

## **TWIN RIVERS COMMUNITY MEETING #1**

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Agency Staff in Attendance:** Nick Chhotu, Chris Pahule, Erika Bumgardner, Nick Baral  
**City Staff in Attendance:** Rachel Hazlewood

**Residents in Attendance:** 26

#### **Minutes:**

Nick Chhotu welcomed everyone, provided an overview of grant/award information. Not just new paint; all new.

Chris Pahule provided an overview of the planning process, exactly what we have funding to do: develop a comprehensive plan for the area. 18-24 month process. Plan to focus on three core areas;

1. Housing – energy efficient, high quality
2. People – programs and resource improvement to improve resident outcomes
3. Neighborhood – what needed to make this a thriving neighborhood (banks, grocery stores, etc.)

A financing plan will also be developed to pay for improvements.

Chris talked about SHRA's partners in the process including the City of Sacramento, SETA, Twin Rivers Unified School District, UC Davis.

Four different committees will be established to talk about the issues and improvement needs of the Twin Rivers community:

1. Education
2. People
3. Housing
4. Neighborhood

A comprehensive needs assessment will be developed. Someone will come out to every household to meet with residents and understand their needs/concerns.

There will be a community mapping exercise as well to determine where residents currently do their shopping, go to school, how they get to work, etc.

These documents will help advise on how to create a solid neighborhood.

Rachel Hazlewood with the City of Sacramento discussed various projects in the River District including the Powerhouse Science Center, the I-5 underpass and on/off-ramp improvements, the new light rail station and stop, the new Greyhound facility and the water treatment plant facility upgrade. Rachel also commented they would like to see the River District transform into a true "neighborhood," with more residents and amenities.

Chris Pahule began fielding questions, comments and concerns from residents. The following including a list of comments and questions received from resident attendees sorted by the following planning components:

### **Education**

- Refurbish existing Smythe Academy back into an elementary school for the neighborhood.
- There needs to be more recreational opportunities and activities for children and youth to keep them engaged and out of trouble.
- There needs to be a Headstart or other programs for young children whose parents work.
- When will the meeting with Twin Rivers Unified School District take place?

### **People**

- Residents need more resources.
- If residents are moved, will this be permanent or temporary. Some people would like to come back to Twin Rivers.
- There needs to be more fitness/health opportunities for residents.
- When residents are moved out of units during construction, please be considerate of lives already established in this area (childcare, schools, jobs, etc.). Don't want to be moved all the way to the south area, even temporarily. Try to move people locally.
- Will you wait until the last minute to move us?

### **Housing**

- Is the intent to build more units?
- Recommendation to keep existing amenities such as air conditioning and add more in new development.
- Recommendation to allow for private outdoor space for each unit in the new development for personal garden or patio.
- Where are we in the design process?
- Each units should have its own laundry hook-up or provide more throughout the community.
- Will there be Section 8 or Conventional housing in the future?

### **Neighborhood**

- Accessibility along 12<sup>th</sup> Street, particularly for folks in wheelchairs who currently have to go out into the street to get around bumpy sidewalks. Needs to be taken care of immediately.
- There is a need for more convenience stores and other shopping/dining opportunities within the immediate neighborhood for residents.

- Will there be money to buy-out Goldies?
- There needs to be more lighting in the neighborhood itself; currently too dark at night.
- There are currently speeding issues in the neighborhood (Twin Rivers itself).
- Need for wild animal control (raccoons, squirrels, rats, etc.).
- There is a need for a local pharmacy.
- There needs to be better transportation options for residents to get to the grocery store.
- Will surrounding businesses be part of the process?
- With the new planning, will homeless issues be addressed?

### **General Comments**

- Recommendation to hold a group meeting to discuss “needs assessment,” so people can feed off of others ideas.
- Include stipend for residents who serve on the various committees.
- Is there a way for residents to participate in fund raising to keep this effort moving forward?
- What are other opportunities for participation? When are next meetings to be held?
- If the Feds or HUD doesn't give us additional funds for construction, does this project die?

SHRA staff encouraged residents to attend the next meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM where HUD representatives will be in attendance and staff can begin to respond to some of the questions/concerns brought up at today's meeting.