



MEETING SUMMARY FORM

Please fill out the following form as best you can. All information identified as public information will be summarized and published on the *Plan Santa Barbara* website (www.YouPlanSB.org).

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Meeting Date: July 19, 2007

Plan Santa Barbara representative(s): Bungalow Haven Neighborhood Association;
314 E. Arrellaga Street

Host Organization: Bungalow Haven Neighborhood Association

Number of Participants: 15

Staff: Das Williams & Jaime Limon

Please take a moment to summarize the meeting. What were the overall themes? What issues arose? What concerns did the participants express?

OVERALL THEMES

1. Maintaining the character and feel of Santa Barbara
2. Over development ruining quality of life
3. Desire for less commercial growth

HOUSING/NEIGHBORHOODS

- Not enough affordable housing units being constructed.
- Concerns regarding unit counts and if State mandates are dictating over construction of units.
- Go observe what has happened to parts of the City. Concern regarding new developments impacting old Victorian style buildings like what has resulted along Equestrian Avenue. Planning and decision makers need to closely look at projects for density and setback issues.
- Why was development allowed to building too close to property lines?

- Some residential neighborhoods used to be for the working class a long time ago. However, now we see more and more exploitation of properties to maximize development.
- Lot of old timers elected not to develop multi-residential; quality of life more important than greed. Greed has taken over. We should have the ability to keep our quality of life not have developers dictate.
- Too many 2nd story projects designed in De La Vista area without an architect involved at expense of destroying neighborhood. Some still being proposed approaching 40 feet.
- Current trends when developer controls the project density should not be allowed to continue. Need better controls on density issues.
- There is a way to keep middle class in town if we protect neighborhoods from the creation of expensive new condos, maintain small character houses.
- We need to protect those areas of the city that have chosen not to develop their properties to maintain quality of life.

TRANSPORTATION

- The City does not feel like it once did. Could go downtown and not sense traffic and crowded conditions. Have to wait longer just to get thru intersections. Small town atmosphere gone.

ECONOMY

- Businesses have already left to Goleta or elsewhere.
- It appears tourism is major driving force of decisions. Not what is best for community residents.
- Is there not a better way to attract businesses to the City than to always need the tourist?
- Look at all the local businesses that have left or businesses closed. We need to ensure we maintain a business environment to support local businesses.
- I have lost employees. It may be too late since it has already happened to so many.
- No real workforce left in Santa Barbara.. Most technical and manufacturing businesses have relocated to Goleta.
- Santa Barbara is being marketed in the right way. As the west coast Riviera. It is not. The tourist should not intrude into the residential areas with their mopeds or recreational vehicles.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Weather is major attraction of community. However. Vitality of community and attraction from tourists is to keep SB different from LA.

- How about green space in developments. Air quality improvements come with green development.
- I am concerned regarding waste of water and future water shortages .We should encourage or mandate the use of grey water systems for toilet drainage systems.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

- Nobody acknowledges what has already taken place. The loss of the middle class from our community.
- We are old-timers and NIMBY's. We have lost our small town feel.
- The town's character that attracted us to this place has been lost or is being compromised by new arrivals.
- Expansion will come. San Fernando valley was nice place once.
- I have an interest is no changes. No growth.
- I want less commercial growth. It is not needed given the office/retail vacancies.
- Height of buildings should be lowered to two stories maximum. I am concerned about the canyonization along lower Chapala Street.
- I support height limits or ensuring downtown building heights or not increased.
- Need to better define urban downtown boundary growth lines and makes sure these developments at the perimeter of Urban downtown areas to not negatively impact adjoining residential areas.
- I remember when the small town atmosphere existed and there were funk zones to hang out. Now the areas are no longer here.

Mixed use projects that have been constructed do not feel like SB, units too close to property lines.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

- Need developer mitigation fees to pay for impacts to local residents. What are large developments giving to neighbors being impacted? Other communities get developers to give open spaces, parks and other community benefits. The need to pony up for neighborhoods.
- It is not right for to not require a better way for developers to address these impacts.

OTHER

- Regarding where we ant to be in twenty years. We need to look at world realistically. How can we have less impacts in the most favorable way.

- Will our neighborhood voices be heard this time. Some mention that the City's visioning process was followed. I feel that the City has not heard our concerns regarding past developments. Somewhat skeptical if this process will be heard or ignored. I am tired of fighting all the battles at every project.
- We no longer have strong community activists like Pearl Chase to protect us from developers that ruin our City. Where would we be if she had not protected and fought for open space along Cabrillo Blvd?
- Is there a population cap limit to City? Is it being followed? Does not feel that there is less people than 10 years ago.
- What happens if there is no consensus. Will General Plan still be adopted. Concerns about others taking control of outcome.
- New Gas taxes to promote bus use.
- Questions in Plan SB brochure are worded to be emotional driven. Questions should be more specific about topics to discuss. More meaningful than comments about what you "love: about City.
- Need some more design guidelines for developments to protect neighborhoods.