

## **Martinez General Plan Update Task Force Meeting #17 Summary**

*Wednesday, February 28, 2012*

*6:30 pm - 9:00 pm*

*Martinez Senior Community Center*

*818 Green Street, Martinez*

### **Task Force Members**

Donna Allen

Jim Blair

Victor Carniglia, Chair

Earl Dunivan Jr.

Jenny Fitzgerald, Vice-Chair

Rachel Ford

Jeff Keller

Cindy Nuse

Donald Pallotta

Leanne Peterson

Igor Skaredoff

George Vetek

Jenny Ward

Chris Wills

### **City Representatives and Consultant**

Terry Blount, AICP, Planning Manager

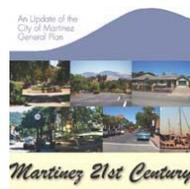
Corey Simon, Senior Planner

Anjana Mepani, Associate Planner

Jeffery Baird, AICP, Baird + Driskell Community Planning, Consultant

### **Meeting Purpose and Agenda**

The purposes of the Martinez General Plan Update Task Force meeting conducted on February 28, 2012 at the Martinez Senior Community Center were to (1) review and discuss the Preliminary Arts and Cultural Resources Element, (2) review and discuss the Preliminary Health and Safety Element, and (3) review the near-term schedule and approach for future Task Force meetings. The Task Force received background information on these topics in the Task Force meeting packet. A copy of the wall-graphic recording of Task Force member comments at the meeting is included at the end of this meeting summary. Below is the agenda for the meeting.



## General Plan Update Task Force Meeting

*City of Martinez General Plan Update Task Force (GPUTF)*

---

### A G E N D A

---

Task Force Meeting #17  
 Tuesday, February 28, 2012  
 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

*Martinez Senior Community Center — 818 Green Street, Martinez*

- Outcomes:**
- (1) Review and discuss Preliminary Draft Arts and Cultural Resources Element
  - (2) Review and discuss Preliminary Draft Safety Element
  - (3) Review the near-term schedule and approach for future Task Force meetings
- 6:30 pm    **I.        Review Meeting Purpose**
- A. Review Task Force Meeting #17 Agenda
  - B. Check-in with Task Force Members (*any time constraints for the meeting*)
  - C. Other Administrative Items (*Meeting #16 Summary*)
- 6:40 pm    **II.        Task Force Review and Direction on the Arts and Cultural Resources Element**
- A. Staff Overview and Questions of Clarification
  - B. Task Force Discussion and Direction
- 7:40 pm    **III.       Task Force Review and Direction on the Safety Element**
- A. Staff Overview and Questions of Clarification
  - B. Task Force Discussion and Direction
- 8:40 pm    **IV.       Task Force Review of the Near-Term Schedule and Dates for Future Meetings**
- 8:50 pm    **V.        Public Comments on All Items**
- 8:55 pm    **VI.       Summary and Next Steps**
- A. Summary of the Meeting and Review of Next Meeting Topics
  - B. Evaluation of the Meeting
- 9:00 pm    **Close**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Laura Austin at (925) 372-3523, or Fax to (925) 372-0257. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodation to help insure accessibility to this meeting.

## Task Force Discussion of the Preliminary Arts and Cultural Resources Element

City staff worked with the Parks, Recreation, Marina, and Cultural Commission Subcommittee that was formed to assist with developing the preliminary draft Element. The three member Subcommittee reviewed the preliminary draft and provided staff with their comments. The Task Force was presented with the revised preliminary draft based on the Subcommittee's comments. Below are the Task Force's comments and directions for the preliminary draft Arts and Cultural Resources Element:



- (1) Add to the history section since it is an important part of “branding” and image of Martinez.
- (2) Provide more emphasis on the City’s history.
- (3) Remove the reference to the city of Walnut Creek.
- (4) Provide more information on recreation facilities and tie them into the facilities and activities discussed for arts and cultural resources.
- (5) Identify the importance of music as part of the arts and what is unique about Martinez.
- (6) Expand the descriptions of the historic buildings and places.
- (7) Address history but more from the perspective of the community’s heritage.
- (8) Recognize that Martinez’s heritage is also a key part of the visual character of the community.
- (9) Consider a community image and design element.
- (10) Celebrate our community heritage.
- (11) Place the discussion of history and the community’s heritage in another section of the general plan.
- (12) Figure out a way to identify some of the key implementing programs so they pop-out in the element and are not hidden within the element.
- (13) Provide examples of historic buildings but not an all-inclusive listing.
- (14) Avoid implying that historic buildings are from a policy standpoint considered historic resources. Avoid listing historic resources.
- (15) Other than recognized historic buildings, assure that other “historic” buildings and resources are not subject to a special discretionary process.
- (16) Consider a list of residential architectural styles in the community, possibly by area or neighborhood.
- (17) Avoid subjectivity or inferences as to what is considered a historic resource.
- (18) Provide a disclaimer, remove addresses and provide a shortened list and description of historic resource examples.
- (19) Include the Martinez Adobe.
- (20) Recognize that our history is a big asset. Expand on the stories because they help to explain the character and qualities of the community. We have a wonderful historic town.
- (21) Include descriptions of neighborhood character and types of buildings.

- (22) Promote infrastructure for the arts, including performance and rehearsal space, art space, activities, etc.
- (23) Make sure that the description of the history of Martinez is not only about historic preservation but also links to the future. This should not only be about protection but also about promoting the cities image and character. We need to link different generations within Martinez.
- (24) Add the amphitheater as a critical arts and cultural resources facility.
- (25) Recognize the Italian community in Martinez.
- (26) Link arts and cultural needs and policies, from a community heritage and history standpoint, to descriptions of neighborhood character and types of buildings.
- (27) Provide list of architectural styles in the community.
- (28) Consider combining goals, policies and programs to simplify the arts and cultural resources element.
- (29) Consider that there may be too much to do and there are too many programs to implement the element. Make the list doable and reasonable by establishing priorities.
- (30) Make sure the General Plan is a living and breathing document that's continually used.
- (31) Make sure we identify what we want Martinez to be like as a community (as a goal).
- (32) Move Goal 4 to be the 1st goal and name it community heritage and not history. The community's heritage is a very significant part of the community's character and identity.
- (33) Look at the Downtown Specific Plan and specifically its relationship to policy AC4.2.
- (34) Establish incentives and provide for flexibility to preserve and build upon the community's history and heritage.
- (35) Figure out a way to make the goals less utopian and more specific to Martinez.
- (36) Split the goals and topics covered between programs and buildings or other infrastructure.
- (37) Identify what structures and buildings we want to preserve and protect. Is this something we want to do?
- (38) Describe the programs we have in place now for arts and cultural resources. Separate recreation programs.
- (39) Elevate program AC2-A as being the most important program in this element.

### **Task Force Discussion of the Preliminary Draft Health and Safety Element**

Below are the Task Force's comments and directions for the Preliminary Draft Health and Safety Element:

- (1) Avoid duplication of responsibilities for safety and health with other agencies.
- (2) Use the safety and health element to provide a flag for important issues to be investigated.
- (3) Look into the fire departments pre-plans for neighborhood emergency preparedness.
- (4) Evaluate the potential conflict between safety concerns and the downtown VISION.
- (5) Investigate the best available maps for seismic, liquefaction, slope stability and other safety hazards issues. Identify the potential safety concerns, provide mapping and procedures for investigations required when a development is proposed. The State of California establishes "zones of required investigation" as the purpose of the state's mapping of geotechnical hazards.

- (6) Answer the question of whether we should get ahead of the State. Avoid jumping ahead of the State because we do not know what the eventual standards and requirements will be. Consider not using state standards until state standards are actually formalized for the review of proposed developments.
- (7) Fix properties in terms of safety as they are proposed for new uses.
- (8) Consider mitigation for liquefaction, such as the densification of the ground (compaction of soil) under a building.
- (9) Add discussion of unreinforced masonry buildings and describe the requirements and approach the city currently has in place.
- (10) Make sure we address many other health and safety issues, such as ADA, hazardous materials, etc.
- (11) Balance safety concerns with our goals for economic development, especially in the downtown.
- (12) Keep Alhambra Creek clean.
- (13) Include best practices for safety and health considerations.
- (14) Describe the requirements for soils and other investigations that are already in place. Cover the city's current requirements and procedures.
- (15) Provide the most up-to-date and accurate flooding map (the one in the report is inaccurate). Consider that FEMA will be developing new requirements for drawing maps in 2 to 3 years. Modify the policy or program to make sure the city incorporates the latest requirements and will stay up to date in terms of future requirements.
- (16) Provide a reference and date for maps.
- (17) Describe what occurs with pipeline safety audits. Consider mapping of major pipelines and the establishment of a pipeline safety ordinance. This would also include the railroad and refinery.
- (18) Establish a program for septic systems upgrades to desirable standards.
- (19) Identify the types of structures that have weaknesses (in general) and the need for some type of retrofit. Provide information so that homeowners and building owners can make their buildings safer.
- (20) Participate in the C.R.S.
- (21) Use the latest maps and review Contra Costa County maps.
- (22) Consider different noise standards for the downtown as compared to quieter areas of Martinez.
- (23) Mention the C.E.R.T. program for disaster preparedness.
- (24) Describe the hazardous materials mitigation plan, that is a County program, and describe the notification process.

## Task Force Review of the Near-Term Schedule

Staff presented a possible schedule for future Task Force meetings. Based on Task Force directions from the previous meeting, the revised schedule contains no specified “end date” to make sure there is adequate time for the Task Force to review the Preliminary Draft General Plan and it avoids setting unrealistic expectations for the Task Force’s work. The approach also provides sufficient time between meetings for the staff to respond to Task Force questions and directions. Below is a listing of specific meeting dates and topics for future Task Force meetings:

- **Wednesday, March 21, 2012** — 6:30-9:00 pm (Preliminary Draft Land Use Element)
- **Wednesday, April 11, 2012** — 6:30-9:00 pm (continued discussion of the Preliminary Draft Land Use Element as needed)
- **Wednesday, April 25, 2012** — 6:30-9:00 pm (continued discussion of the Preliminary Draft Land Use Element as needed, and initial presentation and beginning review of the mostly complete Draft General Plan)
- **Wednesday, May 30, 2012** — 6:30-9:00 pm (continued review of the mostly complete Draft General Plan)

A comment sheet and method for identifying topics for discussion by the Task Force will be developed for use by the Task Force when it reviews the Draft General Plan beginning at the April 25, 2012 Task Force meeting. It was decided that editing comments should be collected separately so that Task Force meetings are used to discuss key issues and policy directions. Coordination with the Chair and Vice-Chair will also continue to occur as the process moves forward.

