

**Stakeholder Meeting Notes
Neighborhood Groups
January 23, 2008**



GROUP CHARACTERISTICS

This group consisted of representatives of local homeowners associations and a number of college students who were extremely concerned about parking and the preservation of distinct neighborhoods.

WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES FOR CHICO IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS?

- A great deal of discussion was focused on extreme opposition to angled parking in south campus neighborhoods. Attendees cited concerns regarding safety, traffic and impacts to local residents. This was a high priority for the group.
- City and University need to do a better job of working together
- Maintain the City's "small town feel" by preserving and enhancing existing neighborhoods and creating appropriate transitions between new and older neighborhoods.
- Work to maintain and support the historical elements of the town (housing stock, commercial buildings., Bidwell Park, etc)
- Increase safety (better and more lighting). This was cited as critical by students.

WHAT SHOULD NOT CHANGE IN TERMS OF THE GENERAL PLAN?

- Protection of Bidwell Park.
- Protection of existing Open Space.
- Some attendees thought that there could be some flexibility in the 'Greenline'.

CRITICAL AREAS THE GENERAL PLAN SHOULD ADDRESS

- Work to promote compatibility and consistency between existing development and new infill development especially in neighborhoods.
- Work on enhancing the City's transportation system (more neighborhood circulator buses, better bike routes, use roundabouts and synchronized signals)
- Increase parking around the Campus (to get cars out of the adjacent neighborhood)
- Create geographically appropriate standards rather than applying an "one-size-fits-all" approach to regulations. (e.g. Noise sensitivity is different in the college area than in a suburban residential neighborhood yet the standards are the

same) . The topic of more location specific noise ordinances was supported by both students and the homeowners representatives.

- Encourage sustainability in terms of transportation, building and economic development.
- Increase parking opportunities in the downtown (to get cars out of the adjacent neighborhood).

WHAT BARRIERS DOES THE CITY FACE FOR SUCCESS?

- The City needs to do a better job of noticing homeowners, property owners, etc.. of meetings, hearings, etc.
- Active engagement of the public in the decision making process.
- Working collaboratively with the CSU and the County