

Proposed General Plan Update Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions



Land Use – Private Community Gathering Facilities

Private Community Gathering Facilities, including buildings used for religious activities, private clubs, performance venues, and school or sports activities, serve a critical role in establishing our sense of community, building civic identity and fostering the development of arts and culture. These activities can also directly contribute to the achievement of the City’s goals for Healthy Neighborhoods, an Innovative Economy and an Interconnected City. Given their importance to the community, potential land use sensitivity and unique needs, it is appropriate for the City’s General Plan to include specific policies to help guide and facilitate the development of Private Community Gathering Facilities at locations compatible with neighboring uses within San Jose.

Private Community Gathering Facilities

Goal PC-1 Provide for the development of Private Community Gathering Facilities at appropriate locations within or near residential, commercial, or mixed residential-commercial neighborhoods throughout the City to accommodate the social and cultural activities of the San Jose community.

Policy PC-1.1 Promote Private Community Gathering Facilities within Villages, Corridors and other areas near residents to serve neighborhoods and to contribute toward the development of vibrant, walkable places.

Policy PC-1.2 Encourage the location of Private Community Gathering Facilities on Regional Commercial or Neighborhood Commercial properties that are highly compatible with surrounding land uses. Allow Private Community Gathering Facilities on Combined Industrial / Commercial sites where it can be demonstrated that potential land use incompatibilities can be fully addressed.

Policy PC-1.3 Include Private Community Gathering Facilities as a primary or secondary dual- or multi-use with other activities. The City should strongly promote the incorporation of spaces suitable for public assembly within new mixed-use development within Villages (e.g., include dual- or multi-use assembly space as a first-floor or second-floor portion of a development that also includes retail, residential or other employment uses.) Support dual- or multi-use of existing facilities, such as schools or Private Community Gathering Facilities, so that these sites, buildings, and parking areas are utilized throughout the week for multiple purposes.

- Policy PC-1.4 Recognize that Private Community Facilities can inherently involve large groups of people, including people who are susceptible to environmental hazards, such as children or the elderly. Carefully consider existing and potential future proximate land uses when locating Private Community Facilities to avoid health and safety risks and minimize incompatible land uses. Do not locate Private Community Facilities in or near Industrial Park, Light Industrial or Heavy Industrial areas.
- Policy PC-1.5 Consider Private Community Gathering Facilities through a discretionary review process to carefully evaluate land use compatibility, multi-use spaces, and appropriate conditions of approval.
- Action PC-1.6 Identify sites appropriate for Private Community Gathering Facilities as part of the Village Plan process, and look for opportunities through the development review process to incorporate Private Community Gathering Facilities into development, particularly in dual- or multi-use forms.