

**“Small Public Places for Sacramento”**  
**Summary of Comments from Planning Commission, 5/25/06**

1. Try a “prorated” approach to how much parkland is the goal on a project site
2. There is a negative side to “community ownership”, which is that a neighborhood does not want people from outside that neighborhood using “their” park
3. Ask cell tower providers about mini-/micro-technology that could be provided on these smaller park sites, including associated with shading features
4. Provide naming rights for corporate sponsors as a way to finance development and/or maintenance of these sites.
5. Relax the definition of what constitutes a “small park”. That is, the definition should be very broad. Be creative and take advantage of opportunities on land that is already in the public realm, including transportation corridors.
6. Look at places that are “alive” and what makes them so (for example, J Street’s “night life”); add programming as use attractors
7. Ask people to identify their “sacred places”; redefine these for the public as park space
8. R Street “Market Plaza” idea an example of where streets can be closed down for events/activities
9. Include in this concept “wherever we walk”
10. Have available an analysis of any park acreage or recreational needs of the “district” in which a development project is located
11. Consider changing the existing public realm to make it more “parklike”
12. Research of others cities’ successes with “smart growth”/new livable communities and how these spaces have been provided: Pinol, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, Vancouver, Boston, Harlem in New York City; look into Studio UCLA design project
13. Look at operational characteristics, not simply capital costs
14. Don’t limit size. Create a network of spaces of all scales/sizes.
15. Create multiple uses in the public realm, including: streets closed off for events; private open space made most functional
16. Consider expanding small parks to other areas of the City. Focus not only on where there are existing needs, but also other places in the City
17. How can the concept of building space be applied for providing recreational amenities?
18. Tot lots sometimes get more use than open field areas
19. Picnic tables are sometimes a problem
20. Involve neighbors early on
21. Develop specific target areas to implement these facilities; where there is going to be high density (e.g. Downtown), put these spaces there first
22. Include hardscape in design
23. Use rooftops
24. More water features

25. Private development should continue to include private recreational amenities to be maintained by the HOA
26. Include providing for recreational needs of teens in site design