Community Workshop on the Housing Element

May 3, 2014

Summary of Large Group Debrief

	What are your top three takeaways?	What did you discover about placing the homes?
•	We thought the goal was to place homes at the locations given. Had a difficult time with the lack of focus of the workshop/exercise. Had a much more positive feeling at this workshop compared to the 4/26 workshop. Should not be building poverty clusters; don't ignore ground contaminations; don't create traffic impacts.	 It was a confusing process. There is a lot of diversity of opinion concerning the suitability of several of the sites, such as Grady Ranch. Our process began with determining whether all those at the table shared the same opinions or not.
•	We learned why things are the way that they are, for example why it's so hard to make these decisions. We also learned that our conversations give good and informative feedback. We all have very strong opinions, which made it difficult to make decisions.	 We thought it would take a longer discussion to become a group that could compromise and make these kinds of decisions. Needed more time to reach consensus. We need further education about costs of housing development. For example, what are the economics of developing at Grady Ranch or the Marin City site? It was an inspirational process.
•	We didn't know enough about the process to make informed decisions. Need more integrated outreach with community organizations, door-to-door, schools, and others to get more of the community involved. Our voices are too far removed from the decision-makers for our opinions to matter. Want to ensure that more of the people who are actually impacted by the outcome are involved in this process.	 It's a difficult process. We weren't able to decide on placement of any homes.