

North Fair Oaks **FORWARD**

A SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY PROJECT

To: North Fair Oaks Community Council
From: Supervisor Warren Slocum and NFO*Forward* Team
Date: March 27, 2014
Subject: North Fair Oaks *Forward* Progress Report

Background

North Fair Oaks *Forward* (NFO*Forward*) is a multi-partner collaboration that is planning, designing and developing enhancements to the North Fair Oaks neighborhood and implementing the North Fair Oaks Community Plan. The North Fair Oaks Council, community members, non-profits, District Four staff and other County staff, Redwood City and other partners are all working together on NFO*Forward* projects. Action and accomplishments since our report to the Council in February are summarized below.

Middlefield Road Redesign

The NFO*Forward* outreach team has been very busy this month. This work has included:

- Finalizing the community survey in English and Spanish
- Posting the survey on the web located at www.nfoforward.org.
- Placing surveys and survey collection boxes at Chavez Market, Fair Oaks Community Center, Fair Oaks Library, and the Fair Oaks Health Center.
- Attending the following events to discuss NFO*Forward*, distribute and collect surveys: Family Connections, Boys and Girls Club, Parent Action Meeting at the Siena Youth Center, 22 classrooms at the Sequoia Adult School and all staff, Friendship Park Build Day, Health Center waiting room
- As of March 24rd, 2014, 835 surveys have been completed.

- Meeting personally, at least twice, with all the business owners on Middlefield Road to tell them about the Middlefield Road Redesign project and encourage them to share their opinions. Surveys were distributed to all the business owners and employees and a return visit or two were made to collect the surveys,
- Arranging four small group meetings to discuss NFOForward: one each for residents living near Middlefield Road, auto body shop owners, other business owners and property owners. These meetings will be co-hosted by Supervisor Slocum and Sheriff Munks. Simultaneous translation and refreshments will be provided at each meeting.
- Preparations have begun for the two community-wide workshops on the topic of Middlefield Road. Arrangements are being made for the first workshop to be held at Garfield School from 10 am to 12 noon on Saturday, April 26th. The second workshop will be Tuesday April 29th at the Fair Oaks Community Center from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. To encourage residents to both fill out the survey and attend the community workshops, everyone that completes a survey will be entered into a drawing for an iPad mini and gift cards donated by the San Mateo Credit Union. Winners must be present at the workshop. Simultaneous translation, childcare and refreshments will be provided at the community meetings.
- To promote NFOForward and the community meetings, a street banner and signs have been ordered. The team will coordinate with Public Works to have the street banner placed on Middlefield Road.
- The NFOForward team is actively using NFOForward social media accounts including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, to provide updates on NFOForward outreach.

Parks and Open Space

The Friendship Park build day was March 21st. Over 250 volunteers built a brand new playground and 32 garden beds. Kudos to Lilia Ledezma, Past President of Rotary Club of Redwood City and Barbara Bonilla, Executive Director of Sheriff's Activities League for all their work coordinating this effort and also the Redwood City Rotary Club, the Sheriff's Activities League, Kaboom, the Shutterfly Foundation, and Collective Roots. County Parks Director Marlene Finley and her staff also deserve special recognition. Through their efforts, the final details of the land use license with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission were completed in time for the Parks staff to start site preparation work on March 19th.

The build day was a great start to Friendship Park, but additional work is needed to complete it. County Parks and Supervisor Slocum Office will be meeting soon with the Friendship Park organizing group to map out next steps for the new community resource.



Prep Day 1, March 19th



Prep Day 2, March 20th



Morning of Build Day, March 21st



Morning of Build Day, March 21st



Ribbon Cutting at 2:30pm, March 21st



Illegal Dumping

The Department of Public Works has posted “No Dumping” signs in English and Spanish on the fences around six Hetch Hetchy right of way parcels. The signs are located at:

Calvin and Dumbarton

Calvin and Pacific

2nd Ave. lot next to 430 2nd. Ave

Edison and 11th Ave.

180 Buckingham

The Council illegal dumping workgroup will be presenting recommendations to your Council this evening on community initiatives and actions the County could take to address illegal dumping.

The County has issued a request for proposals for a cell phone app that the public can use to easily report the location of items that have been illegally dumped. This project will be completed this summer.

Fair Oaks Health Center

The County legal staff is in discussions with the attorneys for the developer of the Health Center regarding completion of the parking lot and deconstruction of the old clinic. Currently work is on hold until an agreement is reached. From the time work resumes, the project will take two to three months to complete.

As noted in the prior update, Public Works staff designed temporary improvements to Middlefield Road to improve access to the Fair Oaks Clinic entrance and submitted the plans to the SamTrans, Union Pacific and the Public Utilities Commission in December. However, despite multiple contacts, the County has not received a response from these agencies yet. Staff is working with the Board of Supervisors on next steps.

North Fair Oaks Library

A final concept plan that meets the needs of the Human Services Agency and expands the North Fair Oaks library space has been selected. The Huntsman Architectural Group

is developing a detailed plan for HSA and library staff to review. The next step will be pricing the design and developing a funding plan in coordination with Redwood City. We expect to bring the plan and the funding proposal to the County Board of Supervisors in June.

NFO Public Art Workgroup

The NFO Public Art Workgroup held their initial meeting on March 10th. At the meeting, 10 workgroup members discussed the importance of public art in the community, viewed examples of public art and brainstormed public art ideas for North Fair Oaks. The workgroups ideas will be organized into an interactive presentation for the community meetings on Middlefield Road in late April. At their next meeting on April 14th, the workgroup will preview and provide input on the community presentation.