

City of Pinole – Specific Plan

SPECIFIC PLAN PUBLIC WORKSHOP – NOVEMBER 29, 2007

SAN PABLO AVENUE - PARTICIPANT RESPONSES

1) How would you describe San Pablo Avenue today to a visitor?

- Identity crisis* (lack of identity)
- Alternate commute route *
- Disjointed*
- Busy truck route*
- Most distinct variation
- Un pedestrian friendly/intimidating to cross
- Nice historic architectural style and size
- Nice median enhancement (Old Town down to Sunnyview)
- Outdated
- hodge-podge
- Unique
- High speed
- Impersonal
- Historic center
- Pretty at night
- Dark
- Too industrial
- Limited on-st parking
- Needs Art

2) How often do you go to San Pablo Avenue, and if so, what brings you there?

- Fernandez Park**
- Restaurants** & Bars
- Work at one end and live at the other
- I live there
- Walk along creek to bay trail*
- Specific Destinations, not to meander
- Garage/Auto shop
- St. Joseph's Church
- School
- Variety of shops
- Art Gallery
- The Vet

3) Identify THREE TREASURES of San Pablo Avenue:

- What are your favorite things, how is it unique, how do you feel connected to it?

- Historic buildings/resources** – please retain these
- Good schools
- It's the Community's main destination/ "sense of place"*
- There are no chain stores in Old Town
- I can park in front of the stores
- Museum
- Access to the bay
- Old Town

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- Friendly neighborhoods
- It's safe

4) Identify THREE CHALLENGES for San Pablo Avenue:

- What are the biggest challenges/obstacles?

- Focus on live/work housing for working force
- SPA & Appian's Terra Hills needs upgrading
- Street crossings all need improvement
 - Volumes
 - Speeds
 - Signal timing
- Lack of Parking (we can't afford to lose any)
- Maintaining vehicular movement/functionality
- San Pablo and Pinole Valley intersection isn't signalized (L-hand turns are difficult)
- Keeping traffic functional (as much as we'd like to reduce traffic, we need to be mindful of flow)

5) Identify YOUR VISION for San Pablo Avenue:

- What does your perfect vision of San Pablo Ave. look and feel like?

A place:

- That is walkable****
- That has historic architecture*
- With an identifiable character
- With multiple walkable destinations
- With no strip malls*
- For window shopping/meandering
- Where people meet/gather to mingle
- With a stage or performance venue/activity
- With uniformity in design (awnings, signage, character, scale, style, etc)
- For new investment in econ development and jobs (on the west side of Ave.)
- For activity and shopping
- With more Mom and pops
- Without chain businesses
- With more landscaping/uniform enhanced landscaping
- With more turf
- With level medians

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- **What do you hope stays the same?**

- No chain businesses
- historic architecture*
- No strip malls*

- **What do you want to improve?**

- Traffic pacification (slow it down)
- Modernization of the West End of SPA (from sunnyview on)
- So much focused investment in the City – spread the wealth!
- Better stage or performance venue/activity
- More shops & Services
- Well defined character
- Need a Hercules gateway to Old Town

6) **Identify THREE LAND USES for San Pablo Ave. – Uses you would LIKE to see and Uses you would NOT like to see:**

LIKE TO SEE

- Integrated housing and office
- More shopping and services
- More gathering places
- More parks/open space
- Integrated/balanced services (mix uses)
- Diverse retail with minimal MU
- Keep light industrial uses

NOT LIKE TO SEE

- Big box
- Strip Malls
- Liquor stores (w/eating establishments only)
- Gas stations

7) **What could set SPA apart from other areas in Pinole or the region?**

- It's Character (scale, architecture, history, etc)
- It's Location:
 - Most visible and used corridor to surrounding communities
 - Land bound corridor and is subject to cut-through traffic

8) **What are the two most important improvement issues to address right now?**

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- Public transportation corridor
 - Improving access to Bart, to the J line
 - Needs attention to street detail
 - Need for visual uniformity
 - Streetscape and lighting
 - Traffic flow (ped and cars)
 - Bike friendly improvements
- 9) **Should Old Town be an even location or center, if so, what kind of events should be held there?**
- Yes! Both!
 - Parades (H.S. parade could move to Old Town)
 - Our annual car show is great...more things like this
 - Perhaps a frontier day to celebrate town history