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**COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 23, 2003 Meeting Notes**

CITY STAFF ITEMS

Mike Robinson made a brief presentation to the group regarding the meeting held for the redevelopment area. Questions were raised related to noticing and the number of properties and owners included in this meeting. The City explained that this was the first in a series of meetings and that other opportunities would be available to get the information. The group asked that if there were any members of the CRAC that were in this specific area that they be added to the list and be invited to all future meetings.

MEETING NOTES

Approval of the November 21st and the December 19 meeting notes were postponed due to a lack of a quorum at this point in the meeting.

WORKSHOP – High Point Stories

The facilitators introduced the workshop by allowing the participants time to go over past information that was provided by the boards and charts located around the room. Next participants met in groups of two and shared personal stories of past high points in the community. After sharing with the interview partner the groups of two combined into tables of 8 participants and introduced the high point stories to the group as a whole. The result of this process was the presentations made by each group of common patterns in the stories, shared values of ideal communities as well as patterns in hopes and images. The following is a summary of the group presentations.

Group 1

| STORY | VALUE |
|---|--|
| Family in the area, in safe place. | Community interest. |
| | Look after each other. |
| Satisfaction of neighbors working together to improve the park. | Small town feel – Fish Fry, N4N Project, Lions Park group. |
| | Open Space – Fairview Park, Canyon Park. |
| | Work with eclectic mix of small businesses. |
| | Community spirit – working together, fence friends, and waiving to neighbors |
| | Work, live, recreate, shop, dine in your neighborhood. |

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Group 2

| STORY | VALUE |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Personal involvement of City in Shalimar play area – Eva | Civic pride Safety and Security |
| “Redevelopment” of your business property revitalized – Day | Success |
| Safe to grow up here and raise my kids here – Ralph | Safety and Sense of Security |
| Tighter community – Campbell | Sense of Community |
| Less traffic easy to get to all areas of city – Michael | Improve transportation |
| Perception of area first a positive now a negative - David | Property Values Standards |

Group 3

| STORY | VALUE |
|---|---|
| Moving to neighborhood, remodeling house, relationships with neighbors during vital time (creation of canyon park, newsletter, home tour, etc.) | Relationship in a neighborhood and with neighbors. |
| Reopening Victoria Elementary – now California distinguished school. | Perseverance, caring about the community. Selflessness. |
| Buying a house. Getting to know neighbors/neighborhood Seeing improvement Involved WIA | Being a part of the community Helping others |
| Buying houses | Homeownership |
| Working on the skate park location | Involvement in the community |
| Buying a home, even when people said that “you don’t want to buy on the Westside” and liking it | Family community perfect attendance |
| Buying her wonderful “fixer” house and working on it | Relentless dedicated, close to the ocean loves neighbors |
| Finishing remodeling | Homeownership American dream |
| Quickly getting a job after moving here and learning to fly | Having success on the Westside |

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Group 4

| STORY | VALUE |
|---|--|
| Moved here from other geographic areas that had sense of community | Stable neighborhoods less renters more owners |
| Limited participation in community events Tree planting, elections | More Westside community events Common interests |
| Homeowners associations with some sense of community | Neighborhood pride |
| Getting rid of gangs on Placentia | Safety and Security |
| | Events that involve the entire community Art show |

Group 5

| STORY | VALUE |
|--|---|
| Quiet, friendly, local residential community. | Safety and security |
| Built in the 1971, still show original owners. | Events that include/involve the entire community: example, art shows. |
| Community watch. | Friendly but not “nosy” |

WORKSHOP – FUTURE VISION

The groups of eight participants that have shared their highpoint stories were now asked to imagine that they have stepped into the future 15 years or more from today. To imagine that everything that they hoped for had been implemented. The group was asked to share that vision with each other and report back to the group at large. The focus of the reporting was to be in the positive, what exists rather than what is gone. The following is the results of this dialogue.

Group 1

1. City offer incentives to encourage redevelopment
2. Results in more mixed use arts community – lofts designed for artists
3. Arts district
4. Grocery store
5. 19th street bridge with sound walls and parkways
6. Beautified city (village with small town feel and sense of place)
7. Boutiques, restaurants, roller-skating rink for the kids
8. Upscale businesses
9. Industrial core south on Placentia (but only if bridge is environmentally and economically viable)
10. Footpaths
11. More open space and parks and bike paths

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12. Community events
13. Everyone has a sense of closeness with neighbors and pride in neighborhood and city
14. Job center gone because no longer needed
15. No absentee landlords letting properties run down
16. Business owners taking care of landscaping areas
17. Successful small businesses
18. Eclectic restaurants and shops (not chains)
19. Pedestrian friendly
20. Sense of security and safety
21. Vibrant 19th street commercial corridor – more upscale and successful
22. No graffiti, litter and potholes
23. Housing is desirable place for families starting out – affordable
24. 4plexes are one-owner with rental units – private initiative to improve housing
25. Youth center on the far west side
26. More drug and gang prevention programs to help at-risk kids

Group 2

1. Redevelop blighted areas
2. Self development
3. Well lighted commercial areas with nice shops and restaurants that you could walk around safely at night
4. Nicely landscaped areas with wide sidewalks
5. More homeowners, less renters
6. Improved traffic
7. 19th bike bridge to river, bike path
8. Rezone areas based on the predominant use today
9. Continue mixed use as it is today

Group 3

Value: Community Feeling

1. City Services
 - Top-of-the-line infrastructure
 - Landscaped medians
 - Intelligent intersections
 - Underground utilities
2. Safety
 - Fewer bars/liquor stores
 - Community policing
 - Loitering reduction/jaywalking
 - No bridge
3. 19th street west of Placentia
 - Beautiful entrance to high-end residential neighborhood
 - Bluff area is all residential

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No access from industrial area
Southwest corner of 19th and Placentia is mixed-use residential over shops/restaurants, artist lofts, cafes, village feel.

Group 4

1. Clean, landscaped, safe streets
2. Pedestrian friendly newly rezoned shopping area.
3. Artist center with coffee shops, etc.
4. Pride of ownership for all properties (rented and owned)
5. Repaired streets
6. Diverse ethnically neutral neighborhoods
7. Make 19th Street from Pomona to Placentia a walking Village with shops

Group 5

1. We think we will have a 50% chance that Monrovia Street will be resurfaced
2. 10 years from now we will have 3 year old trees
3. Higher quality, but still mixed use, small community uses and buildings
4. Improved infrastructure
5. Better community leadership and spirit

BRAINSTORMING – Programs

The final exercise was a brainstorming opportunity for participants to share their ideas for programs and policies that could implement the vision and values that they had shared throughout the evening. The follow list represents the feedback from this exercise.

1. Business ownership should take care of their location keeping things in good shape
2. Yearly cultural event
4. A more effective code enforcement program
7. City should install landscaping, parkways and greenbelts and bike and pedestrian paths or at least include them in planning and zoning for the future.
8. Bring unity to the west side to develop programs and activities for our youth and seniors
9. City should sponsor more cultural events
10. Leave zoning as is but encourage pride
11. Support artist community, art shows, concerts in the parks, eclectic places to gather
12. Support open spaces and nature resources
13. Create a sense of place by: village center with social recreational and retail facilities, strong landscape/hardscape theme along main streets
14. Uniform sign program and street sign welcoming you to Westside over the street
15. Encourage residents to participate in city beautification by adding matching funds to park bench sponsor project and more publicity and expanding it to include other landscaping features

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16. Bluffs zone for both residential and industrial and let the market place determine the direction it will take
17. Repair 19th street problems once and for all. The street sucks
18. Bring markets that everyone can go to.
19. Remove some or most free rides
20. City should remove disincentives; initiate incentive program re: less restrictive zonings, more citizen-friendly uses, eg. Live workspaces, mixed uses.
21. Beautify 19th street with trees and paths and continue a bicycle pedestrian bridge across river to Huntington Beach
22. Rezone Placentia Avenue commercial
23. Rezone and widen superior ave
24. Encourage redevelopment of all 2+ story blighted apartment areas
25. Improve 17th street Superior N. Boulevard intersection
26. Widen N. Boulevard to the 55 to North Beach
27. Effective enforcement of laws and codes
28. Create a city gallery for residents
29. Stop luring people who cannot afford to live here
30. Consider the needs of property owners
31. Encourage renewal/development incentives
32. Stop polarizing groups
33. Establish a set of standards for street/building and citywide beautification efforts (i.e. no potholes, grass tree lined medians)
34. Keep 18th street zoned industrial/commercial
35. Incentive property owners to remodel landscape etc.
36. Allow zoning to reflect current dominant land use
37. Fix street
38. All underground utilities
39. Single families in apartments
40. Leave industrial in this City
41. Business friendly
42. Professional study of all options available to the west side including 19th to the beach. As asked for by the City staff in the RFQ for West Side Study 1998 still no study what are cost benefits.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Avenue.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.