



San Rafael

Agenda Item No: 2

Meeting Date: July 19, 2010

SAN RAFAEL CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Department: Community Development

**Prepared by: /s/ RB
Robert Brown (RW)**

City Manager Approval: /s/ KN

SUBJECT: Appointments to the Civic Center Station Area Plan Advisory Committee (P10-002)

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the City Council appoint members to serve on the Civic Center Station Area Plan Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND: In 2009, the City of San Rafael received a grant from Metropolitan Transportation Commission for \$140,000 with matching funding sources committing \$35,000 to prepare a Civic Center Station Area Plan. This conceptual plan will set the stage to create a vibrant, mixed-use, livable area supported by a mix of transit opportunities, including passenger rail service.

Through the Civic Center Station Area planning process, the community will consider and provide advice on the safest way for pedestrians, bicyclists, and automobile drivers to travel through a residential and commercial area, the best ways to access the SMART Station and nearby services, the most appropriate crossing improvements, and design guidelines to maximize amenities and passenger rail ridership potential. Once this Civic Center Station Area Plan completed, the City can next pursue environmental clearances, adopt general plan and zoning recommendations and seek funding for implementation.

In San Rafael, community-based governance is embedded in the General Plan and as a practical matter imbedded in how we engage our residents and other stakeholders in important decisions. For this project, a broad-based Station Advisory Committee (SAC) will provide oversight of the development of the recommendations. The SAC will assist the north San Rafael community in discussions about how best to integrate the SMART station into the fabric of the existing community. The SAC will have 16 members not including ex officio non-voting members. The committee will meet regularly to review background information, host workshops, review analysis and evaluation of potential improvements, and make final recommendations. The Steering Committee's charge for the SAC is to:

- Prepare a Civic Center Station Plan that will address Station Access and Connectivity; Transit Oriented Development; Accessible Design; Parking; and Pedestrian Design.
- Use area resources and assets to build on the design and engineering work for SMART's Civic Center station to create a functional and attractive transit hub for the north San Rafael community.
- Include a multiagency implementation plan that summarizes the plan's recommendations and includes a phasing plan for actions and financing options for the responsible agencies.

The invitation to apply was sent to Homeowner and Neighborhood Associations, local environmental organizations, the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce, and educational institutions. All properties,

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including churches, businesses, and apartment buildings located within 1,000 feet of the SMART station received by mail an invitation to apply. In addition, the Marin IJ and Newpointer publicized the availability of the application, and the application was posted on the City's website and in *Snapshot*.

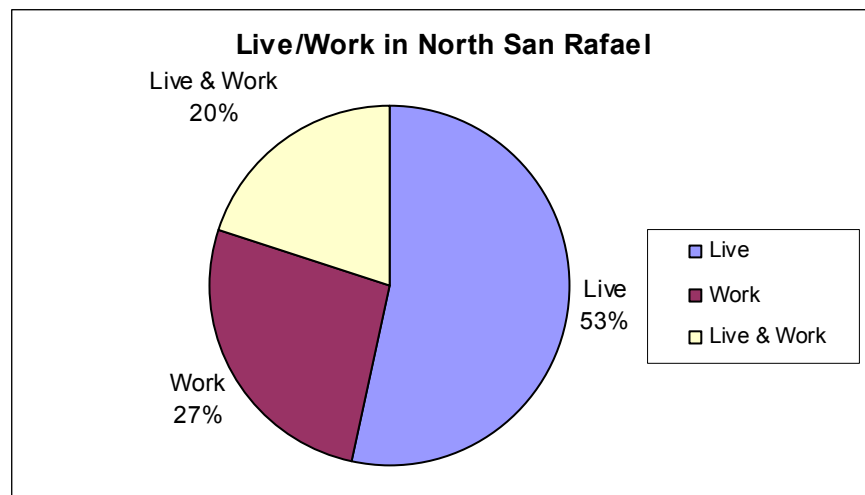
Thirty-one people applied to serve. A subcommittee of the Mayor and Councilmember Greg Brockbank reviewed the applications to make recommendations. Staff verified interest and availability with several candidates, and the subcommittee interviewed a number of candidates.

The City invited the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Agency, Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District, Marin Transit, Transportation Authority of Marin, County of Marin as well as other relevant commissions and boards to nominate ex officio representatives to serve the committee in a non-voting capacity.

The following recommendations for appointment takes into account the applicants' expertise and experience in the various aspects of land use planning and transportation issues. The listing also balances the members so there is as broad representation of the San Rafael community on this committee as possible. Of the 15 identified voting appointees for voting members:

- 40% are female
- 29% are under 35 years old
- 17% are renters

All of the committee appointees have a stake in the North San Rafael community.



As well as demographically representing the North San Rafael community, the appointees represent a variety of interests, including:

- Housing
- Business
- Environment
- Disabled
- Commuters
- Renters
- Bicyclists
- Schools
- Developers
- North San Rafael neighborhoods

In addition to the appointments, staff requests that a place be held for a Terra Linda High School student. Staff is working with TLHS staff to identify candidates for this position, as well as an alternate.

The City has also invited partnering agencies, board and commissions to appoint a liaison to act as an ex officio non-voting member. These liaisons will act as resources and provide input to the committee, serving in a non-voting fashion. These members include:

- Bob Hunstberry (ex officio/non-voting member, Design Review Board representative; Cheryl Lentini as alternate)

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- Stanton Klose (ex officio/non-voting member, GGBHTD representative)
- Larry Paul (ex officio/non-voting member, Planning Commissioner representative; Viktoryia Wise as alternate)
- Judy Schriebman (ex officio/non-voting member, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District)

APPOINTMENTS: The following are the recommendations for appointment to the Station Advisory Committee. Members represent a wide variety of interests in the broader community, and will evaluate and prioritize policies and programs, and recommend the final plan to the City Council.

1. Emily Dean
2. Michael Fryer
3. Elissa Giambastiani
4. Nicholas Kapas
5. Greg Knell
6. Klif Knoles
7. Marcus Lee
8. Richard McGrath
9. Brigitte Moran
10. Jeff Schoppert
11. Roger Smith
12. Jean Starkweather
13. Tammy Taylor
14. Gayle Theard
15. Craig Thomas Yates
16. Terra Linda High School Student

FISCAL IMPACT: The Civic Center Station Area Plan project is funded by a \$140,000 grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, supplemented with \$35,000 from matching sources, including SMART, County of Marin, TAM, Marin Transit, GGBHTD, and the San Rafael Redevelopment Agency.

OPTIONS: Appoint members to the Station Advisory Committee
 Modify recommendations for appointments to the committee
 Solicit additional applications

ACTION REQUIRED: Appoint members to the Station Advisory Committee.