

SUNNYVALE

Open City Hall Summary Results

This is a summary of public feedback received through the Sunnyvale Open City Hall online tool on key components of the Horizon 2035 Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE). More than 500 residents participated between August and December, 2015. The tool included postings for feedback on:

- Overarching objectives of the LUTE
- Alternative transportation choices
- Mixed-use areas
- General growth and development

The following sections summarize participants' feedback on each of these issues. For some topics, staff has identified possible changes to the LUTE to better reflect community sentiment.

LUTE OBJECTIVES

The Horizon 2035 LUTE includes 10 overarching objectives. It does not set a hierarchy for the objectives; however, asking the community to rank the objectives helps in understanding how well the plan aligns with community values. The major theme for the Horizon 2035 LUTE is a complete community that includes focus on environmental sustainability, healthy living, and mixed-use areas that promote neighborhood and transit-oriented placemaking.

The highest ranked objectives are consistent with the complete community concept, indicating the LUTE is on the right track overall.

Participants ranking of objectives in the proposed LUTE:



ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

Participants' level of agreement with alternative transportation policies proposed in the LUTE:

The LUTE includes a number of new policies and programs—summarized at right—that establish new transportation priorities, including funding and building more transit, bike, and pedestrian infrastructure and options for reduced vehicle parking in Sunnyvale.

Participants strongly supported most of these transportation policies. The policy regarding reduced parking requirements was an exception.

Possible Changes: Revise policies on reduced parking to phase in parking reductions for mixed-use projects or to allow case-by-case consideration of reduced parking.

AGREE that Sunnyvale should provide clear, safe, and convenient links between all modes of travel, including access to transit stations/stops and connections.



AGREE that Sunnyvale should prioritize transportation financing, over time, to the most environmentally friendly modes and services.



AGREE that Sunnyvale should have fees for on-street and public parking, which would be set to reflect market demand and maintenance costs.

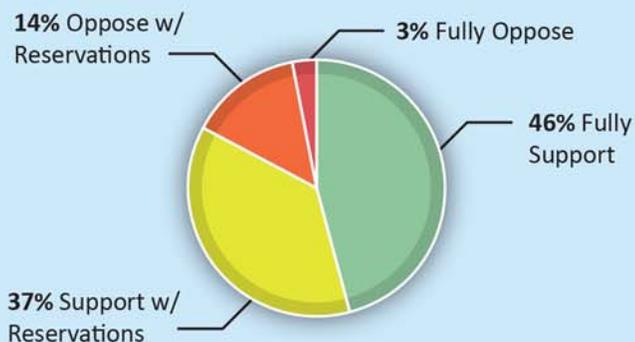


SPLIT opinion, with some that AGREE but others that DISAGREE with the idea that Sunnyvale should establish reduced parking requirements for transit, corridor, and village mixed-use developments.



MIXED-USE AREAS

Participants' level of support for Village Centers proposed in the LUTE:



The introduction of Village Centers into the city is an important part of the LUTE update. The majority of participants indicated they support this concept (46% fully support, 37% support with reservations).

In general, across all mixed-use types, participants wanted more:

- Walking paths and bike paths
- Green space and public gathering areas
- Parking
- Restaurants, retailers, entertainment, and services

Participants were given a long list of potential features to allow in the three mixed-use types proposed in the LUTE. Participants also could write in their own thoughts.

The LUTE accommodates and encourages these features in the descriptions and land use designations. These features should be considered when preparing mixed-use area plans and when considering approval of future projects in these areas.

Some participants indicated it was an important feature to have more housing in mixed-use areas, while others indicated it was important to have less.

The proposed LUTE would allow more housing in all of the mixed-use areas, in different amounts, densities, and designs.

Possible Changes: Consider lowering the number of allowable residential units in certain portions of the mixed-use areas or removing a few potential mixed-use village sites.

Participants' desire for housing in mixed-use areas:



GENERAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Participants' rating of the importance of various issues when considering growth in the city:

Many participants rated development density, school capacity, traffic congestion, green space, and water availability as the top five issues of concern when planning for potential growth and development.

The intent of the LUTE update is to accommodate growth in an orderly fashion and direct it to certain areas, and to ensure adequate access and mobility by providing for multiple modes of transportation. Draft LUTE policies and programs address these and other related concerns. The LUTE includes a policy on working with other agencies (water, transportation, etc.). The LUTE needs to be consistent with other General Plan elements that address open space and water.

Important Issues

