



DRAFT
Task Force Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2007

Task Force Members Present:

Co-Chair Shirley Lewis, Co-Chair Sam Liccardo, Vice Chair David Pandori, Jackie Adams, Teresa Alvarado, Shiloh Ballard, Michele Beasley, Beverley Bryant, Frank Chavez, Gary Chronert, Judy Chirco, Yolanda Cruz, Pastor Oscar Dace, Harvey Darnell, Pat Dando, Enrique Fernandez, Phaedra Ellis-Lampkins, Leslee Hamilton, Sam Ho, Dan Hoang, Nancy Ianni, Lisa Jensen, Frank Jesse, Matt Kamkar, Charles Lauer, Karl Lee, Linda Lezotte, Pierluigi Oliverio, Dick Santos, Patricia Sausedo, Erik Schoennauer, Judy Stabile, Neil Struthers, Michael Van Every, and Jim Zito.

Task Force Members Absent

Alofa Talivaa and Dave Fadness

City Staff and Other Public Agencies Present

Mayor Chuck Reed, Vice-Mayor David Cortese, Debra Figone (City Manager), Ru Weerakoon (Mayor's office), Jessica Garcia-Kohl (Mayor's office), Roma Dawson (Councilmember Liccardo's office), Anthony Drummond (Councilmember Williams' office), Peter Hamilton (Councilmember Chirco's office), Denelle Fedor (Councilmember Oliverio's office), Vera Todorov (City Attorney's office), Joseph Horwedel (PBCE), Laurel Prevetti (PBCE), John Poindexter (PBCE), Stan Ketchum (PBCE), Michael Brilliot (PBCE), Hadasa Lev (PBCE), Justina Chang (PBCE), Don Rocha (Redevelopment).

Community Members Present

Kerry Hamilton, Jerry Strangis, Lawrence Ames, Bonnie Mace, Judi Henderson, Bob Brownstein, Ed Rast, Barry Witt, Anne Stahr.

1. Light Refreshments were served prior to the meeting from 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting convened at approximately 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Chuck Reed welcoming everyone to the Envision San José 2040 Task Force meeting. The Mayor stated that the work of the Task Force will be long-lasting, since a new General Plan is only created every ten years or longer, and that the Task Force has been given a gift from the past in the Guiding Principles approved by the City Council, based on the Major Strategies of the current and past General Plans. The Mayor highlighted the comments from former Mayor Ernie Renzel

regarding the importance of looking to the future. The Mayor emphasized that in their work on the Task Force, members should not be representing the organization or affiliation from which they were appointed, but rather to think globally and citywide, and to take the broad and long view for the future of the city as a whole.

Co-Chair Shirley Lewis also made reference to the importance of former Mayor Ernie Renzel's comments to the Task Force. She also stated the importance of land use decision-making as the key to many of the important issues facing the city, including the environment, services and facilities and the overall quality of life in the community. She said that the two most important documents were the General Plan and the City Budget.

Co-Chair Sam Liccardo introduced Planning staff comprising the Envision San Jose 2040 Team. He described the Task Force members as a group of community leaders dedicated to service to the City. He quoted Planning professional William Fulton who stressed the importance of having a vision for the future of the community when updating the General Plan and to not just focus on the technical details of the process. He echoed Mayor Reed's encouragement that the Task Force members not focus on representing their respective organizations, but to represent all the citizens of San Jose for both today and the future generations.

Vice-Chair David Pandori highlighted the visions of past mayors of San Jose. He also encouraged the Task Force to collaboratively develop a grand and visionary plan and not a small plan that is simply a brushing up of the existing San Jose 2020 General Plan. He quoted 19th Century city planner Daniel Burnham who said "Make no small plans".

Co-Chair Liccardo invited each Task Force member to briefly introduce themselves and provide some information on their backgrounds.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Task Force

Co-Chair Shirley Lewis reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Task Force and the Ground Rules that should be followed during all Task Force meetings. She also summarized the Envision San Jose 2040 Task Force Membership Framework approved by the City Council.

Vera Todorov of the City Attorney's office gave a presentation on the Brown Act and California's Open Meeting law. The purpose of this law is to insure that public decision making bodies deliberate and make decisions at properly agenzized public meetings in order to protect the public's interest in open government. Since the Task Force is a body appointed by the City Council to conduct public business, the Task Force is subject to the Brown Act.. All information provided to, and discussed by the Task Force, should be in an open forum. The Task Force must avoid serial meetings where multiple members discuss Task Force business with each other, including through E-mail.

Stan Ketchum provided a brief overview of the ordinance proposed by the Sunshine Task Force that would establish meeting procedures that exceed the Brown Act requirements,

including 10-day advanced notice for posting of meeting agendas and materials, and public posting of draft and final meeting minutes.

4. Purpose and Use of the General Plan

Stan Ketchum presented the purpose and use of the General Plan. He discussed the purpose and scope of a General Plan as a document to guide not just the future growth and development of the City, but also infrastructure and facility investment, city services and the fiscal health of the City.

5. Overview of Work Program

Stan Ketchum presented a brief overview of the work program for Envision San Jose 2040 process, including key reasons to update the General Plan for San Jose to become a “city of Distinction”. He described the primary steps in the process, summarized the results of the Early Community Outreach process, the council-adopted Guiding Principles, and the Community Participation and Outreach strategies.

The Task Force discussion followed, raising a number of issues to be considered in the process. Topics included:

- The importance of achieving a greater share of future County job growth than projected by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to improve the City’s jobs/housing balance
- The need for technical expertise to help identify the appropriate locations for future employment and housing growth
San Jose should research other great cities to emulate or exceed with the General Plan Update
- The possibility of reaching out to surrounding cities, while remaining cautious not to set expectations that these communities can influence policy for the City of San Jose or perceive our process as an opportunity to push their fair share of housing production to the City of San José
- Topics such as state property tax allocation are beyond the scope of the General Plan Update process. *City staff is monitoring various State legislation and will inform the Task Force of developments on these efforts.*
- The City will be hiring a consultant to prepare an economic and fiscal impact study to advise on the number of jobs, relative to housing units, that are needed to achieve the City’s public service goals and standards
- Housing the majority of County workers in San Jose but they have to get in the car to get to work outside of their community creates a quality of life that is not sustainable. We should begin to create communities within San Jose where you can work and shop in the same vicinity.

6. Public Comment

Members of the public provided the following comments:

- As we move into the future we have to remember that we have an important past and some wonderful historic resources in the city that need to be retained. Please retain the historic preservation language in the present General Plan and strengthen it.
- This process will result in many decisions that will affect the economic viability of the City. Therefore we need to confirm the methodology of the Association of Bay Area Governments' jobs and population projections for the City of San Jose.
- Thank you for adding social equity to the Guiding Principles. An important theme that should be addressed is the need create a spirit of place in the City of San Jose.
- Not all jobs create the same sales taxes for the City. A job that is a service job is not the same as other jobs. A very low paid job can lose money for the city. The jobs housing imbalance is important from a transportation perspective. But in terms of the economic base, simply the aggregate number of jobs and the relationship between those jobs and housing isn't the only number that should be looked at.
- In answer to a question from the public, Co-Chair Sam Liccardo stated that it was important that entire Task Force to be present to hear all discussions and, therefore, there would not be any sub-committees created. He stated the Task Force will be relying on experts to provide technical assistance in order to provide the Task Force the necessary information to develop the Envision San Jose 2040 Plan.

Next Steps and Adjournment

The next Task Force meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 9, 2007, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The Community Visioning Workshop will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2007, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.