

Addendum to the 2009 – 2014 Revitalization Implementation Plan

The Revitalization Implementation Plan was adopted at the November 10, 2009 meeting of the City Council, with a request that an addendum be prepared for the plan to highlight some additional information that Council members felt should be included. This information includes additional accomplishments during the previous implementation period, including:

- Police enforcement activities that lead to the arrest of numerous members of the Taliban gang in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, and
- The development of three programs designed to address the rising number of foreclosures in the redevelopment area. These programs included two programs funded with Below Market Rate (BMR) Housing Funds during the previous implementation period and a third program funded with BMR Funds in the new implementation period, but first considered by City Council in the previous period. The programs funded in the previous period are the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) and the Habitat for Humanity Neighborhood Revitalization Program (HNRP). The NSP provides \$2 million for a City-run acquisition, rehabilitation, and resale program to put vacant foreclosed properties back into homeownership through the City's BMR Program. The HNRP is a similar program operated by Habitat for Humanity, using a \$500,000 City contribution for the purchase of five homes that Habitat will rehabilitate and sell to very low-income households from the City's BMR wait list. The third program, funded in the current implementation period, uses BMR funding to assist homeowners to avoid foreclosure through negotiations with their current mortgage holder and a City purchase of equity in their homes to reduce the monthly housing expenses through a new, lower cost mortgage.

Council also wanted to emphasize the potential impacts on the redevelopment area of a potential future development project immediately outside the redevelopment area. The Menlo Gateway Project would include a major hotel property, health club, and office space. The project is currently under discussion, with entitlement negotiations expected to be complete in 2010. A development of this magnitude is expected to have significant beneficial impacts on the redevelopment area, including employment opportunities and the potential to bring enough new activity to the area to warrant development of much needed community services.

Finally, Council requested that requested projects provided by the Belle Haven Neighborhood Association be included in the Addendum. Their list of projects is provided on the following page. In addition to these suggestions, Council also wanted to include improvements to Flood Park and undergrounding utility lines in the Haven portion of the redevelopment area as potential future projects.

**The Belle Haven Neighborhood Association
Improvement Plan for the
Las Pulgas Community Project Area**

November 2009

1. **Beechwood School**
The City of Menlo Park sell to Beechwood the lot the school is presently occupying and simultaneously either sell or donate the adjacent vacant lot to the school.
2. **Belle Haven School**
The City of Menlo Park build and operate a public library in the open space on the north side of the Belle Haven School library.
3. **Chilco St./Tyco Corridor Improvement**
Have a single row trees (Italian Cypress) planted close together on both sides of the length of the Chilco Corridor, this would remove from view the railroad storage area and would provide a more scenic and quiet entrance to the community.
4. **Pierce Road Streetscape Improvement**
Relocate the street lighting on Pierce Rd., at present only two (2) street lights exist for the entire length of the east side of Pierce Rd. Install sidewalks and landscaping the entire length of Pierce Rd. Remove from view and/or relocate the garbage bins that are stored on Pierce Rd. Install a bike lane from the Ringwood Pedestrian Bridge to Willow Rd.
5. **Public Transportation**
The City request SamTrans to install bus shelters in Belle Haven with schedule information and lighting along the bus route where appropriate. Sam Trans has not provided one bus shelter or bench in the community. Continue to support the future development of the Dumbarton Rail Line and Transit Station.
6. **Willow Rd./101 pedestrian/bike Bridge**
The City of Menlo Park and/or Caltrans do a feasibility study for a pedestrian/bicycle bridge as a companion path along side the Willow Rd. at the 101 interchange starting in a vacant lot between Pierce (frontage) Rd. and Willow Rd., ending near Oil Changers or the Veterans Administration Center on Willow Rd.
7. **Belle Haven Pool**
Cover the pool in such a manner to make it available for year round use.
8. **Kelly Park / The Senior Center**
Continue with the plan to upgrade Kelly Park.
Provide a outside patio area with an awning with a view of Kelly Park located outside the glass doors of the Senior Center dining room
9. **Area Housing**
Rehabilitate, replace housing and acquire property on Pierce Rd., also acquire property from the various business owners on the eastern part of Hamilton Ave. using the basic model the City developed for Hamilton Park Housing.