

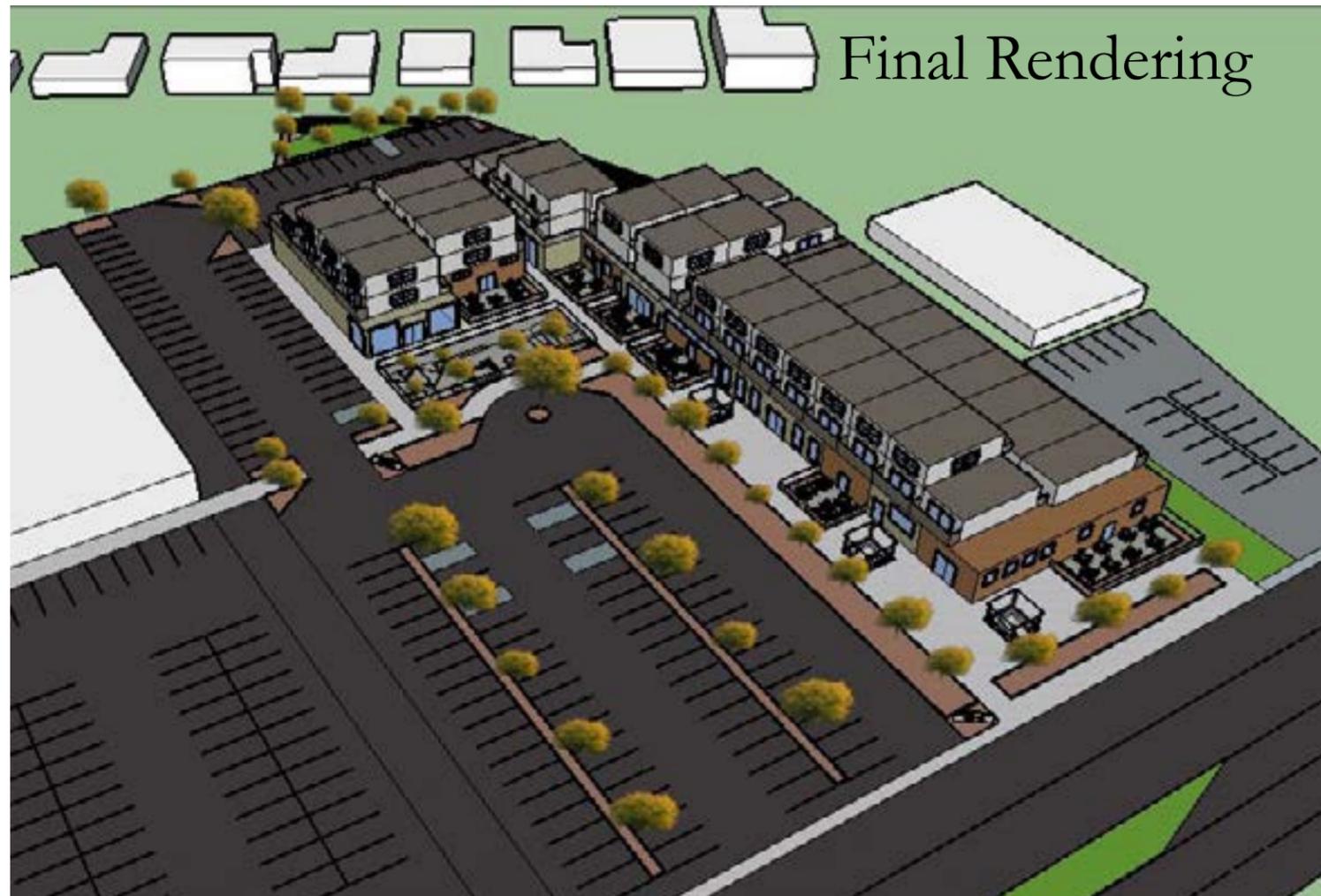
Infill Revitalization

UC Davis Landscape Architecture Senior Project 2017

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Image originally obtained from Google Maps and Edited by Radiance Hardiman



3D model created by Radiance Hardiman

The Problem, The Solution

Vacant lots are expensive and unprofitable for cities, and any areas surrounding a vacant lot suffer economically. This research and design project attempts to solve the problem of vacant and depreciated urban lots through infill revitalization. For the purpose of this project, infill revitalization is defined as the creation of a new mixed-use development on a currently vacant lot that catalyzes the economic and social restoration of the surrounding area, especially if the surrounding area is depreciating.

The Place

561 Peabody Road is a vacant lot in Vacaville California that has been vacant since before 1999. This site was chosen for this project because of its location on a rundown shopping strip and its potential on a busy street with housing surrounding the area in abundance. A successful infill revitalization development on this vacant lot could be the means to restore this entire commercial strip and in turn benefit the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Design

This proposed specific mixed-use design has five main goals: create a mixed-use development on site, the site is to be designed so that it is cohesive with the surrounding area, it must be designed to activate the space during a time where it is not currently highly used, it should offer new resources to a population that it is not currently serving, and it must attempt to solve at least one local problem associated with depreciating areas.

This specific mixed-use design focuses on three key development types: commercial, residential and community space. One significant element is the parking which extends and improves the current parking lot, creating a cohesive design. Another main element is the large community gathering space, which uses a series of levels to create varying spaces and zones. The trees also provide shade and serve as a buffer between the shoppers above and the loungers below. The small gathering space is also a key element in this design. The overhead trellis attached is actually repurposed chain-link fence currently on site surrounding the property. The chain-link material would be ideal for growing vines (not shown). Also, the vegetation surrounding the space paired with how the space lowers in elevation gives the illusion of being in a wild-grassland. This is in homage of the “meadow” currently on-site.

This development aims to activate the space on weekends and accommodate the students nearby at Will C Wood high school. It attempts to solve this area’s graffiti problem through welcoming spaces showcasing local art and murals. These specific goals aim to create an economic hub that draws people in from local areas and retains them as clientele.