

10/26/19 (Sat.) - ESGVAP Community Visioning Workshop @ Steinmetz Senior Center

Time: 9:30am– 11:30am

A. Meeting Notes:

- Meeting Details:
 - Regional Planning organized the meeting to focus on getting early feedback on community needs and opportunities.
 - Regional Planning made a 20 minutes powerpoint presentation on the Area Plan, Hacienda Heights Community Plan
 - After the presentation, workshop activities took place for the remainder of the meeting time.
 - We did the Place It! Activity which focuses on people's values in place.
 - The second activity was an Issues and Opportunities analysis. interests.
 - The meeting was conducted in English with a translator and headsets provided for Mandarin speakers. head sets. I person used the headsets.
 - People arrived early and were eager to discuss their concerns.
 - Overall atmosphere was genial, people were talkative, and their concerns were clearly communicated. We had a helpful workshop where residents were able to delve into the issues that are important to them.
- Attendance: Over 60 people were in attendance. Most were residents of Hacienda Heights.

B. Activity Responses and Feedback:

1. Place It! Values - The following is a list of what people stated they value in their communities:
 1. Shuttle to get around, but want it to go more places.
 2. Options for getting around and transportation
 3. Access to parks – walkable
 4. Housing for seniors
 5. Affordable housing for all
 6. Supervisor's presence in the community
 7. Greenspace for kids to play / multipurpose sports facilities
 8. Safe gathering spaces
 9. Rural and agricultural history of the area - orange groves and proximity, used to be able to walk everywhere.
2. Opportunities & Issues Activity: Listed below are the most mentioned concerns and comments under each topic.
 1. ***Housing & Neighborhoods*** –
 - A. *Affordability:*
 - Need more affordable housing. Homes are unaffordable. Need housing affordable to residents. Losing younger families due to high

cost of housing and schools are closing. (Nearly every survey response mentioned this issue.)

- Senior housing – don't have any in Hacienda Heights, need it especially in the flat areas. Want to be able to age in place in the community.
- New housing is being sold for too much, families cannot afford to live here.
- Use vacant land for affordable housing.
- Ease home additions, repair and beautification procedures and costs, especially for low-income people.

B. Homelessness:

- Homelessness is a big concern voiced by nearly all participants.
- Need more housing and services for homeless.
- Convert closed schools and shopping centers to homeless housing.

C. Neighborhood Character:

- Need more lighting on residential streets.
- Preserve single-family housing character of community.

2. Land Use & Community Design:

A. Redevelop Commercial Centers:

- Local shopping centers need to be redeveloped. Many are underutilized, vacant, in need of major maintenance and beautification, business storefronts need to be improved. Ex – Vons shopping center, Shopping centers at Hacienda/Gale, Hacienda/Newton, and Hacienda/Halliburton
- Need better local retail options and more options for grocery stores. Many have closed over the years and many residents shop for groceries outside of the community.
- Vons shopping center is unsafe, car break-ins, poorly maintained and generally unpopular with meeting participants.
- Some of the centers are unsafe

B. Industrial Uses:

- Quemetco and its impact on housing and schools is a major concern.

C. Closed School Sites:

- School district needs to be more transparent about repurposing of closed schools, need community involvement.
- Want to maintain the sports facilities that former school site's provide for the community.

3. *Mobility:*

A. Transit, Walking & Biking:

- Need walkable access to parks and services.
- Need better local transit options.
- Community shuttle needs to be expanded, more stops and more frequent.
- Sidewalks need to be repaired and need to build more.
- Need better design for biking and bike lanes on street. Presently streets are not conducive to biking. Don't feel safe biking on streets.
- Need alternative transportation dedicated lane on Turnbull Canyon – there is lots of auto racing there.

B. Traffic Congestion:

- Traffic congestion is major issue
- Would like parking and access restrictions on narrow streets.
- Concerns regarding added traffic caused by new housing

C. Roadwork & Safety Improvements:

- Fullerton Rd and CalTrans work – very slow progress, causes lots of traffic cause not finished.
- Need road improvements and potholes filled – trucks tear up roads in community. Ex – Hacienda Blvd.
- Stop signs needed
- Speeding on surface streets, ex. Turnbull Canyon.
- Safety concerns for schoolkids crossing the footbridge on Garo

4. *Community Design*

- More street trees
- Preserve architectural style of Hacienda Heights
- Want more community involvement in decision-making
- Clean up business signs, too much signage, sign clutter.
- Create a local Chamber of Commerce

5. *Recreation/Parks:*

A. More Park Space:

- Want a community sports complex with lights; more sport facilities – tennis, basketball, soccer fields, baseball fields
- Repurpose closed schools to parkspace.
- Want dog park
- Preserve undeveloped hillsides

B. Walking and Parks

- More parks that residents can walk to
- Need shuttle bus to trailhead at 7th & Orange Grove

- Parks with nature walks

C. Services & Maintenance:

- Better trail maintenance in hillsides.
- Youth programming in the evenings

6. Health & Safety:

A. Crime:

- More security patrols from Sherriff
- Homes and cars are being broken into, vandalism
- Want volunteer community patrols, neighborhood watch
- Group homes do not have adequate surveillance, violence and break in, need better security onsite.

B. Health:

- Need more free clinics
- Closer hospital
- Air quality concerns
- Industrial use impact on homes and schools- Quemetco