



# City of Santa Clara

The Center of What's Possible

## EL CAMINO REAL SPECIFIC PLAN Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Scoping Meeting

### Meeting Summary

*Central Park Library, Redwood Room  
1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050  
May 23, 2018 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm*

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### Meeting Objectives

The purpose of the Scoping Meeting is to: 1) inform the public and interested agencies about the proposed project; and 2) solicit public comment on the scope of the environmental issues to be addressed in the Program EIR as well as the range of practicable alternatives to be evaluated.

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### Meeting Summary

The meeting began with a presentation giving a brief overview of the El Camino Real Specific Plan project and process followed by information on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process for Environmental Impact Reports (EIR). The presentation was followed by an open forum for comments on the environmental topics that should be addressed in the EIR and the alternatives that should be evaluated.

- Concerned about the loss of commercial space. Where will people do their daily shopping? What is the tax impact? Leakage?
- Loss of parking is a concern, especially for those sites that have no on-site parking.
- EIR for the Gateway project at Lawrence Expressway, there were no mitigation measures and council approved it.
- Lighting in general and lighting at crosswalks is a concern. Will there be a lighting plan?
- Homestead example of bike lanes.
- How do you define quality of line under CEQA?
- Different cities have different regulations for El Camino Real. How will this match up?

- Will you study the effect of busses stopping in the travel lane?
- This project will triple the number of residential units. More housing equals more population equals quality of life impacts.
- Increase in noise. Do you look at the different frequency of noise, especially low frequencies?
- Water: is there a drought analysis on water use increase, what happens to the treated fresh water?
- How does this project proposal tie into ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments) residential numbers that they want the City to provide?
- Is there enough electricity supply? Is SVP (Silicon Valley Power) planning for the needed energy supply for future growth?
- With 6,200 new units, how many new people?
- How many new vehicles will be anticipated?
- Native American Tribal consultation, will this project impact any of their resources?
- What about cultural sites, buildings, sites, archeology? The "Cactus" is historic.
- The City should buy the land from property owners in order to widen the sidewalk and install bike lanes.
- Keep small businesses they provide a service to residents. Will there be a policy to keep small businesses?
- Concerned about building height. May impact light and privacy when adjacent to single-family residences.
- Are there shade impacts to single-family residences?
- Include a shade and shadow study.
- Avoid a canyon effect.
- Good neighbor walls/fences, they should be built with new development. This should be a policy in the plan with guidance.
- Safety? crime is going up, package theft.
- Heights on the north side of the ECR corridor should be lowered to a maximum of three. Otherwise it will block the sun and satellite dishes.
- SB 50 – will this affect the Specific Plan?
- Will the EIR address the visual impact of lighting, architecture, landscaping design?
- The density of trees, shade trees, there should be no palm trees.
- Five of the businesses on ECR do not have sufficient on-site parking. There needs to be an interim parking policy that allows their street parking to stay.
- Rezoning will change the market value of property.
- Reducing the retail will equal a loss of jobs. How will this effect the whole City?
- This land use plan is a tremendous impact to the community.
- How does this land use plan compare to the existing?
- Leave ECR as it is. Concerned that the ethnic stores will disappear. Retail leakage.
- 2016 RFP (Request for Proposals) identified that the lots are shallow and adjacent to single-family detached. Reduce the impact by reducing building heights and density to medium density residential (8-16 du/ac) and 1 to 2 stories in building height.