

August 25, 2006

**Ms. Ann Swift, City Clerk**  
**City of Piedmont**  
**120 Vista Avenue**  
**Piedmont, CA 94611**

Dear Ms. Swift:

Gelfand Partners Architects is proud to submit our proposal to provide master planning services for the City of Piedmont Civic Center. We are uniquely qualified to facilitate a participatory design process, assess the opportunities provided by the existing assets of the City of Piedmont, and develop a sustainable and visionary scheme for improving the Civic Center. We welcome this opportunity to introduce the commitment and expertise we are ready to bring to your project.

Gelfand Partners brings a background in planning, community design, working with historic buildings, and serving public clients with well-managed and affordable building programs. With our affiliate office in San Diego we offer a large portfolio of successful projects dedicated to the adaptive reuse of distinguished buildings and sites in mature urban and suburban environments. While respecting the historic fabric and circumstances our goal is always to create a vibrant setting for the life of the community now and in the future. With the wonderful environment the City of Piedmont now enjoys, the challenge is really to intensify use, provide for new cultural opportunities, and safeguard the green and appealing residential scale of the neighborhood.

Consistent design principles throughout the Civic Center will help create a sense of peace and order. In conjunction with school and park lands the area can better serve a variety of active (swimming, tennis, running) and passive (walking, sitting, talking) recreational activities for Piedmont residents. Attention to pedestrian, parking, and traffic management will limit conflicts and enhance pedestrian safety, with emphasis on the elderly, and the very young.

Our team offers:

- Lead staff with a strong record of success working with communities to articulate their vision
- Portfolio of award winning master plans creating interconnected buildings and landscapes
- Experience and skills in outreach and community process
- Experience meeting public agency needs
- Experience controlling schedule and budget
- Leadership in sustainable design
- Leadership in universal design and conformance to ADA standards

We believe that excellent design proceeds from an empathetic response to the needs and desires of the people who will put our projects to use. With our experience with public design process, historic buildings and landscapes, and sustainable master planning, we believe we can help Piedmont chart a course into the future. We look forward to discussing your project further.

**Gelfand Partners Architects**



Lisa Gelfand, AIA  
Principal Architect