District 8 Community Round Table

May 2, 2-24 General Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Robert Reese, Janet Holt, Pat Waite, Sherry Gilmore, Sandra Randles, Dan Gould, Steve Bennette, Derek Grasty, Jim Zito, Councilmember Candelas, Jonathan Perez, Kathleen Podrasky, Christina Bui, Rheya Pawar, Sukhdev Bainiwal, Michael Gabler, Esefany Meza, Xavier Campos, Long Nguyen, David Burckhard, Amelia Rios, Charlotte Morton, John Leipelt, Nile Sullivan, Howie Blumstein, Ven Prasad, Martha Rosales, Johnny Achladi, Rajvi Rivero, R. Castillo, Vince Rivero, Wanda Wong, Claudia Gonzales, Daniel de la Rosa.

- **Robert Reese: Introductions:**
- **Christina Bui- Chair of Tully Road Business Association**-Introduced the association and would like to collaborate with D8CRT. Contact info: Trebasanjose.com
- **Pat Waite: Presidents Minute**: Went through upcoming calendar of events. Important to attend and participate in Mayor's budget meeting. Suggested possible change from monthly meetings to every other month and more community engagement activities. Partnering with Councilmember Candelas office on events at Village Square. Please participate, and volunteer. Reminder, volunteer hours will count toward dues next year. Daniel Reyes volunteering at Farmers Market on Sundays tabling for D8CRT to give information about our association.
- **Acting SJPD Captain Jesse Aragon**: Introduction and report on crime in area. Car break-ins and a carjacking. Contact info: Jesse.aragon@sanjoseca.gov
- **Kathleen Podrasky – Supervisor, Community Outreach and Public Engagement-Valley Transportation Authority –** Contact info: Kathleen.Podrasky@vta.org. Presentation on Light Rail extension from Alum Rock to Eastridge.
    1. Project to start now and will take about 4 years to complete.
    2. One lane will be eliminated after the project is completed.
    3. Several lanes will be closed at various times during the project.
    4. Left turn lanes at Capital Expressway and Story Road will be closed at one point entirely for a night or longer with a detour to complete work.
    5. Sign up for Updates: www.vta.org/eastridgetobart
- Questions: Jim Zito: Clarify if we will be losing a lane permanently once the project is done. Answer: Yes, we will permanently lose a lane. Jim also notes there will be a lot of disruption at White and Ocala during commute hours due to the lane eating vision zero work done. Steve Bennette – believes there is no reason to eliminate an entire lane as it looks like there is room for one. Answered by Vin Prasad: There is no

room the entire length of the project and if done, would have to cut into residential backyards and some businesses. Sukdhev asked if any changes will be made to the Alum Rock station. Answer, no changes will be made to the Alum Rock station.

- **Land Use - Robert Reese – New Land Use Proposal approximately 31 acres.**
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- The previous application a few years ago had been withdrawn by William Lyons. New proposed development: Chisin Lane and Chisin Court near Yerba Buena Rd. Currently zoned: Open Space Park lands and habitat. The proposal is asking to change zoning to rural residential which is up to two units per acre. Residential and building in possible two stages. The first stage is for homes with a future reserve portion to possibly be developed later. There is a small sliver of open space to be left open. Introduced developers Javier Campos and Vince Rivero presented their proposal and site plan. And Owner Sara Lee. Planning in initial stages. Large lots with single family homes. Proposing homes similar to existing adjacent homes. Planning on doing full environmental report. Looking for community input. Questions: Jim, is the city ok with the lower proposed density? Second question, is there a small piece that is not being developed. Answer: Yes, they want to keep the open space as a buffer between the current residential neighborhood. Some utilities have already gone in from the earlier proposal. In 2014 Williams Lyons sold, and a zoning letter came out from the city that was doing a self-initiated zoning change to open space. The current developer tried to appeal. Now a zoning change will need to be made. David Burckhard can there be an emergency command post on that future reserve site? Answer, very preliminary, they are open to discussion. Janet: What are the mitigations in terms of earthquakes hazards, and even though this is going through as Builders Remedy, will there be CEQA? Answer, there will be a level of environmental process, possibly full EIR, even though they are not required to do so. Robert: City will be producing a comment letter in response to the application.

- **Rhea Pawar – Mayors Office** – Reminder to come to the Mayors Budget Message meeting in District 8. May 23rd Thursday 7pm. Interactive at Grace Church of Evergreen.

- **Jonathan Perez – Councilmember Candelas office**: Update on Music in the Square. May 17th and May 31 and more. Both Friday nights. Dumpster Day Sat May 18 Catherine Smith School. Steve: Comment about Lake Cunningham Park. The slide has been damaged and cut up and is in a dangerous condition. Jonathan answer will follow up with Park Ranger Staff. Jim Zito has a high school/college band named Interstate; leader is Lorenzo who may be able to be a starting band. Jim to give Pat the contact info.

- **Jim Zito – Trustee – Evergreen Elementary School district**-wrapping up year and budget. Filling open positions, good talent out there to choose from. Sherry: Comment: Says there are five principals stepping down. Is the district spending millions of dollars on a study as to what is wanted? Jim says there is a $500k facilities master plan study. Consultant for possible parcel tax…Jim does not know of any other.

- **Derek Grasty – Trustee – Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District-Civic Learning** Awards of Excellence. Ida Jew was awarded a Civic Learning Award of Distinction. Also, last week, San Jose State University had a pipeline program for teacher training. There were interns in Mt Pleasant School district. Also, students participated in a Top Chef Cook Off that was remarkably successful, and they are looking to expand that next year. Hoffman awards are coming up. Budget, Derek says thinks they have reached a plateau in enrollment at this time.

- **General Comments:** David Burckhard – Funding from city is on verge of happening. OEM contacted David to give them a list of needs for a variety of things needed. Organization sponsored by FEMA. Moving forward with a new person from the OEM wo is working out very well and moving things forward. Will participate at Emma Prusch Park event on Saturday.

- Janet and Sandy spoke on Pleasant Hills Development Visioning program and survey available for the public to take. Survey information is available on our www.d8crt.org website. Look for brown button “Pleasant Hills Development Information” on the front page of our website.