

From: LAmes@aol.com [mailto:LAmes@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 02, 2010 8:03 PM
To: Harkness, Kip
Cc: lawrence.ames@lmco.com
Subject: Larry's "talking points" from the Diridon Station Area Plan 4/21/10

Hi, Kip,

Here are the "talking points" that I offered to share after the meeting last week. Please feel free to call if I can help answer any questions.

~Larry

talking points, Diridon Station Area Plan, 4/21/10
by Larry Ames, LAmes@aol.com
transcribed and emailed to Kip.Harkness@SanJoseCA.gov

- 1: I speak to express my support for the overall plans! Wonderful! I love the "green fingers"!
- 2: Plans for the Guadalupe Park and Gardens are wonderful! Thnx, Leslee! Those are "no little plans"!
- 3: Trails should be designed for transportation as well as recreation: they should be wide enough to handle the anticipated traffic (the Los Gatos Crk trail is 12' wide most places, but should be 16' or wider here), with safe crossings (ideally, grade-separated), and lit for night-time access and safety (this can be done and still be compatible w/ the riparian habitat: have LEDs on the creekside fence railing, w/ light directed towards the trail and away from the stream).
- 4: Approved plans call for a bike/ped bridge from Confluence Point eastward to the River St. Historic District, connecting the Los Gatos Creek Trail at the Arena to the Guadalupe River Trail: this needs to be built.
- 5: When Autumn Street at Park Avenue is reconfigured, can the Los Gatos Creek be restored? Right now, it vanishes into a pipe for several blocks: it would be wonderful if the stream could be day-lighted, with sufficient clearance for a grade-separated streamside trail.
- 6: Develop a "Grand Boulevard" into the Diridon Area. There's already the start of it: the plaza in front of the station. Extend it along the light-rail ROW, those couple blocks near the Guadalupe that another speaker mentioned, and make San Fernando into a walking/biking pedestrian promenade/enticing walkway from Diridon to Downtown, and on to San Fernando, with street-side shops to entice visitors.
- 7: The San Antonio River Walk was mentioned as an example to emulate. Some features are good, such as the vibrancy and the street-side shops and activities. However, others are less so: the river there is a concrete-lined artificial waterway, whereas the Los Gatos and Guadalupe are still natural rivers, with natural riparian habitats that should be preserved, and with salmon and steelhead trout that migrate upstream to spawn. So: emulate the activity of San Antonio, but preserve California's sensitivity for the habitat.
- 8: The whole evening went by and no one mentioned BART? -- it will have an impact on the Diridon Station Area.

Thanks!

~Larry Ames

CITIZEN'S REQUEST TO SPEAK

Completion of this card is voluntary. Speaker cards are public documents and may become available to the news media and others, upon request.

Date 4/21/16 Agenda Item No. 5

I wish to speak: FOR AGAINST NEUTRAL

Subject: Little Italy Project in Ardon Planning area

Name Joshua DeVincenzi Melander

I represent: little Italy San Jose

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(See reverse side)

- 1) Walkway connection from HP Pavilion through Little Italy to public market on West Saint John
- 2) Little Italy arch (West Saint John + Guadalupe River Park)
- 3) Little Italy Arch (West Julian + Almaden Blvd)
- 4) History walk – with markers and brochure
- 5) Walkway connection from HP Pavilion through Little Italy to San Pedro Square on Carlyle Street
- 6) Renovation of remaining historic homes in River Street built during the 1880's to 1910 and turned into Italian restaurants, delis and bakeries. Already have a list of interested businesses willing to sign letters of intent.
- 7) Banners of prominent Italian Americans in Santa Clara County including A.P. Gianinni, Brian Boitano, Rod Diridon, Irene Dalis, Al Ruffo, Mike Ricci, Dave Righetti, etc.
- 8) Gondola rides on Guadalupe River and partnering with Waterfire Gondola and river entertainment group out of Little Italy and Providence River in providence Rhode Island
- 9) Bicycle rentals in little Italy for Guadalupe river park trail.
- 10) Bocce Ball Courts
- 11) Underpass
 - Lighting
 - Drainage
 - Plantings
 - Artwork/ Mural Competition.
- 12) Amphitheater in Empty lot with abandoned half of a house :)