

**Orchids to Onions**

from Milton Karafilis, 9th Street | June 13, 2009

ORCHIDS go to the Americana and Jimmy O's sidewalk cafes for their excellent design and artful articulation. The design follows through with the attractive brick work of the existing Americana sidewalk cafe on Camino del Mar and is a significant upgrade to the previous unattractive fence railing and long time metal news racks. Additionally, both have been held well back to provide a wide pathway for pedestrians and have plans to attractively landscape the area.

ONIONS to the two sidewalk cafes at Del Mar Pizza and Sbiccas. Where was the Del Mar Planning department to allow or recommend to the city council sidewalk cafes that make the walkway so tight as to crowd the pedestrians and lose the openness? Not only do they destroy the openness of passage, but they are unsightly concrete block construction and provide no landscape. What was the Del Mar planning department thinking? Where was the city council on this one?

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