This year, Redwood City is celebrating its 150th Anniversary of becoming a city.

The City got its start as a port town where the logging industry sent the redwood trees down the creek to the bay and shipped them up to help build the City of San Francisco. From their its industries grew to include grain, leather and flowers.
Continued Growth

Redwood City continued to grow throughout the decades as the county seat for San Mateo County.

But with the development of malls and shopping centers, the heart of downtown Redwood City began to struggle.
A Renaissance Begins

In 2005, the City of Redwood City began the Renaissance of Downtown with the start of construction of Courthouse Square.

The old annex on the San Mateo County Courthouse was removed and the original façade was restored.

A large plaza with fountains and four retail kiosks was created.
Bringing Downtown to Life

The City was determined to make Downtown the heart of the City again

- Music on the Square
- Movies on the Square
- Art on the Square
A COMMUNITY FOR ALL
The “On Broadway” development proved to be a successful Public-Private development with the creation of a 20-screen movie theater, 80,000 sq. ft. of new retail and office and 590 new parking spaces underground.
Theater Way

Theater Way was rebuilt from the ground up to enhance and improve the pedestrian experience in Downtown.

New outdoor dining areas served the new restaurants located in the On Broadway project.
In 2011, the City Council adopted the Downtown Precise Plan, which opened the door for Downtown Redwood City to become what it is today.
500,000 sq. ft. of new office space

- The new office space in the downtown would help to create the daytime population needed to support the restaurants and shops.
2,500 new residential units

- The new residential units would create the density needed to attract new retail and restaurant uses.
Downtown Redwood City had become the place to be.
Redevelopment Gone

- With the end of Redevelopment Agencies in California, future city led projects came to a halt.

- The City now had to find a way to make sure things in the downtown continued to function and attract people to the downtown.