



# CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

**STUDY SESSION**  
Tuesday, June 7, 2005  
7:00 p.m.

City of Menlo Park  
The Menlo Park City Council Chambers  
701 Laurel Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

**A. ROLL CALL** – Winkler, Jellins, Cohen, Duboc, Fergusson

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT -**

Two members of the public addressed the Council sharing concerns about street conditions and overgrown weeds in street medians.

**C. STUDY SESSION**

1. Report on the outcome of the “Imagine a Downtown” Design Charrette held on April 9, 2005.

David Johnson, Business Development Manager, introduced the architects who reported on the event. Lee I. Lippert, president of the San Mateo Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, led the presentation. Each architect in charge of a group reviewed with Council the ideas generated at the Charrette. Some mentioned that there isn't one ideal model, emphasizing that this is a long term project.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Various members of the public addressed the Council and their comments included:

- concern about future impacts on downtown businesses
- impact of high speed rail
- request to have the downtown clock fixed
- impact of train noise and homelessness downtown
- inclusion of an historical component
- providing downtown access to the disabled
- creation of a pedestrian bridge on El Camino Real
- recognizing the importance of multiple points of views.

Council discussed the benefits of this exercise asking questions about combining various scenarios. There was a general interest in having staff move forward with a comparison of the different schemes, defining a scope of work, and including this project for consideration in the 2006-07 Priority Setting Session. Council reiterated the need to keep the public and City Commissions involved in the process. Other points of discussion included the possible need for a Master Plan, exploring pedestrian access to El Camino Real, and studying grade separations. Council would like staff's presentation available on the City's website.

**E. ADJOURNMENT - the study session adjourned at 9:23 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

---

Silvia M. Vonderlinden, CMC

Approved at the Council Meeting of August 16, 2005.