



City of Los Altos

Community Center Master Plan

Advisory Committee Meeting #3

March 28, 2008





AGENDA

- ☐ Agenda Review / CPR
- ☐ Schedule Progress Review
- ☐ Community Needs Assessment Progress
 - Table of Contents Review
 - Assessment Completed to Date
 - Next Steps to Finalizing Report
- ☐ Feedback / Next Steps





AGENDA

Context

The Community Outreach process has been completed, and much information has been gathered regarding the service priorities of the community. ABA is assessing the service needs identified in this outreach process, and has developed service priorities and potential service concepts for the Community Center site.

Development of the Community Needs Assessment report is underway to record both the process and results of this first phase in the development of the Community Center Master Plan.



AGENDA

Purpose

- Review of Master Plan Progress to Date
- Discuss Outline of Community Needs Assessment
- Review Community Outreach Insights
- Review Insights from Research and Gathered Data
- Review Identified Community Service Priorities



AGENDA

Intended Results

- Shared Understanding of Insights from Community Needs Assessment Information Gathered to Date
- Approval of Community Needs Assessment Content
- Response and Comment on Identified Service Priorities and Service Concepts

CITY OF LOS ALTOS - COMMUNITY CENTER MASTER PLAN PROPOSED PROCESS DIAGRAM

3/20/2008

COLOR LEGEND

Public Meetings

Project Meetings

Consultant Team Scope

Process & Participants

Process Development

Jan-Feb 2008

Community Needs Assessment/ Plan of Service

Feb-July 2008

Facility Program

July - Sept 2008

Facility Scenarios

Sept - Dec 2008

Master Plan

Dec 2008 - April 2009

Approval Process

- City Council
- Regulatory Agencies

Master Plan Advisory Committee

- Vision / Design Subcommittee
- Community Outreach Subcommittee
- Finance Subcommittee

Core Team

- Advisory Committee Representatives
- City Staff
- City Consultants

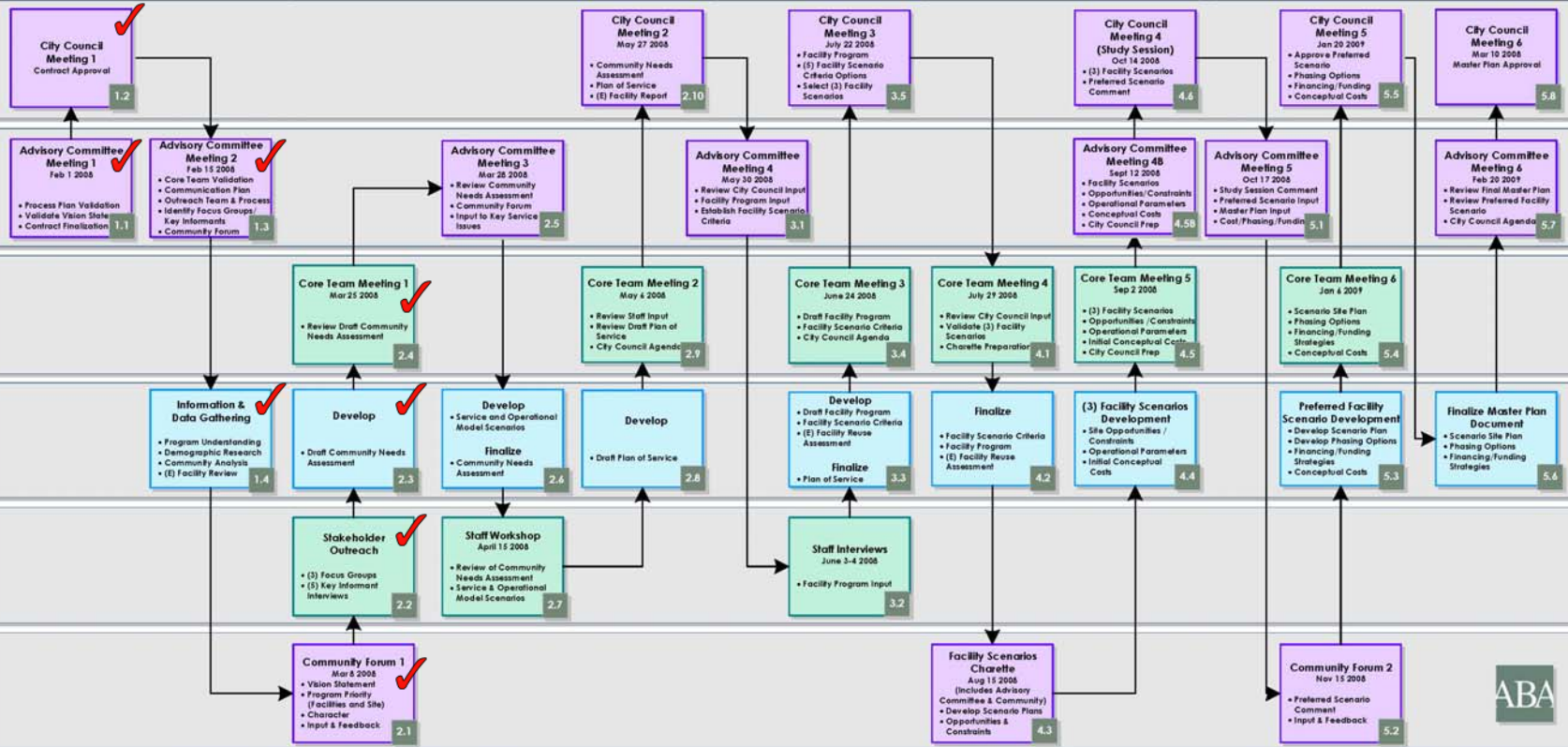
Consultant Team

- Anderson Bull, Architects
- Structural / MEP
- Civil / Landscape / Traffic
- Cost

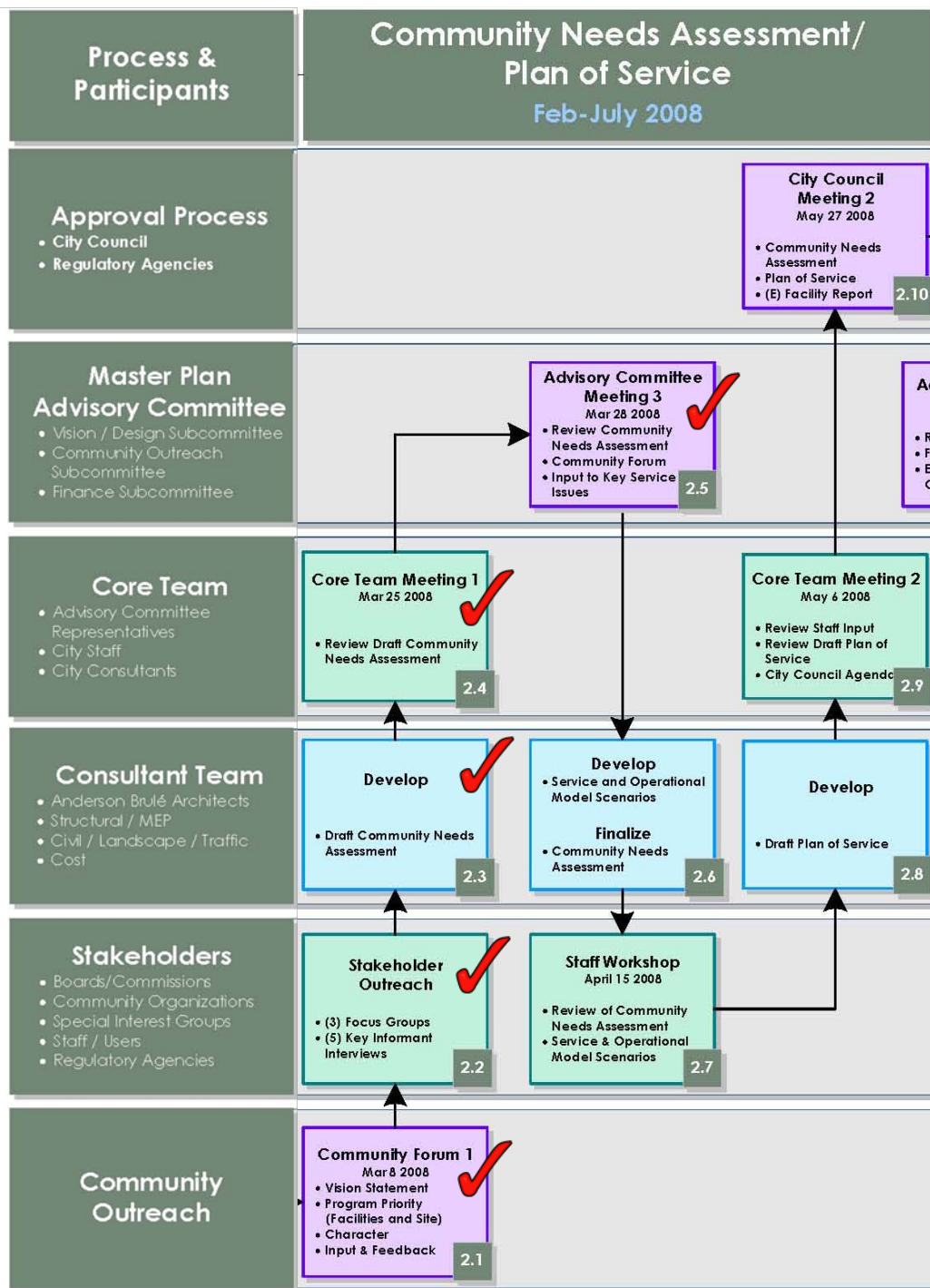
Stakeholders

- Boards/Commissions
- Community Organizations
- Special Interest Groups
- Staff / Users
- Regulatory Agencies

Community Outreach



SERVICE + ENVIRONMENT = EXPERIENCE

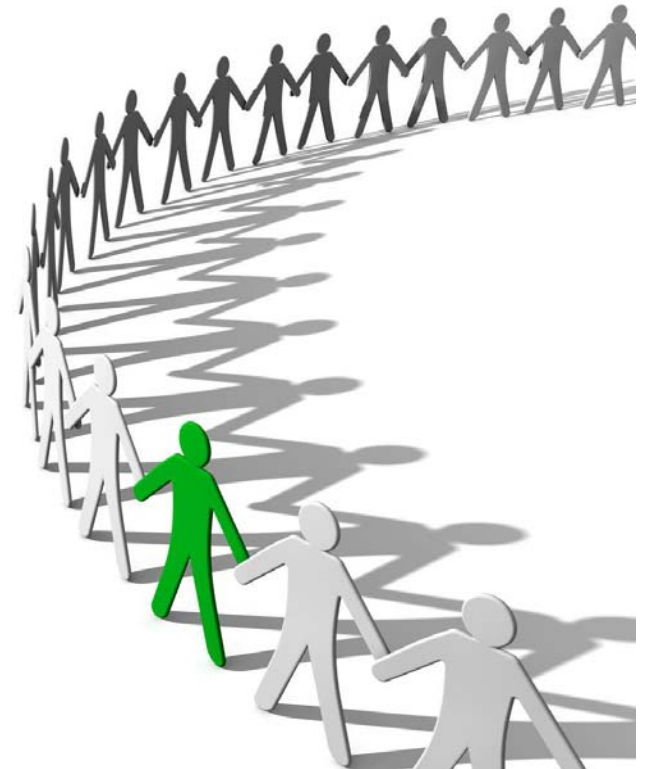


Community Needs Assessment



Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

- ☐ Table of Contents Review
- ☐ Needs Assessment Developed to Date
 - Community Outreach Events
 - Overview of Research and Data Gathering
 - Community Characteristics Profile
 - Los Altos Service Assessment
 - Los Altos Community Services Priorities
 - Community Center Service Priorities and Concepts
- ☐ Next Steps in Finalization of CNA





CNA: Table of Contents Review (1)

- ☐ Executive Summary
- ☐ Introduction
 - Task Force, Existing Facilities Review, Benchmarking, Findings
- ☐ Community Input and Methodology
 - Advisory Committee Process
 - Community Outreach Process
 - Partnering Organization Information
- ☐ Research and Data Gathering
 - Reports
 - Current Services Assessment



CNA: Table of Contents Review (2)

- ❑ Los Altos Community Characteristics
 - History and Culture of the City
 - Community Profile
 - Demographics and Projections Analysis
- ❑ Los Altos Community Service Needs Assessment
 - Service Population Projections
 - Current Service Needs Limitations
 - Future Service Needs and Trends
- ❑ Los Altos Community Service Priorities
- ❑ Community Center Priorities
 - Service Priorities
 - Service Concepts

Community Needs Assessment Information Developed to Date



Community Outreach: Community Forum

- ❑ ~90 Attendees Signed In
- ❑ Participants Noticed From:
 - Town Crier ~25 people
 - Email Campaign 50%
 - Postcards ~10 people
 - Phone Calls 75%
 - Community Groups 8 people





Community Forum: Service Exercise

☐ Interview Your Neighbor – *10 minutes*

- Overview of Program Elements
- What do you appreciate about the services you receive? What works well?
- What would you like to be able to do or have access to at the Community Center, but currently cannot?
- Do you have any concerns associated with the planning of the Community Center? Do you feel other community needs are not being met?
- Describe your ideal visit to the Los Altos Community Center in 10 years. What is the experience? What are you doing?
- From the City's perspective, what do you see as the top priorities for the services for the Community in the future?

☐ Large Group Discussion – *40 minutes*



Community Forum: Service Exercise *Insights*

❑ Library

- View to the Orchard is Appreciated
- More Adult Programs were Requested
- Connectivity of the Library to Other Community Services is Desired

❑ Youth Services

- Multi-Purpose Space for Meeting and Sports, Unstructured Activities
- Work Opportunities to Enhance Civic Engagement

❑ Senior Services

- Need Better Facilities and Better Services in General
- Senior Housing Proximity to Site and Downtown Is Desired

❑ Recreational Facilities

- Support Multiple Sports (Baseball, Soccer, Tennis, etc.)
- Community Pool – Strong Support from this Group





Community Forum: Service Exercise *Insights*

- ☐ Community Assembly Spaces (Indoor & Outdoor)
 - Flexible and Varied Sizes with More Spaces than Currently Available
 - Affordable Rental for Community Groups
(Request to add 'Economic' to Vision Statement)
- ☐ Theater / Bus Barn
 - Potentially Downtown Location
 - Theater Leadership Concerned with Moving Off-Site
 - Multi-Purpose Facility / Rehearsal Hall Need to be Adjacent
- ☐ Children's Programs
 - Current Programs are Good and Children's Corner is Appreciated
 - Increase in Young Families in the Community – Needs to Support Growth
- ☐ City Offices
 - Enjoy the Small-Town Feeling / Village
 - Like Accessibility to Staff
 - Better Facilities for City Staff and Employees



Community Forum: Service Exercise *Insights*

☐ Exterior

- Emphasis on Natural Beauty
- Indoor/Outdoor Connection
- Civic Engagement is Important
- Flexible Community Gathering Spaces
- Visibility of Community Center from San Antonio – Face to the Community
- Connection to Downtown – Physical, Visual and Services
- Orchard - Los Altos Historic Asset

☐ Access and Parking

- Strong Preference for Underground Parking
- More Accessible Traffic Flow and Parking Facilities
- Less Visual Emphasis on Car Traffic on Site
- Use of Public Transit and Possible City Shuttles





Community Forum: Character Definition Exercise

- ❑ Image Dot Exercise – *10 minutes*
 - Forms
 - Materials
 - Interior Spaces
 - Landscape Elements
 - Architectural Style
- ❑ Key Word Definition and Image Discussion – *30 minutes*
 - Why does this image represent the Los Altos Community Center?
- ❑ Large Group Discussion – *30 minutes*



Community Forum: Character Definition Discussion *Insights*

☐ Consistent Preferences

- Open, Light-Filled Spaces
- Natural Materials (Wood & Stone as an Accent), Familiar and Casual yet Traditional
- Human-scaled Buildings and Detailing
- Consistent Palette, but Buildings Specific to Use

☐ Site Aesthetic

- Desire for Park-like, Open Space
- Views of Orchard, ability to use the space
- Outdoor Community Gathering Areas & Indoor/Outdoor Connection

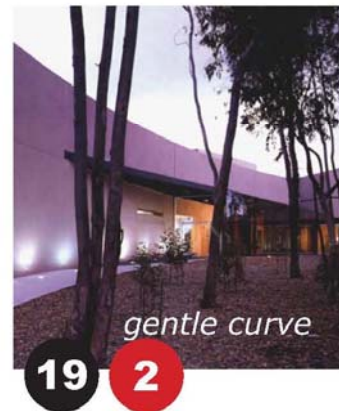
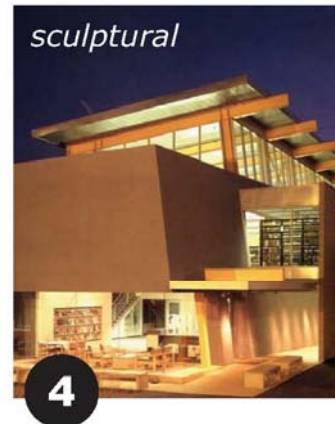
☐ Architectural Style

- Early Californian, Craftsman and Ranch Style References
- Use of Porticoes and Shading Devices
- Not Modern, Urban or Institutional
- Contextual with Los Altos





Community Forum: Character Definition Results - FORM





Community Forum: Character Definition Results - MATERIALS



metal



concrete block



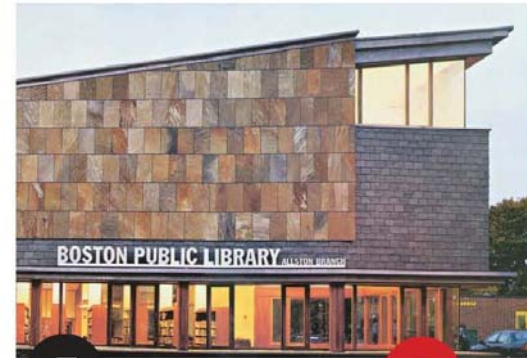
cement plaster



56

wood & stone

4



5

slate & glass

1



Community Forum: Character Definition Results - INTERIORS



5

intimate



12



17

8

light-filled



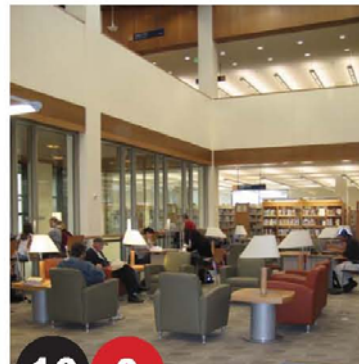
16

6



5

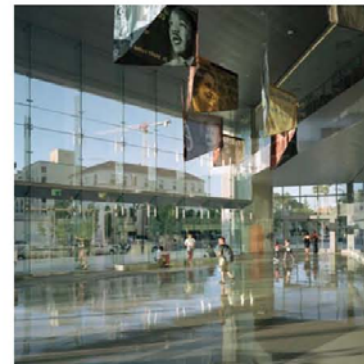
orderly



16

3

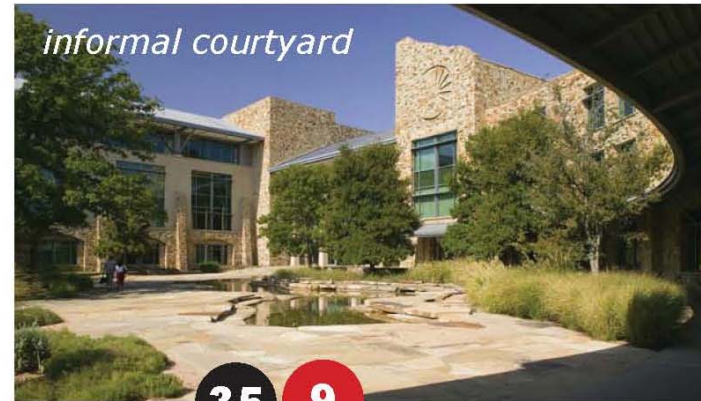
open



dramatic



Community Forum: Character Definition Results - INTERIORS





Community Forum: Character Definition Results - STYLE



SERVICE + ENVIRONMENT = EXPERIENCE





Community Outreach: Focus Groups

- ❑ 3 Focus Groups held on 3/13/08
 - 14, 9 and 10 Attendees
 - Broad Range of Demographic Representation
 - Strong Service Group Representation
- ❑ User Group Focus
 - Programs for Youth – Structured and Non-Structured
 - Programs for Seniors to Engage in a Wide Range of Activities
 - Health and Wellness
 - Leisure, Learning and Social Interaction
 - Multi-Generational Facilities – Not Isolating the Senior Population
 - Lifelong Learning Center – Beyond the Library
 - Government Center- Easy Access to City Business Needs
 - Community Volunteerism/Partner Service Delivery





Community Outreach: Focus Groups

☐ Service Priorities Insights

- City Services and Police
 - As a Given on the Site - 2 Focus Groups
 - Could Be Moved Off-site if Space Available – 1 Focus Group
- Community Meeting Spaces
 - Essential to Community Volunteerism
 - Delivery of Partner Services through This Space
- Library – Key to Lifelong Learning But Goes Beyond Library
- Senior Center – Social Gathering and Well-Being
- Youth Programs – Civic Engagement, Safe Social Setting
- Recreational Pool and Fields – Exercise & Leisure, Alternative /Supplemental to School Programs
- Theater – Cultural/Arts Opportunities



Community Outreach: Key Informants

❑ 6 Interviews (Held from 3/12 through 3/20)

- Alex Myers
- Bob Grimm
- Brad Lyman
- Charlene Geers
- Kathy Lera
- Katie Matice





Community Outreach: Key Informants

❑ Service Insights

- Library as a Key Component for the Community
- Senior Center and Senior Services as Key Service
- Youth Programs Require More Support and Better Facilities
- Recreational Fields Need Improvement and Need More
- Include Orchard as Reference to Los Altos History
- Support for Young Families / Children's Activity on Site
- Performing Arts Facilities for the Community

❑ Community Center Site Priorities

- Cross-Pollination of Services on Site
- Space for Multi-Functional Community Gathering and Activity
- Park-Like Atmosphere / Open Space / Underground Parking
- Clear Community Value for Investment to Benefits



Community Outreach: Community Survey

- ❑ 630 Responses (558 online, 72 paper)
 - General Satisfaction with Services; Dissatisfied with Poor Facilities Condition
 - 70% either Would or May Support a Bond Measure
 - Reached Teen Demographic, Further Outreach Still Recommended
 - Reached Non-Resident Users (Mountain View, Palo Alto, & Sunnyvale)
- ❑ Usage
 - Primarily Weekday, Morning and Afternoon
 - Weekly – Hillview / Senior Center
 - Weekly/Monthly – Library, Park & Recreation
 - Biannually/Annually – History House, City Services





Community Outreach: Community Survey

☐ Service Priorities

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| ▪ Library | 58.6% |
| ▪ City Services | 53.2% |
| ▪ Parks and Recreation | 47.2% |
| ▪ Senior Center & Senior Services | 40.6% |
| ▪ History Museum | 40.0% |
| ▪ Theater (Bus Barn) | 36.5% |
| ▪ Youth Services | 34.6% |
| ▪ Community Pool | 30.7% |

☐ Community Center Priorities

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| ▪ Safe Buildings and Infrastructure | 64.0% |
| ▪ Support Youth and Development | 62.6% |
| ▪ Parks and Open Space and Recreation Opportunities | 62.0% and 59.3% |
| ▪ Promotes a Sense of Community | 55.0% |



Community Center Impressions: Survey

☐ Positive

- Community Spirit and Involvement
- Small Town Atmosphere
- Historical Tradition
- Education Opportunities

☐ Negative

- Old Buildings
- Little Civic Presence
- Community Programs Cater to Non-Working Adults
- Condition of Orchard



Community Survey *Insights* (1)

- ☐ Highest Priority for Facility Improvement
 - Hillview Community Center (29.5%)
 - Parks and Recreation (15.5%)
 - Library (15%)
 - Senior Center (14.5%)
- ☐ Library
 - Very Satisfied
 - Little Improvement Needed
- ☐ City Services
 - Essential
 - High Service Satisfaction
 - Dissatisfied with Facilities Condition and Function
- ☐ Park and Recreation
 - Satisfied with Quality
 - Strong Demand for More Programs and More Fields
 - More Classes and Indoor Exercise



Community Survey *Insights* (2)

- ❑ Hillview Community Center
 - Majority of Comments were Regarding:
 - Senior Center
 - Children's Corner Program
 - High Priority Service
 - Least Satisfaction
- ❑ History House
 - Very Satisfied
 - Little Improvement Needed
- ❑ Bus Barn
 - Not Marketed Well
 - Inadequate Facilities
 - Some Dissatisfaction with Breadth of Programming
 - Movies
 - Adult Lecture

Research and Data Gathering



Overview of Research and Data Gathering

☐ Reports Reviewed

- Space Allocation Study
- Task Force Benchmarking
- Orchard Report

☐ Reports Underway

- Library Needs Assessment (*Will Be Delivered by 3/31/08*)
- Los Altos/Mountain View High School District Study (*City to Deliver*)
- City Facilities Outside of the Community Center (*City to Deliver*)

☐ Unavailable Reports

- Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment (*Planned for 2009*)
 - Discussion that Phase II for the City will be to Review Other City Assets



Community Characteristics

- ❑ Strong Ties to Los Altos History and Culture
 - History of the Community's Agricultural Past
 - Village Atmosphere of the Community
- ❑ Highly Educated Population
 - Place High Priority on Education and Continuing Education (Life-long Learning)
 - Support of and Participation in Arts and Culture is Widespread
 - High Civic Engagement & Volunteerism
- ❑ Population is Anticipated to Remain Stable
 - Median Age to Increase from 44.6 to 47.8
 - Property Turnover is Slightly Higher than for Santa Clara County
 - Ethnic Diversity Will Increase
 - No Large Increase in Young Student Population (Has Already Occurred)



Los Altos Service Assessment

☐ Service Population Projections

- Anticipate Small, Stable Population Growth, but No Major Shifts
- Age Distribution Across Demographic to Remain Stable

☐ Service Limitations

- Geographic Limitations of Community (Northern and Southern Areas)
- Facility Limitations (Facility Condition and Reuse Assessment to Follow)





Los Altos Service Assessment

☐ Future Needs

- Community Places
- Downtown Housing
- In Home Services
- Community Work Programs for Youth
- Privatization of Cultural/Arts
 - Supplement to School Programs for Youth
 - Increase Public Art and Public Art Programs for Adults
- Privatization of Recreation and Sports Away from Schools
- Partnering with Other Organizations



Demographics-Population Projections

Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, CA

Social/ Generational Breakdown by Age Group

| Description | Age | 2000 | 2007 | 2012 |
|---|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| School Age Children | 0-19 | 25% | 26.90% | 25% |
| Gen Y- recent graduates/early working careers; many are single with no children | 20-34 | 9.20% | 8.40% | 9.80% |
| Working Families majority of the group is in their peak earning years between 45 and 54 | 35-64 | 47.10% | 45% | 44% |
| Seniors-recently retirees, still active in the community | 65-74 | 7.40% | 7.80% | 6.40% |
| Aging Seniors | 75+ | 9.70% | 11.20% | 10.70% |



Demographics-Race/Ethnicity Projections

Median Age and Household Income Projections

| Demographic Profiles | 2000 | 2007 | 2012 | % Change |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Household Income | 136,298 | 179,884 | 217,411 | +59.5% |
| Median Age | 44.6 | 46.2 | 47.8 | +7.2% |

Population by Race/Ethnicity

| Description | 2000 | 2007 | 2012 | % Change |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| White Alone | 79.1% | 74% | 69.8% | -9.3% |
| Black Alone | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0 |
| American Indian Alone | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0 |
| Asian or Pacific Islander Alone | 16.8% | 20.7% | 24% | +7.2% |
| Some Other Race Alone | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.9% | +0.3% |
| Two or More Races | 2.8% | 3.8% | 4.6% | +1.8% |
| Hispanic Origin | 2.8% | 3.9% | 4.7% | 1.9% |
| Diversity Index | 38.1 | 45.4 | 50.5 | +12.4 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing. ESRI forecasts for 2007 and 2012.





Los Altos Community Priorities

1. City Services
(Police & Government Services)
2. Library Services
3. Senior Services
4. Youth Services
5. Recreational Services
6. Large Public Gathering Place
7. Service Organization Support
Services
8. Theater
9. History Museum
10. Community Gardens
11. Community Housing for Seniors





Community Center Service Priorities

☐ Services to Remain

- History House
- History Museum
- Orchard (On-site, Location TBD)





Community Center Service Priorities

☐ Priority List to Include On-Site

- City Services (Including Police and Government)
- Library
- Senior Programs
- Youth Programs
- Community Gathering Spaces – Informal Small and Large Group Spaces
- Recreational Facilities (Including Fields and Others)
 - Indoor Exercise
 - Fields (At Current Level v.s. Expanded Field Use)
- Community Outdoor Space / Open Spaces
- Theater (On-site v.s. Downtown)
- Pool (Swim Center v.s. Recreation Warm Water Pool)



Community Center Service Concepts

- ☐ Government Center
- ☐ Lifelong Learning Center – Beyond the Library
- ☐ Multi-Generational Facilities
- ☐ Environment for Youth/Teens to Work, Belong & Participate
- ☐ Community Gathering – Indoor
 - Community Living Rooms
 - Large Social Events
 - Large Multi-Use Presentation Space
- ☐ Community Volunteerism/Partner Service Delivery
- ☐ Recreation and Leisure Programs
- ☐ Community Gathering – Outdoor
 - Community Garden
 - Small Informal Spaces
 - Large Event Space



Next Steps

- ❑ ABA to Finalize Community Needs Assessment
- ❑ ABA to Begin Development of Plan of Service
- ❑ ABA and Consultants to Assess Existing Facilities
- ❑ Next Meetings
 - Friday, April 18th & May 9th: Advisory Committee Meetings (7:30 am, Council Chambers)
 - Swim Center and Little League Representatives Presentations
 - Tuesday, April 15th: Staff Workshop (Time and Location TBD)
 - Service Needs Discussion and Development of Plan of Service Concepts
 - Tuesday, May 27th: City Council Meeting (7:00 pm, Council Chambers)
 - Direction for **Community Needs Assessment** and **Plan of Service**

Thank you!

