

Visitacion Valley / Schlage Community Workshop #1 Summary

A community workshop took place on Saturday, **October 12, 2012** at the Visitacion Valley Public Library with the purpose of re-initiating efforts to move transformation of the Schlage site forward. Participation and attendance were high.

Community participants: 1) heard updates on the status of the Schlage Lock project in light of the Redevelopment Agencies demise; 2) were asked about their highest priorities for the site; and 3) gave feedback on a potential near-term project on the Schlage site that could jump start development.

Activities Summary:

Activity 1 - Community participants were asked to rank the goals and objectives, in order of their priority, that are included in the 2009 Redevelopment Plan and Design for Development. The list below is a summary of the top priorities and of other salient points that were discussed.

Top 5 Priorities

1. Grocery store
2. Parks / Open Space
3. Circulation Improvements (off-site)
4. Retail
5. Affordable housing

Also important priorities:

6. Economic Development
7. Community Center / Old Office

Other salient feedback:

- Ensure same amount of open space
- Solve traffic issues on Bayshore
- Senior and mixed-income housing
- Higher heights are OK if other benefits (e.g., setbacks, staggering, open space, building separation/design, etc.)
- Public safety / crime rate is a big issue
- Public transportation is a big issue

Activity 2 - Community participants were presented with phase 1 development goals and with alternatives for the location of the parks and the retail anchor / grocery. They were then asked to give feedback on the alternatives and to state what was more critical to them in a phase 1 development. The most common feedback was as follows:

- A majority preference for alternative C (see power point for graphics), with 1 group preferring B given its more clear connection to the Baylands.
- Ensure phase 1 includes:
 - Open space and biodiversity elements
 - A local-serving grocery store/retail
 - Good design and functionality
 - Good circulation, safe pedestrian crossings, good traffic-planning and some parking
 - Housing, in particular affordable and for seniors