

APPENDIX D

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Public Workshop #1

The first citywide workshop session was held on August 29, 2005. The workshop was widely advertised and was open to all interested people. All comments were recorded and transcribed. Twenty community members participated, and several City staff members were present. Both adults and teens were present.

An initial presentation was made by the consultant team. Then public input was facilitated and recorded on a large wall chart. Participants were afforded the opportunity to express those comments that were of high priority individually, by placing dot stickers next to those points which they felt were the most important. The following is a summary of the public comments.

Existing Parks

Brunavista Park

- Use space for a dog park
- Graves may not exist
- It may be possible to move the graves, although this would be a difficult regulatory process
- Site is not accessible to disabled
- Possible sale of site to Catholic Church
- City does not benefit much from this park
- Maintenance costs are high for taking care of turf

Egbert Field

- See if can add more fields to this location
- The fields receive too much wear and tear

New Parks and Recreation Facilities

- Need a dog park
- Need more basketball courts
- Need more tennis courts
- Need a good skatepark – like at Concord, Dixon, Fairfield
- Need places for teen to go
- Need more baseball fields
- Need 12 more soccer fields
- Consider using artificial turf for sports fields
- Need an all weather track – joint use with School District
- Need a new competitive pool and a recreational pool
- Existing pool is too crowded
- Swimming in the river is too dangerous, need a better pool
- Would like to have a water park

- Sports fields should be clustered together
- A bowling alley would be good for everyone

Passive Recreation

- Need pathways and bikeways
- Bidwell Park in Chico is a good example
- Need places for mountain bike riding

The Waterfront

- Need facilities for fishing, boating, windsurfing
- Need better access to the water
- New docks
- Transient marina
- Restaurants and shops
- Develop the Sandy Beach Trail along the water

Special Facilities

- Need a community center
- Use the D.H. White multi-purpose room for the youth center activities
- Need a senior citizen's center
- The youth center is underutilized. The activities are for children, not teens.
- Need a teen center
- Need a larger boat launching ramp

Joint Use

- A win-win for City and School District
- Avoid duplication of facilities
- Replace the tennis courts at the High School with more ball fields

General Issues

- Rio Vista's open space/semi rural character is valued
- Park design needs to consider the effects of the wind – this is a windy environment
- Consider cost of maintenance when developing new facilities
- Look at ways to generate revenue to help defray the cost of maintenance
- Although Rio Vista may only grow to 25,000 population, it is isolated. Therefore a wide variety of facilities are needed because they are not available nearby.
- In designing parks, keep open areas open without too many trees.
- Establish a teen commission to incorporate teens' viewpoints
- Move forward with high priority items soon – before today's children are too old to enjoy them
- Need qualified instructors and staff to work with youth
- New development will have landscape and lighting assessment districts to pay for maintenance
- General Plan intent is that parks are within walking distance of all residents

Public Workshop #2

The second public workshop was held on March 7, 2006. The workshop was widely advertised and was open to all interested people. The Draft Master Plan Diagram was presented by the consultant team. Then public input was facilitated and recorded. The following is a summary of the public comments.

- Joint use of school grounds makes sense. Do not provide redundant resources.
- Question: will the landfill site be recommended as a community park site?
- The landfill site has good road access.
- The Army Base site has poor road access.
- Question: will the athletic fields be concentrated or dispersed among several park sites?
- Rio Vista needs more than one pool, because swimming is a very popular activity, it is hot here, and the existing pool is overused in part due to demand from nearby non-Rio Vista residents.
- The wetlands area is privately owned.
- The senior center should be located in the downtown area.
- Elk Grove has a new community center which is a good model.
- A combined community center and pool complex would be an efficient use of resources.
- The community center should be in a highly visible location central to all residents.
- A waterfront park should be shown on the plan. Waterfront access is very important.
- The well sites should be used as community gardens.
- A roadside rest stop in Highway 12 would be a nice amenity for travelers passing through town.