

## APPENDIX E

# SUMMARY OF CITY STAFF INTERVIEWS

### Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: City Staff Interviews  
Participants: Brad Baxter, City Manager  
Tom Bland, Community Development Director  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. The proposal by Trilogy to dedicate a 7-acre park site was discussed. The schematic plan prepared by the developer was reviewed. It was decided that the location of this parcel may make it suitable as a neighborhood park for Trilogy. It would not be suitable as a park serving the community at large, due to its remote location and difficulty of pedestrian and bicycle access to this site. Should the City accept the park site, it would make sense to require specific recreational facilities that would serve the senior population of Trilogy. Therefore, such facilities as skate parks and tot lots would be inappropriate. Such facilities as passive open space, picnic areas, tennis courts, bocce courts, and space for informal active games would be more appropriate for this park.
2. The Trilogy community center provides a gymnasium, pool, bocce courts, and a community center restricted to Trilogy residents.
3. Crescent Park is in a dilapidated state. The City has received a Roberti-Zberg-Harris grant to completely rehabilitate the park.
4. The mini-park concept was discussed. Many of the park sites proposed by the developers are quite small in size, and would therefore fall under the category of Neighborhood Greens. A concern was expressed regarding the high maintenance costs for Neighborhood Greens. The City of Tracy was cited as an example of a nearby community that has developed numerous Neighborhood Greens as part of their overall system. Bill Harris will contact the Park Director to gather information on maintenance costs and other issues associated with this park type.
5. Egbert Park was discussed. The land across the street was identified for further analysis and study as possible park land. The City corporation yard will be relocated elsewhere in the City. The County may elect to move to this location as well. Using this land for active sports field would most likely be acceptable because it is removed from residential neighborhoods and would not create the typical impacts of noise, light, and traffic.
6. The closed City landfill was discussed as a possible park site. A golf driving range was one idea that would generate revenue to be used potentially for park maintenance and operations.
7. The Caltrans and PGE corporation yards located on Highway 12 were discussed as possible park sites. These agencies are reportedly interested in selling their land at these locations.
8. The City Manager wondered why the City lacks boating and water-oriented recreation facilities. Such items as windsurf launch areas, boat launch, marinas, sailboat and kayak rentals, etc. would seem logical given the proximity to the river.
9. A grant application was applied for and withdrawn, to rehabilitate the boat ramp and develop dry stack boat storage.

10. The City's waterfront has tremendous potential for development of public access and amenities. The City Manager cited Long Beach as an example of such public and private development.
11. The City currently has no public tennis courts.

## Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: City Staff Interviews  
Participants: Jennifer Symons, Recreation and Community Services Manager  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. Rio Vista lacked City-provided recreation services (other than the after school program) until late 2004 when the position of Recreation and Community Services Manager was created. The pool was operated by the Oakley YMCA at that time. The City has put many programs and activities have been in place in the past nine months.
2. The community pool is located in City Park. The pool has five lanes with a capacity of 125 people. The pool is in poor condition and in need of complete rehabilitation. The Rio Vista Foundation has raised approximately \$1 million to improve the pool or build a new one. Access by the general public is limited by the Sharks practices and meets, as they have exclusive use of the pool 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday. A proposal to construct a new pool at the High School was explored, but appears to be dead for now due to various concerns.
3. Parking at City Park is a concern. No off-street parking is provided. The pool attracts large numbers of users. National Night Out is held here, which creates parking and traffic impacts on the neighborhood.
4. The Youth Center on Sacramento Street is in poor condition. It is underutilized partly due to its condition, and partly due to its location. The after school program targets children from D.H. White Elementary School, who must cross Highway 12 to reach it. In addition, the youth center is rented out for non-youth events. At such times, the youth do not have access to their center. The multi-purpose building at D.H. White is a very nice facility that would be a good venue for the after school programs. This location would have greater use and generate more revenue than the current site. However, the fees for use of the building are fairly high. (Consultant idea: A cost-benefit study might provide insight into the feasibility of relocating the program.)
5. No teen center exists. The current youth center may be better utilized as a teen center due to its location. Teens currently tend to hang out at the library or on the streets. Teen use of alcohol in Rio Vista is significantly higher than in other Solano County communities. The feeling is that this pattern will change as the population grows and as additional recreation opportunities are made available.
6. No neither public nor private indoor health/gym/pool facility exists. No community center exists.
7. The senior center located on Main Street is underutilized. It is run by a seniors group who pay for the utilities. The center offers few programs or classes. Meals on wheels is the only program offered. The center is rented out to other groups such as AA. This limits its availability to seniors. The condition of the building is mediocre. Seniors would prefer that their facility have a different name than "senior center".
8. Adult classes are held at the Firehouse.
9. As new residents arrive, they will expect more and better facilities than currently exist.
10. The skate park in Homecoming is of marginal value and could be better designed and made more attractive.
11. The new adult softball league is extremely popular. People generally want additional new sports leagues, the demand is very high. Egbert Field has night lighting and is used by the High School baseball team. This forces the City league and pick-up games to use the fields at Riverview School, which are not as well maintained as Egbert Field. Egbert is also used by the community for soccer. The soccer leagues are organized by the participants, and are not run by the City. The softball league is the only City-run league in Rio Vista.

12. Val de Flores Park has space for two soccer fields.
13. Wind is strong in Rio Vista and has an affect on field sports as well as passive recreational activities.
14. Delta Loop and Isleton residents use Rio Vista facilities and programs. This puts additional pressure on the City facilities.
15. A survey of Trilogy residents indicated that a dog park is highly desired.
16. It is important to ensure that new parks are built in a timely manner, so that new residents do not have to wait to use parks in the new subdivision.
17. The Boys and Girls Club is considering establishing an operation in Rio Vista.
18. "Market on Main" is a new program established by the City that is very successful.
19. Crescent Park presents liability to the City due to its condition and unsafe play apparatus. Unless the City receives a grant to rehabilitate the park, it may have to be closed. (Consultant recommendation: All existing play equipment should be removed as soon as possible to minimize the City's liability.)
20. Space is needed for large events, such as concerts or movies in the park. Currently, City Park hosts these events but is not large enough. Parking is also an issue at City Park.



## Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: City Staff Interviews  
Participants: Dan Boone, Interim Police Chief  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. Main concern is visitor safety. Parks are meant to be safe environments for families and children.
2. Two main issues are of concern to the policed: (1) Safety in public restrooms, concern regarding child molestation and adult sexual activities; and (2) Park visibility from police patrol cars. Park design should address these issues.
3. Rio Vista does not have a consumption ordinance, therefore it is legal to consume alcohol anywhere in town, including in parks.
4. Public trails can present policing issues. It is best when all portions of the trail can be viewed from an adjacent street. When portions of the trails are not visible, police must patrol from a motorcycle. Rio Vista Police plans to institute a motorcycle officer in the near future. Emergency call boxes may be a good idea.
5. The consultant pointed out that many of these concerns are addressed by the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design ("CPTED") principles used by many police forces.

## Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: School District Staff Interviews  
Participants: Sam Garamendi, Superintendent, River Delta Unified School District  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. Mr. Garamendi is supportive of joint use of school facilities. He thinks it is an economically sound and beneficial concept – a “win-win” that promotes community development and shares resources.
2. The “Beacon” concept incorporates school, health, social services, and library in one hub location. Mr. Garamendi and the Solano County Health Director are supportive of this concept.
3. The Boys and Girls Club could use a school site.
4. The District will be building many new schools to accommodate the projected 20,000 new residents. The District is currently studying various configurations (K-6, K-8, etc.). Mr. Garamendi likes the K-8 configuration because the school would include a multi-purpose room/gymnasium, which could also be used by the community. He thinks the D.H. White School needs a gym.
5. Riverview is currently a 5-8 configuration and is space-constrained.
6. The high school occupies 22 acres and is space-constrained. State standard for a high school is 40 acres. The school currently has an enrollment of 400. The District is planning for the anticipated increased enrollment. The District is considering acquiring approximately 10 acres across the draw to the south.
7. Mr. Garamendi strongly supports re-visiting the idea of building the new pool at the high school, to be a joint use facility. He thinks the issues brought out previously can be resolved if the District, City and Foundation work together. The new pool should be located adjacent to the existing gymnasium.
8. A pedestrian Overcrossing of Highway 12 is needed for safety.
9. New school buildings must be located 1500 feet from any gas pipelines.

## Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: City Staff Interviews  
Participants: Chief Mark Nelson, Rio Vista Fire Department  
Captain Bob Bartley, Rio Vista Fire Department  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. Good access to all areas within parks is needed. The Department responds to emergencies with a fire engine (not a paramedic van). These engines can become mired in wet turf.
2. Access into the park and related facilities is important. Bollards are not desirable due to their weight and time required to move them out of the way. Gates with a "click to enter" system are preferable. An example of the click to enter system can be found at Rancho Solano. A "nox box" with fire department-only access would be good at gates, restrooms, community centers, etc. This would provide a dependable method of entry that could not be fouled up by other parties.
3. A 30-foot tilled firebreak should be provided around parks.
4. Rubber playground safety surfacing is preferable to wood fiber due to the danger of ignition.
5. A pay phone should be provided in each park, hard-wired, for 911 calls.
6. All structures must have fire extinguishers on site.
7. Fire hydrants provided at 300-foot spacing.
8. Pathways should be designed to accommodate the 8-foot wide fire engines.
9. Parking lots should have adequate turnaround radius.
10. An automated external defibrillator (AED) should be provided at each park, next to the phone. An alarm would be connected to the F.D. These devices only cost \$1,000 and can save lives.
11. The Coast Guard provides response to on-water emergencies. RVFD provides secondary response on land. The department is considering obtaining a jet ski or boat to assist in on-water operations.

## Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: July 12, 2005  
Meeting Purpose: City Staff Interviews  
Participants: Brent Salmi, Public Works Director  
David Evans, SFE Design, Inc.  
Bill Harris, Harris Design

1. Public Works Department concerns include standardization of equipment and parts to reduce maintenance costs.
2. Drainage facilities must be placed carefully to reduce chance of injury.
3. Recycled water for irrigation will become available in the future.
4. Parks may include detention basins.
5. Open space areas should be identified in the master plan.
6. An issue that has come up recently is some Trilogy residents' desire to drive golf carts on bicycle paths. (Consultant feels that golf carts are motorized vehicles and pose safety risks to pedestrians and bicycles, therefore they should be prohibited from bicycle paths.)