



**MOFFETT/WHISMAN ROAD AREA NEIGHBORHOOD  
FOLLOW-UP REPORT**

Follow-up Responses to Issues Raised at the June 22, 2017  
Council Neighborhood Committee Meeting

Presented below are the City's responses to questions requiring follow-up from the June 22, 2017 Council Neighborhood Committee meeting with the Moffett/Whisman Road Neighborhood Area. If you have further questions about any of the following responses, please contact the responsible Department at the phone numbers noted below. General questions can be directed to Vera Gil, Project Manager -Affordable Housing at (650) 903-6379.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - (650) 903-6303**

1. *The litter in the parking lots of the 7-11 store and the Carl's Jr. restaurant are unsightly. Can anything be done about this?*

Code Enforcement is working with the property owners at the Middlefield Shopping Center regarding the litter and pot holes in the parking lot. In addition, the parking lot will soon be resurfaced and restriped. If you have additional concerns, please contact Code Enforcement at 650-526-7713.

2. *Is there any rule that prevents leaf blowing at 6:00 AM on Sunday morning? This is occurring at the Dollar Tree parking lot.*

Code Enforcement contacted the management company at 199 Middlefield and reminded them not to start any landscaping work before 7:00 AM. Please call the Police Department's non-emergency line at 650-903-6395, if you hear the leaf blowers before 7:00 AM.

3. *What can be done about the abandoned Google bikes around town?*

Google will pick up the bikes. If you see an abandoned Google bike, please email them at [lostbike@google.com](mailto:lostbike@google.com) or call 650-253-5353.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - (650) 903-6306

1. *I understand there was a "Soft Story Evaluation" (City-wide) in the past and the report "disappeared". I understand the consultants are very expensive.*

The previous soft story report was performed by San Jose State University in 2003 for the Santa Clara County Emergency Preparedness Council. City funds were not used for this study and as a result the detailed information (site locations) was not shared with the cities they surveyed. To view a copy of the original report as well as the City Council report, please type the following link into your internet browser: [//goo.gl/Ah3vhn](http://goo.gl/Ah3vhn).

2. *What is being built at 976 Linda Vista Avenue and can anything be done about the height of the parking lot lights that were installed. Can they be lowered to the height of the original lights along the Moon Beam Drive fence?*

Staff reviewed the lighting plan for the project at 946 Linda Vista Avenue and requested updated photometric plans indicating levels of offsite glare created by the installation of the parking lot lights. The applicant also conducted a physical analysis on-site to determine if there would be negative impacts to the adjacent residential properties. The photometric and on-site analysis confirmed there will be no negative impacts to the adjacent residential properties as a result of the parking lot lights; therefore, the plans will not be modified. The resident was contacted and notified of this. The resident also had aesthetic concerns regarding the overall height, and fact that trees had been removed making the lights more visible. Staff confirmed the applicant will be replanting trees along this property line which should assist with screening the lights.

3. *Is it legal for an autonomous vehicle or robot to use the sidewalk for food or package delivery?*

The City of Mountain View does not regulate personal delivery devices on sidewalks currently. City staff has received requests by several technology businesses to use our sidewalks for their delivery robots. Staff is exploring the opportunity to develop a pilot program that could result in a personal delivery device permit that allows businesses to utilize some sidewalks with specific terms and conditions.

4. *Are dedicated community garden spaces part and parcel of high density housing development plans presently?*

City zoning standards generally require common open space be provided for residents in multi-family/high-density housing developments. The zoning standards do not require specific types of amenities be provided within these areas; however, some developments have included garden areas for residents in these private common open spaces, based on resident demand for this type of amenity.

5. *Rotten Robbie is adding an enlarged convenience store to its current location. That gives us three convenience stores at one intersection: 7-11, Giants, and Rotten Robbie. Why was another convenience store approved?*

Retail sales are allowed as part of service stations. There are no criteria in City regulations, which restrict this allowance based on other nearby uses. The enlarged convenience store was proposed by Rotten Robbie, in compliance with applicable City regulations.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6311**

1. *More so than speeding, a larger issue on Stevens Creek Trail is passing at dangerous or tight areas. This is an issue that a 15mph limit will not fix. What about improving public education on bike passing safety?*

Over the past 2 years, a number of improvements have been made to increase safety on all the City's trails. For areas with limited visibility, there is signage stating that it is a 5-mile-per-hour speed limit. Also, rangers now have access to a mobile radar system that will be used to help reduce speeds. If issues continue, the police department will be requested to provide some patrolling. In addition, Over 100 new etiquette signs have been posted throughout the system to encourage positive behavior on the trail. The City also launched a new Trail Ambassador program with over 50 volunteers acting as good role models and providing assistance on the trails.

2. *Because of the drought, many trees are dying curbing the streets and also in our parks. (Especially the Redwoods in Cuesta Park) Because CMV water reduction is beyond the state recommendation, many trees are dying. How can water be channeled to the trees?*

While the drought was hard on many of our mature trees, the wet winter was a great help for all of them. Staff is working to educate residents on the water needs of mature trees during the summer months. We are also increasing the water allotment for all park trees including Cuesta now that the drought is over.

3. *When will the park planning process start for the 3-acre park in the South Whisman area (Pulte Development on Ferguson Rd.)? How will that process work?*

Staff does not have a confirmed date for the park planning process but is hopeful it will begin by the middle of 2018. The design process starts with selection of a landscape design firm. They will hold a public meeting to ascertain what features the community would like to see in the park. The firm normally comes up with three concept plans incorporating those ideas. These are presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a goal of picking a preferred concept. The preferred concept is then approved by City Council.

4. *Will the fountain in Magnolia Park ever get turned on again? In any case, it is badly in need of maintenance."*

The fountain was originally turned off due to equipment issues and leaking. It has remained off due to the water restrictions associated with the five-year drought. Staff is getting estimates to see if it is cost effective to repair the fountain or replace it.

5. *When will they repave the basketball court at San Vernon Park?*

The court is scheduled to be repaved in spring 2018.

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - (650) 903-6311**

1. *What is the City doing to clean up roadsides, specifically the exit off Dana, off Highway 237 from El Camino where items are being dumped?*

The City has a regular street sweeping program and will address dumping in the City's right-of-way. The area in question is in Caltrans right-of-way; the City submitted a Caltrans Service Request on this matter and we are waiting confirmation that the issue is resolved.

Anyone in the community is welcome to do the same; you can submit a request for service with Caltrans here <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>

2. *When will San Ardo Way, San Carrizo Way, etc. be repaved now that San Lucas Avenue and San Luppe Drive have been repaved? The difference between the repaved and streets that have not been repaved is striking.*

The City is soliciting bids for these streets as part of a larger paving project. Construction is scheduled to start in October and complete by early 2018.

3. *Regarding the quality of the new pavement at San Lucas Avenue, the road is still bumpy after the repaving. What quality measures did the City use to ensure the pavement is high quality?*

The overlay treatment on San Lucas Avenue is called a slurry seal, which is a thin coat of asphalt and aggregate that is used when the condition of the underlying pavement is still relatively good. This is a very cost effective way to extend the life of the underlying pavement. The surface of a slurry-sealed street is not as smooth as the surface of a street with new pavement. The project was inspected by City staff during construction and meets the required specifications.

4. *Will trichloroethene (TCE) remediation be dealt with in the near future?*

Remediation is conducted on specific sites in the Middlefield-Ellis-Whisman (MEW) Study Area as the opportunity presents itself. For example, remediation is occurring at 277 Fairchild before construction begins, and on-going remediation activities (groundwater pump and treat) are being carried out at a number of commercial sites in the area.

5. *Does the city ever conduct vapor tests again for TCE vapor in the North Whisman neighborhood? Is there a City-sponsored way to have our home tested? We live very close to areas known to have vapor intrusion and I'm curious if our house is impacted with the wet winter having added to the underground water table.*

The City does not sponsor home testing. Please contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) if you are interested in having your home tested.

6. *We appreciate the new street surfaces in the area. Is there a plan to fix the potholes on Middlefield, especially between Easy Street and Tyrella Avenue?*

City staff repaired nearly 1,800 square feet of failing asphalt on Middlefield Road between the Highway 85 overpass and Tyrella Avenue on July 6 and July 11, 2017. Street staff will inspect and repair potholes on the remainder of Middlefield Road by the end of August 2017.

7. *I ride my bicycle on Manila Drive from Ellis towards Mathilda. I would like to request street sweeping on a more regular basis because the bike lane has lots of debris/glass/dirt. Thank you.*

Manila Drive passes through the jurisdiction of several agencies, so the street sweeping is somewhat inconsistent. The City of Mountain View sweeps the City's section of Manila Drive up to four times a month (approximately 1,500 lineal feet). City of Sunnyvale staff reports that Sunnyvale sweeps their section of Manila twice a month (sweeping stops at Enterprise Way). There is a 3,000 lineal foot section of Manila Drive that is physically in Sunnyvale but is Federal land controlled by NASA Ames that is in between the two cities that is not being swept by Mountain View or Sunnyvale.

8. *Will the current and proposed residential and commercial development significantly increase Mountain View's population? Does the City have a plan or is it considering a new inter-community transportation system, such as a tram-line?*

The City is anticipating roughly 10,000 more people and 10,000 more jobs over the next 15 years, with the existing land use plans. Proposed land use plans may add an additional 30,000 people. The City is working on a number of transit and pedestrian/bicycle-related improvements to accommodate growth. Two of the transit improvements are:

The City is investigating the feasibility of an automated transportation system to connect the North Bayshore Area with the Downtown Transit Center along the Shoreline and/or Moffett Boulevard corridors. The feasibility study is expected to be complete by the end of 2017.

Construction of a reversible bus lane is planned along Shoreline Boulevard between Middlefield Road and Pear Avenue is planned in 2018 to facilitate transit travel on Shoreline Boulevard.

9. *I often bike from North Whisman area to the downtown Castro Street area and like to take the Stevens Creek Trail. It would be awesome if the sidewalk from Moffett/Central to Willowgate could be widened to allow cyclists to bike there with space for pedestrians to walk. Making that short sidewalk segment a little multi-use path would be great! Thanks.*

The City has a project to make pedestrian and bicycle improvements to the Castro St/Moffett Boulevard/Central Expressway intersection. This request will be investigated as part of that project. Design is scheduled for completion in summer of 2018 and construction in fall of 2018.

10. *Cyclists are not stopping on the Hetch Hetchy trail as it crosses Tyrella Avenue. Can a stop sign be installed?*

At Tyrella Avenue and the Hetch Hetchy Trail, motorists are advised to yield to anyone in and/or approaching the bicycle/pedestrian crossing. There is no need for a stop sign because existing yield signs on all approaches are sufficient, based on the existing low volumes of cars. We will look into adding a bike crossing symbol to the existing pedestrian crossing warning signs to clarify.

11. *There are so many Google buses parked on Fairchild Dr. or entering/exiting Moffett Field that they cause congestion and block streets. Is there anything that can be done to alleviate the issue?*

In response to this comment, City staff has asked Google to use alternative routes. Google staff are looking into re-routing some of their buses, if not all, to Middlefield Road. City staff will follow up with Google.

12. *At Terra Bella & Shoreline Boulevard, drivers turning right onto northbound Shoreline Boulevard often yield to left turners onto northbound Shoreline. This seems like it might add to future accidents as left turners start to assume they have the right of way. Can signage be installed to educate drivers who have the right of way?*

There is no standard signage that displays such a message. However, there will be modifications to this signalized intersection that will convert the left turns on Terra Bella to protected left turns so they can only turn when they have a green arrow.

13. *Can anything be done to limit street parking in a neighborhood? We get spillover from San Vernon apartments. As a result, street cleaning is ineffective and sometimes there's not even enough room for recycling containers.*

The City has a "clean sweep" program for areas where parked cars prevent effective sweeping. Clean sweeps rely on posting temporary no parking signs in an area to restrict parking for a day so sweeping can occur. This area will now be targeted 3-4 times per year with a clean sweep.

14. *Trucks parking on Terra Bella Avenue are obstructing the view of drivers turning from San Rafael Avenue to Terra Bella Avenue. Is it possible to restrict truck parking near this intersection?*

Staff will field check this location and determine what improvements could be made to improve the visibility either through parking restriction signage or curb painting.

15. *Can we please remove the stop sign on Whisman and Chetwood Drives? If we make the stop just applicable for traffic from Chetwood Drive (2 way stop) it will help remove an unnecessary stop for residents. Thanks.*

The 4-way stop at this intersection is intended to provide pedestrians with a safe crossing to access Chetwood Park and the VTA Light Rail Station, especially during the commute times of day where vehicular traffic is at its peak. City staff therefore does not recommend modifying the existing 4-way stop.

16. *The south side pedestrian and bike crossing of Highway 85 at Middlefield Road is non-existent/very dangerous. When will this be addressed? Several walkers/bikers are almost hit by vehicles.*

Due to the limited bridge width on the Highway 85 overcrossing, pedestrian access on the south side of Middlefield is not recommended beyond the existing apartments where the sidewalk ends. Staff is aware of these constraints and will look at potential ways to improve the access through upcoming development projects in that area which would require modifications to the bridge crossing Highway 85. In the meantime, staff will add signage to route pedestrians to the north side of Middlefield Road where there is sidewalk over the bridge.

17. *Why are black plastics not eligible for recycling even if they are food products and have appropriate-numbered triangles?*

The vendors who buy our recycled plastic don't want black plastic because when melted together with lighter color plastics, the black dye darkens the mix too much, limiting the type of products that can be made from the recycled resin. In addition, the optical scanners that read the resin type can't sort black plastic for separate recycling because the black doesn't reflect light, and it is too labor intensive to sort black plastic manually.