said, ““Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys. Look on them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death!”

We are lucky that more our citizens are not required to serve in the military but that grace only comes from the sacrifice made by those that do serve. *““The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by our nation.”* Renaming the plaza for Veterans is one way to show out support.

Jerry Murray

1653 Christina Drive
Los Altos, CA 94024

Erica Ray

From: *Erica Ray*
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 5:32 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Erica, I strongly recommend and on behalf of our American Legion Post 558, that you rename this plaza VETERANS PLAZA. As a vet from Korea where I served in combat from 1951 - 1952 this would be a location where the city of Los Altos would be proud to honor all military personnel.

Thank you and if any questions please give me a call.

John W Heidmiller
747 Alvina Court
Los Altos, CA 94024
650.967.8834

Erica Ray

From: Sandra Whipple <
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 2:53 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Council,
We fully support the renaming of the plaza to Veterans Plaza to help honor those who have served and continue to serve our country and specifically our community.
Sincerely,
Sandie and Art Whipple

Erica Ray

From: Frank Zampino <frank.zampino@lacc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 2:34 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: name of plaza
Attachments: Modified TC article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi LACC: I am a WWII & Korean war veteran and 39 yr. resident of Los Altos. I am in favor of renaming community plaza to Veterans Plaza. Thank you. Francis Zampino. 1130 Runnymede drive.

Erica Ray

From: McGovern, Tom <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 1:09 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming of the Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Ms. Ray,

I'd like to encourage you to support the renaming of the plaza to Veterans Plaza.

Thank you,

Tom McGovern
393 Lunada Dr.
Los Altos

Tom McGovern
Managing Director
CA License #00818400

Direct: 408-615-3488
Mobile: 408-781-6030
Fax: 408-615-3444
[redacted]



300 Santana Row, Fifth Floor
San Jose, CA 95128 | USA
www.cushmanwakefield.com

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Erica Ray

From: Warren J. Petree <
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 12:28 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: PLAZA

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

HOPE YOU WILL CHANGE THE NAME TO VETERAN'S PLAZA. MY VOTE IS FOR THE NAME CHANGE. Warren Petree

Erica Ray

From: Jimmy Justice ·
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 9:56 AM
To: Erica Ray

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Jimmy Justice and I am a Marine Corps combat veteran. I support the name change for the downtown community plaza to "Veterans Plaza." I hope this change can take place. It will mean a great deal to all veterans not only in the community but in the state as well. Thank you very much for your time.

Respectfully,
Jimmy Justice

Erica Ray

From: Ron Stefani <>
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 9:09 AM
To: Labetich, Ron; Erica Ray
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Endorsement of Renaming of the community plaza
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica: I endorse the renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza. I am an Army veteran and feel that our veterans should be honored in this way.

Ron Stefani
Resident of Los Altos and member of Rotary

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 27, 2016, at 2:42 PM, Labetich, Ron <> wrote:

Hi Erica. This email is to endorse to renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza in downtown Los Altos from the Veterans Support Committee of the Los Altos Rotary Club. Thank you for your assistance.

Ron Labetich, Chair Veterans Support Committee

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: Labetich, Ron
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:36 PM
To: Rosi
(pa)
Cc: [REDACTED] Labetich, Ron
Subject: Renaming of the downtown plaza

Erica Ray

From: Cindy Bogard O'Gorman <cbo@pinel.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 12:05 AM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: Labetich, Ron
Subject: Endorsement for the renaming of the community Plaza.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Erica. This email is to endorse to renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza in downtown Los Altos from myself and my team. I am a realtor in Los Altos. I hope that is an acceptable organization to offer support from.

Thank you for your work on this. Cindy

Cindy Bogard-O'Gorman

Alain Pinel Realtors
DRE# 01918407
167 S. San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022
650-924-8365 (cell)
650-209-1614 (direct)
650-941-1111 (office)
650-941-1411 (fax)

www.ConsultantsInRealEstate.com



Erica Ray

From: Bill Miklos <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 9:38 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: [redacted]; Tracie Murray; Joseph Boscacci; Mike Welsh; Warren Petree; Walter Waite; Bob Hearn
Subject: Renaming of Los Altos Plaza to "Veterans' Plaza"

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

My name is Bill Miklos and I am the current Commander of American Legion Post 558 in our city.

Post 558 supports the renaming of the plaza to honor the men and women who have served our country honorably in response to the direction of our Commander-in-Chief, the President. Those who have served know well that the use of military power is a last resort to protect our interests after all other instruments of national power, such as political and economic measures, have failed. Veterans know, more than anyone, the lasting physical and emotional impacts of serving in wartime and do not relish this experience nor wish anyone else experiences it. Despite this, our veterans have always been ready, while in uniform, to respond without question, to the direction of the President, often at the cost of their lives.

In an era that does not recognize unconditional dedication and total sacrifice, it is extremely important to have a place in the city where these qualities in an individual are honored. The vets do not wish to be considered heroes and this is not a recognition of individuals, per se. But we do support an area in Los Altos that recognizes the qualities in an individual that has made this country great and recognizes the role service members have played in securing the freedom of people in many countries and preserving our own. This is not too much to ask. When a child asks a parent why this plaza area is named Veterans' Plaza, just possibly the parent will respond " It is named this way to remember those who were willing to sacrifice their lives for our freedom and that of people in other friendly countries". The quality of a person who offers his life for a greater cause IS the greatest and most noble sacrifice. Why should this quality not be honored in the prosperous city of Los Altos. In an era when our society has ennobled physical attractiveness, sports performance, celebrity status and media popularity, it is not appropriate to remind people what is really important in an individual: COURAGE, DEDICATION, DETERMINATION and SERVICE? Please do not pass up this opportunity to set aside a small area which honors these qualities in an individual.

Respectfully,
Bill Miklos
Commander, American Legion Post 558

Erica Ray

From: Patricia Lubman <|----->
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 6:42 PM
To: Erica Ray; Dick Lubman
Cc:
Subject: Fwd: Renaming of the downtown plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Ms. Ray,

I enthusiastically endorse the renaming of the downtown plaza to recognize and honor our veterans to the "Veterans Plaza." This would be a good visible way to acknowledge the service of retired veterans and those that are currently serving

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard G. Lubman Col. USAFR (ret.)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tracie Murray <|----->
Date: June 27, 2016 at 3:07:47 PM PDT
Subject: **Fw: Renaming of the downtown plaza**
Reply-To: Tracie Murray <|----->

Dear Fellow Post 558 Members,

The City Council is voting on changing the name of the downtown Community Plaza to "Veterans Plaza" on July 12th. They have asked for community input. I am hoping that I can get all of you to send emails to the City Council via eray@losaltosca.gov (Ron Labethich at

All you have to do is send an email in support of the name change to that email address (see message below).

If you feel so inclined, it would also be great to have your presence at that meeting. Many of us are already planning to attend.

Thank you for your help!

Please email you support.
Tracie Murray, JD, NHA
Administrator
Cedar Crest Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 797 E. Fremont Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408/738-4880

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Labetich, Ron" <r|----->

Erica Ray

From: Paul Nyberg <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 4:45 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Veterans Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a veteran of the Korean War in the early 1950s, I vey much endorse the idea of naming the very visible site on Main Streat: **Veterans Plaza**.

Paul Nyberg, Owner/Publisher
Los Altos Town Crier (since 1993)

Erica Ray

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 4:07 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: ron.labetich
Subject: renaming

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern:

We would like to express our support for the Downtown Community Plaza name to be changed to Veterans Plaza to honor our brave men & women and their families who have sacrificed much for all of us. Please consider this change as a positive for our community as well as for the generations to come. Most sincerely, Gene Mohler, veteran USN & wife, Jean

Erica Ray

From: William Bassett <wbassett@cityoflosaltos.com>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 4:06 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Name change for City Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support the change of the City Plaza name TO Veterans Plaza.

Bill Bassett
449 Distel Drive
Los Altos, Ca.

Erica Ray

From: Chris Bryant <c...>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:51 PM
To: Labetich, Ron; Erica Ray
Cc:

Subject: RE: Endorsement of Renaming of the community plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Erica. We too endorse the renaming of the Community Plaza to "Veterans Plaza".

Regards,

Chris Bryant
Senior Vice President, Real Estate
CA BRE # 01013508



West Valley Properties, Inc.

West Valley Properties, Inc.
280 Second Street, Suite 230 | Los Altos, CA 94022
Tel: 650-559-4675 | Fax: 650-559-8485

CA BRE #00616994



please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Labetich, Ron [<mailto:rlabetich@losaltosca.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:43 PM
To: eray@losaltosca.gov
Cc: [

Subject: Endorsement of Renaming of the community plaza

Hi Erica. This email is to endorse to renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza in downtown Los Altos from the Veterans Support Committee of the Los Altos Rotary Club. Thank you for your assistance.

Erica Ray

From: Pat White <>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:36 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: The Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am a frequent visitor to your City. I think renaming Community Plaza, Veterans Plaza is one of the best ideas that I have heard in months. Our American Veterans have been mistreated by many for years. Still today, our Government wants to give benefits to illegal aliens bypassing our Veterans. This simple renaming of your Plaza is a small step but a significant step in treating our Veterans in a manner we can be proud of!

Sincerely,

Pat White

PATRICK E. WHITE | PORTFOLIO COORDINATOR
Menlo Oak Capital Group, LLC

885 Oak Grove Avenue, Suite 208
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Tel 650.375.2636 | Fax 650.376.1494
Toll Free 877.330.2414

www.concertwm.com



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Erica Ray

From: Duncar
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:20 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming of Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Erica,

I fully support the idea to rename the plaza to Veterans Plaza.

Duncan MacVicar, Los Altos resident

Erica Ray

From: Kathryn Berry <
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:14 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: Ron Labetich
Subject: Naming Los Altos Plaza for Veterans

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica,

I am a resident of Los Altos, and I write in support of renaming the Los Altos Community Plaza in downtown Los Altos to "Veterans Plaza". There is so much going on in Los Altos in support of our veterans, including partnerships with Foothill DeAnza College, scholarship fundraising and helping veterans return to civilian life. Naming the Community Plaza in honor of our veterans is more than symbolic; it is a significant, concrete and tangible way to tell these veterans where Los Altos stands in its support of them. I would be proud to see the city make this change, and therefore, I support it wholeheartedly.

Thank you for your time to help make this happen.

Kathy Berry
1278 Estate Drive
Los Altos, CA 94024

Erica Ray

From: lina broydo <lina@broydo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:13 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: Lina Broydo; Broydo; Ron Labetich
Subject: Renaming of the downtown plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Erica,

As the extremely proud parents of Mark Broydo, who graduated from Gunn High School in Los Altos and who is the US Air Force Veteran for the past 20 years serving with outstanding distinction, devotion and loyalty to the United States of America, you have our heartfelt and sincere support in renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza in downtown Los Altos from the Veterans Support Committee of the Los Altos Rotary Club.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lina and Sam

Lina and Dr. Sam Broydo
26496 Purissima Rd.
Los Altos Hills,
Silicon Valley
CA 94022
1158

Erica Ray

From: Everyman Tsalas <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:11 PM
To: Erica Ray; Labetich, Ron
Subject: Plaza name change

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I endorse and support the renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza

--

John D Challas

Erica Ray

From: Julie Rose <
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:11 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc: RON Labetich
Subject: Chamber Support for Veterans Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

The Los Altos Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors on March 16, 2016 voted unanimously in support of renaming of Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza.

*Julie Rose, President
Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
321 University Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 948-1455
<http://www.losaltoschamber.org>*



Erica Ray

From: Joseph Boscacci <
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 3:10 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Renaming of Los Altos City Plaza to Veterans Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica:

Based on an unanimous vote by American Legion Post 558, Los Altos, CA., respectfully recommend that the Los Altos City Council rename City Plaza to Veterans Plaza. Our Post founded in 1938 whose local membership has had members who have served from World War One to the present, paid for, constructed, as well as maintained the flagpoles in the City Plaza. The name change reflects credit to the servicemen and women who endangered and some sacrificed their lives to retain our democratic way of life.

Thank you,

Joe Boscacci
Past Commander
American Legion Post 558
(650) 450-0993

Sent from my iPad

Erica Ray

From: George Stafford
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:59 PM
To: Labetich, Ron; Erica Ray
Cc:

Subject: Endorsement of Renaming the Community Plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Erica,

This email is to endorse renaming of the Community Plaza to **Veterans Plaza** in downtown Los Altos. I believe that we can never adequately repay our veterans for their service to our country.

Best regards, George

George Stafford & Associates
[Silicon Valley Insurance Services](#)
The Cypress Building - Third and Main Street
201 Main Street, 2nd FL, Suite 250

Los Altos, CA 94022
Tel. (650) 559-1784

The Life Insurance Expert for Individuals, Businesses, and Trusts

From: "Labetich, Ron" <rlabetich@losaltosca.gov>
To: "eray@losaltosca.gov" <eray@losaltosca.gov>

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron <
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:43 PM
To: Erica Ray
Cc:

Subject: Endorsement of Renaming of the community plaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Erica. This email is to endorse to renaming of the Community Plaza to Veterans Plaza in downtown Los Altos from the Veterans Support Committee of the Los Altos Rotary Club. Thank you for your assistance.

Ron Labetich, Chair Veterans Support Committee

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: Labetich, Ron
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:36 PM

Hello. Our renaming of the community plaza to Veterans Plaza is on the agenda at the July 12th City Council Meeting. To make sure that our “voices” are officially heard please send your support via email to Erica Ray Public Information Coordinator of the City of Los Altos. It is important that the council gets a direct written endorsement form your organization. Her email is eray@losaltosca.gov .

Please include the above recipients in your email.

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron <
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 9:41 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: Bill Moison [mailto:
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 20
To: Harry Price; Labetich, R

J
C
I
A

~~Subject: RE: Recreation Commission Meeting~~
Subject: RE: Recreation Commission Meeting


Ron:

I echo Harry's support message. No worthier group than our brave and dedicated Veterans. Add my wife Tracey Moison to this list as well.

Regards,

Bill Moison

From: Harry Price [mailto:
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 3:52 PM
To: Labetich, Ron; ;



Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 9:40 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071
[redacted]

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: Gary Brown [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 9:30 AM
To: Labetich, Ron

Subject: Re: Recreation Commission Meeting

Good morning Ron, as I mentioned at last night's COC event, I went online per the link in your email message and stated my support for the renaming of the Plaza and gave them my permission to use my name. If it helps the cause, please add Debbie's and my names to your list supporting the renaming.

Thank you for all you do to help our Veterans!

Best Regards,
Gary Brown

On Wed, Jun 22, 2016 at 9:37 AM, Labetich, Ron <[redacted]>

1> wrote:

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron <rlabetich@cityoflosaltos.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 8:57 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: from Lina Broydo: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: lina broydo [<mailto:linabroydo@cityoflosaltos.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 4:01 PM
To: Labetich, Ron
Subject: from Lina Broydo: Recreation Commission Meeting

Hi Ron,
You have our support for renaming the LA City Plaza in honor of our veterans that have served our country. It is definitely a worthwhile idea.

Thank you.

Lina and Sam Broydo

Proud Parents of a U.S. Air Force Veteran Mark Broydo

26496 Purissima Rd.
Los Altos Hills,
Silicon Valley
CA 94022
USA

From: "Labetich, Ron" <rlabetich@cityoflosaltos.com>

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron <ron.labetich@cityoflosaltos.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 8:56 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 USA

From: Harry Price
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 3:52 PM

Subject: RE: Recreation Commission Meeting

Hi Ron,

You have my support for renaming the LA City Plaza in honor of our veterans that have served our country. There is no question that this renaming is a worthwhile idea. Please include Lori's and my support.

Thank you.



Harry I. Price

Price Law Firm

40 Main Street

Los Altos, CA 94022-2902

Tel: 650-949-0840

Fax: 650-949-0844

E-mail:

Website: www.PricesLaw.com

Directions: [http://maps.google.com/maps?client=safari&rls=en&oe=UTF-](http://maps.google.com/maps?client=safari&rls=en&oe=UTF-8&q=40+main+street+los+altos+ca+94022&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x808fb0ee8b1021c7:0x31f535385c7febb2,40+Main+St,+Los+Altos,+CA+94022&gl=us&ei=LYjT8f7A6Kw2gWVt5XnCA&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CCAQ8gEwAA)

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[8&hq=&hnear=0x808fb0ee8b1021c7:0x31f535385c7febb2,40+Main+St,+Los+Altos,+CA+94022&gl=us&ei=LYjT8f7A6Kw2gWVt5XnCA&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CCAQ8gEwAA](http://maps.google.com/maps?client=safari&rls=en&oe=UTF-8&q=40+main+street+los+altos+ca+94022&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x808fb0ee8b1021c7:0x31f535385c7febb2,40+Main+St,+Los+Altos,+CA+94022&gl=us&ei=LYjT8f7A6Kw2gWVt5XnCA&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CCAQ8gEwAA)

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From: Ron Labetich

Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 9:37 AM

To: "

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron < >
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 8:56 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 3:51 PM
To: Labetich, Ron
Subject: Re: Recreation Commission Meeting

Ron,

I strongly support the renaming of the community plaza to Veterans Plaza. Please forward my response to the city per your e-mail. Thanks.

Paul Schutz
USMC Veteran

Erica Ray

From: Labetich, Ron <n>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 8:55 AM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: FW: Recreation Commission Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Erica, here's the first one—thanks for your support and great customer service, Ron

Ron Labetich
Senior Vice President
CA License #00352657

Direct: 650-941-5221
Mobile: 650-465-4022
Fax: 650-941-2071

339 South San Antonio Road, Suite 1D
Los Altos, CA 94022 | USA

From: Ron Stefan [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 2:13 PM
To: Labetich, Ron

Subject: Re: Recreation Commission Meeting

Dear Ron: In accord with my in person presentation to the Commission, I strongly support the renaming of the community plaza to Veterans Plaza. Please forward my response to the city per your e-mail. Thanks.

Ron Stefani
Army Veteran

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 22, 2016, at 9:37 AM, Labetich, Ron <n> wrote:

Erica Ray

From: Jerry Moison <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 4:58 PM
To: Erica Ray
Subject: Downtown Plaza July 12
Attachments: Downtown Plaza.docx

Hello Erica:

I think you are the right person for me to forward my letter of recommendation for the agenda item voting on renaming the plaza. Please forward to all the Council Members. And can you please confirm with me that this is the correct course. Thank you.

Jerry Moison

Moison Investment Company
350 Second Street, Suite 7
Los Altos, Ca 94022
DRE00774103
650-917-2506

To: City Council Member

From: Jerry Moison

I support the renaming of the Plaza to honor the brave and committed men and women who have "served our country" to defend American ideals of freedom and democracy. Few people realize that less than 1% of America's population is at any one time in the military. That's right, less than 1% protecting the rights of the remaining 99%! I am proud to have been one of those 1%ers from 1964-1968. Shouldn't we as a community be honored to pay recognition to not only our current military but all of our past members? The downtown plaza is the perfect place, with its central location and inviting atmosphere, to pay tribute with the renaming to thank the brave men and women who have allowed us to live the lives we are so blessed to have, particularly in the United States of America.

Veterans risk their lives not only to keep us safe in our country, but on our own property. This is a chance for Los Altos to acknowledge this bravery; by simply dedicating a name on behalf of their contribution to our freedom. Let's not overlook those who serve our country to defend America's ideal of freedom and democracy. Veterans should be remembered with respect and honored with pride. Honoring them on November 11th, Veteran's Day, though significant, is not enough for what they allow all of us to enjoy.

Jose Narosky once wrote "In war there are no unwounded soldiers". No military veteran escapes the service unscarred. I found out first hand when the Los Altos Rotary Club, of whom I am a member, began working with the veterans at Foothill College. I was amazed at how many local veterans developed psychological after effects from the traumas of serving in the military. Our reaction was immediate; in the form of assistance in educational costs, to the building of a new plaza at Foothill designed as a safe meeting place for acclimation into a society they defended but know too little about. We can do the same in downtown Los Altos!

Please vote "yes" for the renaming of the plaza. This would allow increased awareness of the service our veterans dutifully perform for all of us, and pay proper respect that their sacrifice merits.