



MEETING SUMMARY FORM

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

Meeting Date: September 20, 2007

Plan Santa Barbara representative(s): Michele DeCant; Peggy Burbank

Host Organization: City Arts Advisory Committee

Number of Participants: 15

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

THE COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS. MOST COMMENTS ADDRESSED CONCERNS RELATING TO ARTISTS AND THE ART COMMUNITY.

ONE OVER-ARCHING COMMENT WAS: THE PLAN SHOULD FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY, AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING A REGIONAL CULTURE.

ART VENUES, DISPLACY AND WORK SPACE:

LARGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONTRIBUTE A PERCENTAGE FOR THE ARTS AS IS DONE IN OTHER COMMUNITIES AND CITIES.

GENTRIFICATION IS REPLACING WORKSPACES SUITABLE FOR CRAFTS PEOPLE. MORE LIVE-WORK SPACES ARE NEEDED AND THESE SHOULD INCLUDE COMMERCIAL/GALLERY SPACE, E.G. MORE LIKE THE PALM LOFTS IN CARPINTERIA THAN THE EL ZOCO DEVELOPMENT. ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS THE BELL MARIN FACTORY CONVERSION IN VENTURA WHICH IS BEING RENOVATED FOR ARTISTS.

EACH NEIGHBORHOOD SHOULD INCLUDE A COMMUNITY CENTER WHERE LOCAL ARTISTS COULD DO SHOWS OR DISPLAY THEIR ARTWORK E.G. GOLETA LIBRARY. FOR EXAMPLE, ON THE WESTSIDE IT WAS A SHAME THAT THE OLD HOUSE ADJOINING BONNETT PARK WAS KNOCKED DOWN – IT COULD HAVE SERVED AS A COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE DISPLAYS AND OCCASSIONAL SHOWS COULD OCCUR.

WHY ARE BUILDINGS ALWAYS TORN DOWN AND REPLACED? NEED TO BE CITY INCENTIVES TO KEEP BUILDINGS AND REUSE. THIS WOULD BE MORE SUSTAINABLE.

MORE AFFORDABLE COMMERCIAL SPACE IS NEEDED FOR ARTISTS. WHERE NEW BUILDINGS ARE BEING PLANNED, KEEP THE NEEDS OF ARTIST IN MIND. SPECIFICALLY, CONSIDER SOME OF THE MATERIALS ARTIST USE MAY BE TOXIC AND NEED TO BE ACCOMMODATED IN DESIGN.

ALSO, THERE NEEDS TO BE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR ARTIST THAT DON'T MAKE A LIVING ON THEIR ARTWORK BUT STILL NEED A SUITABLE SPACE IN WHICH TO WORK. CHANGES OCCURRING IN THE FUNK ZONE WILL FORCE THESE PEOPLE OUT. ARTISTS NEED A NICE "EMPTY" SPACE SO THEY CAN ARRANGE IT TO SUIT THEIR OWN NEEDS. NEED MORE VENUES FOR DISPLAYING ART. A GOOD EXAMPLE OF PROVIDING SPACE FOR ART AS PART OF A LARGE DEVELOPMENT IS CAF. DEVELOPERS ARE USUALLY GIVEN THE CHOICE TO CONTRIBUTE MONEY, BUT IT DOESN'T COVER THE COST OF A UNIT/SPACE. [IN LIEU] PAYMENT NEEDS TO BE RAISED TO BE COMPARABLE TO PROVIDING THE UNIT.

SQUARE-FOOTAGE MATTERS TO ARTIST. ARTISTS COULD USE SHARED SPACE. WHAT ABOUT IN THE AIRPORT DISTRICT?

NEED MORE CLASS-ROOM SPACE FOR ART CLASSES. THE CITY SOMETIMES RELEASES SPACE FOR OTHERS TO USE AT \$1.00/SQ FT. THIS OPTION WOULD BE DESIREABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMMUNITY CENTERS.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COULD BE PROVIDED IN AN OLD BUILDING RENOVATED FOR MULTIPLE USES AND WITH COMMUNITY AREAS.

ALLOW GARAGE APARTMENTS.

NEED RESIDENTIAL HOTELS, THE SINGLE RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY UNITS. NEED MORE RENTAL PROPERTY (FOR FAMILIES) TOO.

GOOD RENTALS AND GOOD [PURCHASE] PRICES WOULD CHANGES IN LIFE STYLE. FOR EXAMPLE WHERE MULTIPLE FAMILIES ARE LIVING TOGETHER, THIS MAY NO LONGER BE NECESSARY.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL THE HIGH END DEVELOPMENT, NEED HOUSING NOT JUST FOR ARTIST BUT ALSO FOR ALL THE SERVICE PEOPLE THAT PERFORM SERVICES FOR THE OCCUPANTS. NEED MORE LOW AND MODERATELY LOW HOUSING. INCREASE THE INCLUSIONARY PERCENTAGE REQUIRED FOR LOW AND MODERATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

NEED A LIST OF ALL THE LOW-INCOME HOUSING AND WHERE IT IS LOCATED. CITY NEEDS TO MAKE SURE IT REMAINS AFFORDABLE. IT NEEDS TO BE CONSTANTLY MONITORED. MAKE SURE ALL NEW AFFORDABLE

PROPERTIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM WHERE THEY WILL BE MONITORED.

URBAN DESIGN CONCERNS:

CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED ABOUT THE NEED FOR REDUCED HEIGHT AND BUILDING SETBACK RESTRICTIONS AND NEEDED SOLAR REQUIREMENTS.

THE HOPE WAS EXPRESSED THAT SANTA BARBARA NOT BECOME LIKE DISNEYLAND AND THAT VARIETY IS NEEDED. THE VARIED NEIGHBORHOODS FEATURING CRAFTSMAN, VICTORIAN AND OTHER ARCHITECTURAL STYLES NEED TO BE PRESERVED. ALSO THE NEED FOR VARIETY IN THE DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS: PASEO NUEVO IS APPROPRIATE FOR NATIONAL CHAINS BUT NOT ALL OF STATE STREET. THE DOWNTOWN RENTS ARE CAUSING INDIVIDUAL SHOPS TO LEAVE.

COMMERCIAL SIGNS ON UPPER STATE STREET ARE TERRIBLE; APPLY SAME STANDARDS AS FOR THE DOWNTOWN.

TRANSPORTATION:

NEED LIGHT RAIL; COMMUTER RAIL IS NEEDED FOR THE AREA.

ENCOURAGE USE OF ELECTRIC CARS WHICH HAVE THE ADDITIONAL BENEFIT OF TAKING UP LESS SPACE.

THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM NEEDS TO ACCOMMODATE THE CHANGING TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SENIORS AND THEIR CONCERNS FOR LOSS OF INDEPENDENCE.

NEED MORE CURB CUTS.

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