

Redwood City Community Participation Program
General Plan: Be a Part of the Plan in Your Neighborhood

Friendly Acres/Redwood Village

Taft School 903 10th Ave.

Thursday, December 4, 2008

6:30-8:30 PM

Notes

Approximately 30 community members attended the community meeting on the General Plan for Redwood City in the Friendly Acres/Redwood Village neighborhood. In addition to a number of Redwood City staff, Janet Borgens from the Planning Commission also attended the meeting.

Tom Passanisi, Redwood City Principal Planner welcomed participants to this community workshop on the General Plan in the Friendly Acres/Redwood Village neighborhoods. Mr. Passanisi introduced City staff, and facilitators from the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center (PCRC.) PCRC supplied simultaneous translation in Spanish for the meeting.

Mr. Passanisi gave a power point presentation on the General Plan including:

- General Plan
 - What it is/Why it is important
 - Brief history of Redwood City
 - Residential, recreational and commercial areas
 - Neighborhood demographics
 - Work on the Plan so far
 - Guiding principals
 - o Sustainability
 - o Healthy neighborhoods
 - o Neighborhood character
 - o Economic development
 - o Diversity and heritage
 - o Community building
 - o Transportation choices
 - o Place making
 - Data from meetings in 2004
 - Map of area and proposed changes that may have impact
- Themes for community input
 - Mobility
 - Driving/walking/biking
 - Neighborhood/Community Character
 - Safety
- Traffic/transportation

Display Boards on the General Plan for the Friendly Acres/Redwood Village, Broadway/Veterans corridor, El Camino Real and the Bay front were available

Jill Ekas, Redwood City Planning Director discussed alternatives for the Bay Front and invited participants to attend an upcoming Planning Commission meeting on the Bay Front.

There was a question and answer period followed by small group discussion. Redwood City staff members were available as resources.

Participants broke into 3 small groups including one Spanish Language group. PCRC Facilitators facilitated small group discussion on the proposed project and recorded the information on flip charts.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions:

1. *What do you like about your neighborhood?*
 - mark on the map areas where you or your neighbors gather, ie: parks, schools, churches, shopping area
2. *What concerns you about your neighborhood?*
 - mark on the map safety concerns or areas that need attention
3. *How could your concerns be addressed?*
 - by the General Plan
 - within the neighborhood
4. *What routes do you take in your neighborhood when driving, biking, walking?*
 - Mark on the map how you get around the neighborhood
5. *What do you like about the Plan for your neighborhood?*
6. *What if anything would you like to see modified in the Plan for your neighborhood?*
7. *Is there any other information you would like to share about the General Plan?*

GROUP 1 (Spanish language)

1. *What do you like about your neighborhood?*
 - La gente festamos unidos. We protect each other's homes. It is a very private area
 - We haven't been here too long, so we don't know too much about the neighborhood
 - So far my neighborhood is calm, no gangs, it is safe
 - Neighbors support each other

- Support form the police. We call and they come quickly
- Close to businesses, Latino markets, Costco, etc
- The only hard thing is it is too near freeways – the freeway noise is loud

2. *What concerns you about your neighborhood?*

- with the proposed plan – pollution and land use construction
 - Costco gas stations
 - Measure W
- traffic will increase, ultimately impacting the health of those in the community.
- There might be the need to create more freeways because of the increase in traffic
- There are concerns for those near school and near Costco (Hoover, Fair Oaks)
- Concerns about bridge over Woodside. There have been lots of incidents of crime. It is too dark and some young people hang out there. They should light it better and cut the trees around the walking bridge. It is too dangerous
- Dark City. The City needs more lights
- There are some concerns that the Fire Station is too far away. There needs to be one in the neighborhood for quicker response.
 - Question: are fire stations even in the neighborhood?
 - If so what routes do they take”

3. *How could your concerns be addressed?*

- Stronger, brighter lighting
- More presence from the police in the neighborhood
- More stoplights; lights that are safer (open Charter to El Camino Real)
- Less traffic
- Cut trees in particular locations
- Create more freeway options – especially with plans, or at least expand freeway - more lanes

4. *What routes do you take in your neighborhood when driving, biking, walking?*

- Group mark on an aerial map of their neighborhood the routes they use when walking, biking and driving.

5. *Is there any other information you would like to share about the General Plan?*

- Question: Will Bayfront Park stay open?
- Question: Where can I walk my dog?

GROUP 2

1. *What do you like about your neighborhood?*

- Diversity

- Trees
- Different styles of houses
- Neighbors
- Convenience to transportation, stores
- Park
- Law enforcement
- Close to City Hall, Downtown, Port, and Library

2. *What concerns you about your neighborhood?*

- Traffic, amount of noise
- Speed
- Flooding
- Rolison Rd intersections
- Street conditions
- Sidewalk conditions
- Not enough lighting
- Treated like a “stepchild”
- Bike lanes missing
- Noise of cars playing music too loud
- Cut through traffic – concerned it will be worse with new developments
 - Stanford
 - Costco expansion and gas pumps
- Woodside Rd interchange with 101
- City accepts grade F intersections
- Sports field noise
- Dirty streets
- County and City not working together
- Parking for residents
- Samtrans on neighborhood streets
- City should take into consideration the impact on quality of life, including air, noise, etc.

3. *How could your concerns be addressed?*

- When new developments are considered, neighborhood needs must be addressed
- Levee issues should be addressed first
- City must say Grade F intersections not acceptable
- Bike path along Bay
- Intersections and traffic calming like Menlo Park

4. *What routes do you take in your neighborhood when driving, biking, walking?*

- Group marked on aerial map of the neighborhood routes used when walking, biking and driving

GROUP 3

1. *What do you like about your neighborhood?*

- Placement of Fire Department
- Quiet neighborhood in Redwood Village
- Convenience to church, grocery stores, freeway, downtown Redwood City
- Marsh Manor
- Hoover Park and pool
- Tree lined streets
- Friendly Acres associations
- Close to hospitals, Stanford Medical and Kaiser
- Improvements to Taft School
- Train station

2. *What concerns you about your neighborhood?*

- House flooding due to heavy rains
- Noisy alley (Hoover) music, boombox
- Day workers on Middlefield
- Traffic on Middlefield to and from work and home
- Traffic on Marsh/Broadway/Hoover
- Dark/no lights/no security / not safe
- Middlefield jay walking
- Bicyclists going against traffic
- Drug dealing/labs
- Woodside Road Pedestrian Crossing

3. *How could your concerns be addressed?*

- Improved street lighting
- Bike lanes
- Restricted parking regulations
- Residential permits
- Widened streets
- Better code enforcement and building code enforcement
- Better pumps
- Better drainage
- On/off ramp at 2nd Avenue

4. *What routes do you take in your neighborhood when driving, biking, walking?*

- Group marked on aerial map of the neighborhood routes used when walking, biking and driving
- Drive mostly on Woodside and Bay Road

5. *What do you like about the Plan for your neighborhood?*

- Ferry Stop

6. *Is there any other information you would like to share about the General Plan?*

- More information on the General Plan

Each Group reported out highlights of their discussion

REPORT OUT

Group 1

Like:

- Neighbors look out for each other
- Safety
- Police support

Concerns:

- Freeway noise
- Costco gas pumps
- Traffic , safety and health

Solutions:

- Better lighting
- More stop signs
- More police presence
- Expand freeway

Question:

- Is Bayfront Park open?

Group 2

Like:

- Diversity
- Convenience

Concerns

- Flooding
- Traffic

Solutions

- Planning Dept. pay attention to traffic concerns with new developments
- Rebuild catwalk at Woodside

Mobility

- Need bike lanes
- More stoplights

Group 3

Like:

- Convenience to everything
- Quietness of Redwood Village neighborhood
- Tree lined streets

Concerns

- Flooding
- Day laborers

- Traffic
- Lighting

Solutions

- Improve lighting
- Code enforcement
- Better drainage

Mr. Passanisi outlined Next Steps:

- Upcoming Community meetings on the General Plan:
 - Wednesday, December 10, 6:30 –8:30 PM on the Downtown Area (Stambaugh-Heller, Mezesville and Roosevelt at Redwood City Council Chambers
 - Thursday, December 11, 6:30-8:30 on Palm Park and Redwood Oaks neighborhoods at Sequoia YMCA
 - Also a Planning Commission meeting on issues related to the Bayfront area on Thursday December 9th at 7:00 PM at City Hall
- PCRC will transcribe flip charts and submit notes to Redwood City
- Notes will be posted on the City website

Participants filled out evaluations on the process and content and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Notes prepared by PCRC 650-513-0330 www.pcrcweb.org



Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
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