

Twainhart,

I wanted follow up with you about the Graceda kid zone since I'm not sure how to broadcast this out to the CANA community. But we have some great momentum behind the idea of creating a safe area for kids to play in Graceada Park.

Quick overview of concept: In other cities with vagrancy issues in the parks (San Francisco being a notable one), they have created a low attractive fenced area around kid playgrounds and have passed an ordinance that restricts adults in these areas without children. It's a simple measure that goes a long way to make mothers (and fathers) feel that they have a safe area within a park to bring their children. Often picnic tables and seating areas are included so that there are safe seating/picnic options without the fear of being accosted. At Graceda, we even have a small stage and grass seating area designed for kids that could be included to provide kid activities, performances, plays, etc. (most people probably didn't even know this exists there!).

Where we are so far:

- The city of Modesto is in support of creating the kid zone
- We've lined up a very accomplished landscape & playground designer to donate time to design
- We're meeting with the City of Modesto (city manager and pertinent staff) this week to talk about next steps

At this point, we need:

1. Continued **community support**
2. Most importantly, **community & business partnerships on the cost** so that we can leverage city contribution – I'm sure we can figure out naming options
3. We could also use someone who would be willing to provide **administrative support** for the effort (helping coordinate meetings and create collateral to reach out to businesses & community members).

Can you please distribute this email to CANA so that our neighborhood is in the loop and people who are interested can contact me.

Thanks, Ryan Swehla
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Ryan Swehla, CCIM

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