

For Immediate Release:

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Redevelopment Agency

**San Jose Dedicates New 4th Street Garage and
Downtown Banquet Center**
Unique combination increases parking and adds event venue



San Jose ---- The first new Downtown parking garage to be built in San Jose since 1981 will be dedicated today by Mayor Ron Gonzales and community leaders at 2 p.m. in the facility's top-level Banquet Center.

The new garage, located at the corner of Fourth and San Fernando streets, will add 750 parking spaces to serve Downtown businesses and the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library that will open later this year.

A unique feature of the seven-floor garage is a rooftop banquet center that is now available for businesses and community groups for major events. In addition, the garage includes 22,000 square feet of street-level retail space that can accommodate up to eight stores and restaurants.



“This is a creative solution to address many Downtown needs,” said the mayor. “It means more parking, more shopping, and a wonderful new location for community events that offers a spectacular view over our entire Downtown.”

The banquet center, which can seat 440 people for banquets and handle 800 for receptions, is available for public rental for meetings and events. The food service will be managed by the Fairmont Hotel under contract to the City of San José.

The Rotary Club of San José will hold its Wednesday lunch meetings at the new banquet center starting this spring, and the Rotary will hold the center’s first event on Saturday, March 1. The Rotary Club contributed \$1 million toward the project cost.



“We are delighted to participate in such a noteworthy project in San José,” said Carl Cilker, President of the Rotary Club. “The banquet center will be our new Downtown home for the Rotary Club that is a tremendous location for other groups.”

San Francisco artist Cork Marcheschi designed the striking light sculptures that appear on the garage only at night. The sculptures include 24 illuminated images behind perforated metal, an electroluminescent light that wraps around the front of the structure, and over a mile of neon. In addition, the garage’s two elevator towers feature shifting colors of light that project the mechanics of the elevators onto exterior glass.

The \$57.6 million project was funded by the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, along with the Rotary contribution. It was designed by Ellerbe Becket Architects and Engineers and built by Hensel Phelps Construction Company. Gilbane Building Company managed the construction.



“The Fourth Street Garage is a beautifully designed, multi-use structure that benefits Downtown businesses, residents and visitors by increasing convenient parking and creating valuable retail opportunities,” said Susan Shick, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency.

For information about booking events at the new banquet center, contact: The Fairmont San Jose at 998-3912.

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