



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: TULLY-SENTER SNI
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
PLAN AMENDMENT

FROM: Planning Commission

DATE: August 18, 2008

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 7
SNI AREA: Tully-Senter

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission voted 7-0-0 to recommend that the City Council:

Consider the Environmental Impact Report in accordance with CEQA, and

- 1) Accept the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* as the renewed community vision for the future of the Tully-Senter SNI Planning Area; and
- 2) Encourage Tully-Senter area residents, property owners and community members to continue to dedicate their time, energy, and resources towards the *Plan* and this *Amendment* while continuing with their community-building activities.

OUTCOME

City Council acceptance of the *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* will demonstrate support to the Tully-Senter Strong Neighborhoods Initiative community that Council, City staff and Agency staff will continue to partner with the neighborhood to achieve its renewed goals and support the newly developed Top Ten action agenda.

BACKGROUND

At the August 6, 2008 Planning Commission, several members of the Tully-Senter community spoke in support of their renewed Top Ten list and asked for recommendation of the *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment*. Maria Neri, a tenant in the Santee neighborhood and a Tully-Senter Board Member, spoke of the need in the neighborhood for increased and enhanced Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services programming and other events for the youth and community as a whole (updated Action Item #4) and multi-lingual assistance with home businesses (updated Action Item #5). Rigoberto Garcia, a Tully-Senter Board Member and a representative of the Rocksprings Neighborhood Association, addressed updated Action Item #8 and the great need for English as a Second Language classes. Wayland Shih, a Tully-Senter Board Member and a resident of the Yerba Buena neighborhood, emphasized the need in the neighborhood for updated

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Action Items #1 and #7. Mr. Shih stated that there is a great need for dental services which could be provided through a new multi-service community facility (updated Action Item #1) and improved and enhanced safety lighting (updated Action Item #7) due to the fact that needles and condoms have been found at Fair Middle School. Commissioner Campos asked if the community had looked at Fair Middle School to be part of the proposed teen center/community facility. Mr. Shih stated that the community members wanted a community facility within the Santee neighborhood which would benefit the entire SNI area and be a more centralized facility. Max Uvales, a Tully-Senter Board Member and resident of the Santee area, addressed the need in the neighborhood for clean-ups such as dumpster days (updated Action Item #10) and increased code enforcement (updated Action Item #6). Phal Sek, a representative of the Cambodian community, spoke of the need for increased safety in school, parks and neighborhoods in the Tully-Senter community.

No one spoke in opposition to the proposed *Plan Amendment*.

The Planning Commission then closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jensen to recommend that Council accept the proposed *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment*. Commissioner Jensen acknowledged the Tully-Senter SNI community members for their hard work and energy in already completing the installation of a traffic signal, sidewalks, trees and a new sound wall as well as identifying a target date for the new park opening. Commissioner Jensen congratulated the community on the renewal of their Top Ten Action Items and their ability to bring a diverse community together. Commissioner Jensen stated that the new community facility will be a huge asset for the youth in the community and encouraged the community not to lose sight of their Original Top Ten list.

Commissioner Kalra said that there are about 24,000 people in this area and several dozen community members have taken a leadership role and have been willing to put in time and energy to make this City a better place. Commissioner Campos thanked community members and noted that he had worked previously with youth in the Tully-Senter community. He stated that the youth he worked with are probably part of the Neighborhood Action Coalition now. Commissioner Do stated that he was impressed by the work of the community members and their presentation tonight, and thanked the community members. Commissioner Zito thanked the community and stated that their requests and goals were very reasonable, practical, and realistic and acknowledged the diverse participation by the seven neighborhood associations and community.

The Commission voted 7-0-0 to recommend to the City Council to accept the *Plan Amendment*.

ANALYSIS

The proposed *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* is consistent with and a natural extension of the original Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan which was approved by City Council on June 4, 2002. The *Plan Amendment* allows the community to continue to implement the vision for the Tully-Senter SNI Planning Area. Further analysis is presented in the July 24, 2008 staff report.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

All subsequent, individual Strong Neighborhoods Initiative *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* action items will be brought to City Council for consideration before implementation.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criteria 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criteria 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

Although this item does not meet any of the above criteria, staff followed a similar approach to public outreach as in the 2002 *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan* process. In 2007 and 2008, staff conducted seven Tully-Senter Neighborhood Action Coalition meetings for the Renewing the Action Agenda process with extensive community outreach. Additionally, staff conducted 25 RAA meetings with six neighborhood associations to provide recommendations to the Tully-Senter NAC. All residents within the Tully-Senter SNI Planning Area were notified by mail about the Renewing the Action Agenda process and were invited to attend the meetings. In addition, staff sent out letters to residents on the mailing list, sent e-mails to neighborhood associations for distribution to their members, walked door-to-door with reminders, and made reminder phone calls to community members that regularly attend Tully-Senter NAC and community meetings. Staff has also been available to respond to questions from the public.

COORDINATION

The preparation of the *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment* was coordinated with the District 7 Council Office and various city departments, including the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement; Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services; Department of Transportation; Department of Public Works; Department of Housing; Santa Clara Valley Water District; and the San José Police Department.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

Not applicable.

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COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable at this time.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Not applicable.

CEQA

SNI Program EIR, Resolution No. 71045, was adopted by City Council on June 11, 2002. The proposed activity is within the scope of the SNI program EIR. The proposed action is for the City to acknowledge the community's vision for improvement within the identified SNI neighborhood area, as expressed in the *Tully-Senter Neighborhood Improvement Plan Amendment*, and more specifically in the "Top Ten" priority list. However, by acknowledging the community's vision and amended "Top Ten" list of improvements, the City is not taking an action that commits the City to the implementation of the community's identified improvements. When specific development projects are formally proposed as either public or private actions, they will be subject to environmental review to identify potential significant project-specific impacts.

Andrew Crabtree

JOSEPH HORWEDEL, SECRETARY
Planning Commission

For questions please contact Principal Planner, Andrew Crabtree at 535-7893.