
Goleta Valley Planning Advisory Committee

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2009 at 6:00PM

Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room

Meeting Called to Order: By Vice-Chair Kenan Ezal at 6:02PM

1. Roll Call

GVPAC Members Present: Adams, Elliott, Ezal, Freeman, Mineau (arr. 6:05PM), Olson (dep. 7:15PM), True

GVPAC Members Absent: None

County Staff Present:

Derek Johnson, Deputy Director, Office of Long Range Planning

David Lackie, Supervising Planner, Office of Long Range Planning

Erika Leachman, Planner, Office of Long Range Planning

2. Public Comment:

Patti Close requested relocation of GVPAC regular meetings to the Eastern Goleta Valley to reduce the travel distance to meetings for residents in the interest of public participation.

3. Minutes of March 3rd, 2009 GVPAC Meeting:

Amendments: The description of the presentation was reformatted to a bulleted list instead of a sentence form.

ACTION: True moved, seconded by Adams, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to approve the March 3rd, 2009 GVPAC Meeting Minutes, as amended.

Yea: Adams, Elliott, Ezal, Freeman, Mineau, Olson, True

Nay: None

Absent: None

4. Tentative Long Term Scheduling:

A full-day public workshop was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2009 to generate and gather public input on the goals and planning tools for the update of the Goleta Community Plan. The workshop will be held in the Eastern Goleta Valley and will be conducted in the "World Café" format (<http://www.theworldcafe.com/>). Materials (advertising, focus-questions, info packets, etc) for workshop will be made available in advance to facilitate preparation for the event. A community survey will also be conducted to garner input on community goals.



5. Continued GVPAC Discussions from Meetings #8 and #9:

GVPAC discussed transportation and mobility topics, including:

Goleta Transportation Improvement Plan (GTIP) funding for future improvement projects to decrease east-west corridor congestion;

Creation of new north-south connections for bicycles and pedestrians (particularly school connections);

Increases in roadway safety to reduce traffic incidents, increases in connections for all modes of transportation;

Construction of new sidewalks and bikeways throughout the Goleta Valley. The GTIP requires new development to pay for transportation improvements for bicycles and pedestrians to mitigate impacts to transportation;

Removal of barriers to bicycling and walking including:

Increasing frequency of secure bicycle lock-ups stations near mass transit stops, especially stops located at new developments;

Construction of sidewalks and bike paths between housing and identifiable activity nodes;

Developing dedicated bike paths (Class I);

Increases in safe crossings of busy roadways;

Identification of potential north-south bus route connection. These improvements could reduce overall vehicle miles traveled (VMTs) and average daily trips (ADTs);

Residential parking on public roadways creating safety and aesthetic problems, and how they can be mitigated in new and existing developments;

Potential parking restrictions and enforcement or changes to land use;

Roadway configurations, and safe routes to schools, traffic calming measures (bulb outs, street trees, etc.);

Specific improvements and/or changes to Calle Real for sidewalks, bike paths and livability;

Discussed allowances for electric bicycles on designated bikepaths to encourage bicycle commuting;

Discussed provisions for the development of more businesses near to higher density residential areas to reduce automobile trips and distance traveled.



GVPAC discussed parks, recreation, open space, trails and visual resources topics, including:

Creative opportunities for new parks and recreation, such as a creek-side park following the Atascadero Creek bikepath easement with opportunities for pocket parks.

Increasing multi-modal accessibility to Tucker's Grove similar to Goleta Beach.

Developing a facility similar to Girsh Park south of Hwy 101.

Potential parks and recreation improvements to County-owned Ben Page facilities.

Opportunities for creating loop trails to reach Los Padres National Forest.

Creating connections between parks, bikeways and sidewalks.

Removing barriers to cyclists and pedestrians on roadways, such as dead ends on El Sueno Rd and/or Calle del Remedio.

6. Presentation:

The presentation covered general land use in the Goleta Valley under the County Comprehensive Plan. The plan guides designation of residential, commercial, agricultural, and mountainous areas based on the environmental constraints of the natural landscape to ensure safe and sustainable use of the land.

Staff displayed a series of maps, focusing primarily on the rural areas of the Goleta Valley since urban lands will be discussed during future meetings. The maps help to introduce a deductive, fact-based approach to land use designation based on the goals and values of both the County and community.

Staff presented a series of plan types and tools, including a hybrid of a community plan and small-area specific plans, as available options for the Goleta Community Plan update.

GVPAC discussion focused on opportunities to create a balanced mix of land uses, including effectively designated and design nodes of commercial, open space, parks, and residences based on the current uses.

The GVPAC addressed the identity of the Eastern Goleta Valley as a bedroom community and acknowledged the potential to create a new community identity through land use, place-making, and gateway recognition in the Goleta Community Plan.

In the rural area, the GVPAC discussed extending the Mountainous-GOL zoning designation into the San Marco Foothill consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, creating more north-south linkages between the mountains and the ocean through trails and paths, and exploring commercial opportunities in EDRNs to reduce trips on Hwy 154 for services.



Public Comment:

None

7. Adjournment

Next GVPAC Meeting (#12) will be held on Tuesday, April 7th, 2009 at 6:00 in the Planning Commission Hearing Room

ACTION: Adams moved, seconded by True, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to adjourn until GVPAC Meeting #12.

Yea: Adams, Elliott, Ezal, Freeman, Mineau, True

Nay: None

Absent: Olson

Meeting Adjourned at 9:28PM

Signed Valerie F. Olson Date 7 April 2009
GVPAC Chair Olson

