

LAWRENCE STATION AREA PLAN | City of Sunnyvale

City Council and Planning Commission Joint Study Session January 15, 2013

Station Area Universal Principles

PRINCIPLES FOR MIXED USE OPTION – What must be achieved?

Land Use

- 1) Existing and Future Uses:
 - a) Protect existing residential neighborhoods and buffer/transition new development located adjacent to these neighborhoods.
 - b) Allow existing businesses to remain and prosper as legal conforming uses.
 - c) Allow transition to higher density transit supportive uses as opportunities arise through turnover of businesses or property ownership.
 - d) Incorporate land use flexibility to respond to variable market conditions, while promoting a blend of employment, residential and retail uses.

2) Mix and Types of Uses:

- a) Provide a flexible land use pattern that provides the desired balance of employment and residential uses to create an active daytime and nighttime environment.
- b) Concentrate retail uses closest to the station to energize the station.
- c) Encourage a mix of housing types, including ownership, rental, affordable and senior housing.
- d) Take advantage of Sonora Court's tree-lined area and proximity to station to add energy and create a focal development at the station area.

3) Densities:

- a) Encourage higher densities close to the station, with emphasis on employment uses immediately north of the station.
- b) Adopt a toolkit for mixed use to ensure design compatibility and a good integration of uses.

4) Design Features:

- a) Create a distinctive "Sense-of-Place" for the station area through quality building design and enhanced streetscape features.
- b) Require sustainable development (e.g. green building, energy and water conservation, stormwater management, etc.)
- c) Mitigate noise issues through site planning and building design.
- d) Provide a land use pattern that will promote an active and safe environment.
- e) Provide amenities and services for existing and new neighborhoods.
- f) Retain Sonora Court as a special, tree-lined street to preserve an existing character defining feature at the station area.



Circulation and Parking

1) Incorporate "Complete Street" guidelines through design standards that accommodate all modes of transportation with emphasis on walkability.

2) Automobile Traffic:

- a) Improve north/south connectivity throughout study area with intervening connector streets, including a loop road that connects Highway 237 to the transit station.
- b) Recognize Lawrence Expressway as an important regional transportation route, but improve east/west connectivity in the future redesign of the Expressway.
- c) Provide a finer grained, grid pattern street network north of the tracks.
- d) Consider existing property lines and businesses needs in determining the alignment of the future street network.

3) Other Modes:

- a) Improve access to the station for all modes of transportation (walk, bike, transit) to reduce dependence on the automobile for access.
- b) Provide improved bus and/or shuttle service to and from the station with an enhanced transit plaza at the station.
- c) Improve access to the station from existing neighborhood south of the tracks, including exploring pedestrian/bicycle trails along the existing drainage channels.
- d) Add better bicycle routes throughout area, especially along Kifer Road and Aster Drive.
- e) Explore additional bicycle/pedestrian crossings over or under the railroad tracks.

4) Parking:

- a) Adopt reduced parking standards for the station area that reflect the potential for higher transit use while ensuring that adjacent neighborhoods will not be impacted.
- b) Promote flexible shared parking and aggressive transportation demand management programs to reduce the amount of required parking.
- c) Promote underground or structured parking to reduce the amount of surface parking.

Open Space and Community Infrastructure

- 1) Provide adequate new public open space with easy pedestrian/bicycle access for neighborhood residents and employees.
- 2) Ensure sufficient private open space and recreational amenities within residential projects.
- 3) Include area school districts in creation of plan to ensure adequate school capacity for future growth.
- 4) Plan for infrastructure (roads, parks, utilities) to keep pace with development.