



North Fair Oaks Community Council

*A Municipal Advisory Council to the
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

2600 Middlefield Road,
Redwood City, CA
650-363-1800
www.nfoforward.org

Everardo Rodriguez, Chair
Juan Carlos Prado, Vice-Chair
Beatriz Cerrillo
Brooks Esser
Joanie Gillspie
Linda López
Jennifer Ruiz
Blair Whitney
Gabriela Ake
Xitlali Curincita

November 18, 2021

7:00pm

The North Fair Oaks Community Council provides recommendations on the issues of community health, safety, welfare, public works and planning for the North Fair Oaks geographic area. It holds regular monthly meetings to address the needs of the community, act as a forum, and serve as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

Pursuant to the Shelter in Place Orders issued by the San Mateo County Health Officer and the Governor, the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, and the CDC’s social distancing guidelines which discourage large public gatherings, this meeting was held via videoconference. It began at 7:00 PM and was accessed online at <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/95432112211> or by calling 1 (877) 568-4106 for Spanish.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Beatriz Cerrillo, Joanie Gillspie, Linda Lopez, Juan C. Prado, Everardo Rodriguez, Jennifer Ruiz, Blair Whitney, Xitlali Curincita, Chair Brooks Esser

Staff Present: Legislative Aid Maggie Cornejo, Deputy County Manager Justin Mates, Deputy County Tim Fox, Assistant Clerk of the Board Sukhmani Purewal, Office of Community Affairs Emma Gonzalez

2. Public Comment

Niket: Protection of heritage trees and updates to the county tree regulations

Ginny: Stop tree removals and review of new construction plans in the neighborhood

Lisa: Review of current design recommendations and design codes

AGENDA

3. Report Out

Supervisor’s Report, presented by Maggie Cornejo, Legislative Aid

- Board of Supervisors approved the Communities Together draft map
- Sheriff’s department announced they will no longer be cooperating with I.C.E.

- Supervisor Warren Slocum held a virtual meeting with 20 North Fair Oaks constituents regarding the tree canopy project and new construction developments
- Facebook live event on vaccines for children/youth and booster shots for adults. 11,000 children (5-11) have reported being vaccinated
- 196 citations for residents driving unlicensed
- Office of Sustainability was approved for a Caltrain grant to study overpass and underpass of transportation in North Fair Oaks

County Manager's Report, presented by Justin Mates, Deputy County Manager

- No report

Council Member's Report, presented by North Fair Oaks Community Council

- Chair Brooks Esser
 - Middlefield Road Project continuing work on the joint trenches and sewers
 - Public Works started design work on Encinal Ave
 - A count of NFO homeless took place on January 27, for more info refer to Human Services page on county website
- Council Member Juan Carlos Prado
 - Attended Día de Los Muertos event hosted by Casa Circulo
- Council Member Beatriz Cerrillo
 - Received positive feedback about bike lane added onto 5th Ave
- Council Member Joanie Gillispie
 - Social Emotional Learning program to be piloted throughout Redwood City including schools in NFO reaching about 7,000 students. Focus of this program is to raise money, improve academic skill levels and social emotional lives in the community. Concerns about the credibility of the SEL program and its development
- Council Member Everardo Rodriguez
 - Attended San Mateo County Virtual Truth Act
 - Attended redistricting meeting that determined whether North Fair Oaks, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park would remain part of district 4
 - Attending an educational program about Covid-19 vaccines and booster shots
- Council Member Xitlali Curincita
 - Part of the planning team for the OYE 2022 Youth Conference
 - Provided feedback to improve the 5-year education plan at Cañada College with efforts to continue an anti-racism community

Public comment: No public comment.

4. AB 361 Resolution

<p>Presented by Deputy County Tim Fox</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, meeting in person for the North Fair Oaks Community Council would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. • Recommendation that the North Fair Oaks Community Council adopt the AB 361 Resolution that would allow all members to proceed meeting in an online format. <p>Motion to recommend approval of adopting AB 361 Resolution: Council Member Blair Whitney / Second: Council Member Linda Lopez</p> <p>Verbal roll call vote was taken: Yes: Cerrillo, Gillispie, Lopez, Prado, Rodriguez, Ruiz, Whitney, Brooks (8) No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Xitlali (1)</p>
<p>Council Members Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Everardo Rodriguez
<p>Public Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caplan

5. Recommendation to Use Permit to allow the conversion of garage space into a sit down café/restaurant with 20 seats in the M-1 zoning district located at 2992 Spring Street Unit.

<p>Presented by Waqar Shah, Planning Technician, Planning & Building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request the consideration of a use permit application pursuant to section 166500 of the San Mateo County zoning code • To permit converting a 450 sq ft storage area into a 20-seat restaurant café per the lease agreement between the building and the business owner of The Empanadas King <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Case number PLN 2021-00268 • Allotted 3 parking spaces • Proposed improvements/changes will not expand to the footprint or height of the existing building • The project’s proposed use complies with the permitted uses subject to an approved Use Permit <p>Motion to recommend approval of the Use Permit: Council Member Joanie Gillispie/ Second: Council Member Joanie Gillispie</p> <p>Verbal roll call vote was taken: Yes: 7 - Gillispie, Lopez, Prado, Ruiz, Whitney, Brooks, Youth Xitlali No: 1 Cerrillo Abstain: 1 Rodriguez Absent: 0</p>
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Council Member's Comment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chair Beatriz Cerrillo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concerns about residual trash • Chair Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: Have adjacent businesses been notified of application intent? Has there been any opposition from neighboring businesses? ○ Concern about increase in vehicles visiting location • Council Member Linda Lopez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Asks for application to be rewritten and updated • Vice-Chair Juan Carlos Prado <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ States an exception must be made due to the ratio of tables and parking spaces
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public comment.

6. Presentation: Choose Local San Mateo County Initiative

Presented by Danielle Lee, Deputy Director and Ellie Dullman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smartphone rewards app • Users earn points by shopping at local businesses in the county • Points are redeemed at participating local businesses • This initiative is funded by the County of San Mateo • Goal is to help boost the economy of small local businesses especially after the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic • Pilot cities include Daly City, South San Francisco, Half Moon Bay, Millbrae, San Mateo, Redwood City and North Fair Oaks <p>Informational Presentation. No Council Motion Required.</p>
Council Member's Comment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question(s): How is this initiative being promoted to Spanish speaking businesses? Clarification of redeeming process. What are the benefits/incentives for businesses? • Council Member Jennifer Ruiz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: Does the app work with home based businesses?
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public comment.

7. Presentation: Vision for a Center for Creativity in Redwood City

Presented by Cindy Strokes, Local Artist and ARTS Redwood City member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision is to have a permanent facility dedicated to house and program a broad range of the arts, arts instruction & mentoring • A dedicated center for the arts in the community that will provide broad cultural, economic, health, and civic impacts for all • Art exhibitions, cultural performances, lectures & workshops <p>Informational Presentation. No Council Motion Required.</p>
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Council Member's Comment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: Will there be fees associated with using or attending events at the center? Provided support patent
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public comment.

8. Discussion: Introduction to Thomas James Homes and discussion of tree canopy issue

Presented by Deanna Green, Director of Community Development, Adam Kates Senior VP, Kasey Farrell, Landscape Architect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building single-family two-story homes in NFO • Updates old houses with modern replacement housing • Plans to provide proactive communication with neighbors • Following existing zoning and development standards • TJH removes trees that are unhealthy, structurally weak, within the footprint of the home, conflicts with utilities or poses future hazard of safety and complies with county requirements • TJH evaluating ways to preserve existing trees, 17 preserved, 12 proposed for removal, 14 proposed new trees <p>Informational Presentation. No Council Motion Required.</p>
Council Member's Comment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chair Beatriz Cerrillo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clarification about TJH building replacing homes • Council Member Blair Whitney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: Does TJH offer ADU's or rental units? • Chair Everardo Rodriguez <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concern(s): Weekend work violations, tree replacements ○ Question: Does TJH have an environmentalist on the team? • Vice-Chair Juan Carlos Prado <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: Will TJH consider using existing tree species when planting new trees?
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Megan: community intervention & protest to protect trees, TJH removed large Modesto ash tree for design reasons on 14th Ave • Caplan: taking away character from neighborhood, no privacy, taking away affordable housing opportunities from neighborhood, county should require ADU's in NFO • Chris: collected 450 signatures in NFO to protect against tree removals by TJH • Susan: TJH building a two-story house next to property, concerned about privacy, small lot size, homes sell for over 3 million dollars, witnessed extended work hours • Niket: concerned about tree removals & ask TJH to stop removals • Jeanie: TJH damaged a homeowner's foundation, left debris on neighbors' yard, not draining a property pool, damaged roots of a tree to the point of having it removed before acquiring a permit • Robin: Damaged a Modesto tree before being granted a permit to remove it, asks council to revise outdated tree ordinances

The meeting adjourned at 9:54pm

Next Council Meeting:*

Thursday, January 27, 2022; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

*North Fair Oaks Community Council will have a recess for the month of December.

For more information on future meetings, agendas, minutes, and presentations/presentation materials, please visit: <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/north-fair-oaks-community-council>