

# GPAC Meeting #2

## Summary Notes

Meeting Date: June 1, 2023, 6 pm - 8 pm

### *Attendees:*

- City Staff/Consultants: Guido Persicone, Alyson Hunter, Matt Raimi
- GPAC Members Present: Wesley Haye, Catina Smith, Cindy Burnham, Grace Silva-Santella, Gilia Baron, Richard Zhang, Maya Morrow, Sheila Baker, Mia Nyugen, Manjeet Dhillon
- GPAC Members Absent: Daniel Munoz

### *Overview*

On June 1, the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) for the Marina General Plan held its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The purpose of the meeting was as follows:

- Review key issues and “guiding principles” identified during the engagement process to date
- Identify locations for growth and development versus conservation or limited change in the City
- Discuss future community engagement activities

The following is a summary of the GPAC’s comments and feedback by topic.

### *Community Strengths / What You Love*

Prior to the meeting, the General Plan Team provided GPAC members with a summary of the ideas heard thus far during the engagement process. This included stakeholder interviews, public workshop #1 and #2, GPAC #1 and youth engagement. These materials are attached at the end of this summary.

The following is the GPAC feedback on the information provided:

- Add MPC satellite facility
- Take out the strength that the streets are walkable; this is an issue and not a strength
- Agree that Locke Paddon Park is a strength
- Fort Ord Dunes State Park is a strength but it needs improvement.
- Marina State Beach is a strength
- CSUMB is a major opportunity for the City of Marina
- Fort Ord is a strength and opportunity but lots of improvements are needed.
- History of the City and its relationship to Fort Ord
- Airport

## *Key Issues and Challenges*

The GPAC reviewed a list of issues developed through the engagement process. The following is the feedback provided by the GPAC.

- Central Marina lacks small parks/pocket parks
- Congestion on Imjin is a major issue
- Need more jobs in Marina and the region
- Pedestrian environment needs improvement: sidewalks are dilapidated; the network has gaps
- Bike path network is not complete
- Some parks are not safe
- The City has no control over parks owned by Monterey County
- CalAm is taking away space that should be for the public
- Not enough resources for veterans
- The City needs signage for identity
- Planned BRT is an issue because it will not benefit the residents and creates barriers to the ocean
- The City lacks influence in the region
- There is not enough internal transit within Marina
- There is a lack of transition and integration between the old and new parts of Marina – this creates physical separation issues and a sense of “us versus them” mentality. Suggestions include community events and physical connections especially the proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave extension.
- Lack of City identity
- Commercial buildings are dilapidated

## *Map Exercise*

After the discussion of strengths and issues, GPAC members worked collaboratively on a mapping exercise. The purpose of the discussion was to identify physical changes needed throughout the city. The GPAC was provided with stickers representing different land uses and physical improvements. Examples included: parks; pedestrian and bicycle improvements; retail and services; jobs; apartments; and mixed-use, among others). GPAC members were also encouraged to write their ideas on the map.

A summary of some of the suggestions is below. This summary does not include every comment – just the primary themes and ideas. A photo of the map produced by the GPAC can be found after the summary comments.

- Create a new “town center” southeast of the intersection of Del Monte and Reservation on the site of several shopping centers. Start with this area and expand outward.
- Build a new city hall and public park/plaza in Cypress Knolls north of Imjin Parkway and west of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

- Add the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave connection
- Add light industrial and jobs near the airport.
- Create more slow streets around the City. GPAC members identified the following streets:
  - Reindollar Ave
  - DeForest Road
  - Carmel Ave
  - Beach Road
- Expand the equestrian center; add a “petting zoo”
- Salinas River is an opportunity for open space and recreation
- Develop Cypress Knolls with a diversity of uses including (Note: This is based on stickers selected by GPAC): Mixed Use, Apartments, Entertainment, Retail and Services, Parks, Community Facilities
- Add Mixed Use to The Dunes Shopping Center
- Add a variety of new uses to the south of The Dunes including: Apartments, Mixed Use, Park, Single Family Homes and Community Facilities.
- Build a commercial node on Imjin south of Preston Park
- Add Retail, Apartments and Offices on Del Monte near US 1
- Add Mixed Use and Retail in the Downtown Vitalization Area (along Del Monte and Reservation)
- Create Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements throughout the City, with a focus on:
  - Imjin
  - California
  - Reservation
  - Abrams Drive
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
  - Reindollar Ave
  - Patton Parkway
- Improve amenities along and access to the Beach including:
  - Build a group campground in Fort Ord Dunes State Park with 300 sites
  - Create an expanded hotel district west of US 1
  - Add more parking at Marina State Beach
  - Add retail and amenities and Marina State Beach, such as snacks and ice cream
- Annex the area south of Reservation and Imjin into the City; add Entertainment and Townhomes.

### *Next Steps*

The next meeting (GPAC #3) will be on existing conditions and will be held in September.

# Small Group Mapping Activity

Actividad de mapeo en grupos pequeños / 소그룹 매핑 활동



May 25, 2023

## Letter to Members: GPAC Meeting #2

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Marina General Plan Advisory Committee

**Location: Marina Library (Community Room)**

**Date and Time: Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 6:00 - 8:00pm**

**Reminder: Please be on time!**

Dear GPAC Members,

We will hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting on **Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 pm - 8 pm** at the Marina Library in the Community Room, as we did for the previous meeting.

At this meeting we will focus on a few activities. First, we will provide a summary of the engagement activities that have occurred since GPAC Meeting #1. Second, we will review a summary list of key issues and challenges developed from multiple engagement activities, including the community workshop and the first GPAC meeting. Third, we will review a list of preliminary “guiding principles.” The guiding principles are values and ideas that will form the basis for the General Plan vision. Finally, we will break into two groups to map your ideas for areas where the city should grow and evolve over time and areas that should generally remain the same. At the end of the meeting, we will discuss next steps and how the information from this GPAC meeting will be used for future engagement activities.

In preparation for this meeting, we would like you to do the following:

1. **Review notes from Community Workshop #2.** This workshop was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> and over 50 residents attended. The notes provide a summary of the comments and ideas expressed at the meeting.
2. **Review the list of key issues.** Come prepared to discuss whether any are missing and whether they adequately capture the range of challenges that the City is facing. This information will be part of a community “survey” and pop-up workshops and will also help us focus our efforts during the General Plan update process.
3. **Review the list of guiding principles.** The guiding principles will be part of the vision statement. They should express the values and ideals of the community and the “big moves” that should occur in the City in the future. These concepts will serve as the basis for goals and policies in the General Plan.
4. **Think about areas for improvement in the City.** At this GPAC meeting, we will conduct a mapping exercise in smaller groups. While we may not cover everything below, please think about the following question.
  - a. What areas of the City are great as they are and should not change?
  - b. What areas should evolve during the time horizon of the General Plan?
  - c. What major transportation improvements are needed and where?
  - d. Where should new housing be located? What type of housing should it be?
  - e. Where should new jobs be located? What types of jobs should they be?

- f. Where should new retail and services be located?
- g. What else can be done to beautify or improve the City?

Our meeting will be packed with lots of opportunities for discussion and interaction so please come prepared with your ideas and suggestions, while remaining respectful of your fellow Committee members.

We are looking forward to embarking on this challenging, yet exciting, journey with you over the next year and a half. Please do not hesitate to contact Alyson Hunter ([ahunter@cityofmarina.org](mailto:ahunter@cityofmarina.org)) if you have any questions.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on **June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm.**

- Alyson and the General Plan Team