

Valley HI Community Meeting- Notes

January 14, 2008

Prairie Elementary

6pm-8pm

- I. Large turn-out: 15+ people- many returns from first community meeting in addition to new community members, and City representatives.
 - a. See sign-in sheet for complete list and contact information.

- II. Comments:
 - a. Community Garden- positive feedback heard from most entities including ideas of partnership or educational opportunities with Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD), Prairie Elementary, and City of Sacramento Neighborhood Services Dept.
 - i. Community gardens were well received by community members who were eager to learn more about cost and rules associated.
 - ii. Location- per comments from Bill Maynard- Hitchcock Way location is acceptable, but location bordering east end parking lot should be moved to near Brentford, as location closer to Center Drive would serve nearby multi-family housing.
 - b. Youth Center comments- excitement and positive feedback surrounding future youth center- supported by all. Questions surrounding details of the youth center such as what type of activities would be held, who could use the facility, who would manage/maintain the facility, etc.
 - i. Comments on size (currently 5,000 sq. ft.) reserved for the building. Some community members felt the size was too small- preferably 8,000-10,000 sq. ft. might be better size and still fit with size of park.
 - ii. Comment by Benito Garcia- example of 'best youth center'- Concord Community Youth Center
<http://www.communityyouthcenter.com/>
 - c. Jogging trail and fitness stations received positive feedback
 - i. Current walkway used often for walking/jogging- community members were excited about jogging trail with fitness stations possibly included in Phase 1 via Kaiser grant.
 - d. Group picnic area- well received. Questions about reservations for church groups, birthdays, company picnics, etc.
 - i. Strong response to include group picnic area in Phase 1 or shortly there-after as funding permits.
 - e. Drainage issue comments- concern about baseball field- drainage issue to be addressed
 - f. Lighting issues- safety concerns associated with current lighting.
 - i. Existing lights are too dim or blocked by tree foliage

- ii. Additional lights needed along path, as well as a need for a lighting study to be conducted to assess state of current lights- cleaned, replaced, etc.
- g. Trash receptacle issues- desire for immovable receptacles- ones that cannot be vandalized, thrown, or blown away.
- h. Restroom safety issues- vandalism, loitering, and drug abuse concerns.
 - i. Important for location of restroom to be visible by police
 - ii. Restroom to be of highest vandal resistance and include City required self-locking doors, grates on lights, etc.
- i. Issues surrounding future color choices of play equipment, shade canopies, surfacing, etc.
 - i. Gang activity in area associated with certain colors- input from EGUSD to use neutral colors or include all colors.

III. Master Plan comments:

- a. Relocate community gardens adjacent to parking lot to area near Brentford and Center Drive.
- b. Show both multi-use courts as covered.
- c. 'Rain garden' median at East end parking lot to include wheel stop curb, but with curb cuts to allow for water drainage into rain garden.
- d. Issues surrounding location of Group Picnic Area- too far from parking?
 - i. Possibly move closer to youth center, restroom, and baseball back-stop area.
 - ii. Increase the size of picnic area at play area to accommodate for birthday parties, families, etc.

IV: Schedule

- a. Phase I Improvements are estimated to be complete by Summer 2009.
- b. The master plan will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commissions in February 2008.
- c. The master plan will be presented to City Council for approval in April 2008.

Overall: Plan was well-received by all community members and meeting attendees.