



Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 7 • Tuesday, July 11, 1989

The Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association is made up of residents interested in preserving the quality of life in our neighborhood. Together we can make a difference—join us.

Your Attendance is Vital

The third Neighborhood Preservation Plan workshop, to be held at 7pm on July 19th, at the Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue, is our first chance to see the initial draft of the Preservation Plan prepared by consultant Terry Bottomley. The Plan will address important issues such as traffic control, parks, street lighting, and architectural guidelines.

This is a crucial workshop; your participation is vital. Remember that it is the last workshop before the City Council reviews progress to decide whether to continue funding the Preservation Plan process. By attending and sharing your ideas, you'll be contributing to the quality of the Plan, and demonstrating the support necessary for its adoption and implementation.

What Happened at the 2nd Preservation Plan Workshop?

The second Neighborhood Preservation Plan workshop was held on June 21st. The purpose was to present background material about our neighborhood. Terry Bottomley, the consultant hired by the city, used large maps to vividly present information about traffic patterns, architectural features, parks, and possible threats to our neighborhood. Many residents spent time examining the maps to see how the features of our neighborhood are interrelated. City officials present to answer questions from the residents included: Ken Alsman, the acting City Planning Director; Larry Janda, Public Works Director; and Jim Lynch, Neighborhood Coordinator. Hans Korve, a private consultant who conducted traffic studies in our neighborhood, also attended.

City-Owned Properties

One map showed all the properties that the city owns. While some of these are vacant lots, others have buildings, including occupied residences. Two clusters stood out. The north side of West Dana between Bush and

Calderon contains vacant lots and three homes owned by the city. A two-block area bounded by Church, Shoreline, Mercy, and Franklin has eleven properties with city-owned homes.

The city is considering three sites (including property it doesn't currently own) for a new fire station. Possible locations are the northeast corner of Church and Shoreline, the northeast corner of Dana and Shoreline, and the northeast corner of Villa and Franklin. We expressed interest in helping the city choose a location that will meet the needs of all residents without adversely affecting our neighborhood.

Please Attend!

What: 3rd Neighborhood Preservation Plan Workshop
When: Wednesday, July 19th, 7-9pm
Where: Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela Avenue

Where do you think the new fire station should be located? What do you think the city should do with the other properties? The city wants to hear from you; a good way to express your opinion is by attending these Neighborhood Preservation Plan workshops.

Our Neighborhood Is Vulnerable

Other maps showed how vulnerable our neighborhood is to change. Some streets contain deteriorating homes. Other areas are threatened by increasing and fast-moving traffic, as development brings more people into the area. Three of the maps focussed on the evolution of traffic patterns from 1978 to the present. Residents confirmed that many of the traffic problems predicted many years ago are now with us.

Trees, Parks, and Open Space

Other maps highlighted our neighborhood's assets. Velarde, Bush, West Dana, Loreto, and Fairmont have beautiful, mature trees that add grace and privacy, and residents expressed interest in expanding plantings throughout the neighborhood. A few residents indicated that some trees look diseased, although city officials told us that this is caused by drought. The drought is also limiting additional tree plantings right now.

One map displayed all the local parks and open space. We have five parks: Fairmont, Pioneer, Eagle, Landels School, and Eldora. All the parks except Eldora are on

the neighborhood's periphery and border major streets. The possibility of a park in the middle of the neighborhood was discussed. City officials informed us that existing parks are soon to be renovated, starting with Pioneer Park this year and Fairmont Park in 1991.

Do You Want Street Lights?

Larry Janda mentioned that the city is considering several kinds of new street lights for our neighborhood. The least expensive is the "cobra head" light mounted on utility poles, while the most expensive is the "old style" light which is being installed downtown. This type of lighting already exists on Yosemite, Sierra, and other streets in the older part of our neighborhood.

Larry will let us know when the selection of new lighting comes up. The city wants to know our choice, so think about the lights you want on your street. You can bring this up at the workshops.

This Brings Us to the Third Workshop

The second workshop gave us a better understanding of our neighborhood's desirable qualities, and of the challenges facing it. Now we are beginning the creation of the Preservation Plan, which will be the subject of the third workshop, on July 19th (see related story, page 1). Please attend!

What Do You Want On Evelyn Avenue?

The part of our neighborhood near Evelyn Avenue will look very different in a few years. Owners of property on both sides of Evelyn—Southern Pacific and Minton Company—are interested in selling some of their land. How these properties are developed will have a tremendous effect on the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Southern Pacific owns the land between Central Expressway and Evelyn Avenue. Minton Company owns several large tracts fronting on Evelyn Avenue and Villa Street. Currently, much of this land is zoned for light industrial or commercial use.

Evelyn Avenue is proposed as a major automobile access route to the revitalized downtown business district. The CalTrain station and a Santa Clara County bus stop, both near the corner of Castro and Evelyn, make the area an important public transit center for the downtown. As reported in our last newsletter, there is

also a proposal to extend the San Jose light rail system to Mountain View with a final stop at the CalTrain station.

The Downtown Revitalization Committee has been hearing preliminary proposals for the Evelyn Corridor from the consulting firm of Friedman, Tung, and Bottomley (who designed the Castro Street renovation). The proposals have included widening of Evelyn Avenue, a new train station, and possibly rezoning some of the industrial land to other uses.

The City Council hasn't yet decided whether to expand the charter of the existing Revitalization Committee or to create a new committee to study the Evelyn Corridor. Several OMOVNA members attended the June 22nd Revitalization Committee meeting and suggested that the Revitalization Committee is not the best forum for the study. The Committee agreed that any new committee to study the Evelyn Corridor should contain representatives from the many people with interests in the area. The Evelyn Corridor Study is on the agenda for the July 11th City Council meeting.

How can you influence the way the Evelyn Corridor is developed? You can call or write members of the City Council, participate in the Evelyn Avenue Corridor Study once it begins, and, of course, attend the current Neighborhood Preservation Plan workshops.

Next Month: OMOVNA General Meeting

We're holding a general meeting of the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association on **Sunday, August 20th at 2pm**, at St. Joseph's Church (at Hope and Church). The meeting—which will occur during a break in the series of Neighborhood Preservation Plan workshops—will give us the opportunity to review some of the design features of the Preservation Plan. We'll also have plenty of time to chat. It should be an enjoyable and informative afternoon.

Recycling Block Leaders are Needed

Would you like to see more recyclables sitting on the curbs in your block? Become a recycling block leader. The city will provide a yard sign for you to put out the day before each curbside pickup day. For more information, call Mountain View Recycling at 966-6301.

Write to OMOVNA at P.O. Box 391328, Mountain View, CA 94309. Or call any of these people:

	Jeff & Kim Farmer	964-6759	
Rich Baker	964-2195	Stephen & Ann Lewis	968-4341
Chuck Darrah & Janice Konevich	967-2591	Paul & Raquel McJones	964-1068
Linda Heineke	967-4098	Eric Schweitzer & Marian Concus	969-9308
Tom & Judy Hunter	968-6164	Diana Whitecar	964-5462