

El Monte Avenue Corridor Study Public Outreach Meeting #1 (Minutes)

The first public meeting for the project was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at the Mountain View Community Center's Redwood Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held in a charrette-style format where attendees were invited to participate and to provide input in groups. Approximately thirty-five (35) members of the public attended the meeting with thirty (30) people signing-in during the event. The goals of the meeting were to introduce members of the public to the project and the project team and to gather feedback from residents regarding concerns/issues along the corridor.

The meeting layout commenced with a sign-in table to give the residents the option to provide their contact information. Facilitation tables were setup throughout the room with aerial maps of the study area and two meeting facilitators at each table to record the comments received from the residents. Attendees were also provided a comment card at each facilitation table which listed each of the study intersections and inquired into their experience traveling along the corridor. These comment cards were collected at the end of the meeting so the comments could be recorded and summarized. Flip charts were provided for each of the nine study intersections to record comments from the public as well. Additionally, exhibit boards were setup across the room illustrating aerial maps for the study area, a collision history map for the corridor, improvements at the El Monte/Marich Way intersection, and conceptual plans for the El Camino Streetscape Plan. City staff and the project consultant team were available at the various tables/exhibits to facilitate the discussion, provide input, and answer questions.

To initiate the discussion, the City of Mountain View's Project Manager, Darwin Galang, addressed the audience by providing a brief overview of the project, describing the goals of the project, and stating the objectives of the first public outreach meeting. Lorenzo Lopez, City Traffic Engineer, then addressed the public and provided an overview of the El Camino Streetscape Plan, recently implemented improvements at the El Monte Ave/Marich Way intersection, and ongoing improvement studies at the intersections of: El Camino Real/Escuela Avenue, El Camino Real/El Monte Avenue, and El Monte Avenue/Ednamary Way. Shruti Malik, public outreach lead from Mott MacDonal, guided the public on the structure of the charrette and the process for recording feedback from the attendees. Shruti's introduction was followed by a charrette-style discussion at the meeting tables with facilitators recording individual feedback from residents about the corridor. The charrette lasted for approximately an hour and was moderated by facilitators at each table.

To wrap up the meeting, a brief Question & Answer session followed where attendees voiced their questions and received responses from City staff. Shruti then provided input regarding the next steps for the project including the timeline for the next public meeting which is tentatively planned to be held in March/April 2020. Lastly, Darwin provided input on the target timeline for the completion of the study which is in fall/winter of 2020.