



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 12/16/2019
Time: 4:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

4:30 p.m. Closed Session (City Hall - “Downtown” Conference Room, 1st Floor)

Mayor Muller called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Carlton, Combs, Nash, Mueller, Taylor
Absent: None
Staff: City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, City Attorney William McClure, City Clerk Judi A. Herren (excused at 4:34 p.m.), Administrative Services Director Lenka Diaz, Human Resources Manager Theresa DellaSanta

Public Comment

- Lynne Bramlett spoke on penal code 832.5 regarding independent policy auditing (Attachment).

CL1. Public employment (Gov. Code section 54957.)
City Attorney recruitment

Mayor Mueller adjourned to the special meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Special Meeting

A. Call To Order

Mayor Mueller called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Carlton, Combs (excused at 5:12 p.m.), Nash, Mueller, Taylor
Absent: None
Staff: City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, City Attorney William McClure, City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Mueller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Consent Calendar

City Councilmember Nash pulled item D2.

Item D2 was continued to future meeting.

- D1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for November 19, 2019 ([Attachment](#))
- D2. Receive and file the quarterly update on the City Council adopted 2019-20 priorities and work plan ([Staff Report #19-281-CC](#))
- Ryann Price spoke in support of the climate action plan 2.0.
- D3. Authorize the release of the biennial community survey ([Staff Report #19-275-CC](#))
- Lynne Bramlett expressed concerns on the proposed community survey.
- D4. Approval of a memorandum of understanding with the Cable Joint Powers member agencies for the use of JPA PEG funds for qualifying member agencies' capital projects with corresponding grants to the Media Center ([Staff Report #19-282-CC](#))
- D5. Authorize the city manager to execute an agreement with ePlus for replacement of network switches in an amount not to exceed \$109,969.60 ([Staff Report #19-279-CC](#))

ACTION: Motion and second (Carlton/ Combs) to approve the consent calendar except item D2, passed unanimously.

E. Regular Business

- E1. Receive an overview of public comments on the notice of preparation and confirm the scope and content of the environmental impact report to be prepared for the proposed Willow Village mixed-use master plan development ([Staff Report #19-274-CC](#))

City Councilmember Combs was recused and exited the chambers.

Principal Planner Kyle Perata made the presentation ([Attachment](#)).

- Crystal Leach spoke on the direct and indirect impacts on the Sequoia Union High School District.
- Lynne Bramlett spoke on a more inclusive public process and public noticing of large projects ([Attachment](#)).
- Samuel Munoz, representing local carpenters' union, spoke in favor of the Willow Village project.
- Pamela Jones spoke on cultural and tribal resources.
- Henry Riggs commented on the Planning Commission process and public input on this item.

The City Council discussed qualitative verse quantitative measurements of level of service and vehicle miles traveled and the effects of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) new laws. City Council received clarification on the regional effects on the jobs/housing imbalance.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor) to receive an overview of public comments on the notice of preparation and confirm the scope and content of the environmental impact report to be prepared for the proposed Willow Village mixed-use master plan development, passed 4-0-1 (Combs recused).

F. Informational Items

F1. Update on the City Council ad hoc subcommittee on City Council Procedure Updates
([Staff Report #19-278-CC](#))

- Lynne Bramlett stated a sunshine calendar policy could be burdensome for part-time city councilmembers and suggested broader reforms for transparency.

F2. City Council agenda topics: January 2020 to February 2020 ([Staff Report #19-273-CC](#))

- Lynne Bramlett suggested relating upcoming agenda topics to city council work plan items in a separate column.

G. City Manager's Report

City Manager Jerome-Robinson reported on the creation of a city attorney recruitment subcommittee during closed session, of Mayor Mueller and City Councilmember Combs. Jerome-Robinson also reported on receiving a letter from Facebook regarding the Belle Haven multigenerational community center.

H. City Councilmember Reports

I. Adjournment

Mayor Mueller adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of February 11, 2020.

To: City Council

From: Lynne Bramlett

Re: Independent Police Auditing Function

Date: December 16, 2019

I've learned about California Penal Code 832.5 via a recent City of Palo Alto Staff Report on the topic of an Independent Police Auditing Function. The Palo Alto contract was brought forward by their City Attorney who is a full-time, in-house City Attorney.

Cal. Penal code 832.5	832.5. (a) (1) Each department or agency in this state that employs peace officers shall establish a procedure to investigate complaints by members of the public against the personnel of these departments or agencies, and shall make a written description of the procedure available to the public.
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I did not have time to fully verify when the law was originally passed, but I did find a date of 1974. The law was (Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 391, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 2003.) In short, Cal. Penal code 832.5 is not a new law.

Menlo Park may be out of compliance with Cal. Penal code 832.5. I reviewed the City of Menlo Park's Police website and did not find any reference to this policy. I also reviewed the index for the Police manual, along with skimming various sections. While I found one instance of an internal review process, it did not seem enough to comply with Cal Penal Code 832.5.

Please note also that I am not recommending the Palo Alto contract as a model for Menlo Park. It may omit important safeguards that the MP Council would like to include. For example, the Palo Alto Contract does not, however, specifically refer to SB-1421, Peace officers: release of records bill which was codified in 2018 in an [amendment to the Section 832.7](#) of the CA Penal Code. I also recommend that for Menlo Park, de-identified reports are provided to the public and not just the City Manager and the City Council.

As the PA contract was put forward by PA City Attorney's Office, I ask why the Menlo Park City Attorney has not done the same. I consider this question especially relevant for your closed door deliberation.

I suggest that Council take action on this matter once you have selected your next City Attorney.



CITY OF PALO ALTO OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

December 16, 2019

The Honorable City Council
Palo Alto, California

Approval of a Contract With the OIR Group in the Amount of \$75,000 for Independent Police Auditing Services for a Three-year Period

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council approve and authorize the Clerk to execute a contract with the OIR Group in the amount of \$75,000 for independent police auditing services for a three-year period (Attachment A).

Background

The Palo Alto Police Department (PAPD) receives and investigates complaints that are made from time to time by members of the public against police officers. State law requires all police agencies to have such a process (Cal. Penal Code §832.5.). PAPD also investigates potential policy violations of uniformed officers that come to the attention of the Chief, even when a complaint is not filed. The investigative function of the PAPD is generally referred to as "internal affairs."

Since approximately 2006, Palo Alto has contracted with an outside firm to act as Independent Police Auditor (IPA). The IPA performs several functions for Palo Alto. First, the IPA provides independent review of PAPD internal affairs investigations. Department management confers with IPA periodically as investigations are opened and in process. When the Department's investigation is complete, the IPA conducts a secondary review and assesses "thoroughness, objectivity and appropriateness" of the investigation and disposition. Where appropriate, the IPA provides recommendations for training, procedural adjustments or other follow-up actions. Second, the IPA reviews every deployment of a taser device and the PAPD's use of force review of that deployment, regardless of whether a citizen complaint is filed. Twice a year, the IPA produces a written public report to the City Manager and City Council summarizing the IPA's conclusions and comments.

The City's contract with the IPA states that the IPA must provide these services in a manner that complies with the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act and provisions of the California Penal Code that provide procedural and privacy protections to sworn personnel. (See Penal Code § 832.7; Govt Code §§ 3300 *et seq.*) These laws provide procedural and privacy protections for uniformed officers that are greater than those for public employees generally. Accordingly, the IPA must refrain from naming or including any information that identifies officers in any public report. The City's contract with the IPA requires the IPA to send drafts of its reports to the City Attorney and Chief of Police for the purpose of review for compliance

with state law. Prior to finalizing its report, the IPA is also directed to discuss identified problems with PAPD and the City Manager and attempt to reach consensus as to solutions. Once final, the IPA reports are made available to the public via a Council Informational Item.

Independent review of police investigations is not required by law. A program of independent review is entirely discretionary, and where one is developed, it is up to the individual city to define its parameters. Many large metropolitan areas work with an independent auditor. It is rare for a small city to retain a police auditor.

Since the inception of the IPA program in 2006, the IPA has reviewed investigations regarding sworn personnel, almost always while engaged in policing activities, such as conducting investigations, issuing citations, and making arrests. This year, a question arose regarding whether the IPA should also review and comment on City investigations of internal personnel matters not involving policing activities or members of the public. This type of matter could include complaints by PAPD personnel with respect to their supervisors or co-workers regarding unfair or discriminatory treatment in areas such as assignments, overtime, training, promotions, or interpersonal conduct. Throughout the City, the Human Resources Department investigates or supervises the investigation of these matters. In the Police Department, such matters could involve sworn or non-sworn personnel, such as dispatchers, Community Safety Officers, or administrative staff.

In 2014, the City issued a Request for Proposals for independent police auditor services. Three firms submitted proposals. The City selected the Michael Gennaco dba Office of Independent Review (OIR Group) as the most qualified to perform the services. The contract between the City and the OIR Group expired in October 2019 and is due to be renewed.

Analysis

After careful consideration, staff recommends that Council approve the attached contract with the OIR Group (Attachment A), which confirms and clarifies the longstanding traditional scope of IPA review: PAPD internal affairs investigations and taser deployments. Personnel matters that arise in the PAPD will not be included in the IPA process; rather, they will continue to be investigated and resolved by the Human Resources Department, or under its direction.

There are several reasons for continuing the current scope. Sworn personnel perform critical public safety services that can place them and their families at risk. The City has an overriding interest in protecting the privacy of sworn personnel so that these employees can do their work without concern about risk or intrusions into their personal and family affairs. In addition, the City has an obligation to maintain a confidential human resources system, so that employees feel safe coming forward to make complaints or to provide information in an investigation that involves their co-workers or supervisors. According to established policies and procedures, the City's Human Resources department investigates and resolves personnel complaints in all departments throughout the City. The City does not publicly report on human resources matters. While we recognize that secondary review and reporting of Human Resources

investigations in PAPD offers some potential for additional insights, the risks to personal privacy and a safe and confidential human resources complaint system weigh in favor of continuing to handle these matters confidentially under the direction of the Human Resources Department.

Resource Impact

Departmental budgets include adequate funding for this contract.

Policy Implications

Approval of this contract affirms current and longstanding City policy regarding police oversight and reporting.

Environmental Review

Approval of this contract is not a project for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act. No environmental review is required.

Attachments

A: Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and Michael Gennaco DBA OIR Group for Professional Services

B: Exhibit A to the Agreement, with strikeouts and underlines showing changes from prior Scope

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment A : 2019 Contract with Michael Gennaco dba OIR Group for Professional Services_FINAL.docx (PDF)
- Attachment B : CMR 10924 Exhibit B - Redlined Changes Scope of Services - IPA contract_CPA (PDF)

Department Head: Molly Stump, City Attorney



State of California

PENAL CODE

Section 832.5

832.5. (a) (1) Each department or agency in this state that employs peace officers shall establish a procedure to investigate complaints by members of the public against the personnel of these departments or agencies, and shall make a written description of the procedure available to the public.

(2) Each department or agency that employs custodial officers, as defined in Section 831.5, may establish a procedure to investigate complaints by members of the public against those custodial officers employed by these departments or agencies, provided however, that any procedure so established shall comply with the provisions of this section and with the provisions of Section 832.7.

(b) Complaints and any reports or findings relating to these complaints shall be retained for a period of at least five years. All complaints retained pursuant to this subdivision may be maintained either in the peace or custodial officer's general personnel file or in a separate file designated by the department or agency as provided by department or agency policy, in accordance with all applicable requirements of law. However, prior to any official determination regarding promotion, transfer, or disciplinary action by an officer's employing department or agency, the complaints described by subdivision (c) shall be removed from the officer's general personnel file and placed in separate file designated by the department or agency, in accordance with all applicable requirements of law.

(c) Complaints by members of the public that are determined by the peace or custodial officer's employing agency to be frivolous, as defined in Section 128.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, or unfounded or exonerated, or any portion of a complaint that is determined to be frivolous, unfounded, or exonerated, shall not be maintained in that officer's general personnel file. However, these complaints shall be retained in other, separate files that shall be deemed personnel records for purposes of the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code) and Section 1043 of the Evidence Code.

(1) Management of the peace or custodial officer's employing agency shall have access to the files described in this subdivision.

(2) Management of the peace or custodial officer's employing agency shall not use the complaints contained in these separate files for punitive or promotional purposes except as permitted by subdivision (f) of Section 3304 of the Government Code.

(3) Management of the peace or custodial officer's employing agency may identify any officer who is subject to the complaints maintained in these files which require

counseling or additional training. However, if a complaint is removed from the officer's personnel file, any reference in the personnel file to the complaint or to a separate file shall be deleted.

(d) As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "General personnel file" means the file maintained by the agency containing the primary records specific to each peace or custodial officer's employment, including evaluations, assignments, status changes, and imposed discipline.

(2) "Unfounded" means that the investigation clearly established that the allegation is not true.

(3) "Exonerated" means that the investigation clearly established that the actions of the peace or custodial officer that formed the basis for the complaint are not violations of law or department policy.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 391, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 2003.)

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FACEBOOK WILLOW VILLAGE PROJECT

Overview of public comments on environmental impact report scope

Staff presentation

December 16, 2019



PROJECT LOCATION





LEGEND	
1	Town Square
2	Grocery Store on Ground Level
3	Pharmacy on Ground Level
4	Public Park
5	Dog Park
6	Grade Separated Willow Road Crossing
7	Campus Visitor Parking Garage
8	Hotel
9	Mixed-Use Block
10	Residential Block
11	Office Campus
12	Parking Garage with Transit Center on Ground Level
13	Community Center on Ground Level

PROPOSED SITE PLAN



INITIATING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- City responsible for conducting environmental review of proposed project compliant with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) required for projects that may have significant effect on the environment (land, air, water, plants and animals, etc.);
- Notice of Preparation (NOP) indicates City's intent to prepare EIR;
 - Description of the proposed project;
 - Location of the proposed project;
 - CEQA topic areas to be studied
- 30-day NOP scoping period provides opportunity for early consultation with agencies and public prior to preparing draft EIR



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TIMELINE

- **August 20, 2019:** EIR contract authorized
- **September 18, 2019:** Release of NOP
- **October 7, 2019:** Planning Commission public hearing on scope and content of EIR
- **October 18, 2019:** Close of NOP comment period
 - 23 written commenters
- **December 16, 2019:** Council opportunity to review and accept scoping comments and provide any additional comments.
- **Next Step:** Preparation of the draft EIR



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

- Project description
- Analysis of potentially significant environmental impacts
- Discussion of ways to mitigate or avoid potentially significant environmental impacts
- Discussion of alternatives to the project as proposed
- Draft environmental impact report
- Final environmental impact report



SUMMARY OF NOP COMMENTS

- The follow topics were most common:
 - Transportation impacts
 - Population and housing
 - Air quality
 - Project design components
 - Potential project alternatives
- Majority of comments appropriate for consideration in the EIR
- Other mechanisms to consider comments include the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA), Fiscal Impact Analysis (FIA) or through the land use entitlements, agreements, and permits
- Non-CEQA comments:
 - Jobs/housing balance within Menlo Park
 - Percentage of below market rate housing units
 - Project design and phasing



SCOPING COMMENT SUMMARY MATRIX

- How to use the summary matrix (Attachment C):
 - Identifies general topic area
 - Context where comment would be addressed
 - Summary of comment
 - Discussion of comment and how fits into EIR, HNA, FIA, entitlement review
- Examples comments from matrix:

Topics	EIR	HNA	FIA	Other	Summary of NOP Comment	Discussion
Transportation	Yes				Prepare a traffic assessment and work to reduce traffic.	A Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA) will be prepared for the proposed project. Transportation impacts will be analyzed in the transportation section of the draft EIR and appropriate mitigations measures will be identified.
Topics	EIR	HNA	FIA	Other	Summary of NOP Comment	Discussion
Population and Housing		Yes			In support of HNA being conducted. Analyze the impact of additional office and housing.	The HNA will consider the housing need generated by the proposed project and compare that to the available supply of housing.
Topics	EIR	HNA	FIA	Other	Summary of NOP Comment	Discussion
Alternatives	Yes				Study a Lower Office Alternative: 1 million sf of office and more housing (3,000 units using density bonus for BMR).	One purpose of the NOP is to identify potential alternatives to the proposed project. Alternatives that would reduce significant impacts of the proposed project are identified during the CEQA process prior to the release of the draft EIR.



NEXT STEPS

- Continue with environmental analysis of proposed project
- Spring 2020: staff anticipates developing a tentative project schedule
- Fall 2020: Release draft EIR
 - Public comment period and Commission review
- 2021: Release final EIR
 - Commission review and recommendation
- 2021: Council review and action on proposed project



THANK YOU



To: City Council

From: Lynne Bramlett

Re: Willows Village EIR

Date: December 16, 2019

Sending the EIR to the draft EIR stage would be sending it along a path that would be difficult to turn back from. The ICF statement of work proposal includes Task 13: Certification Hearings. Their proposal assumes ultimate approval for the Willows Village EIR.

I've carefully reviewed most of the documents in the packet, but I would have liked a few more weeks to go to all the attachments. I've also had limited time to put my concerns in writing. The busy holiday season further limits the public's notice of the Willows Village EIR, and their ability to respond.

Summary of Main Concerns

- Inadequacy of Public Notice.
- Inadequate incorporation of Public's prior input
- The project description was inadequate.
- EIR needs to examine additional elements.
- Objectivity of the studies used in the EIR
- Inadequacy of ConnectMenlo as the foundation for the Willows Village Development

Inadequate Public Notice

There was inadequate solicitation of input from agencies and the public regarding the Notice of Preparation stage. The postcard mailing went to a small geographical group. The State Clearinghouse mailing also went to relatively few groups.

As evidence, relatively few members of the public, and groups, gave input into the NOP stage at the October Planning Commission meeting. For a project of such regional significance, much more effort was needed.

The project packet should have included a replica of the notice sent to residents. In the past, some projects have been described in ways that did not adequately alert the public. If the notice did not explicitly name the project as Willows Village, that would also reduce responses.

The timing of the EIR, during the busy Holiday Season, will also reduce responses.

In addition to those who have already responded, the City needed to proactively send notice to the below types of organizations and more residents:

- All school districts in Menlo Park and in adjacent communities, including Ravenswood City Elementary Schools, Menlo Park City School Districts and Redwood City School District. Also Beechwood School.
- Environmental groups such as: Sierra Club, Save the Bay, Audubon Society, Planning and Conservation League, and Environmental Protection Agency.
- Existing business near the proposed Willows Village Site, and those that will be displaced by the Site.
- Menlo Park Fire District
- Redwood City & Palo Alto (especially as their roadways may be impacted)
- Sam Trans and other public transportation agencies.
- Non-profits in District 1: Boys & Girls Club, Senior Center
- A broader group of Menlo Park residents beyond the quarter-mile radius from the proposed site.
- More newspapers, including *The Almanac*, *Palo Alto Weekly* and *San Mateo County Daily Journal*.
- Frequent posts to social media, including NextDoor.

Recommendations: Update the City's Public Noticing Policy, which was last updated in 2012.

Inadequate Incorporation of Public's Prior Input

The public has asked for the housing and grocery store to be put in the first phase.

The public also asks why the gas station on Hamilton needs to be moved across the street instead of some other location.

The public also has asked for a greatly increased amount of housing. Instead, the proposed EIR includes one variant with only 1,500 (less) housing units. Instead, one variant should look at 3,000+ possible housing units. Facebook states that it wants to help end the housing shortage. They have an opportunity in Menlo Park to use the 59-acre site for housing and community amenities instead of building more office.

The general comments regarding the jobs/housing imbalance were basically dismissed as being beyond the scope of the EIR. However, the project will need Council's approval for the zoning changes needed to allow the development.

Council could change the District 1 zoning to increase housing.

Inadequate Project Description

The project description did not adequately describe the scope of the two transit hubs in the two parking garages. The project also shows another parking garage for the Visitors Center. The description needed more details so that the public could respond to the likely impacts of these private transit hubs. The public might also like the opportunity to suggest a public-private partnership with SamTrans (or some other agency) so that the public can use the

Facebook transportation system as a way to reduce solo driving. This could be considered as one of the mitigations.

What kind of retail is being considered should also be listed. While specific stores don't have to be named, the description could include generalities (such as hardware store, bike repair shop, etc.) As Willows Village has been in the works for years, one expects more specifics.

The packet did not include the Ramboll Consulting scope of work or the biological studies already prepared by Facebook. .

The project description did not adequately detail the possible groundwater and soil contamination from prior land uses at the proposed site, so that the public had enough information to make an informed response. More specifics were needed.

EIR needs to examine additional elements

The project's impact on global climate change needs to be studied as a separate EIR item. I would also like to know Facebook's overall strategy to reduce risk from flooding at the Willows Village proposed site, and their other sites.

District 1 lacks a disaster response plan. The EIR should examine the project's impact to disaster response, especially when combined with the cumulative prior, current and future development planned in Menlo Park and in surrounding areas.

Objectivity of the studies used in the EIR

The project sponsor, Facebook, is either supplying some of the studies that will be used in the EIR or Facebook is the direct client for various studies that ICF will incorporate (or use as evidence) into the Draft EIR.

While ICF will review these studies, it raises concerns over objectivity due to conflicts of interest. For example, Facebook has conducted a "baseline Biological Assessment" (page 10 of ICF proposal). Facebook is also working directly with Ramboll yet Ramboll's scope of work is not included in the packet.

Full transparency is needed regarding Ramboll's statement of work. There may also be other consultants working directly for Facebook and supplying details for the EIR. Instead, full transparency is needed and possibly a different consultant reporting arrangement to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Inadequacy of ConnectMenlo as a foundation

The community has broader concerns about the land planning policies, objectives and outcomes in the ConnectMenlo exercise. Yet the Staff Report packet, including the ICF proposal, includes many references to the ConnectMenlo exercise as justification. Some of these references were selective only and they also did not detail the public's concerns with ConnectMenlo.

The most serious pertains to the legal foundation for ConnectMenlo. The CM Givens’ included: General Plan will Comply with State Law. However, CM focused explicitly on making zoning changes in a small area of land, roughly 5% of Menlo Park’s overall size), leaving the rest of the City’s zoning intact. The City could be at risk of being sued for not having a complete and adequate general plan (Gov Code 65750, et seq.)

The public has also raised concerns about the adequacy of the ConnectMenlo Program-level EIR (Resolution 6356). First, the statement of overriding considerations listed many benefits that the public considers overstated. The CM program-level EIR also based its assumptions, at least in part, on broader projections (such as Plan Bay Area 2040) that were not accurate. The Caps were not really caps either, and the employee count is understated. The mitigations may also not be measured and/or compliance verified.

Additional concerns:

- The ConnectMenlo Guiding Principles lacked metrics and routine measurement. These Principles were used to reduce opposition to the ConnectMenlo zoning changes. In fairness to the public, it’s time to review these to see if the current development in District 1 reflects the “values” in the Guiding Principles.
- David Bohannon, a major property owner in District 1 (and elsewhere) also had a seat on the ConnectMenlo Advisory Board. This represents a conflict of interest as Bohannon stood to gain materially from the zoning changes he helped influence.
- District 1 has no plan for purposeful development. The residents have called for an area plan. ConnectMenlo was explicitly about revenue generation and it’s not a plan for livability in District 1.
- ConnectMenlo zoning changes are also counter-productive towards the City’s stated concerns about global climate change.
- The ConnectMenlo Community Amenities (Resolution No. 6360) also need price tags and a workable process.

The public has legitimate concerns about the basis for the Willows Village EIR. The Connect-Menlo program level EIR should be reviewed.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING DIVISION
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Menlo Park, CA 94025
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www.menlopark.org

PUBLIC NOTICING POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND/OR CITY COUNCIL

The following public noticing procedures apply to all applications for development permits that require review by the Planning Commission and/or City Council. Development permit applications include the following: use permits, variances, architectural control, conditional development permits, planned development permits, General Plan amendments, Zoning Ordinance amendments, Zoning Map amendments, minor subdivisions, and major subdivisions.

1. Within seven (7) days of receipt of a formal application, the application will be assigned to a project planner and a notice prepared and posted to the Notices page on the City's website. The notice will include the following information:
 - Name of the applicant
 - Address of the project
 - Brief description of the proposal
 - Copies of the site plan and all elevations
 - Name, email and phone number of project planner
 - QR Code

2. Within seven (7) days of receipt of formal application, a postcard notice will be mailed to all residents, businesses, and property owners within a minimum of 300 feet of the project site. The postcard will include the following information:
 - Name of the applicant
 - Address of the project
 - Name, email and phone number of project planner
 - Link to the City of Menlo Park website, Notices page for details, which will also contain a link to subscribe to future updates to the Noticing page
 - QR Code

3. At least 18 days prior to the Planning Commission or City Council meeting date (three Thursdays before the meeting date), a notice will be placed with a local newspaper used to publish official notices for the City of Menlo Park (currently *The Daily News*) for publication and posted on the City's web site. The notice would be published 12 days before the meeting date.
4. At least 18 days prior to the Planning Commission or City Council meeting date (three Thursdays before the meeting date), a notice announcing the date and time of the meeting will be mailed to all residents and property owners within 300 feet of the project site and posted on-line on the Notices page of the City's website. The mailed notice should provide information that substantial changes have been made and a link to the Notices page to view the changes. The on-line notice should include highlighted language notifying readers of substantial changes made to the plans since the submittal and preparation of the first notice.

Amendment to Policy:

This policy may only be amended or revised by action of the City Council, with input from the Planning Commission. The City Council shall give public notice of any proposed changes before amending or revising the policy.

Adopted by: City Council
Date: May 10, 2005

Amended by: City Council
Date: June 12, 2012

San Jose Mercury News

October 22, 2019

\$1 BILLION, 10-YEAR INVESTMENT

Facebook's plan to address housing, transportation

By Elliot Schrage, Paul J. Fitzgerald and Nicole Taylor

A recent poll identified homelessness as well as housing costs and availability as two of the most important issues facing California today. In fact, these issues are two sides of the same coin — we cannot address homelessness without also addressing the housing shortage across the income spectrum. This recognition should drive a common agenda for building the Bay Area's future.

Today, it's too expensive to live here. Young people can't raise families in the communities where they grew up. Many families are forced to live in RVs. Communities suffer when commuting keeps families apart and ruins our environment. How do we overcome our different priorities and interests to develop common solutions?

California has done this before. Our economy is the envy of people around the world. Local industry invented technologies that have improved how people live. Our parents and predecessors built ports and highways, schools and university systems, that advanced our economy and supported our residents. This

spirit of innovation and ingenuity can be directed to create a new model for our communities and economies that works for all.

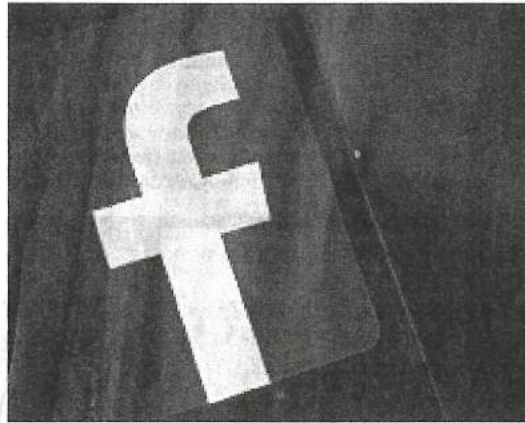
We can do this — again. We write this together because business, philanthropic and academic communities must work together to address the interconnected challenges of housing, transportation, climate change and economic opportunity:

- Facebook on Tuesday announced a \$1 billion, 10-year investment, including a new partnership with the Newsom administration and the state of California for mixed-income housing on excess state-owned land in communities where housing is scarce.

- The University of San Francisco is constructing housing for students in San Francisco and working with interfaith leaders and peer academic institutions to unlock land and funding for housing to serve communities in need.

- The Silicon Valley Community Foundation is expanding its efforts to protect and expand housing for residents, especially the most in need.

Sadly, money alone cannot solve the housing crisis. By one



In 2017, Facebook took the area's first step in addressing one component of the housing crisis — specifically, creating a pilot program to offer rental assistance for teachers and community-serving professionals.

BAY AREA NEWS
GROUP FILE PHOTO

estimate, 2 million new homes are needed in the five-county Bay Area by 2070. Our collective experience suggests six principles to guide future efforts:

1. The crisis is a regional problem and solutions must be addressed regionally. We must do more on a policy level to alter legal and regulatory systems that delay projects and incur huge costs.

2. Producing new homes, protecting people from evictions and preserving the existing housing stock must all be part of our solutions. No one approach will be sufficient.

3. Solving the crisis requires producing homes for Californians at every rung of the in-

come ladder. This includes supportive and affordable housing, and housing for essential workers such as teachers, nurses and other public service employees who contribute to everyday functioning of their communities.

4. Housing and transportation planning must be integrated to meaningfully address climate change. Shortening commute times is not only good for the environment, but also expands the pool of housing alternatives open to those in need.

5. Initiatives to produce new homes should reflect our Bay Area values of inclusion, environment and economic op-

portunity. Metrics that inform planning and infrastructure investments should address affordability, rates of homelessness, carbon footprints and social mobility.

6. Solving California's housing crisis requires new partnerships around a common vision and shared responsibility for our future. Governments at all levels, the private sector, labor, faith communities and voices traditionally not well represented in the housing policy arena must work together.

Our organizations embrace these principles and agree to coordinate our efforts going forward. Pope Francis' encyclical, "Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home," calls on us all to think about our shared home and address complex crises that are both social and environmental. We encourage leaders across all sectors — public, private and philanthropic, secular and those of faith — to take up this charge with us.

Elliot Schrage is a vice president at Facebook. The Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald is president of the University of San Francisco. Nicole Taylor is president and CEO of Silicon Valley Community Foundation.