



District 8 Community Round Table

Meeting Minutes: February 10, 2022 @ 7:00PM – 9:00PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

President's Comments: In-Person meetings / Candidate forums will soon be published.

Linden Skeje from Recycle Clean. Linden reviewed garbage & recycling guidelines: recyclables include plastics #1-5 & #7 (if not compostable type). Containers don't need to be pristine / clean, just scrape out as much food as possible. Don't put plastic bags in the recycling. Neither fruit nor pet waste go into the yard waste area – it goes in the trash. For more info visit: SanJoseRecycles.org

Mayor Sam Liccardo - City of San Jose update. With about a year left in office, the Mayor's top 3 priorities are: Homelessness, Blight, and Crime / Public safety.

Homelessness: Goal is to get 1000 'quick build apartments' built this year. The City is learning that there are some better approaches – such as to build on sites that are less desirable to developers. These units will provide transitional housing (cost ~ \$100K per unit).

Blight: The 'San Jose Bridge' program employs unhoused residents to help clean up blight - - in trade helping them with job training, career planning, & housing opportunities. The City is working with Cal Trans to help clean up the area. It is believed that SJ / SCC is not getting their fair share of resources. The 'Trash for Cash' program is where Homeless fill up bags & in return get a MasterCard that can only be used at grocery stores.

Crime / Public Safety: The Mayor, along with SJPD and others, are frustrated that criminals get released too quickly. He's spoken to the DA and others to try to get people who should be in jail, put & kept in jail, and others placed into treatment facilities. The District Attorney Office share some of these frustrations. They have rearranged some of their processes to keep more of the serious criminals incarcerated.

Land Use Subcommittee Report – Robert Reese. Temple: Janet is working to meet with the temple foundation. Frustrations continue regarding the public perceptions that their input is not being implemented in the designs. The EIR should be released shortly.

EVC: Sandy has requested that a 'discussion about underserving the residents' be placed on the agenda. The chancellor agreed that students migrating out of our area is of profound importance. Janet mentioned that The Spotlight recently noted that DeAnza & Foothill Colleges serve about twice the number of students as EVC.

Village Square: A portion of V.S. has had a recent zoning change – changing from 'Open Space' to 'Housing'. SJ City: Appears to be opening up certain areas of Evergreen – to allow more development, which VMT had originally designated to preclude these areas from development.

May Land Use Meeting: D8CRT will do a deep dive of the open land in D8 (~800 acres: Reid Hillview, P.H. Golf Course, Land above Murillo, etc...). If interested in participating, please reach out to info@D8CRT.org

Elected Officials Updates. Nancy from Council Member Arenas' Office: Boosters now required for city facilities. They're working on developing a 'Covid 19 Recovery Task Force' to determine community needs and where they should focus their resources. Muni Water is now allowing low-income assistance.

TheyVu from SCC Board of Supervisor Otto Lee's Office: Otto remains committed to help the Evergreen neighborhood, even though with recent redistricting - Evergreen is no longer considered part of his district. Evergreen's representative is now Mike Wasserman's as part of District 1. Due to the increase in calls for help, the county has created a crisis team including 3 psychologists. Otto, wants to provide a mental health options (instead of jail), whereas the jail is currently at 835 beds, the proposal is for a reduction to 500 beds.

Public comments: Janet shared the Islamic Center near Ruby/Tully is available by appoint only for medical treatments.

Upcoming General Meetings

March 3 D8CRT Monthly Meeting – VTA Update

April (TBD) – Mayor & Supervisor candidates' forum at Grace Church

May 5 - Land Use Reports

Next Steering Committee Meeting: February 12, 9:00am, Zoom