Task Force Final Meeting Synopsis
September 12, 2011

Task Force Members Present*:
Jackie Adams, Teresa Alvarado, Shiloh Ballard, Michele Beasley, Judy Chirco, Gary Chronert, Pastor Oscar Dace, Pat Dando, Harvey Darnell, Brian Darrow, Dave Fadness, Enrique Fernandez, Leslee Hamilton, Sam Ho, Nancy Ianni, Frank Jesse, Karl Lee, Shirley Lewis, Linda LeZotte, Sam Liccardo, Pierluigi Oliverio, David Pandori, Dick Santos, Patricia Sausedo, Erik Schoennauer, Judy Stabile, Neil Struthers, Alofa Talivaa, Jim Zito.

Task Force Members Absent:
Lisa Jensen, Matt Kamkar, Charles Lauer, Michael Van Every.

City Staff and Other Public Agency Staff Present*
Joe Horwedel (PBCE), Laurel Prevetti (PBCE), Susan Walton (PBCE), Andrew Crabtree (PBCE), John Baty (PBCE), Dipa Chundur (PBCE), Ru Weerakoon (Mayor's Office)

Public Present*:
Robert Hamilton, Trixie Johnson, Peter Hamilton, Danny Garza, Leslie Reylonds, Dan Chapman, Rj Castro, Charles Albeit, Susan Marsland, Mary Anee Groen, Helen Garza, Janice Rombed, Lailo Fagroovy

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

1. **Welcome**

   The meeting was convened at 6:37 p.m.

2. **Review and approval of August 22,2011 synopsis**

   The August 22, 2011 synopsis was approved.

3. **Responses to Task Force Comments, Updates and Announcements**

   Andrew Crabtree mentioned that staff is currently responding to the comments received on the Environmental Impact Report. In response to a request from the Task Force at the last meeting, he stated that staff has identified two pending projects that could be consistent with the Envision 2040 Plan. Andrew further mentioned that in addition to the letters in the Task Force packet, copies were available for 5 comment letters received recently.

4. **Task Force Members Concluding Remarks**

   All the Task Force members present shared their comments and experiences while working on the Task Force and the Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan. All of them stated appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Task Force and thanked the Council and Task Force chairs and co-chairs for guiding the whole group through this process. Specific Task Force member comments are summarized according to topic area.

Many Task Force members expressed that the process was a great opportunity to see the community so involved in the General Plan Update process, including college students, who shared and voiced their opinions. Some members shared that the Update process had been a learning experience about land use planning, San Jose's diversity and its history that provided a different perspective of the City and had highlighted its diversity. Several members further commented that the Update process provided an opportunity for the inclusion of the City's diversity which was well represented by the Task Force members. Some of the members expressed that the process showed that it is possible to plan a great city by and for the community. One Task Force member commented that the process could have included more tours of subareas in the City.

One member shared that initially churches had not seemed well addressed by planning policies, but that the opportunity to be involved in the Task Force process had provided an opportunity to appreciate the difficulty of policy-making for the people behind it. The member stated the effort had been a lot of heavy duty work, but that all the discussions and comments had been brilliant and he really appreciated the work and was especially happy the Plan has a place for churches.

Many Task Force members stated they appreciated Planning staff's work and timely response to the Task Force and public's comments and questions. They mentioned that staff did a great job by listening and capturing the comments and questions on such a large project over several years. Some of the members specifically commented they appreciated the good public outreach that included hosting meetings out in the neighborhoods.

Some of the members shared that the Envision Plan is a reflection of this good community process. They described the Plan as a very progressive, "cutting edge," and urban land use plan focused on jobs and with good measurable sustainability/VMT goals, and commented that it would ultimately make a difference to allow more San Jose residents to eventually work closer to home because of the Plan's goals and policies.

Several Task Force members stated the Plan has good key concepts such as Historic Preservation, Urban Villages, an urban city that is bicycle and pedestrian oriented, preserving/protecting the urban reserve and Coyote wildlife corridor. Some of the members appreciated that the Plan focuses on retaining the existing neighborhoods and planning for people and not just cars. Some of the members mentioned that it was good to note that the Plan addresses social equity and also that San Jose has made a good effort to include health related policies in its General Plan.

Several Task Force members expressed concern over whether the Plan provides adequately for different types of housing and whether it can achieve the desired Jobs/Housing number. But in general, they stated they appreciated how the process helped the group to finalize the numbers. One or two members expressed concern that the Plan might be a little challenging for the general public to understand since the Envision Plan appears to be more complex that the San Jose 2020 plan, and suggested indexing the Plan would be helpful for the public to navigate through the plan.

Several Task Force members expressed the importance of strong implementation of the Plan for the City to be successful in achieving the its goals, including the suggestion to create a tool to implement the Plan that attracts jobs. Members commented that the plan has provided for housing, transportation and jobs, and that these elements are important to attract investments that help build

education. There were several comments that land use change is a slow process, and that patience will be required to implement this visionary Plan over the next 30 years, but that it is important to set the bar high and not compromise, especially in the beginning. One member commented that a test would be to see how many General Plan Amendments will be approved over the next ten years, emphasizing that it is important to preserve all this good work and not have a new City Council change it.

One Task Force member mentioned that the Plan puts on equal footing the City's fiscal and economic goals with environmental objectives, and that for the first time in the General Plan, the concept of a Major Review is introduced to facilitate mid-course corrections. Several members stated it's going to be important to measure the implementation of the Plan.

5. Public Comment

Ten members of the public provided comments. One speaker mentioned that each General Plan was an improvement over the earlier one and that it had been good to be part of the past few General Plan updates. The speaker stated it was good to note that this Plan protects Urban Reserve is not for growth.

Another speaker mentioned that the Plan has good goal but typically the City is reluctant to capture community concern and have a mechanism for tracking development conditions post-development.

One speaker mentioned that the Plan reflects a good walkable/bikeable City and also that the community should follow the progress of the Plan.

Another speaker mentioned that it is important to have school districts involved, because fees required by the state typically do not cover cost of housing and educating an increasing student population, and that therefore, it's important for developers to talk with the appropriate school district.

One speaker suggested a new policy to be included to allow additional density on existing properties and stated they had provided a letter to the Task Force to that effect.

Another speaker mentioned that the Plan should be submitted for an award for the Village Concept.

Another speaker thanked the Task Force especially for keeping in the strong jobs component.

One speaker mentioned that the document was well written, especially the sections on open space and on improving the jobs/housing balance.

A couple of speakers requested that the Task Force support maintaining the Rancho del Pueblo golf course site as an open space.

6. Task Force Recommendations and Voting

The co-chairs confirmed that the Task Force recommendation on Rancho del Pueblo would be to keep the site as open space. The Task Force then voted to approve the Envision Plan as recommended by staff.

7. Task Force Signatures on Envision Document

Andrew Crabtree requested that each Task Force member sign over their name on a sheet so that the Task Force signatures could be included in the Envision Plan document.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20p.m.