



MINUTES
Town of Atherton
CITY COUNCIL
November 13, 2019
SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor Widmer called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm

4:30PM SPECIAL SESSION MEETING – *Convene as the City Council*

1. **ROLL CALL** - Wiest, Lempres, Lewis, Vice Mayor DeGolia Mayor Widmer – Present
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Genevie Gerard commented on the Heritage Tree proposal raising concerns about protection for her trees. She added concerns related to green initiatives and screening ordinances for the Town.

Jeff Benray commented on a series of issues he has had with another resident. Mr. Benray distributed an image to a Council and shared the issue he has been having.

SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA

3. **DISCUSSION ON THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE: THE 2019 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE**

Senior Planner Davis provided a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted fifty-six goals, policies, actions/objectives as they pertain to the General Plan (GP). She began with a review of the Noise Element and invited Harold Goldberg, RDB Consultant, to provide additional details.

Mayor Widmer indicated he provided comments on the Noise Element.

Council raised questions about the data points highlighted in the report regarding the Noise Elements and asked for clarification related to data presented in several tables.

Mayor Widmer further asked that staff include aircraft noise and helicopter noise in the noise element. Mayor Widmer asked that the numbers included in Table N-1 be re-examined to ensure alignment with federal numbers.

Town Planner Costa Sanders and Goldberg discussed the methodology used in preparing the table referenced in Attachment 5. Goldberg added the numbers give residents a range of the sound levels used.

Davis clarified that Figure 3 on page 68 was used to help set the baseline for understanding terms and standards as they relate to community noise.

Council suggested the Noise Element is an issue that should be addressed at a future meeting with potential changes to the Noise Ordinance including construction noise.

Council continued to discuss the Noise Element and received feedback from staff related to options for revisions.

Davis continued the presentation reviewing the Land Use Element noting a substantive item within the Element is the Grand Blvd Initiative. Circulation Element, Complete Streets, and the classification of streets within Town.

Davis noted a change from Rural to “Semi-Rural was made.

City Attorney Connors provided a definition for the term found in the urban planner dictionary.

Public Works Director Ovadia shared statistics on traffic patterns for Selby and Stockbridge from a 2015 count.

Council continued to discuss the classification of specific streets, traffic patterns, and cut-through traffic.

Davis noted amending the classification for Laurel to Collector and Selby and Stockbridge as well.

Davis indicated that Planned Bay Area was included in the GP to share regional plans and City Manager Roderick provided additional context. Davis continued with the presentation noting conversations with Menlo Park Fire Protection District (MPFD) regarding to a warning signal and wildland fire. She added the State designates Atherton as a community at risk, however the community is not currently mapped as a part of the Wildfire Interface Zone.

Rodericks added that the County has adopted a landscape plan and MPFD encourages residents to follow this guide. He noted the guide is not being proposed as an addition to the GP.

Davis reviewed the emergency evacuation map route and complete access routes noting additions can be made.

Council agreed to have a revised version presented at a future meeting with redline edits noting updates.

4. **ADJOURN**

Mayor Widmer adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.



Anthony Suber
City Clerk