



General Plan Advisory Committee
April 14, 2010 Meeting
Encinitas City Hall

MEETING #2 SUMMARY

I. Introduction

The Encinitas General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) held its second regular meeting on April 14, 2010. Daniel Iacofano of MIG, Inc. and Matt Raimi of Raimi + Associates facilitated the session. City staff managing the General Plan Update were also present (Patrick Murphy, Diane Langager, Mike Strong, Laurie Tremor).

The meeting began with an overview and discussion on the Brown Act for open meetings, which was presented by Greg Lusitana, Assistant City Attorney. Following this, Daniel and Matt presented the results of the first five public workshops which were held in early and mid March. They also provided an overview of the preliminary handouts/workbook materials for the May 1 General Plan Vision Festival. GPAC members were asked to review the preliminary results and provide feedback to the consultant team on any items that were missing or that could be rephrased.

The results of the 5 public workshops were organized according to the 6 topics discussed at the Community-Specific Workshops (i.e., Where We Work and Shop; How We Get Around, etc.). For each topic a list of goals and a list of specific issues and opportunities were presented. The content was taken directly from the public discussion at the workshops, as well as stakeholder meetings, tool-kit feedback and the first GPAC meeting (which was held in January 2010). A series of presentation maps were also provided. The maps identified transportation issues, areas where land use changes may be studied and preservation areas. Overall, the area where land use changes should be studied amounted to approximately less than five percent of the total land area in the City.

Following the presentation, the GPAC discussed each topic and provided their comments. A list of the comments written on the flip charts during the meeting is presented in the next section.

II. Summary Notes from Discussion

The following is a summary of notes organized according to topic area. The notes are mostly written verbatim from the flip charts with minor edits for clarification, consistency and to avoid redundancy.

Our Natural Environment

- Create partnerships to achieve goals
- Use fire resistant landscaping
- Address fire break/habitat tension
- Use reclaimed water
- Increase landscape requirements
- Manage Open Space for Preservation of Natural Environment
- Explore use of artificial turf
- Explore local use of mulch
- Expand homeowner education or reduced H₂O use

How We Get Around

- Don't lose connections across I-5
- Speed limits increasing due to state law
- Address speeding in residential areas
- Build a pedestrian crossing over I-5 @ Union Street
- Address shopping mall and commercial parking lot connectivity
- Add "C Street" to railroad crossings on transportation map

Where We Work and Shop

- Overall goal: Identify how the City can pay for things residents want
- Emphasize urban forest
- Create venues – e.g. theaters for all ages, youth, adults, seniors
- Look at what part or role City plays in tourism
- Investigate innovative funding opportunities
- Consider light manufacturing uses
- Increase access to shopping areas – especially for seniors
- Require connected parking lots in downtown
- Explore cable/tech upgrade
- Move issues and opportunities relating to forestry, historic resources and horticulture from "where we work and shop" to "unique character"

Where We Live

- Add "affordable" housing in the land use mix discussion
- Build an art center
- Sidewalks can have a negative impact on character; make clearer in handouts
- Recognize that some items are incompatible with each other
- Explore diverse/affordable housing
- Analyze appropriate population build-out

Our Unique Character and Identity

- Clarify that big box stores should be allowed in **limited** locations
- Add historic preservation as an issue
- Add small scale to the Cardiff goal/identity
- Increasing tree canopy applies to many parts of the community
- The dark sky policy should/could apply to other areas

- Repurpose shopping centers with other uses
- City should be more of an environmental leader
- Strive for parks within walking distance of all residents

Our Parks, Services and Community Facilities

- Improve access to natural resources
- Explore park funding opportunities
- Pursue joint use with school properties (and make it mutually beneficial for schools and City)
- Build a dog park with fence
- Improve use of community college campus
- Build new parks as part of new housing developments
- Explore a linear trail along Coast Hwy 101 and railroad

Maps of Areas of Future Visioning and Areas of Stability

- Change name of “preservation” to areas of “future visioning” or “areas of discussion”
- Consider creating a table that has description of comments by public that lead to each area being included on this map.
- Take off greenhouses and agricultural land from the map. This should be a separate discussion with the growers and agricultural community. Create a separate map with these uses and identify.
 - Active versus inactive agricultural/greenhouse uses
 - Create a symbol to reflect size of property or onsite agriculture (many properties are small)
 - Identify field agriculture vs. greenhouses
- Show the map with land use designations underneath the areas of future visioning.

III. Next Steps

The information and discussion at GPAC Meeting #2 was used to update the goals and issues/opportunities for each topic in preparation of the May 1 General Plan Vision Festival. Comments from the GPAC were integrated into the handouts for use during the Visioning Festival. Following the public workshop, GPAC members will review the results of the Community Vision festival and then provide additional comment, guidance and direction. This information will ultimately be presented to the City Council on July 14 and used to craft the specific goals, policies and actions in the General Plan.

IV. Public Comments

At the end of each topic, members of the public provided some suggestions and additional ideas. The public comments echoed many of the comments of the GPAC members.