

Main Campus Architecture and Site Narrative

The new Main Campus building will be an elegant, forward thinking civic presence for the City of South San Francisco. The signature glass-enclosed 3-level structure unifies three important program functions into a single building: Library, Parks & Recreation, and the City Council Chamber.

The 80,000 square foot building accommodates a larger Main Library, and expanded Parks & Recreation facility, across 75,000 sq. ft. An additional 5,000 sq. ft. space offers a dynamic City Council Chamber, that can also serve as a community performance venue. The combined program, with shared civic amenities, creates a distinctive environment. Opening on to an impressive, approximately 1.5 acre, public park that will be programmed for use by visitors of all ages, the project offers visitors an experience that is engaging and memorable. There will also be access improvements, including surface and structured parking, to encourage use of a variety of modes of transportation.

The project's design and character reinforce South San Francisco's values of connectivity, transparency and inclusion. The honest expression of the building's steel structure nods to its past, as 'The Industrial City.' The building's airy, translucent facade reveals the building's many opportunities for discovery, learning and play, and gives patrons beautiful views to Sign Hill and the San Bruno Mountains. At the intersection of El Camino Real and Chestnut Avenue, the sculptural form revealed within the 3-story glass enclosure, is an iconic presence, emphasizing the vision of South San Francisco's future as a nexus of innovation.