



**Task Force Meeting No. 38 Synopsis
April 26, 2010**

Task Force Members Present*:

Teresa Alvarado, Shiloh Ballard, Michele Beasley, Judy Chirco, Pat Dando, Harvey Darnell, Brian Darrow, Dave Fadness, Leslee Hamilton, Sam Ho, Nancy Ianni, Lisa Jensen, Frank Jesse, Matt Kamkar, Charles Lauer, Karl Lee, Shirley Lewis, Linda LeZotte, Sam Liccardo, Pierluigi Oliverio, David Pandori, Dick Santos, Patricia Sausedo, Judy Stabile, Neil Struthers, Alofa Talivaa, Jim Zito.

Task Force Members Absent:

Jackie Adams, Gary Chronert, Pastor Oscar Dace, Enrique Fernandez, Erik Schoennauer, Michael Van Every.

City Staff and Other Public Agency Staff Present*

Ru Weerakoon (Mayor's Office), Roma Dawson (D3 Council Office), Joe Horwedel (PBCE), Laurel Prevetti (PBCE), Susan Walton (PBCE), Michael Brilliot (PBCE), Jenny Nusbaum (PBCE), Jodie Clark (PBCE), Lee Butler (PBCE), John Baty (PBCE).

Public Present*:

Carlos Babcock (SVBC), Elaine Curran (ECE Commission), Harold Clay, Jack Nadeau, Tansia N. (SOT), Joan Bohnett (SOT), Jean Dresden, Helen Chapman (SHPNA), Dan Chapman (SHPNA), Chuck Hagenmaier (NNA), Christine Choi, Trixie Johnson (LWV/SJ-SC), Eve Orton (Senior Care Commission, AARP), Marc Fontana (DeAnza Student), Sandy Perry, Larry Ames, Terri Balandra, Mona Onstead (SJDRA), Paula Velsey (Coalition for a Downtown Hospital - CDH), Reardon (LWV), Pearl Caldwell (Senior Care Commission), Jeff Lake (CDH), Peter Rothschild (Rothschild & Assoc.), Bill Roeder (DeAnza College), Al Victors, Nancy Hickey (CDH), Rosylin Dean (CDH), Bob Leininger (CDH), Mauricio Astacio (Neighborhoods Commission), Gerry Hunt (CDH), Kim Meff (DeAnza College student), Susan Marsland (SJSU Grad Student), David Marsland (Sierra Club Cool Cities).

*As verified by registering attendance on Sign-In Sheets.

1. Welcome

The meeting convened at 6:33 p.m.

2. Review and approval of April 12, 2010 synopsis

The synopsis was approved.

3. Report on Outcomes of the April 20, 2010 City Council Hearing

Joe Horwedel provided a report on the outcomes of the April 20th City Council hearing on the General Plan Update, including Council acceptance of preferred land use scenario, direction to proceed with CEQA review and document development, and additional guidance for staff and the Task Force, including appropriate level of detail to be included in the General Plan. In response to a Task Force member's concern that specific goals to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) might be "too detailed" per the Council's direction, Co-Chair Sam Liccardo clarified that Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is directly tied to land use and is appropriate. To the question why the City Council directed staff to revise the fiscal report, Co-Chair Liccardo also clarified that Council direction to provide additional fiscal analysis was to consider affects of slowing retail growth in the larger region, growth in internet sales, and growth in the service relative to the retail sector.

4. Envision General Plan Land Use/Transportation Diagram

Co-Chair Liccardo noted for the Task Force that a letter from the Coalition for a Downtown Hospital with their land use recommendations had been distributed to the Task Force.

Lee Butler introduced staff's recommendations regarding a conceptual approach to the Land Use/Transportation diagram for the General Plan Update including the use of generalized land use designations, adding employment land capacity, designating low growth areas, establishing a fixed Urban Growth Boundary, and renewing or retiring Specific Plans.

Joe Horwedel reviewed the General Plan Update Phase II and Phase III community engagement process, and discussed the concept for Task Force members to begin to act as ambassadors of the Envision 2040 General Plan Update to help build a community constituency for the Envision 2040 Plan before it is brought to the Council for approval in June 2011.

The Task Force members, seated at five separate tables in groups of five to six members, met to discuss staff's recommendation focused on three main issues: Task Force members' understanding of the five concepts outlined by staff, consistency of the five concepts with past Task Force and community input, and questions for the broader community which could provide useful input for the Task Force in considering the Land Use/Transportation Diagram and designations. Community members in attendance either participated in their own small group discussions facilitated by staff or observed the Task Force small groups.

At the conclusion of the small group discussion, each Task Force member provided a brief statement on his or her recommendations and/or concerns. Task Force members generally supported the concept of establishing a more certain Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and bringing clarity to when and how the UGB can be modified. Some members expressed concern with "fixing" the location as they indicated there is already an established deliberate process for modifications. Several comments were made regarding the importance of highlighting connections between land uses, including transit, trails, and bike paths. Several comments were made regarding the value of the Planned Development Rezoning process as a way to engage the public with staff, the developers, and the City Council to provide input on the development process. The Task Force was in agreement with the concept of generalized land use designations and providing developers and future property owners/residents with more certainty. Concern was raised about the upper end of the wide range of residential density (in terms of dwelling units per acre) allowed in some

proposed residential land use categories, and the lack of a mid-range residential designation (e.g., 12 to 25 or 8 to 16 DU/AC), particularly to reflect existing development. Task Force members supported the Residential Neighborhood designation concept focused on preserving existing neighborhoods, and on the Village overlay concept to direct growth to specific areas. The Task Force made suggestions regarding how to engage the public about the Land Use Diagram and designations, including providing background information including images with survey questions, keeping the concepts simple, and not requiring respondents to “do math” to answer survey questions. The Task Force also commented that the public might respond that the City should be made better before bigger, and suggested that a community survey question could include “What things *make* a city or neighborhood?”.

At the community tables there was discussion about where hospitals should be allowed, consensus that San José should become a more “jobs dense” community, and agreement with the concept of designating low-growth areas on the Diagram. Other main themes from the community input about the Land Use/Transportation Diagram included clarity, consistency, and certainty. Community members in attendance stated they would like to see different maps with different layers “turned on” to highlight specific uses such as trails and open space. Residents also expressed interest in how the process would work for renewal of Specific Plans, for how to “turn on” a village ahead of the phasing plan, and for how Village overlays would work. Other community members expressed interest in where it would be appropriate to locate new hospitals and how to potentially integrate them into the villages.

5. Public Comment

In addition to the public comments from the small group discussion, 11 members of the public spoke. Comments included the need to: connect and extend trails and show them on the land use plan (including Three Creeks trail); emphasize the complete transportation network including biking and transit on the land use plan; consider development of North Coyote Valley and East Evergreen after industrial development in other areas; support a fixed Urban Growth Boundary; clarify the community engagement process for renewal of Specific Plans; revisit discretionary alternate use policies and eliminate the 2-acre rule; improve ability to distinguish similar land use designation colors on the map; protect existing neighborhoods and add transition zones between new and existing neighborhoods; allow good villages to occur ahead of phasing plan; create a design commission to oversee and provide subjective review of development proposals, with staff applying objective standards; and, provide a plan for a new hospital located along good and convenient transportation.

6. Task Force Recommendations

The Task Force was in agreement with Co-Chair Liccardo’s suggestion that staff take the input from the meeting and provide follow-up information and responses to Task Force and community input at the upcoming Task Force meeting on May 17th.

7. Announcements

Lee Butler reminded the Task Force and audience of the Community Open House on Saturday, May 15th, and noted the next four Monday Task Force meetings scheduled before the summer break: May 17th, May 24th, June 7th, and June 28th. Lee announced that the City’s Planning,

Building and Code Enforcement Department received the Best Practices award from the Northern California American Planners Association for the Envision San José 2040: Phase I & II Community Engagement Program. Lee also announced the safe arrival of staff member Andrew Crabtree's baby daughter on Friday, April 23rd. Task Force member Shiloh Ballard announced that the results of the 2010 CEO Business Climate Survey are available.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.