

Notes from Stakeholder Meetings re  
Proposed Parking Area at McClellan Ranch West  
Thursday, November 16, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
Friday, November 17, 2017, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Attendees:

- Ralph Schardt, Executive Director, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
- Shani Kleinhaus, Environmental Advocate, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
- Hans Toensfledt, Club Leader, Rolling Hills 4H Club
- Glenn Kubacki, resident
- Janet Van Zoeren, resident

Friday attendees:

- Paul Turner & Tina Hsieh, neighbor
- Rich Williams, neighbor
- Sigrid Wehner, neighbor
- Deanna Forsythe, neighbor
- Anne Ng, Friends of Stevens Creek Trail
- Jeremy Merckling, Grassroots Ecology

Staff present at both meetings:

- Barbara Banfield, Recreation and Community Services, City of Cupertino
- Gail Seeds, Recreation and Community Services, City of Cupertino
- Alex Acenas, Public Works Department, City of Cupertino

After a round of introductions, staff presented the revised proposed plan for parking improvements at McClellan Ranch West and described the changes to the previous design that were made in response to the comments received during stakeholder input gathered September 5 and 11, 2017.

The following comments/questions were received:

1. The subject of the possible use of the parking lot at Blackberry Farm as an alternative to provide needed parking spaces for McClellan Ranch Preserve (MRP) was raised. Staff explained that the Blackberry Farm parking lot cannot be the solution or part of the solution due to the fact that there is an environmental document addendum from 2006 that limits the City's use of the overall Blackberry Farm parking lot to 100 days in a year (a smaller number of spaces is allowable in the "off season") and that prohibits the City from promoting that parking lot as being available for additional parking for other uses within the corridor by means of publicly distributed information outside of the 100 days.
2. The subject of the handling of surface runoff and how possible car fluid drips will be kept from reaching the creek was raised. Staff explained that the paving design will allow for surface runoff to percolate through the permeable concrete paving and that the aggregate sub-base and an infiltration trench at the low end of the parking lot will help filter out contaminants before the below-grade water reaches the creek.
3. Some attendees were not receptive to the idea of providing a less formal, gravel, occasional-use parking area beyond the permeable paved daily use parking. Concern about the potential for cars

to access the proposed occasional-use area, especially at night, caused some attendees to ask the City to reconsider the occasional-use parking and either look for other alternatives or defer the construction of the occasional use portion until confirming whether the proposed new daily use parking lot adequately addresses the parking demand at MRP. To clarify, staff pointed out that the drive aisle for the proposed overflow parking shown on the revised plan is actually currently an existing, informal, unpaved driveway that extends toward Scenic Circle and is used as an access road by emergency and maintenance personnel. In the event that the occasional use parking area is removed from the plan, it was suggested that parallel parking along the driveway be considered to offset the potential loss of those spaces, but without moving the parking into the riparian area. Attendees suggested optimizing parking quantity at the existing parking area at McClellan Ranch, particularly near 4-H and the community garden, and adding a few spaces within the current footprint if additional spaces are possible. Staff also noted that the occasional-use area will be closed off by a physical barrier (bollards/chains/gate) to prevent vehicular access except during the planned occasional uses.

4. The attendees were generally approving of the revised parking lot design and thanked the City for addressing the concerns that were raised in the September stakeholders meeting, specifically moving the parking area as far as possible from the creek and outside the dripline of existing trees, and restoring the vegetation in the area between the creek and the proposed parking lot. Attendees inquired about the proposed plant list but this information was not available at the time of the meetings. Staff will make available to everyone interested the proposed plant list when it is finalized.
5. Although outside the scope of this project, attendees expressed concern about the safety of the current McClellan Ranch Preserve entrance/exit, as it relates to sight lines and suggested trying to calm down traffic along McClellan Rd.
6. In response to the suggestion of providing bike racks and a water bottle filling station, staff clarified that these amenities would better serve visitors by locating them at the McClellan Ranch Preserve rather than at the proposed parking lot, and that this is already being considered by the City as a future project.
7. Asked about the project timeline, staff explained that the next step after these stakeholder meetings would be to go back to the Parks and Recreation Commission on Dec. 7, 2017, to present the revised design and seek the PRC's approval to move forward with a recommended parking lot layout. After the PRC endorses moving forward, an Initial Study will be circulated for 20 days. After this time period, assuming no objections are received, the City's design consultant will finalize the bid documents. Current timeline for the start of actual construction is after the end of the 2018 bird-nesting season, i.e. Aug. 31, 2018. Actual construction is currently projected to take a minimum of 4 months.

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Please review and inform the author of any revisions within three business days of receipt.