

Introduction

On Wednesday, March 1, 2017, the City of Sacramento, in partnership with Sacramento Regional Transit District and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, hosted a community outreach event in the River District area. This community outreach event provided an overview of five planned projects in the River District, which encompasses the area at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers, north of the city's Downtown core. The projects represented at this event included the City of Sacramento's North 12th Complete Street Project and the North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project, along with SHRA's Twin Rivers housing improvements, Regional Transit's future light rail station, and a proposed fire station. More than 70 community members attended the outreach event at the Smythe Academy, located at 700 Dos Rios Street in Sacramento, at 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. A total of ten community members joined the walking group that departed from the Twin Rivers Housing Management Office and traveled together to the community outreach event.



North 12th Complete Street Project Overview

The City is preparing the preliminary engineering and environmental documentation for the North 12th Complete Street Project to transition North 12th Street, a connector between North Sacramento and Downtown, into a complete street with protected bike facilities, enhanced crosswalks, and improved connections. This project includes converting a vehicular travel lane into a two-way Class IV separated bikeway, allowing cyclists to travel both directions on North 12th Street in a safe and efficient manner, as well as improvements to traffic signals, crosswalks, sidewalks, aesthetics, and lighting. The goals of the project include enhancing safety on the corridor, encouraging economic development in the area, providing alternative convenient travel options for residents and businesses, and improving the aesthetics of a gateway street into Sacramento's Central City.



North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project Overview

The City is developing concepts to revitalize the 16th Street and North 16th Street corridor between H Street and Richards Boulevard through streetscape improvements. This project will create a corridor that is friendly and inviting for pedestrians, and attractive for new and existing businesses and visitors through sidewalk improvements, landscaping, lighting, public art and the addition of on-street parking. Proposed improvements will include new curbs, gutter and sidewalk improvements, landscaping, wayfinding signage and lighting, along with re-striping the travel lanes to accommodate on-street parking.



Community Outreach Event Purpose

The purpose of the Destination River District community outreach event was to engage and inform River District residents, businesses, visitors, and regional commuters about the five planned projects and gather community feedback.

Goals of the community outreach event included:

- Provide an overview of the proposed projects and improvements to the River District
- Inform the community of the goals and objectives of the two transportation projects
- Gather feedback on existing conditions and proposed improvements
- Discuss the existing challenges and need for North 12th Street and North 16th Street improvements with the community members
- Provide information to community members about the benefits of complete streets and a Class IV separated bikeway
- Obtain input from community members regarding community values to provide foundation for project goals and objectives
- Obtain input from community members regarding site context for each project
- Gather feedback on placemaking and general overall improvements to the River District area

Community Outreach Event Format

Welcome & Introduction

At 4:15 p.m., Councilmember Jeff Harris welcomed community members to the Destination River District Community Outreach Event. Councilmember Harris provided a brief overview of each of the planned projects and coordinating stations, and thanked community members for their continued investment into continually improving and enhancing the River District. La Shelle Dozier, Executive Director of the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, also thanked community members for attending the community outreach event.



Information Stations

The community outreach event included stations for each of the proposed projects in the River District area. The following highlights the stations and station components dedicated to the two City of Sacramento mobility projects.

- *Introduction to Mobility* – This station included an overview map of the River District area with proposed projects and improvements, as well as major landmarks. The station also included a community values exercise where community members were asked to respond to “What makes a healthy business corridor?” and “What does a great neighborhood mean to you?”
- *Mobility Tools* – This station included an overview of “tools” or potential improvements for enhancing mobility through complete streets and streetscape improvements projects. It also included a video highlighting the components of a complete street. Community members had the opportunity to view an “existing conditions” photograph of North 12th Street and hold up an iPad to see what North 12th Street would look like with the proposed mobility improvements, including a Class IV separated bikeway and enhanced sidewalks.
- *North 12th Complete Street Project* – This station provided an overview of the North 12th Complete Street Project, including maps of the project boundaries, proposed cross sections, and identified



improvements at key intersections and locations along the corridor. This station also included an overview map of the River District area in order for community members to discuss connectivity and circulation throughout the district.

- *North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project* – This station included an overview of the North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project, including maps of the project boundaries, and an activity for community members to identify current challenges or desired improvements. The station also included an informational video with examples of enhanced lighting along high-traffic transportation corridors and under railroad overcrossings.



The community outreach event also included stations for Sacramento Regional Transit District’s Dos Rios Light Rail Station, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency’s Twin Rivers Housing Complex, the proposed new Fire Station, and a vision station regarding placemaking throughout the district.

Station Activity Feedback

For the community values exercise at the *Introduction to Mobility* station, community members were asked “What does a great neighborhood mean to you?” Below is a summary of responses:

- Bike lanes
- Bike lanes
- Bike lanes
- Garbage cans for pedestrians
- Grocery store
- Grocery store
- Grocery stores
- Grocery stores
- Grocery stores
- Grocery stores
- Laundromat
- No litter
- Parks
- Public drinking fountain



- Safe crossings
- Safety
- Street lights

When asked “What does a healthy business district mean to you?”, community members provided the following responses:

- On-street parking
- Easy access to my business



Station Discussion Summary

Project team members and City representatives were available to discuss each project with members of the community. Below is a summary of common discussion topics and comments heard.

North 12th Complete Street Project

- The following comments were mentioned regarding the proposed Class IV separated bikeway.
 - “I hope adding the Class IV bikeway will remove the bicyclists from riding on the sidewalk and make it safer for pedestrians to use the sidewalk on this street.”
 - “I commute by bicycle daily and support the idea of a Class IV separated bikeway. I never ride along North 12th Street because I do not feel safe. There is too little space and too many vehicles on the road.”
 - “The Class IV separated bikeway is a good idea, but I think the route should go along North 12th Street from the Two Rivers Trail to C Street instead of going through Richards Boulevard and Sunbeam Avenue.”
 - “I disapprove of the Class IV bikeway project. The route should be moved to Dos Rios Street where there is less vehicle traffic. It will be too big of an inconvenience for motorists and businesses along the corridor for very few cyclists.”
- The project team heard the following comments regarding the proposed lighting improvements.
 - “I like the lighting ideas for the railroad underpass.”
 - “Lighting in the railroad underpass is much needed, even during the day.”
- The following comments were heard about parking on North 12th Street.

- “I approve of the new on-street parking. It will be a benefit to the local businesses in that area.”
- Other comments heard about the areas surrounding the project are included below.
 - “I like this project but I wish more could be done about the people who currently use the corridor and make it feel unpleasant.”
 - “Can anything be done about the frequent visitors to the areas near Loaves and Fishes? It would improve the overall area.”

North 16th Streetscape Improvements Project

- The following questions were frequently asked by event attendees.
 - What is the project schedule/when will it be complete?
 - Response: The project team is currently initiating concept development, preliminary engineering and environmental documentation. The current phase of the project will continue throughout 2017. Final design of the corridor and preparation of construction plans are anticipated to begin in 2018 if funding becomes available.
 - What will the corridor look like?
 - Response: The project team is beginning to develop alternatives for the corridor that include improvements to curbs, gutters, sidewalks, landscaping, signage, lighting, and the potential for re-striping the travel lanes to accommodate on-street parking, where feasible.
- When asked if attendees walk on North 16th Street, the project team received the following responses.
 - “Yes, the sidewalks are too narrow.”
 - “Women walk their baby carriages in the street to avoid the homeless due to narrow sidewalks.”
 - “There are no places to cross safely.”
 - “Cyclists do not follow rules.”
 - “The sidewalks are not safe for old people to walk.”
 - “It is a quiet neighborhood over near Basler Street.”
 - “I have never walked on North 16th Street.”



- When asked about the tunnel at the railroad overpass, the project team heard the following comments.
 - “Yes, I know the tunnel.”
 - “Yes, I walk my 8 kids through the tunnels three times a week. It is disgusting.”
 - “Yes, but never at night. It is terrifying.”
 - “Yes, the homeless tear up the wires near the southwest entrance and leave exposed wire hanging around. It is too dangerous.”
 - “We need lights in the tunnels.”
 - “The tunnels need to be cleaner. “
- Other comments received about the project and project area included:
 - “The road ‘hump’ on the north side of the underpass is a landmark. Do not remove it.”
 - “There are many bike and pedestrian traffic conflicts in areas where the sidewalk, parking, and gutters are all in a row.”
 - “Ruland Road is privately owned by the business; the owner is converting the former SMUD property adjacent to the business into a parking lot.”



Community Feedback on Tour Guides

Each community member received a Tour Guide booklet which provided information on each planned project and gave a space for the participant to write additional comments and questions. The following feedback was submitted to the project team on the Tour Guides for the North 12th Complete Street Project and North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project.

North 12th Complete Street Project

- “The bike lanes are a great idea.”
- “First time seeing a two-way bike trail. Excellent idea.”
- “Cover the light rail station to provide shade and protect riders when raining.”
- “Nice job, can't wait to see it done.”
- “Lighted bike lanes.”

North 16th Street Streetscape Improvements Project

- “The lighting under the bridge is beautiful. It will be pretty as well as safe.”
- “Lights are also an excellent idea to add a little color to the bridge and make it a happier and brighter place.”
- “Drinking fountains, trash receptacles, lighting and landscape improvements.”

Overall River District Improvements & Placemaking

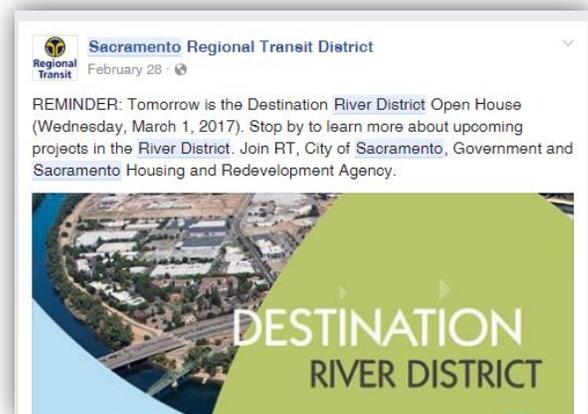
- “This is an amazing change to Sacramento. I am so excited for our City.”
- “I loved the city beautification ideas such as sculptures, tiled sidewalks, and landscape. I would like to see the river theme throughout the River District.”
- “More places to relax and feel safe.”

Other Comments

- “I just think a school is needed in the neighborhood especially adding so many units to the Twin Rivers housing.”
- “I am very excited to see the change in the community. Can't wait to try the river walk!”
- “Thank you for your information.”

Public Notification

To reach the general public and interested citizens, an email notification was sent to more than 8,000 community members and stakeholders including property owners and businesses along the two corridors, community-based organizations and advocacy groups, local residents, regional commuters, and transit riders. This included email notifications to Councilmember Harris’ distribution list as well as Sacramento Regional Transit District’s email newsletter lists.



Individual flyers were handed out to members of The River District Property and Business Improvement District (PBID), the residents along Basler Street and Dreher Street, and the residents of the Twin Rivers Housing community. Flyers were also distributed to Smythe Academy and other local businesses throughout the River District, and City staff handed out flyers at Choice Neighborhood events.

Destination River District | Community Outreach Event

Wednesday, March 1, 2017 | 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Smythe Academy | 700 Dos Rios Street, Sacramento

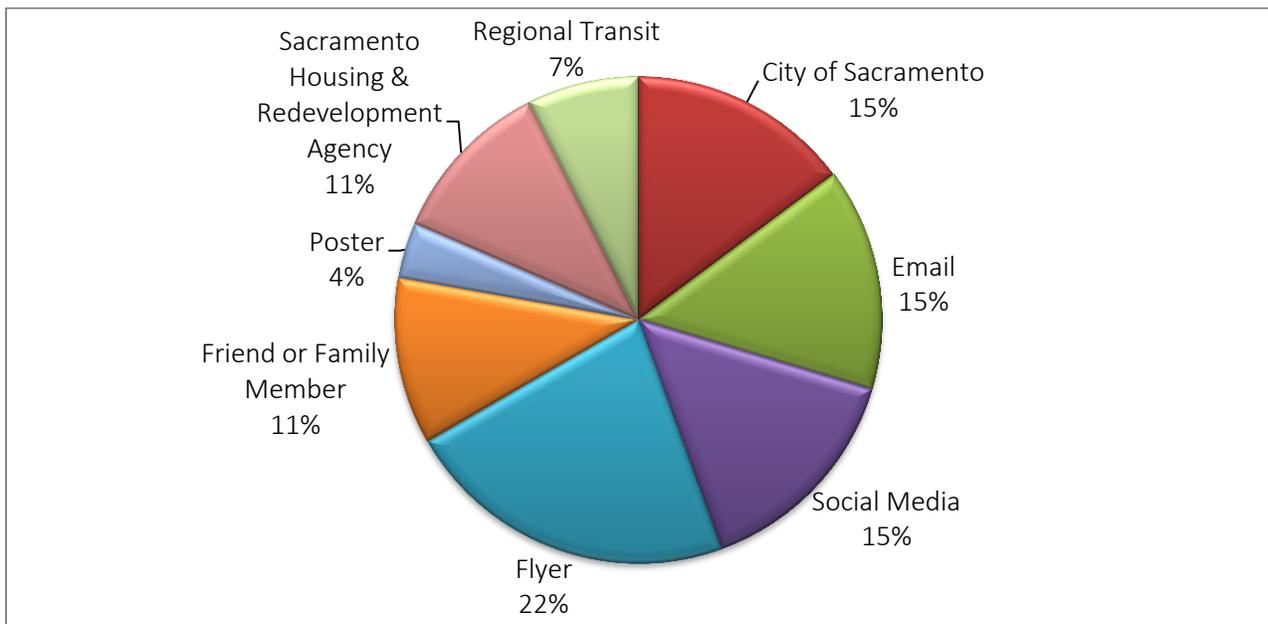
Signs at seven different Regional Transit bus and light rail stops within the River District Area promoted the event. A news release was distributed to local media outlets and a blog post was shared on the City of Sacramento's City Express blog.

The following groups, community-based organizations, individuals, and businesses shared information about the Destination River District event on their social media channels:



- Councilmember Jeff Harris
- Mayor Darrell Steinberg
- City of Sacramento, Government
- Sacramento Regional Transit District
- Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency
- Breaking Sacramento News
- Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails
- WALK Sacramento
- Comstock's Magazine
- Metro EDGE
- Young Professionals in Transportation – Sacramento
- Smythe Academy News

When asked how they heard about the meeting, event attendees provided the responses below.



Appendix

- Event Flyer
- Tour Guide
- Mobility Handout

Join us to discuss upcoming projects in the River District!



DESTINATION RIVER DISTRICT

Open House

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 1st

Smythe Academy
700 Dos Rios Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

4-6 p.m.

Welcome &
Presentation
4:15 p.m.

- ▶ North 12th Street Complete Street
- ▶ North 16th Street Streetscape
- ▶ Dos Rios Light Rail Station
- ▶ Twin Rivers Housing Development
- ▶ Fire Station 14



Walking group from Twin Rivers Management Office departing at 3:30 p.m.



Contact Ashley Baumgartner:
abaum@aimconsultingco.com
(916) 442-1168



For reasonable accommodation needs due to a physical disability that may hinder your participation, contact the City's ADA Coordinator at (916) 808-8795.

Snacks, kids activities, and prize drawings at 4:45 & 5:45 p.m.!



Regional Transit

MCCORMACK
BARON
SALAZAR

URBAN STRATEGIES



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Station #7: Placemaking

Learn about "placemaking" at this station, and provide feedback on different opportunities for the River District. Be sure to write your vision on the River District graffiti board.

Additional thoughts or ideas about placemaking in the River District?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #7!

Station #8: Youth Activity

Youth input is important! At this station our younger participants will be able to show their vision for the River District through a fun drawing activity and mapping exercise. Feel free to add your ideas as well.

Thoughts or ideas about the how to create a family-friendly River District?

Additional Comments

Was this event helpful? What else would you like to learn about?

Please provide any additional feedback about the event in the space below.

This guidebook belongs to: _____

Contact Info (optional)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

DESTINATION RIVER DISTRICT



TOUR GUIDE

Smythe Academy - 700 Dos Rios Street | March 1, 2017 | 4-6pm

Thanks for joining us today!

This Destination River District event brings together River District residents, businesses and community members to discuss the various planning projects under way in the area. You will have an opportunity to **learn about each of the different River District projects, and provide input on the future of the area!** There are several stations set up around the room for you to visit. You will be asked to provide your feedback at some stations, and are encouraged to discuss concepts with staff and other participants. **Please use this Tour Guide to lead you through each station, and write down additional ideas in the space provided.**

Collect Stickers for a Chance to Win a Prize!

At each station, a staff member will have a colored sticker for you to place in the corresponding section of your Tour Guide booklet. Collect all the stickers by visiting each station and you will be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

Room Layout and Stations



To ensure your feedback is received, please turn in your completed guidebook before you leave!

Station #1: Welcome and Project Overview

Welcome to the Destination River District Community Event! At this station, you will find an overview of the project, and will have an opportunity to ask questions about the process.

Thoughts or ideas about the Destination River District Project?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #1!

Station #2: North 12th Complete Street Project

This station focuses on the North 12th Complete Street Project currently in the planning process. Take a look at the images and information about the Complete Streets concepts being proposed, and discuss questions with staff members and other community participants.

Additional thoughts or ideas about the North 12th Complete Street Project?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #2!

Station #3: North 16th Street Streetscape Improvement Project

This station focuses on the North 16th Street Streetscape Improvement Project currently in the planning process. Take a look at the images and information about the streetscape concepts being proposed, and discuss questions with staff members and other community participants.

Additional thoughts or ideas about the North 16th Street Streetscape Improvement Project?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #3!

Station #4: Dos Rios Light Rail Station

This station focuses on the proposed Dos Rios Light Rail Station near North 12th Street and Sproule Avenue. Review the images and information about the future station, and discuss the key questions with staff members and other community participants.

Additional thoughts or ideas about the Dos Rios Light Rail?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #4!

Station #5: Twin Rivers Housing

This station focuses on the proposed Twin Rivers Housing development between North 12th Street, Dos Rios Street and Richards Boulevard. Review the images and information about this project, and discuss the key questions with staff members and other community participants.

Additional thoughts or ideas about the Twin Rivers Housing development?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #5!

Station #6: Fire Station #14 Project

This station focused on the pending Fire Station #14 project on North B Street. Discuss the project with staff members and other participants.

Thoughts or ideas about the proposed Fire Station #14?



Place your sticker here once you've visited Station #6!

▶ What is a Complete Street?

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Benefits of a Complete Street

- ▶ Balances the needs of and improves safety for all users, ages, and abilities
- ▶ Enhances mobility and accessibility
- ▶ Supports increased physical activity and improving public health and safety
- ▶ Improves livability, revitalizes communities, and decreases transportation costs

A complete street is a street designed to accommodate and balance the needs of motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users in a safe and pleasant environment.

What makes a Complete Street?

It depends on the street but some improvements may include:

- ▶ Pedestrian improvements including wider sidewalks and enhanced crosswalks
- ▶ Accommodations for people with disabilities such as curb ramp improvements
- ▶ Traffic calming measures to reduce vehicle speeds including reduced or narrowed lanes
- ▶ Buffers between people and cars, such as trees, planters or on-street parking
- ▶ Bike lanes or protected bikeways
- ▶ Lighting and landscaping
- ▶ Transit stop access improvements

▶ What is a Complete Street?

DESTINATION RIVER DISTRICT



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▶ What is a Class IV Bikeway?

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Benefits of a Class IV Bikeway

- ▶ Provides a separated space and a higher level of comfort for bicyclists
- ▶ Reduces risk of dooring compared to a bike lane
- ▶ More attractive to a wide range of bicyclists at all abilities and ages

A Class IV Bikeway is a bicycle facility with a physical separation from cars.

Common Elements Used for Separation:

- ▶ Raised island
- ▶ Flexible posts
- ▶ Landscape planters, railing or similar
- ▶ Parked cars



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