

## Great Reach Roadshow Summary

### August 20, 2013 – Meeting with Eastside Neighbors Group

The meeting was attended by several residences, the City Mayor and one Planning Commissioner. The meeting started with a short presentation on the status of the General Plan update. The attendees questioned how many workshops and roadshows have been held to date and how are these meetings publicized.

Staff responded that there have been 5 workshops, and 3 road shows for the General Plan update focusing on visioning, land use, and housing. There will be two workshops in September and October focusing on circulation. The meetings are posted on the website and an eblast is provided to the interest list that has been accumulated throughout the process.

The Eastside Neighbors Group indicated their vision statement as “Protect, Identify, Make safe, and Beautify”; and, the group supported the recently completed street improvements on Broadway with medians, landscaping and bikeways, since it has made the street more desirable for walking, biking and neighbor to neighbor interaction.

The following issues were raised and discussed:

- Homeownership vs. rental desired – it was noted that the new development should promote homeownership and support site designs that do not convert to rental units in near future.
- Infill development – majority expressed that the infill residential should be compatible with the surrounding properties and include adequate on-site guest parking so that the street parking is not impacted. The street parking is limited and currently used by rehab homes, higher density developments and neighboring commercial uses.
- Traffic – the excess traffic due to increase density and development of Banning Ranch was expressed.
- Parks – it was noted that the new smaller units with limited open space increase the need for neighborhood parks.
- Variiances – it was noted that interpretation of policies and variance allowance has changed over the years; allowing variiances have a detrimental effect on the neighborhood (recently approved 14-unit project on Tustin Avenue and 8-unit project under review on Santa Ana Ave.).
- General Plan Policies – it was noted that the General Plan policies need to reflect the desire to hold down density and maintain the existing look, charm and character of east side.
- Retain sense of community – the thriving Commercial uses are good, but parking impacts the residents and no LED signs.
- Small Lot Ordinance - The group noted that the proposed small lot ordinance should provide for decent set backs and respect existing neighbors yards “Look and feel” of the neighborhood.

- Aesthetics – the need to include policies to reduce or underground utility lines, and wireless antennas.

The mayor referred to the issues with operation of some motels, the unfortunate condition of families living in motel rooms, and tradeoff of removing crime to change Node Zoning potential. He also referred to other upcoming ordinances to limit the city cost for number of police calls related to motels.

A few appreciated the city's effort to provide additional workshops and public outreach programs for the General Plan update.

Staff receives comments and varying opinions on a number of subjects and issues related to the General Plan and staff only reports the issues raised at the meetings. Staff is meeting with a broad cross section of stakeholders in the community including residents, land owners, business owners, community groups, builders and developers, and others. All of this information is being compiled and will be provided to the decision makers as we move through the General Plan Update process.