

GRANT ROAD/SYLVAN NEIGHBORHOOD AREA FOLLOW-UP REPORT

Follow-up Responses to Issues Raised at the March 20, 2014
Council Neighborhood Committee Meeting

Presented below are the City's responses to several questions requiring follow-up from the March 20, 2014 Council Neighborhood Committee (CNC) meeting with the Grant Road/Sylvan 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 Linda Lauzze, the City's Administrative and Neighborhood Services Manager, at (650) 903-6379.

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE – (650) 903-6301

1. *Does the City have a timeline as to when Hangar One will be re-skinned?*

Lease negotiations between NASA and Google subsidiary Planetary Ventures are in progress. Both parties anticipate the signing of a final lease this summer. Per the requirements of the Request for Proposals (RFP), the re-skinning of Hangar One must start no later than 18 months from the final signing of the lease.

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

1. *Waverly Park West Neighborhood Association members would like to know the status of the abandoned house on La Salle Drive.*

There are possible code violations at this address. The City's Code Enforcement Division is working to gain a voluntary inspection at the property. Anyone interested in monitoring the progress on this item may create an "Ask MV" request at <https://clients.comcate.com/newrequest.php?id=128>. Please select Code Enforcement under the topic menu.

2. *Why are businesses with required screening trees allowed to cut them (trim) so that they no longer screen visually?*

A Code Enforcement Officer visited the site and determined that the trees at 1503 Grant Road were not illegally trimmed. Typically, a permit is not required to trim trees. These trees were required by a Conditional Use Permit and protected by the City's heritage tree ordinance. The trees can be trimmed as long as the trimming does not jeopardize the integrity of the tree.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6306

1. *Does the City have any plan for a gray water distribution system to provide recyclable water for irrigation of residential landscaping?*

No, the City does not have plans for a gray water distribution center for private residential landscape irrigation in the near future. However, individual homeowners may install and utilize a gray water system on their own. There are no restrictions in the building code related to gray water systems being utilized for irrigation. The Building Division does ask that residents obtain a building permit for such systems. The Building Division is responsible for life-safety issues related to building construction and would like to have the opportunity to review the plans for non-code compliant conditions to correct them before the system is installed.

To obtain the permit, the applicant needs to bring in three copies of plans. The drawing can be as simple as a basic hand drawn site plan that shows the building, property lines, and how the gray water system is proposed to be connected to the existing plumbing system in the building, and where the gray water lines will be run and “daylighted” into the landscaping. There are some particular details that can be added to the plans to show the end termination conditions, etc., but a written narrative statement can often suffice for this part of the submittal. Building Division staff is available to answer any questions.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6331

1. *I live right behind Huff Elementary School baseball field. I have noticed that people are partying on bleachers behind my house. I have asked the school district and City to install lights back there and was told no. People go back there because it is the darkest spot at Huff with seating. Question: How can I get a light or have the shed removed?*

Community Services Department staff has met with the Mountain View Police Department at the Huff School baseball field to discuss the issue of people congregating behind the storage shed after the park is closed. The option of using a motion activated light on the shed to discourage night time activity was discussed. Unfortunately, the light would be easily accessible to vandalism and would not be effective. The officer indicated the best course of action is to call the police department at (650) 903-6395 when activity is noticed and they will respond.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6350

1. *We find people sitting at bus stops on Grant Road near the hospital for hours after 7:00 pm weekdays and on weekends. They are usually older, low-income or homeless and some still have bandages. It would appear that they are released from El Camino Hospital and are waiting for the #22 bus on days when there is no bus service. The hospital or Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) should explain that there is “no bus service” or check in with them and offer them an Outreach ride. VTA should consider the installation of signs saying “no bus service on weekends or after 7:00 pm on weekdays”. These poor people do not have cell phones to call VTA to ask for hours.*

Although the City's Police Department is still in the process of bringing all the stakeholders together, it appears that as a result of this inquiry, VTA, El Camino Hospital and the Police Department will be improving discharge training for El Camino Hospital and the RotaCare clinic. As part of the process, they will also be making available VTA services (Outreach and Para-transit), providing clearly visible VTA signage, and taxi vouchers to assist in making the discharge process more effective.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6311

1. *Is it possible to request that the City of Los Altos add a “No Turn on Red” at Covington/Grant?*

The City of Mountain View Traffic Division has contacted the City of Los Altos about an additional sign and they have agreed to install a new “No Turn on Red” sign at this location.

2. *Improve crosswalks with lighting strips especially by Mountain View High School at Truman Avenue and Bryant Avenue where students walk, especially when dark during the early morning and late evening.*

Several improvements have been made to make this intersection safer for pedestrians. Crosswalk striping has been added at the intersection of Bryant and Truman. The existing tree has been trimmed to remove obstruction to the existing street light and additional tree trimming is scheduled for the week of May 19th. Finally, the existing light at this location has been upgraded from 70 watts to 150 watts.

3. *Can a notice for extra winter green waste pick-up be included with the utility bill?*

Yes, it would be possible to place a notice about the weekly fall yard trimmings program in the utility bills. However, this message reaches all utility customers; it cannot be targeted just to those who have yard trimmings service. Staff is considering the utility bill notice option along with other methods of advertising this new service to yard trimmings customers.