Working Group Meeting #3

NORTH VENTURA COORDINATED AREA PLAN

Date + Time	January 16, 2019 | 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Location	Community Meeting Room, City Hall

Meeting Purpose and Outcomes:

- *Discuss WG precedents: why do you love this place?*
- *Discuss the relationship between qualitative and quantitative: how can we measure a successful place?*
- *Identify critical shared qualities among successful urban districts*
- *Introduce idea of vitality metrics*
- *Prototype "Day in the Life" exercise to envision a future NVCAP population*

Attendance/Meeting Facilitators:

City staff:
Jonathan Lait – *Interim Planning Director*
Elena Lee – *Senior Planner*
Chitra Moitra – *Planner*
Robin Ellner – Administrative Associate III

Consultants:
Geeti Silwal – *Principal* (P+W)
Nivi Das – Project Manager (P+W)

Kristen Hall – *Lead Designer* (P+W)
Rachael Cleveland – *Project Designer* (P+W)
Dave Javid – *Engagement Principal* (Plan to Place)
Leah Chambers – *Outreach Specialist* (Plan to Place)

General public: 20

MEETING NOTES

AGENDA

<u>Call to Order:</u> 5:30 PM

<u>Welcome and Round Table Introductions</u>: 5:30 pm – 5:40 pm

<u>Agenda Items:</u> 5:40 pm – 8:00 pm

4. Feedback on process to date
5. Working Group report back on places assignments
6. Consultant presentation – What makes a place vibrant?
7. Break out discussion – A day in the life

<u>Oral Communication:</u> 8:00 pm – 8:20 pm

<u>Wrap Up:</u> 8:20

<u>Adjournment:</u> 8:30 PM

Feedback and Questions on Process to Date

- Consider extending WG meetings to 3 hours
- Reiterate timeline for this project
- Request materials earlier to fully review, consultants to deliver Friday before WG meeting
- Potential for historic subcommittee? Adds significant time to process, is need justified?
- Existing conditions memo will be submitted for review
- Difference between WG and Comp Plan Group
    - Comp Plan Group: Reviewed document and advise on policies and programs
    - Working Group: Identify opportunities and constraints, identify needs and act as liaison to explain private development goals with community

WG Present Precedents

Alex Lew: Emeryville, CA
Heather Rosen: Historic Scotland
Keith Reckdahl: St. Anthony Main, MN
Kirsten Flynn: Oak Park Arts District, IL
Siyi Zhang: Central Square, MA
Yunan Song: University Ave, Palo Alto, CA
Angela Dellaporta: Various locations
Gail Price: Various locations
Terry Holzemer: The Barlow, Sebastopol, CA

EMERYVILLE

- Industrial buildings
- Ped/bike paths
- terraces/balconies
- corner restaurants
- mix of people, walking
- mix of uses
- railroads → greenways

OLD TOWN EDINBURGH

- reuse of old buildings/ infrastructure
- activated, diversity of retail
- large park + gathering spaces

St. ANTHONY MAIN

- mostly residential, mix of demographics
- feels like a neighborhood
- outdoor places
- little cut-through traffic
- bike traffic + walking trails
- low-flow, cobblestone streets

OAK PARK Arts District

- mix of buildings, pkg in alleys behind
- consistent setback
- reason for viable retail
- mix of eras + densities

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CENTRAL SQUARE
cambridge

- Inclusive events
- local establishments + unique
- mixed use
- dense housing
- multicultural

DT PALO ALTO

- close to railway station
- nice, quiet streets
- mix of uses
- outdoor plaza
- preserved history
- tree canopy

VARIOUS PLACES - Angela

- reuse of industrial buildings
- walkable, active
- ~~sear~~ shared alleys with deliveries + peds
- interesting rooflines
- bike/ped paths
- streets for neighborhood use, not cut through

VARIOUS PLACES - gail

- mix of uses + densities
- prefab units
- quality + useful ped. environment
- edible gardens
- whimsy
- neighborhood-designed crosswalks
- green walls
- public art

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SEBASTOPOL

- former cannery
- citizen-driven process
- mix of uses
- market, cafes → places to eat

PARKER

- walkable
- whimsy
- public art
- lots of housing
- no office
- Palo Alto character

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REPORT OUT

① JAMILA
- comfortable w/ density
- bigger than a studio
- open space
- quality amenities
- biking
- mix of jobs, high tech
- community room
- dining + cafes, shared workspace
- Amazon lockers
- nightlife
- parking - bikes (safe), charging
- art events, live work for artists
- lanes, Res streets, greenways
- protected bike lanes, < on-street pkg
- ped/bike only streets
- bike → Caltrain → walk → rideshare → shuttle → scooter
- O.S. → safe, art, music, programming (frisbee golf, climbing)
  outdoor venues · Social gathering spaces, free WIFI

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② JOHN

- population density + jobs
  might not be relevant to him
- ↑ retail (maybe ↑ jobs)
- in proximity (neighborhood-
  setting)

- smooth sidewalks, less car-traffic
  ⊕ paseos, lanes
- longer blocks (less crossings)
- car (rideshare or solo), bus, ped walkways
- Park Blvd altered
- accessible O.S.
- enclosed community mtg space
  (comm. ctr, library)
- scooters + bike in street

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③ JIN

- high density, urban
- walkable streets
- mix of jobs
- small inexpensive places to eat
- dance school / entertainment space
- high intersection density
- walking, skateboards/scooters, bikes
- O.S. → urban plaza, WiFi, tables

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④ Jose
- collaboration opps with jobs in NVCAP
- retail w/in walking distance, neighborhood serving retail
- lane, local, + residential
- car, walking, bus, bike, self-driving, scooter, __ , train
  Uber
- sports, people-watching
- linear parks + urban plaza (+ sports, + green, + people watching)

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Feedback, what worked, what could be improved?

What worked well?

- Fun and engaging
- Examples of future residents are good and necessary to get us to think beyond own experiences
- Precedents were interesting, but too much data

What could be improved?

- Clarify the maps so that we know exactly where neighborhood or district is and clarify that all at same scale
- Concern that the exercise is too complicated for the community workshop and won't allow the community to feel their input and opinion is being considered
- Suggestions were to give the public opportunity to expand characters or add a quality, or imagine their daughters or sons? Or allow public to select which personality
- Specific changes to characters: Jose wouldn't drive to Stanford; Jamila wouldn't take the train, need to add a family person, include someone with less financial means
- Consider other metrics

  - Miles of separated bike trails and ped paths
  - Retail in ped-friendly areas
  - # of car trips in and out
  - # of street events

Public comment

- Liked the exercise, helpful to focus on non-design folks, good way to stretch our thinking
- Refine place selections so that they are clearly different
- Affordable housing should be a community concern
- SOFA working group had more diversity: representation on the committee from affordable housing, retail, childcare, open space, and historic experts