

Via E-Mail Only

November 16, 2016

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Location of Meeting: Forest Hill Elementary School

Attendees:

City of Campbell:

Fred Ho (FH), fredh@cityofcampbell.com

Amy Olay (AO), amyo@cityofcampbell.com

Todd Capurso (TC), toddc@cityofcampbell.com

Callander Associates:

Brian Fletcher (BF), bfletcher@callanderassociates.com

Dave Rubin (DR), drubin@callanderassociates.com

Marie Mai (MM), mmai@callanderassociates.com

Jana Schwartz (JS), jschwartz@callanderassociates.com

Community:

See Sign In Sheets (attached)

The meeting was an open house style where participants were invited to attend at any time during the event window and provide individual feedback on the trail proposal. Seven stations were set up for participants to visit at their own pace. The first station was the welcome table, where participants were greeted by city staff and provided a comment sheet handout to record comments as they traveled between stations. The six additional stations included comment-response boards from the first community meeting (Station 2), case studies of other trail projects that share comparable characteristics to the proposed trail system (Station 3), three stations for the three segments of the proposed trail (Station 4,5,6), and a comment sheet handout drop-off table (Station 7). The following summarizes input received at the meeting, including comment sheet handouts, flip charts, trail segment plans, and comment-response boards.

Comment Sheet Handout

The comment sheet handout included two open-response questions. Both questions were asked for each of the three segments of the trail.

Questions 1: What do you like about this segment of the trail?

Question 2: What can be improved in this segment of the trail?

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 2 of 8

item

Question 1, Trail Segment 1 – Station 4 (DR): (Westmont Ave. to McCoy Ave.)

- Need trail to be on the high school side of the creek
- Great along high school side of the creek
- The trees will finally be cleaned up and maintained
- The access to the schools will be controlled
- I think this is a very good idea to offer the community; gives a safe place to play and bike
- Nothing
- Re-design of the bridge to Forest Hill Elementary
- I like that it does not affect me directly
- Easy access for residents
- Seems okay
- You just added to my “commute”
- Nice access near high school for students and others
- Good walking access to Forest Hill Elementary
- The new bridge location
- Planned fence looks nice
- Trees remain
- Everything
- Get kids to school safely
- Would be great to walk my dog
- Use to go to school

Question 2, Trail Segment 1 – Station 4 (DR):

- Stairs at Silacci Dr. entrance prevents use of trail by ADA, strollers, etc.
- Allow taller fences
- Subsidized fence expenses
- Location of ramp/stairs
- Possibility of higher fences at homes on Silacci Dr. side so we can maintain privacy
- Fence would likely obstruct views of large established trees along my fence
- Nothing
- Add some parking
- Will the brush be cleaned?
- What are the plans for patrolling?
- My house backs up to the trail. There are homeless encampments. What is being done to address this?
- How will the new bridge/steps be built to minimize impact to those houses next to the bridge? Will the new/taller fence be built for those houses? Will it be wood or concrete type barrier?
- 4' fence should be much higher
- Reroute path from Westmont Ave. at end of football stadium

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 3 of 8

item

Question 1, Trail Segment 2 – Station 5 (JS): (Harriet Ave. to San Tomas Aquino Rd.)

- Removes the fence
- Safety for kids
- Slows down traffic
- Tree-lined road
- Open to street
- Nice access to creek section
- More trees!
- Cleans up area along San Tomas Aquino Rd.
- Nothing
- Nothing – it is a very short segment
- Not much. The back of my house is lined up against the trail. I'd prefer not to have the trail at all. I'm glad the proposed trail isn't directly behind my house (it's on the other side of the bank) but we still don't want it.

Question 2, Trail Segment 2 – Station 5 (JS):

- High, black steel bar fence. 4' is not enough, at least 8'. Fence should be difficult to climb.
- Trail will bring crime, extra light, and will be used by kids for fire crackers (they do this adjacent to the street right now)
- 4' fence is not tall enough, should be much higher
- Consider below street level crossing at Harriet. Seasonal closure of trail can be managed, see mountain View Stevens Creek Trail for example
- More crosswalks
- Reduce speed limit
- Concern is getting across Harriet at San Tomas Aquino Rd. It's a problem now, so a safer passage is needed. Is that a light? A stop sign? Or finding funding to go over Harriet?
- Pedestrian bridge over Harriet
- McCoy sharrows may give bikers a false sense of security
- Kids must use sidewalk to bike; street is too narrow to share during heavy use (morning and evening)

Question 1, Trail Segment 3 – Station 6 (BF): (San Tomas Aquino Rd. to Virginia Ave.)

- Nothing
- Not a thing
- Nothing
- Nothing – why isn't there a section for dislike?
- Nothing – opposed to losing our safety and security
- Connects to bike bridge over San Tomas Expressway
- New bike route in my neighborhood
- Good walkable route around streets that don't currently have sidewalks
- Nothing
- Slows traffic on San Tomas Aquino Ave. curve

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 4 of 8

item

- Connects to John D. Morgan Park

Question 2, Trail Segment 3 – Station 6 (BF):

- Totally against this project
- Not have the trail
- Do not build it
- Larger buffer to fence (private), 6'. Now there is maybe 18"
- Taller chainlink fence
- Privacy barriers to protect properties adjacent to the trail
- This should not be left to homeowners to plan and fund
- 4' fence is not tall enough, it should be much taller

Flip Charts

Flip Charts were placed at the case study table and each of the three trail segment stations. Flip charts did not include a prompted question, all feedback provided was open-ended.

Case Study – Station 3 (MM):

- Fence/rail by concrete channel – nicer if it's a metal ornamental fence, instead of galvanized chainlink

Trail Segment 1 – Station 4 (DR): (Westmont Ave. to McCoy Ave.)

- Happy not on north side
- Trail access behind bowl at Westmont Ave., lots of parking
- Can I put a 6' tall fence on my retention wall?
- Can't see your kid turn on bridge
- Sidewalk on Hazel
- Will any existing trees be removed?
- Will there be landscaping on trail?
- Will there be security cameras?
- Dogs barking
- Where will trail-users park?
- Call box
- Mile marker
- No stairs
- Safety for children
- Would trail lead to erosion?
- Effects on ecosystem/habitat?
- No security cameras
- Other projects possible that address need for trail?
- Potential for crime along trail
- Homeless encampments
- Trash/dog waste near trailheads

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 5 of 8

item

Trail Segment 2 – Station 5 (JS): (Harriet Ave. to San Tomas Aquino Rd.)

- 4' fence will not keep people/kids out of the canal; liability issue
- People skateboard in the dry creek
- Homeless problem
- We thought the trail was already approved, found out tonight it's not
- Parking problem – Silacci Dr. near foot bridge
- Lighting concern – light floods into the house already from street lights
- Firecrackers on San Tomas Aquino Rd. Including trees on the trail is a concern. Kids will use trail to set off firecrackers, fire concern
- Will dogs be allowed on the trail? In favor of dogs being allowed
- No gravel for kids who will use the trail to bike to school

Trail Segment 3 – Station 6 (BF): (San Tomas Aquino Rd. to Virginia Ave.)

- What is the total length?
- Noise concern
- Security concern
- 4' fence is not high enough to prevent people from crossing channel
- Higher fence would provide more security
- Kids – no place to go if there is a safety issue
- Concern for trash being thrown over
- Black walnut over fence harms dogs
- Will dogs be allowed on leash?
- Wants a paved surface, not gravel
- Keep existing trees
- This section there is no buffer
- Don't want a wood fence (likes open feel concept over privacy), others want higher fences
- Noise
- Concern over parking in neighborhood as people drive to use trail
- Provide trash and dog bag dispensers

Trail Segment Plans

Trail segment plans were placed at each of the three trail segment stations. Participants were invited to draw and write on each plan to provide feedback for each trail segment.

Trail Segment 1 – Station 4 (DR): (Westmont Ave. to McCoy Ave.)

- Can a fence/wall be added at new pedestrian bridge crossing? Is there a fence height restriction/code? Who pays for it? Needs to be a non-climbable fence.
- Will the existing wall be upgraded? Lots of graffiti. Would like a more natural wall.
- Homeless encampment near perspective 'I'

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 6 of 8

item

- High school speeding issues on Silacci Dr., near where kids cross to get to the foot bridge.
- Parking concern near foot bridge
- Visibility problem at new bridge crossing
- Trail head parking behind football field and near new pedestrian bridge, perspective 'F'; allow for trail head access and Forest Hill parking drop-off
- Don't do access here (same location as comment above)
- Add trees on opposite bank near Westmont Ave. trail access, perspective 'A'
- More dogs barking
- CUHSD Ag farm access along Westmont Ave.
- Minimal parking available on Westmont Ave.
- Par-course near Westmont Ave and as a part of high school

Trail Segment 2 – Station 5 (JS): (Harriet Ave. to San Tomas Aquino Rd.)

- Keep the same height of fence near channel. Make fence not climbable
- Existing lighting on Crockett Ave.; light comes into the house at night. Adding more lights on the trail is a concern
- Cars go too fast on Harriet Ave.
- Cars get backed up on Harriet Ave, especially making a left turn onto McCoy
- McCoy and Harriet is a problematic intersection
- Dangerous cut-through from San Tomas Aquino Rd. to McCoy
- Crosswalk on McCoy towards Harriet is set too far back; cars creep up to see and they are in the crosswalk
- Widen bridge on McCoy. Sidewalk is too narrow; idea to add a ped /bike bridge to there is a separation from cars
- Concern for safety at San Tomas Aquino Rd and turning left onto Harriet. Cars cannot see pedestrians or bikes. Neighbor on corner has overgrown trees and many cars in the front yard and on the streets.
- Introduce a wider sidewalk near San Tomas Aquino Rd. trail entry and along Harriet, at canal overpass
- When will the trail close? Will it close at dusk? If so, we walk our dog at night and that limits our use.
- Garbage can get into the creek with people using the trail
- Seasonal crossing below grade

Trail Segment 3 – Station 6 (BF): (San Tomas Aquino Rd. to Virginia Ave.)

- Consider tall gate at entrances that would open/close at dawn/dusk
- Impact residents with outside users driving to trail and to park
- Resident on trail-side has no desire

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 7 of 8

item

Comment-Response Boards

Three comment-response boards were set up to show feedback received from Community Meeting #1 and how project staff responded to each comment. Participants at this meeting, Community Meeting #2, were invited to read and add to the comments and responses by writing new comments directly onto the comment-response boards.

Comment-Response Board 1 – Station 2:

- How will the trail impact home values to homes in immediate proximity to the trail? (I. General Comments, Comment 'A')
- Study talks about parks, not trails (I. General Comments, Response 'A')
- Gravel surface can be loud; AC surface better, for maintenance and more quiet
- Will meeting materials be available to public?
- Safety, crime, privacy are major concerns
- Traffic from outside neighborhood will impact parking

Comment-Response Board 2 – Station 2

- ADA Access?
- Gravel – loose material not preferred
- Who cleans/maintains? (IV. Amenities and Maintenance, Response 'A')
- Who pays? (IV. Amenities and Maintenance, Response 'G')
- Highly adjustable. Barriers should be high enough to make it very difficult to climb 4'. 4' is not enough. For safety of users and security of neighbors. (IV. Amenities and Maintenance, Response 'H')
- Currently, trees do not get well maintained, they have become invasive. (IV. Amenities and Maintenance, Response 'I')
- Will there be studies for this? (V. Traffic, Response 'C')
- Facts? (V. Traffic, Response 'F')
- Facts? (V. Traffic, Response 'G')
- Distance between homes and schools, what is closest?
- Responses seem to be from positive; responses need to be from negative and positive.
- Traffic, speeding, parking
- I like it!

Comment-Response Board 3 – Station 2

- Security v. Visibility (VI. Safety & Security, Comment 'B')
- Existing – very few people; with trail – will be a lot more people (VI. Safety & Security, Response 'E'); Two other comments "Agree" and "Disagree" with response answer.
- Will City subsidize? (VI. Safety & Security, Response 'J')
- Height of fence by bridge?
- Says Who? Not a link as proposed; goes nowhere (VII. Schedule, Funding, & Process, Response 'F')

Meeting Summary

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail

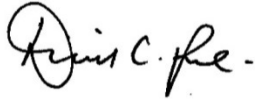
RE: Community Meeting #2

Date of Meeting: Wednesday November 16, 2016 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

Page 8 of 8

-END-

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Rubin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Dave Rubin, Project Manager, Callander Associates