



BUILDING A BETTER BAY AREA

New Millbrae Mixed-Development Could Provide Solutions to Bay Area's Biggest Problems



Reporter Dustin Dorsey

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Cities across the Bay Area are always grappling with how to solve the tough issues involving housing, transit and community. The City of Millbrae believes they have the answer: The Gateway at Millbrae Station, “a winning concept of housing, affordable housing, hotel, retail and coming soon, a new biotech company. This is truly transformative for Millbrae” says Ann Schneider, mayor of Millbrae.

Welcome to Gateway at Millbrae Station, a mixed-use development featuring office spaces, shopping and 400 units of housing - 25% of which is affordable. “It’s a connection point, which is why we call it the Gateway. It’s really rewarding because I think this is what the end result is: a place where people can live, work and play but also to support our public transit,” says Michael Van Every, President of Republic Urban Properties.

That is part of what makes this place so special is where it’s built - on a former BART parking lot. Steps from the BART and Caltrain station, about a mile down the road from San Francisco International Airport and right in the heart of the gateway to the Bay Area, is the City of Millbrae. City leaders believe it will only help the Bay Area meet sustainability and environmental goals. “Making it a walkable and sustainable community is all the right things to do at our transit-oriented development, whether it be BART, Caltrain, Samtrans” says Jeff Gee, Samtrans Board of Directors.

Bevan Dufty, BART Board of Directors says, “I think it is a project that is going to be looked at nationally, as we look at how to change our dependence on being in cars and using gasoline. I think that this is what the future is about.”

This project faced years of backlash from the community with concern about how this big complex may change their small town view. However, Mayor Ann Schneider believes the mix of the new with the old will only benefit the community. “People perceive themselves in small towns as one or two stories. So when you go above one or two stories, that’s a lot for people to accept. However, with new tenants and retail coming in, this place is going to be an exciting, go-to place for Millbrae and residents are going to see that it will work” Mayor of Millbrae, Ann Schneider explains.