

Downtown Santa Barbara Award 2/24/2021
Acceptance Script – Delivered by Cassandra Ensberg

Thank you Robin, Dani and Downtown Santa Barbara

I am honored to be here on behalf of AIA Santa Barbara to receive this award.
I represent many - my charrette co-chairs Ellen Bildsten and Detty Peikert, and the Charrette 2020 team of some 200 skilled volunteers who gave countless hours to this effort.
City staff AND A number are Downtown SB members and here this morning

I want to reflect on this moment.

First – AIA Santa Barbara wants to acknowledge and honor our downtown businesses and organizations. It is you who work in and make our downtown vibrant through the many services and activities that you provide.

You are our engine.

We appreciate you and we know the difficulties and determination it has taken to persist at this time. It is our intention to provide help.

Second – With the unprecedented events and hardships of 2020 – not to mention events leading up to 2020, AIASB Local architects recognized their responsibility to step up. That is why the Charrette 2020 was created and conducted – to quickly provide many ideas and possible solutions for consideration at this crucial time to help us to move forward. This is part of the work that Architects do. Listen to the need and provide possible solutions through DESIGN.

Third- It is our design and our architecture that is so beautifully nestled between the ocean and the mountains that defines Santa Barbara and are the iconic brand images used to promote our city to the world.

Through design we can achieve our goals while respecting and enhancing our historic treasures. More can be done with less, without design - precious time and resources can go to waste. Whether immediate or long term, all is benefitted by good design
AIASB will continue to collaboratively reach out and assist the essential community discussions about our built environment as we carefully integrate the changes we need.

Finally - We are profoundly thankful to Downtown SB for your **recognition of and appreciation** for the Design Charrette 2020 efforts by the AIASB design community volunteers.

END