



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 5-11-04

Approved

Date

Council District: 7 & 8
SNI Area: West Evergreen

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENT OF THE WEST EVERGREEN STRONG
NEIGHBORHOODS IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution to amend the West Evergreen Strong Neighborhoods Improvement Plan, which revises the Top Ten priorities list without any changes to the neighborhood budget.

BACKGROUND

On November 20, 2001, the City Council approved the West Evergreen Strong Neighborhoods Improvement Plan (“the Plan”). The Plan was the result of a comprehensive community planning process led by the Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and funded by the Redevelopment Agency. The West Evergreen Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC), a group of 23 neighborhood representatives, organized community input by recommending actions and projects to be included in the Plan.

The Plan calls for a large number of neighborhood improvement projects. In the Plan, projects that are of highest priority to the community are ranked on a “Top Ten list.” The City’s objective is to implement the projects on this list with City and Redevelopment Agency funding along with other leveraging resources.

The West Evergreen Plan was one of the first to be approved by City Council. For this reason, a number of projects have already been completed. A path was installed on Barberrry Lane east of King Road (Priority #5), the intersection of King Road and Barberrry Lane was improved (Priority #6), and traffic calming studies were completed (Priority #8). Two additional projects

are now established programs or protocols: increased dumpster days (Priority #4) and increased City-neighborhood communication (Priority #10).

In addition, because the Plan was one of the first to be approved, there were no established criteria for defining projects on the Top Ten list. Three projects on this list are actually stages of one single project: the acquisition of part of the Arcadia property (Priority #1), the construction of a community center on this land (Priority #2), and the construction of sports facilities on this land (Priority #3). Because this project was separated into three projects on the Top Ten list, fewer priority projects have been considered for implementation in West Evergreen than in other Strong Neighborhoods.

Because of the successes and challenges of its Plan, the West Evergreen NAC requested that the City permit them to revise the neighborhood's Top Ten list to allow for continued implementation of the Plan. The NAC followed guidelines established by the City and Redevelopment Agency's Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) Steering Committee for updating its top ten list. The SNI Steering Committee is comprised of City and Agency management staff responsible for providing overall guidance and direction for Strong Neighborhoods. With staff review and approval, the SNI Steering Committee recommended that the updated Top Ten list be submitted to Council for approval.

ANALYSIS

Staff has reviewed the West Evergreen NAC's proposed new Top Ten list (see attachment) and agrees that the requested changes fall within the SNI Steering Committee's revision guidelines and will help further implement the Plan. The proposed list replaces projects that have been completed with subsequent stages of these projects, other projects in the Plan, or new project opportunities. It also combines the top three priorities into one single project, the construction of a new community center with recreational facilities on the Arcadia property (the new Priority #1). These changes will facilitate continued implementation of the Plan without increasing the proposed neighborhood budget.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The West Evergreen NAC proposed changes to its neighborhood plan and conducted community outreach to validate its proposal. The NAC is comprised of 21 neighborhood representatives. Its co-chairs are leaders from the three neighborhood associations located in the area: West Evergreen, Meadowfair and LeyVa. The NAC has discussed revisions to its Top Ten list at NAC meetings, ultimately hosting a community-wide meeting in November 2003 to share its proposal and gather feedback. Throughout this process, community members have had the opportunity to share their suggestions and opinions by joining the NAC, attending NAC meetings, or attending the special community meeting.

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COORDINATION

This memo was coordinated with the Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department, the City Manager's Office, and the Redevelopment Agency.

COST IMPLICATIONS

No additional budget is requested.

BUDGET REFERENCE

The West Evergreen Strong Neighborhoods Initiative budget is found on page A-185 of the Redevelopment Agency's FY 2003-04 Adopted Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

CEQA

Resolution #71042, File No. PP01-04-080.

SARA L. HENSLEY
Director, Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services

Attachment