



Callander Associates
Landscape Architecture, Inc.

March 31, 2008

Meeting Summary Prospect Road Median Improvement Plans

RE: Community Meeting # 2

March 27, 2008, 6:00 pm

6 pages

Attendees:

City of Saratoga:

John M. Cherbone (JC), Public Works Director, jcherbone@saratoga.ca.us

Iveta Harvancik (IH), Associate Engineer, iharvancik@saratoga.ca.us

Ann Waltonsmith (AW), Vice Mayor, awaltonsmith@saratoga.ca.us

Kristen Borel (KB) Public Works Analyst, kborel@saratoga.ca.us

Jill Hunter (JH), Council Member, jhunter@saratoga.ca.us

City of San Jose:

Mary Anne Groen (MG), Council Assistant, Maryanne.Groen@sanjoseca.gov

Members of the public:

Refer to sign in sheets

Consultants:

Marie Mai, Callander Associates (CA), mmai@callanderassociates.com

Julie Russotti, Callander Associates (CA), jrussotti@callanderassociates.com

The purpose of this meeting was to solicit community input on the draft Master Plan. Ann Waltonsmith opened the meeting by welcoming the community, and summarizing the project process to date. John Cherbone then answered general questions about funding and implementation. Next, Marie Mai presented the proposed median design and possible phasing approach. The meeting was then opened up for comments and questions from the public.

07066.ComMeet2Summary033108.doc

© copyrighted 2008 Callander Associates
Landscape Architecture, Inc.

325 South First Street, Suite 300

San Jose, CA 95113

T 408 275 0565

F 408 275 8047

Marie Mai, Associate

San Mateo

Rancho Cordova

www.callanderassociates.com

Landscape Architecture

Urban Design

Land Planning

Park and Recreation Planning

Environmental Planning

Peter E. Callander, ASLA, Principal

A. Mark Slichter, ASLA, Principal

Brian G. Fletcher, ASLA, Principal

Erik Smith, ASLA, Principal

Benjamin W. Woodside, ASLA, Principal

The following information was discussed and/or decided upon at our meeting:

item _____ *person and date to follow up*

Plant Materials and Maintenance

- Most community members expressed their approval of the proposed plant materials.
- Some residents inquired as to proposed plant heights. It was clarified that low-growing groundcovers, maximum 3' high shrubs and trimmed up tree canopies were proposed to meet landscape design standards.
- A low maintenance design was supported by community members and will likely be addressed by the installation of a maintenance strip on the City of San Jose (CSJ) side of the medians in order to meet CSJ requirements. CA by 4/18/08

Traffic Patterns and Safety Concerns

- Concern was expressed about intersection safety at Titus Avenue because of high traffic volumes and lack of an apparent traffic control near Christie McAuliffe Elementary School. Flashing pedestrian crosswalks, stop signs, and stoplights were proposed by residents to help calm traffic. The flashing lights on Miller Avenue were cited as a successful example. City Traffic Engineer (TE) by 4/18/08
 - Melinda Circle is another street near the school that has similar safety and traffic issues. It was suggested that coordination with the school system could help resolve some of the issues, but is outside of scope of this median master plan. TE to evaluate by 4/18/08
 - The proposed median master plan will improve Titus Avenue by adding a median. Additional proposed improvements include prohibiting eastbound u-turns and adding a bulb-out in order to address school safety issues. The city also noted that school safety is an important concern that will continually be monitored. CITY

item _____ *person and date to follow up*

- Members of the community expressed an interest in reducing speed limits through lane width reductions and lowering currently posted speed limits from 40 mph to 35 mph.
 - The City explained that speed limits cannot be arbitrarily changed and are determined by the speed traveled by the 85th percentile of vehicles. A survey may be performed after the construction of the medians to re-evaluate speed limits. CITY
 - The city is currently working on reducing school speed zones to 15 mph. CITY
 - The proposed median design will be evaluated to determine whether the medians can be widened by reducing the lane widths. Lane width adjustments must be coordinated with and evaluated by city traffic engineers, prior to incorporation into the master plan. TE by 4/9/08
- Community members suggested that a stop light at North Campus be provided to calm traffic. TE by 4/9/08
- Ingress and egress patterns were a concern at the intersections of Scully Avenue, Larkin Avenue, Covina Court, Adrenwood Drive and Clarkspur Lane.
 - At Scully Avenue community members would like to see flashing lights to help children in the area and local religious service attendees cross. TE by 4/9/08
 - Proposed left turn from Scully Avenue onto westbound Prospect Road appears to be difficult and abrupt if driving during periods of high traffic volumes. Setting back the median nosing from the intersection was suggested. TE by 4/9/08

item *person and date to follow up*

- At Larkin Avenue, community members felt the west bound right turn onto Prospect Road, leading to the adjacent u-turn, may not provide enough distance to merge safely during rush hour. They requested that the pocket length and design be re-examined. TE by 4/9/08
- Some residents requested a refuge lane at Covina Court due to limited sight lines and high traffic volumes at this intersection. The current design shows this but will be revised to reflect a short eastbound merge lane. TE by 4/9/08
- Some community members felt the proposed medians near Clarkspur Lane and Larkin Avenue would block current traffic patterns and would increase traffic volumes by redirecting traffic to these intersections and the adjacent church driveway. A break in the median was suggested in order to improve traffic circulation. TE by 4/9/08
- It was unclear whether existing striping between Clarkspur Lane and Danromas Way currently allow legal left turns onto and off of Prospect Road. TE by 4/9/08
- A community member was concerned with people observing the neighborhood from the church parking lot. Traffic engineer will review patterns near the church and Clarkspur Lane to resolve. TE by 4/9/08
- Lack of sidewalk maintenance was brought up by some neighbors. Sidewalks are not in the scope of project but will be addressed at a later date. CITY

Design Considerations

- Some community members expressed a desire for medians to match the ones on Saratoga/Los Gatos Road, given the close proximity. CA by 4/18/08

item

person and date to follow up

Schedule

- Community members supported the proposed phasing approach and the steps required to complete the process.
 - The Project will require use of city funds. The city will likely seek funding through grants and use of the local gas tax.
 - Possible sources of additional funding could be provided by a local home owner association such as Rainbow West Association.
 - Some neighbors expressed an interest in volunteering to help implement the project.
 - Implementation will require an “all or nothing” effort because both Saratoga and San Jose must split the costs evenly.
- The City Council will review the design on the 21st of May. The design will then be forwarded to City of San Jose for their approval.
 - Once reviewed and approved by the City of San Jose, grant funding will be sought for the project.
 - A Walk and Talk with CSJ council member, Pete Constant will be held on April 4th at Westfield Valley Fair. Information shall be provided to community members by CSJ.

Meeting Summary
Prospect Road Median Improvement Plans
RE: COMMUNITY MEETING # 2
March 27, 2008, 6:00 p.m.
Page 6

The information above is Callander Associates' understanding of items discussed and decisions reached at the meeting. Callander Associates is proceeding with the project based on this understanding. If you have any questions, additions, or corrections to this memo, please contact this office in writing within three days.

Submitted by:

Julie Russotti

cc: All attendees

-END-