PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING

October 14, 2008

Planning Commission Members
Nancy C. Radcliffe, Chairperson
Jeffrey Gee, Vice-Chair
Tom Cronin
John Seybert
Janet Borgens
Rachel Holt
David Smith
AGENDA
PLANNING COMMISSION

October 14, 2008
7:00 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

This agenda category is limited to 15 minutes to be allocated for items not on the agenda as determined by the Chair. If you wish to address the Planning Commission under Oral Communications, please complete a Speaker’s Card and give it to the Secretary.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR - NO ITEMS

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) SCOPING SESSION – “Stanford in Redwood City” Campus Project

Project Description: Demolition of 537,000 sq. ft. of existing office research and development space that is proposed to be replaced by up to 1,525,000 sq. ft. of administrative office use, research and development uses, and medical clinic uses all in as many as thirteen commercial buildings; up to five parking structures that would contain approximately 5,100 parking spaces. Common support uses (i.e. cafeteria, childcare center, fitness center and other employee amenities) would occupy 80,000 sq. ft.

Recommendation: Hear and take public testimony on what environmental issues should be included in the EIR for the “Stanford in Redwood City” campus project. No decision on the project is required at this time.

Project Contact: Maureen Riordan, Senior Planner; 780-7236; mriordan@redwoodcity.org.

6. MATTERS OF COMMISSION INTEREST
7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to a Planning Commission Meeting on October 21, 2008 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA.

City staff will provide agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related accommodation. Please send a written request to Tom Passanisi at Planning Services, City of Redwood City, P. O. Box 391, Redwood City, CA 94064 or email at tpassanisi@redwoodcity.org including your name, address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least 72 hours before the meeting.

ATTENTION

Speaker cards are on the rostrum. If you wish to speak, complete the card and give it to the Secretary.

Planning Commission agenda materials, released less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, are available to the public at the Planning Division, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA 94063
October 14, 2008

SUBJECT
Scoping Session for the “Stanford in Redwood City” campus project.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Scoping Session meeting serve as a forum for the Planning Commission and public to discuss environmental issues that should be included for study in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Stanford in Redwood City campus project.

BACKGROUND

Project Description
The “Stanford in Redwood City” campus is proposed by Stanford University to occupy a 35-acre portion of a larger 48-acre (former Mid-Point Technology Park) campus that is bisected by Broadway and generally bounded by Highway 101, Douglas Avenue, Bay Road and Second Avenue.

The remaining 13-acres of the 48-acre campus include:
- 420, 430, 440 & 450 Broadway -Approved 11-acre, 360,000 square foot Stanford Medical Clinics; and
- 550 Broadway -Existing 2.3-acre, 67,640 square foot Genentech-owned building

The two (13-acre) properties listed above are not part of Stanford University’s proposed project, but will be included in the Stanford University Precise Plan in order to ensure that future on-site and off-site improvements for the entire 48-acre campus are designed comprehensively.

Stanford University has submitted a conceptual design plan that calls for the demolition of eight buildings totaling approximately 537,000 square feet of existing office R&D space (all of the existing buildings and improvements except the Genentech and Stanford Medical Clinics properties) that is proposed for replacement, in multiple phases, with Stanford University administrative office uses (75% to 80%), research and development uses (10% to 15%), and medical clinic uses (10% to 15%). Common support uses (i.e. cafeteria, childcare center, fitness center and other employee amenities) would occupy up to 80,000 square feet of space. The project also proposes an onsite storm water retention system and a pedestrian greenway that would run through the center of the campus.

The concept plan proposes up to 1,525,000 square feet of building space in as many as thirteen commercial buildings supported with five parking structures that would contain approximately 5,100 parking spaces. The campus has historically been used for light industrial research and development purposes and is located adjacent to Highway 101.
(east), Friendly Acres residential neighborhood (south) and unincorporated County and City industrial districts with one to two-story industrial land uses (west and north).

General Plan and Zoning Amendments
The project requires future City Council approval of a General Plan Amendment to allow professional office uses because the proposed University-related administrative office and medical land uses are inconsistent with the existing “Light Industrial” (Research and Development) General Plan land use designation for the site.

The proposed office-related land uses will also require future City Council approval of a Zoning Map Amendment because office uses are inconsistent with the purpose of the site’s existing “IR” (Industrial Restricted) Zoning District designation which is:

“To promote viable industrial areas by providing a district for the location of selected industries, wholesale establishments, specified retail establishments, and heavy commercial uses which can congregate together without offense to each other or to neighboring districts, yet which, because of the nature of their operations, cannot maintain standards as high as those required in the “IP” (Industrial Park) District. The zoning district is intended to preserve land for a wide range of industrial uses by limiting office uses.”

A Precise Plan for the proposed project site will be developed along with the adjacent Stanford Medical Clinics and Genetech properties, which are all located within the former “Mid-Point Technology Park” campus. The required Zoning Map Amendment for Precise Plan is to the “P” (Planned Community) Zoning District. The Precise Plan would provide standards and guidelines for, among other things, site layout (orientation of buildings, parking structures and open space areas), circulation (auto and pedestrian), and architectural design.

The Stanford in Redwood City campus project would triple the building square footage and add five parking structures with approximately 5,100 parking stalls to an existing 35-acre portion of an industrially-zoned campus to allow more intensive administrative office and, to a lesser extent, medical clinic and R&D land uses.

Discussion/Issues
It is anticipated that the following environmental topics will be of particular importance in the consideration of the proposed project and will warrant evaluation in the EIR:

- **Land Use and Planning:** The land use and planning implications of the proposed Precise Plan will be evaluated. The EIR will describe the General Plan amendment and rezoning actions necessary to implement the Precise Plan, and the potential impacts of Precise Plan buildout on existing and planned land use characteristics in the Precise Plan vicinity.

- **Aesthetics (Visual Factors):** The aesthetic and urban design implications of the proposed Precise Plan will be described, including the visual relationship of the Precise Plan to the surrounding project vicinity and the potential impacts of Precise Plan buildout (i.e., the proposed array of building masses, heights, view
corridors, etc.) on important surrounding vantage points. To support this analysis, the EIR will include computer-generated "before-and-after" visual simulations of Precise Plan buildout from up to three key surrounding vantage points selected in consultation with City staff.

- **Population and Housing:** The EIR will address the anticipated effects of Precise Plan buildout and associated employment characteristics on existing and projected population and housing characteristics, on housing demands, and on the local balance between housing and jobs in Redwood City.

- **Transportation, Circulation and Parking:** The transportation, circulation and parking implications of the proposed Precise Plan will be substantial and will warrant a technical analysis.

- **Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases:** The EIR will describe the impacts of the proposed Precise Plan development program on local and regional air quality based on methodologies stipulated by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines. The EIR will also discuss potential Precise Plan impacts on greenhouse gases and global climate change.

- **Utilities and Service Systems:** The following utility and service system impacts will be described in the EIR:

  - **Water Supply:** The project incremental water demand scenario will substantially exceed the 100,000 gallons-per-day threshold triggering the need for a Water Supply Assessment (WSA) pursuant to State Law AB 610. It is therefore assumed that the City (the local water purveyor in this case) will need to prepare a Water Supply Assessment (WSA) for City Council approval and incorporation into the Draft EIR.

  - **Sewer and Wastewater Treatment:** The incremental increase in sewer flows associated with Precise Plan buildout and any special pre-wastewater discharge requirements will be evaluated and described. The evaluation will be based on review of associated information provided by the applicant's civil engineer and consultation with the City Engineer. Any potential significant incremental sewer collection system or wastewater treatment impact and associated sewer/wastewater treatment mitigation needs will be identified, including any potential pre-treatment needs.

  - **Storm Drainage and Water Quality:** Project storm drainage and water quality impacts, and any associated mitigation needs, will be evaluated and described. The proposed Precise Plan will include modifications to the existing on-site underground storm water detention system. The environmental effects associated with these modifications will be evaluated and described.

Project-related construction period or long-term changes in water pollutant discharges will also be evaluated and described, including any mitigations that may be necessary to achieve compliance with new National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) C3 requirements.
- **Solid Waste:** The incremental increase in solid waste that may be generated by Precise Plan buildout will be evaluated, and the capacity of existing collection and disposal services to handle the increment will be concisely described.

- **Public Services:** Incremental impacts on public services associated with Precise Plan buildout will be evaluated and described, including any special fire protection needs (emergency access, special equipment, fire flow, etc.), incremental emergency medical service needs, or incremental police service needs. Associated mitigation needs will be identified.

- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** The proposed office, R&D and medical clinic uses can be expected to introduce on-site handling of hazardous materials and medical waste. Project building demolition and conversion activities may also result in potential construction period contact with hazardous building materials. The EIR will describe hazardous waste disposal activities anticipated at the campus and any associated hazardous waste disposal mitigation protocols. Any potential construction period hazardous impact and mitigation needs will also be evaluated and described.

- **Noise:** Project construction activities may result in significant temporary adverse noise or vibration impacts on neighboring uses. Project-related traffic increments may also have significant additional off-site noise impacts. Campus equipment such as HVAC systems and generators will also be considered as noise sources. Furthermore, the campus will be located immediately adjacent to Highway 101 and thus potential impact of this noise source on the proposed campus population will also be considered.

- **Cultural Resources:** The EIR will describe potential Precise Plan impacts and mitigation needs associated with encountering possible subsurface archaeological resources during Precise Plan buildout. The evaluation will include independent peer review of the cultural resource assessment to be submitted by Stanford.

- **Geology and Soils:** The EIR will include a discussion of the potential geotechnical implications of Precise Plan buildout, including the potential groundwater impacts of the Stanford-proposed subsurface parking levels. The evaluation will be based on peer review of geotechnical reports provided by the applicant.

- **Alternatives:** The EIR will include an identification and comparative evaluation of two to four alternatives to the proposed project (Precise Plan), including possible local and freeway access alternatives, and reduced project alternatives.

**Public Notification**
The meeting notice was published in the Redwood City Daily News, announced in the Redwood City City Manager's Office News Release and mailed to an expanded list of property owners and tenants within: a 300 foot radius of the site; the entire Friendly Acres neighborhood; residential properties within Redwood Village and bordering 5th
Avenue; Neighborhood Associations of Friendly Acres, Redwood Village and North Fair Oaks; and to responsible agencies and interested parties.

Future Steps
- Fall/Winter 2008 – Community Outreach Meetings/Workshops will be held to encourage input on community concerns/issues and recommended solutions relevant to the Stanford project.

Staff estimates that the Stanford in Redwood City campus project will come before the Planning Commission and City Council at the following future hearing dates:

Planning Commission Public Hearings:
- Late Spring 2009 – Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Precise Plan including General Plan Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment to “P” (Planned Community) District.
- Late Summer 2009 – Final EIR and Precise Plan including General Plan Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment to “P” (Planned Community) District.

Staff will also provide periodic updates to the City Council on various topics including the EIR progress and the City’s Fiscal and Economic Impact analysis for the Stanford project. The City Council will be the final City review authority for the proposed General Plan Amendment, Zoning Map Amendment and Precise Plan.

Maureen Riordan
Senior Planner

Tom Passanisi
Principal Planner

Jill Ekas
Planning Manager

ATTACHMENT PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Stanford in Redwood City Application to the City of Redwood City binder, May 16, 2008

ATTACHMENT PROVIDED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION
  1. Notice of Preparation for Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), dated 10/2/08
  2. E-mail letters received commenting on the Stanford project
NOTICE OF PREPARATION
NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING

To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Stanford in Redwood City Precise Plan

From: City of Redwood City

Address: 1017 Middlefield Road, P.O. Box 391, Redwood City, California 94064

Contact: Lorraine Weiss, Contract Planner, at (415) 921-5344/lorraine@lorraine-weiss.com or Maureen Riordan, Senior Planner, at (650) 780-7236/mriordan@redwoodcity.org.

The City of Redwood City will be the Lead Agency and will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed project identified below.

To Agencies: We are interested in the views of your agency as to the appropriate scope and content of the DEIR’s environmental information pertaining to your agency’s statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by the City when considering your permit or other approval for the project. The proposed project, its location, and its potential environmental effects are described below.

Due to the time limits mandated by state law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to the Redwood City Planning Department, Attention: Maureen Riordan, Senior Planner, 1017 Middlefield Road, P.O. Box 391, Redwood City, California 94064. Please provide a contact name for your agency with your comments.

Project Title: Stanford in Redwood City Precise Plan

Project Applicant: Stanford University

Project Location: See Figure 1. The project site is located on the inland side of U.S. Highway 101 (the Bayshore Freeway), generally bounded by U.S. 101 on the north, Douglas Avenue on the west, Bay Road on the south and the Andrew Spinas city park and Redwood City Fire Station #11 on the east. The site is bisected by Broadway.

Project Description: Stanford University has submitted an application to the City of Redwood City (City) for a proposed Stanford in Redwood City Precise Plan (the project) that provides for development of a Stanford University satellite administrative office, research and development (R&D) and medical clinic space totaling approximately 1.53 million square feet on an approximately 35-acre project site. Adjacent land uses that are not part of the Stanford in Redwood City project, but that will be included in the Precise Plan include: Stanford Hospital & Clinics Medical Outpatient Center located on approximately 11.3-acres and an existing Genentech-owned building located on approximately 2.3-acres.

References: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103 and 15375.
Figure 2

PROPOSED PROJECT CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN

SOURCE: Stanford University

Wagstaff and Associates ● Urban and Environmental Planners

Stanford in Redwood City Precise Plan EIR
The stated objective of the project is to create a satellite campus that will accommodate Stanford University administrative and other functions in proximity to the University's main campus in Palo Alto (approximately 7 miles away) with convenient vehicular, Caltrain and local transit accessibility, and proximity to an active downtown.

There are eight existing office and R&D buildings on the 35-acre project site, totaling approximately 537,000 square feet in floor area. The long-range planning concept is to eventually demolish all eight existing buildings and construct a new contemporary and sustainable office, research and medical clinic campus.

A conceptual site plan for the proposed project is illustrated on Figure 2. The proposal includes a phased demolition of approximately 537,000 square feet of existing office/R&D space and construction in phases of approximately 1,525,000 square feet of new space in up to approximately 13 new office/R&D/medical clinic buildings, plus up to five parking structures containing approximately 5,260 parking spaces. The proposed plan also includes infrastructure improvements, including an onsite storm water retention system, dual piping for future use of recycled water, and a pedestrian greenway that would run through the center of the campus.

Development is anticipated to begin with an approximately 500,000 to 700,000-square-foot first phase in the portion of the project site south of Broadway and west of Andrew Spinas Park (immediately south of the new Stanford Medical Outpatient Center).

The University has identified a number of potential uses to be relocated to the project, including:
- Stanford University School of Medicine, including research management, communications and institutional planning;
- Stanford University Business Affairs Department administrative uses including financial, technological, business and human resource activities;
- Stanford University library system components including offices for the Stanford University Press, HighWire Press, and Library Technical Services group; and
- Offices for other Stanford University administrative activities such as the University's development department (capital campaign and other fundraising coordination); Office of Land, Buildings and Real Estate; executive and continuing education facilities; and various new academic "start-up" endeavors.

Implementation of the development program will require City approval of the proposed Precise Plan as well as an associated General Plan Amendment to change the project site General Plan land use designation from "Light Industrial" (Research and Development) to a "Commercial" category and a Rezoning to change the project site zoning designation from "IR" (Industrial Restricted) to "P" (Planned Community District). The project will also require City approval of a Planned Community (PC) permit in accordance with the City's PC zone process, and eventual Architectural Review Committee review of Precise Plan design guidelines and City approval of a Development Agreement and associated tentative and final subdivision map approvals.

**DEIR Scope:**

The City has determined that the proposed Precise Plan will require preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The probable environment impacts of the proposed project (both significant and less than significant) that will be evaluated in the EIR fall into the following categories: Air Quality; Biological Resources (focusing on the City's Tree Preservation Ordinance); Cultural Resources; Geology and Soils; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Noise; Population and Housing; Public Services; Recreation; Transportation/Traffic; Utilities and Service Systems; and Global Climate Change. The City does not believe that the proposed project would cause any impact with respect to Agricultural Resources or Mineral Resources and does not plan to discuss those topics at any length in the EIR.
**Land Use and Planning:** The EIR will describe the General Plan amendment and Rezoning actions necessary to implement the Precise Plan, and the potential impacts of Precise Plan buildout on existing and planned land use characteristics in the Precise Plan vicinity.

**Aesthetics (Visual Factors):** The EIR will describe the aesthetic and urban design implications of the proposed Precise Plan, including its visual relationships to the surrounding vicinity and the potential impacts of Precise Plan buildout (i.e., the proposed array of building masses, heights, view corridors, etc.) on important surrounding vantage points.

**Population and Housing:** The EIR will describe the anticipated effects of Precise Plan buildout on existing and projected population and housing characteristics, housing demands, and the local balance between housing and jobs in Redwood City.

**Transportation, Circulation and Parking:** The EIR will describe the transportation and circulation implications of the proposed Precise Plan, including its incremental contribution to daily and peak hour traffic on local and regional roadway facilities. The evaluation will include regional and local roadway system impacts, transit implications, pedestrian and bicycle provision impacts, and TDM opportunities.

**Air Quality:** The EIR will describe the potential short- and long-term impacts of Precise Plan buildout on local and regional air quality based on methodologies stipulated by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

**Global Climate Change:** The EIR will describe the potential Precise Plan buildout impacts on local greenhouse gas emissions and global climate change, following the latest approach and methodologies suggested by the State.

**Utilities and Service Systems:** The EIR will describe the Precise Plan buildout impacts on local utility and service systems, including police, fire and emergency medical services; water supply; sewer and wastewater treatment; storm drainage and water quality; and solid waste.

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** The EIR will describe any hazardous waste disposal activities anticipated at the campus and will describe any associated potential hazardous waste disposal impacts and mitigation needs. Any potential construction period hazards and hazardous material impacts and mitigation needs will also be described.

**Noise:** The EIR will describe project-related construction period and long-term operation (traffic, mechanical systems, etc.) noise impacts and related mitigation needs.

**Cultural Resources:** The EIR will describe any potential Precise Plan buildout impacts and mitigation needs associated with encountering possible subsurface archaeological resources.

**Geology and Soils:** The EIR will describe the potential geotechnical implications of Precise Plan buildout.

**Alternatives:** Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15126.6, the EIR will also include an identification and comparative evaluation of a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project.

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**Notice of Scoping Meeting:**

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15082(c) (Notice of Preparation and Determination of Scope of EIR), the City of Redwood City Planning Commission will conduct a scoping session for the purpose of soliciting views of the County of San Mateo, adjacent cities, responsible agencies, agencies with jurisdiction by law, trustee agencies, and interested parties requesting notice, as to the appropriate scope and content of the EIR.

**The scoping session will be conducted by the Planning Commission at its**

October 14, 2008 regular meeting, which begins at 7:00 PM,

in the Redwood City Council Chambers,

1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City.

Please contact Lorraine Weiss, Contract Planner, or Maureen Riordan, Senior Planner, for further information.

Maureen Riordan, Senior Planner
Telephone: (650) 780-7236
FAX: (650) 780-0128

Date 10/2/08
I live very close to the Stanford University project. The thing that concerns me is too much traffic going too fast and patients parking in front of my house. I like the idea of the project but I am concerned because I have grandchildren who cross the street to walk to the park and if there is too much traffic going too fast there could be an accident. My suggestion is for the city to put stop signs, bumps, traffic lights, and reduce the speed limit. I had an emergency and couldn't attend the public hearing. If there is going to be another hearing please let me know. I would like to know what was decided at the hearing. I would really appreciate it. Thank you very much.
PLG-Maureen Riordan

From: Luis Trucios [lt@us-fg.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2008 5:22 PM
To: lorraine@lorraine-weiss.com; PLG-Maureen Riordan
Subject: Stanford project in Redwood City

Hello,
I live on Page street only 1 block from the new Stanford clinic and proposed building site.
I have spoken to my neighbors, near me, and we are all very excited that Stanford has chosen our neighborhood to build it's clinic.
As a good neighbor, do you think Stanford would allow us to use their new gym? It sure would be a bonus for living near the facilities.
I jog around the new construction and it all looks like a bonus to our neighborhood.
I remember when Excite at Home was here. They were always exclusionary to our neighborhood. When they had very large parking lot parties, they would block off Broadway and give all their employees colored wrist bands. I remember taking my children on strollers to see what all the noise was about and they were always unwelcoming. They used to have very laud events with fireworks, etc, and never invited the immediate neighbors to visit. I hope this doesn't get repeated.
Stanford has a good community reputation. I know the Palo Alto residents benefit allot from their facilities and events.
I hope you can make note of this since I will not be able to attend the Oct. 14 meeting.
Thanks,
Luis Trucios
3109 Page Street
Redwood City, CA 94063
h# 650-365-1958