

# Redwood City Courthouse Square

Redwood City, CA



The new central public place and primary catalyst project in the larger downtown revitalization plan. Positioned between the restored 1910 San Mateo County Courthouse and historic Fox Theatre, Courthouse Square's two flanking retail pavilions provide just the right scale of enclosure for the decoratively paved plaza space.

## BEFORE

- A 1939 Courthouse Annex building covered up the prominent site and was no longer needed.
- There was no central gathering space in the historic downtown.
- The colonnaded front of the domed courthouse, Downtown's jewel, was obscured from view.



Prior to demolition, a vacant 1939 courthouse annex building covered up the former front of the historic Courthouse at Broadway and Middlefield Road.

## OUTCOMES

- After a series of well-attended community workshops, the design was approved by the City Council in 2004.
- Construction was completed in February 2007.



The Pavilions are open-air and contain small retail kiosks.

## RECOGNITIONS

- 2007 Charter Award (Block, Street and Building Scale) from the Congress for the New Urbanism.
- 2008 Award of Excellence for Public Space & Linkages from the California Redevelopment Association.
- 2008 Project of the Year award American Public Works Association, South Bay Chapter.

**CLIENT:** City of Redwood City

**IN COLLABORATION WITH:** FMG Architects, SFE/Landscape Architects, Carlile Macy, Horton Lees Brogden Lighting Design, Peter Kogan Associates, OLMM Consulting Engineers

**FTB:** When this project was completed the firm name was Freedman Tung & Bottomley (FTB).



Courthouse Square hosts a wide variety of events every week and is warmly regarded as the Redwood City's living room.



The Historic Courthouse, Courthouse Square, and its flanking pavilions are framed by rows of Canary Island date palms.



A view of the West Pavilion, fountain cascades, outdoor dining areas, and seat walls with the Courthouse facade beyond.