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## **Guiding Principles for Property Acquisition**

November 14, 2005

*In the process of acquiring property from private owners for City redevelopment, City staff and Council members shall:*

- 1. Recognize that each property, and each property owner, is a unique part of our community**
  - a. We will seek to understand each property owner's personal values in relation to their property;
  - b. We will respect and address each property owners' specific, unique circumstances;
  - c. We will recognize that each property is a unique and valued part of our community, and will interact with its owners with the appropriate level of respect.
  
- 2. Appreciate that the City's development programs and property acquisition activities must reflect the broader community values**
  - a. We will recognize that our community's character, history, and cherished uniqueness can be embodied in specific properties and their respective histories;
  - b. We will strive to achieve, as the City changes and evolves, a respectful balance among each property owner's unique values; the City's legal and financial requirements; and the ways in which a project manifests our broader community's needs and values as a whole;
  - c. We will honor and respect our history, our uniqueness, our diversity, and the intrinsic value of our connections between the past and the present, as embodied by the properties and their owners;
  - d. We will ensure that as change occurs in our City, such change honors the past, reflects our community's values, uniqueness, and diversity, and achieves our community's common goal of creating the distinctive sense of place that is Redwood City.
  
- 3. Understand that the City's development projects have significant impacts on the property owners, the properties' neighbors, adjacent businesses, individuals, and the community**
  - a. We will be sensitive and act accordingly in regards to the tangible and intangible impacts a project will have on the involved property owners, the property's neighbors, nearby business owners, and the community at-large;
  - b. We will ensure that all affected parties, whether property owners, neighbors, or others, are given the opportunity to have any and all concerns directly and respectfully addressed; this will be accomplished by designating the Mayor of Redwood City as the primary point of contact for any concerns or complaints regarding compliance with the "Guiding Principles for Property Acquisition."