

**City of Redwood City General Plan Visioning  
Palm / Woodside Plaza Neighborhood - December 14, 2004  
Community Comments**

**Group 1 Comments**

The comments below were recorded during the course of discussion.

**Things to Preserve/Likes in Redwood City**

- Historic buildings and trees
- Historic homes
- Re-use of existing buildings
- Working class and diversity
  - Franklin (Street Apartments)
- Vera / ECR (?)
- Diversity
- Natural beauty of hills and bay (need to be protected)
- Sense of place

**Things to Improve in Redwood City:**

- Code enforcement of apartments
- Fix entrances to Redwood City, taking design and place into consideration
  - Affordable housing needed
- Transit oriented housing needed
- Housing and mixed-use development on El Camino
  - Bike lanes
- Make Redwood City a destination
- Need historic train station
- Park space (more)
- Back side of Sequoia Station

**Downtown Likes**

- Library
- City Pub
- City Hall
- Farmer's Market
- Sequoia Station
- Whole Foods
- Restaurants
- Fox / Little Fox
- Post Office

## **El Camino Real Issues**

- Need bike lanes
- Traffic is a problem
- Need street trees
- Make pedestrians safe

## **Open Space & Recreation Issues**

- Like Bair Island
- Like Stafford Park
- Like Red Morton Park
- Need more creek walks
- (City should have) More focus on the bay, boating

## **Transportation Issues**

- Need more bike lanes in general
- Map to get around (?)
- Whipple should be more bike friendly
- More bike lanes and parking is needed downtown

## **Neighborhood Concerns**

- Aircraft noise abatement (noise element)
- Creek flooding - clean out creek (sediment)
- No sense of community
- Physical barriers, e.g. train tracks
- Need code enforcement of street trees
- Empty lots need to be maintained, make community gardens
- (Need to) Screen back of buildings facing ECR

## **General City Issues/Concerns**

- Water supply to support future development (and existing)
- No water rationing
- No artificial turf vs. lawns
- Recognize (our) limited resources
- Work with other cities to fix problems using a long term plan

## **Group 2 Comments**

### **Things to Preserve/Likes in Redwood City**

- Climate
- Rain
- Preserve history, historic buildings, downtown
- RWC is oldest town on the peninsula, need to preserve our history
- Respect the old downtown street pattern
- Preserve neighborhood character

### **Things to Improve in Redwood City**

- Dirty streets, trash, clean up!
- Change Woodside Road to Pescado Road
- No more giant houses
- No more multi-level apartments
- Prohibit private streets
- Clean up Woodside Road, install streetscape improvements: sidewalks, light poles, street trees
- Maintenance

### **Downtown Issues/Entertainment - Where do you like to go?**

- San Francisco
- Menlo Park, Borrone's, BBC, Kepler's
- Redwood City limited, need more and better restaurants
- Restaurants on Woodside Road
- Eliminate fast food (in RC)

### **Downtown Issues/General**

- Like the old post office
- traffic congestion
- Housing developed in downtown around transit (good)
- Safety, security (is an issue)

### **Transportation Issues**

- Train station amenities (needed)
- Sequoia Station turns its back on the train station, (should have) better pedestrian conditions
- Need a 24-hour manned train/bus station

### **El Camino Real**

- Make less of a barrier
- Coordinate traffic signals on ECR for smoother traffic flow

- Large buildings on ECR connected with bridges spanning ECR (?)
- Pedestrian overcrossing of RR tracks

### **Open Space & Recreation Issues**

- Preserve Cargill Lands, Bayfront open space
- Use Hetch Hetchy R/W (for open space)
- Laurie Duncan Park Brewster and Nevada, change from "Parkway" to "Park"
- Kids need more playing fields, informal sports areas
- Sequoia High School has an excellent playing field
- Walking trails in the hills (are nice)

#### **Favorite Parks**

- Red Morton
- Huddart (County)
- Wellesley Circle
- Stafford
- Union Cemetery
- Bair Island
- Edgewood Park

#### **Least Favorite Parks**

- Jardin de los Ninos
- Open creek segment on James Street, a missed opportunity
- Need a good creek restoration program
- Protect and maintain Cordilleras Creek

### **Transportation/Circulation Issues**

- Better management of on-street parking, impose restrictions
- Too much congestion
- More bike lanes needed
- Make it safer for children to walk and bike to schools (e.g., crossing SR 82)
- Pedestrian bulb-outs (needed) on El Camino
- Like traffic signal countdown lights
- Traffic hazards on Hopkins and at Stafford Park
- Better marking of crosswalks(needed)

### **General City Issues/Challenges**

- Growth and infrastructure
- General Plan should be based on water supply carrying capacity
- City should hold on to its public lands
- Need a growth limitation due to water (supply constraint)

- Impose maximum vehicle limits on housing

### **Group 3 Comments**

#### **Things to Preserve/Likes in Redwood City**

-Like diversity

#### **Downtown Issues/Improvements**

- Need more businesses (not limited to restaurants)
- More places to hang out (both outdoor and indoor, not just the library)
- More housing (for sale)
- Add to housing stock by providing/offering homes to purchase
- More clothing stores
- New street furniture/lamps store in downtown

#### **El Camino Real**

- 3-4 blocks west of ECR there are not enough street lights
- ECR congested from Whipple to Oak
- Upgrade storefronts on ECR
- More businesses vs. housing needed on ECR

#### **Open Space & Recreation**

- Like upgrades to Red Morton

#### **Transportation & Circulation**

- Oak Street is too narrow
- More bike lanes (needed)
- More bike racks (needed)
- Better pedestrian access on Woodside overpass (needed)
- Bike lanes on Middlefield (needed)

#### **General City Issues**

- More yoga studios
- A cheese shop/gourmet store
- Limit the number of liquor stores

## **Group 4 Comments**

### **Things to Preserve/Likes in Redwood City**

- Like walking in (my) neighborhood (2-mile circuit)
- Courthouse Square is a focus for residential / trees
- Diverse neighborhoods are good
- Diverse architecture
- Keep traditional fabric
- Variety and flexibility
- Quiet

### **Things to Improve in Redwood City**

- More shade trees for walking in the city
- Planter strip concept is good
- Cars (parked) in front yards should be buffered or relocated to rear
- Layered density, variety in density and design
- Train station should be front of RWC, not backside (bad image)
- Need local neighborhood restaurants
- No "snout" houses (w/garage stuck on front)
- No cars overhanging on sidewalks
- No wires(underground ut
- No RV/Boat trailers on street
- Better maintenance of housing stock

### **Downtown Issues**

- Needs to become "more alive"
- Eating places, more diversity needed
- More walkable / people friendly places, 24-hours
- Less cars, more housing downtown
- Avoid overpasses (?)
- Higher density, mixed use (recommended)
- More entertainment, Fox shows, etc.
- Support rise of "creative class" downtown, near train station
- (More) City Pub-like places needed, places to "hook-up"
- Mixed housing should be concentrated downtown
- Need more shopping downtown
- Little Fox (is good)
- Harry's Hofbrau, 1 mile radius (?)
- Farmer's Market / Sequoia Station

### **El Camino Real**

-ECR is a transit station (?)

### **Open Space & Recreation Issues**

- Jogging is difficult in neighborhood
- Need outdoor track in park
- De-channelizing Redwood Creek would be more natural than manicured lawns
- Water (supply)

### **Transportation & Circulation Issues**

- Fix sidewalks, drainage issues, more pedestrian connections
- Better pedestrian "linkages"
- Speed bumps are good

### **General City Issues**

- Mixed / diverse zoning (is recommended)
- Preserve lower density, i.e. heights
- Century/Shoreline, not many restaurants/night use within walking distance
- Parking and safety are issues