
Goleta Valley Planning Advisory Committee

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2009 at 6:00PM

Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room

Meeting Called to Order: By Chair Valerie Olson at 6:02PM

1. Roll Call

GVPAC Members Present: Adams, Elliott, Ezal, Freeman, Mineau, Olson, 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

Will Robertson, Transportation Planner, Public Works Dept.

Angela Hacker, Planner, Office of Long Range Planning

Joy Hufschmidt, Manager, Project Clean Water

2. Public Comment:

Mary Whalen objected to the Foothill Centre office building project proposed to the City of Santa Barbara and suggested the area would better support a neighborhood shopping center.

Patti Close expressed concern that community survey results would be open to discretionary interpretation by reader and that the results are not statistically significant.

Ann Crosby suggested that the GVPAC ask the public what is liked, what is disliked, and what should be changed. Ms. Crosby also expressed support for the GVC 20/20 goal of agricultural land preservation and no net loss of agricultural lands.

Shelly Cobb found the community survey too long and unclear. Ms. Cobb also supports the preservation of local farmland to address peak oil conditions and secure the opportunity to buy food locally.

Steve Maas, representing the Metropolitan Transit District (MTD), reported that no project has been proposed for the vacant MTD property on Calle Real. Mr. Maas also noted the likelihood that transit-oriented development (TOD) would be considered for the property in the future and would be happy to work with the County and the GVPAC for the Goleta Community Plan update.



3. August 4th Agenda Items:

Motion: Place presentation and discussion of Foothill Centre project on August 4th GVPAC Agenda.

ACTION: Ezal moved, seconded by Adams, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to approve the motion.

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Additionally, staff will send a letter to the City of Santa Barbara to alert City staff to the Goleta Community Plan update project and invite a coordinated approach.

4. Minutes of May 20th, 2009 GVPAC Meeting:

Amendments: None

ACTION: Adams moved, seconded by Elliott, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to approve the May 20th, 2009 GVPAC Meeting Minutes, with no amendments.

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

5. 2009 GTIP Update Overview and Kickoff Announcement:

Will Robertson, County of Santa Barbara Public Works Dept, announced the launch of the Goleta Transportation Improvement Plan (GTIP) update with KOA consulting and explained the proposed project timeline through the end of 2009. Mr. Robertson also explained that this update is intended to bring the adopted GTIP up-to-date and that a new GTIP is likely to be generated for the updated Goleta Community Plan upon adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

6. Presentation:

Presentations were conducted by Angela Hacker regarding the County's upcoming Climate Action Plan, AB32/SB375, and overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions regulation, and Joy Hufschmidt regard Project Clean Water and the County's approach to stormwater runoff, watershed protection and enhancement, and low-impact development. Planning tools and approaches were discussed by the GVPAC and staff as available options for the Goleta Community Plan update., including:

Limitations on sprawl to bring houses closer to jobs to reduce air pollution from commute patterns

Coordination with SBCAG's pending Sustainable Communities Strategy (STS)

Form-based code in specific areas, such as the Upper State St. corridor, and Commercial design guidelines,



- Specific plans for small areas or neighborhoods or key site planning,
- Development standards for green building and conservation,
- Urban renewal policies,
- Watershed planning approach to land use designation
- Clustering development to preserve natural landscape features
- Pervious surfaces, bioswales, solid waste filtration systems
- Drainage plans for all new development
- Public Works landscaping improvements with multi-modal transportation improvements

Public Comment:

Dave Davis, Executive Director of the Community Environmental Council, commended the GVPAC's efforts to develop community land use goals and encouraged implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy policies as developed in Fossil Free by '33.

Marsha Zilles, Building Administrator for Hope Ranch Park Homes Association, suggested the opportunity and regulation adjustment for alternative fuels in Hope Ranch and the Eastern Goleta Valley from horse manure and digesters to capture natural gas for local use.

Lauren Hanson discussed building permits in County requiring runoff flow to curb as inconsistent with current urban hydrology approaches and the each new project should have a net-zero effect on overall stormwater runoff.

7. Tentative Long Term Scheduling: Community Planning Workshop

The GVPAC discussed the upcoming public workshop scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2009. In preparation, staff reviewed the draft agenda for the workshop, the materials available at each table, and the intended outcome, which includes the development of goals and the recommendation of planning tools for the updated Goleta Community Plan. Staff requested that the GVPAC communicate one-on-one with staff to specify data/information needed individually in advance of the workshop. The GVPAC will receive information packets for the workshop on July 1st 2009.

The GVPAC discussed their role as facilitators of conversations based around large land use topics. Specifically, the GVPAC addressed how to listen to community members effectively and take notes for the record.

Public Comment:

Shelly Cobb suggested a book entitled, "Plan B 3.0" as a good resource for sustainable planning and commented that sustainability and climate change involve topics such as agriculture, peak oil, fire, water supply and other social, environmental, and economic issues.



Patti Close expressed concern about the Foothill Centre project requiring a rezone, which would undermine the provisions for the Goleta Community Plan update.

Mary Whalen requested a special meeting to discuss the Foothill Centre project and a letter to the Board of Supervisors from the GVPAC against the project in favor of neighborhood commercial as a better project for the area. Ms. Whalen also requested a second community planning workshop.

Ann Crosby suggested that the County and the GVPAC not rely on developers to implement the goals for commercial development, streetscape improvements, and other facilities development in the Eastern Goleta Valley, and that the community could look to its own resources for help with implementation, including:

Goleta Beautiful: plantings, streetscape maintenance, grants for water use and installations;

Community gardens and edible landscaping in public areas;

Businesses working with community, like Fairview Gardens or Christmas Tree Farm;

San Marco High School frontage improvements and community gardens, student gardeners and apprenticeships in public improvements;

Guerilla gardening to improve easements and/or vacant properties.

8. Adjournment

Next GVPAC Meeting is the Goleta Valley Community Planning Workshop and will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2009 beginning at 9:00AM at Vieja Valley School.

ACTION: Ezal moved, seconded by Elliott, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to adjourn until the Goleta Valley Community Planning Workshop.

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Meeting Adjourned at 9:03PM

Signed

Valerie F. Olson

GVPAC Chair Olson

Date

4 Aug 2009

