

# The Community-Driven EDEN AREA LIVABILITY INITIATIVE

## Phase II Summary Report

This document was prepared by Prevention Institute with input and support from the staff of Alameda County Supervisors Nate Miley and Wilma Chan.



www.preventioninstitute.org

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# Board of Supervisors

1221 Oak Street, Suite 536 Oakland, CA 94612

January 15, 2014

Dear Eden Area Friends,

We are proud to present the Summary Report on the Eden Area Livability Initiative (EALI) Phase II community process and Charrette. This Report documents the work done by more than 400 community members, staff, and volunteers to shape the future of the communities of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo over the next five years.

We have endeavored to make this report user-friendly by dividing it into eight chapters that provide an Introduction, Review of EALI's History, Process, Building Blocks, Outcomes, Reflections and Recommendations, Conclusion, and Acknowledgments. We hope you will be re/inspired to join our effort as we move into the implementation phase. If you are interested in participating, please do not hesitate to contact Eva Poon in Supervisor Miley's office at <u>eva.poon@acgov.org</u> or (510) 670-5717.

We are proud of the Eden Area communities, the EALI process and outcomes, and we look forward to working with you to better our communities, together.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Nate Miley

Win M

Supervisor Wilma Chan

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#### INTRODUCTION

he Eden Area Livability Initiative (EALI) was launched in December of 2004 by Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley with the goal of improving the quality of life and health of the residents of the unincorporated communities in the western part of Alameda County, known as the "Eden Area." EALI was designed to identify the existing needs in the communities of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo; build local capacity to address emerging issues; and develop stronger partnerships between community members, local organizations, county government, and other public agencies.

EALI is a structured yet flexible and inclusive process of community engagement, visioning, and decision-making. Community experience and wisdom shaped the initiative through outreach, a Blue Ribbon Steering Committee, five topic-driven Visioning Groups, and a community-wide Charrette. EALI has given Eden Area stakeholders the opportunity to voice what they want their communities to be, and to shape the process of getting there.

This report captures and analyzes the EALI Phase II process and outcomes. It is intended primarily for those who participated in EALI as a record, reminder, and measure of accountability; it is also meant to help those Eden Area residents who did not participate in EALI to understand what has been happening in their communities with the hope that they are inspired to join the effort. Finally, this report can serve as a guide for people who want to replicate elements of this unique community visioning process in other locations.



#### EDEN AREA MAP

"EALI was an experience. It was human, there was conflict, discussions, people coming together from different cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds – it gave you a collective process. A democratic process – that is EALI." -Participant

## **EALI History**

## EALI PHASE I

The first phase of EALI spanned the period from 2004 to 2013. During that time, more than 800 Eden Area stakeholders participated in a community visioning process through public forums, town hall meetings, task force meetings, leadership committee meetings, survey completion, and a community Charrette. The outcomes from the first phase of EALI include the following:

- The REACH Ashland Youth Center was planned, built, opened, and now provides recreation, education, arts, career, and health services to local youths.
- A design team is moving forward with planning for a new Cherryland Community Center.
- Streetscape improvements were completed (on Castro Valley and Lewelling Boulevards, etc.).
- The Alameda County Community Development Agency and Department of Public Health have partnered to develop the Community Health & Wellness General Plan Element. The Health Element will cover the Ashland and Cherryland communities and will address how policies can be revised to support public health, social equity, and environmental justice.
- The first Community Profile for the Eden Area was completed, providing useful demographic and other information and resources that spotlight the urban unincorporated communities.
- A Citizen Committee formed to evaluate EALI Phase I for the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee.

Additionally, representation for the Eden Area was improved by:

• Requiring that a majority of Planning Commission members reside in the Eden Area;

- Creating additional public input in the recruitment of West County Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) and Planning Commission members;
- Webcasting of Board of Supervisors meeting;
- Implementing a process of "Soft Remand" between the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Adjustments

### EALI PHASE II

The second phase of EALI was initiated in October of 2012 at a meeting of the community-led Blue Ribbon Steering Committee (established to provide oversight). This group has subsequently evolved into the Joint Leadership Committee to insure EALI Phase II goals are accomplished. EALI is rooted in key themes that emerged from the first EALI process, a review of the THRIVE Livability Factors (see next section), community wisdom and engagement, and data and indicators on the quality of life in the Eden Area. Five topical Visioning Groups were established to guide the EALI Phase II process: Agriculture & Environment, Economic Development, Education, Governance, and Public Safety & Realignment. Additionally, a community Charrette was held in November 2013. Throughout 2013, the time and contributions of approximately 170 participants laid the foundation for a livable future in the Eden Area.



Over 400 people participated in the November 16, 2013 Charrette

## **Initiative Building Blocks**

Community and county leaders collaboratively developed a mission statement and set of goals and objectives to guide the EALI process. The THRIVE Livability Factors were adopted by EALI leadership in 2007 to provide a comprehensive framework of elements that affect livability in a community; they also can be used to evaluate progress.

Funding for EALI Phase II came from the Offices of Alameda County Supervisors Miley and Chan, as well as in-kind contributions from Alameda County Departments and other public agencies.

### **EALI MISSION STATEMENT**

To create, strengthen, and sustain a livable community in the western unincorporated areas of Alameda County.

### EALI GOALS

- To encourage planning and action across disciplines and interest areas.
- To engage the community in a significant way.
- To call for county agencies to collaborate in new ways.
- To build stronger partnerships between the county, other jurisdictions and the community.

### **EALI OBJECTIVES**

- To increase community participation in decisions that affect the community.
- To find a shared community vision.
- To ensure coordination and implementation of this vision and plan between government and the community.
- To strengthen relationships between government and the community.
- To ensure appropriate policy formation and implementation.
- To make the unincorporated communities of Alameda County a great place to live, work, go to school, visit, and play!



Eden Area community members led the EALI planning process

## COMMUNITY WISDOM AND ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Community members were a constant source of leadership throughout the EALI Phase II process. The Blue Ribbon Steering Committee meetings were regularly attended by more than 50 people. Community leaders, organizations, Alameda County agencies and departments, and special districts supported the EALI process in numerous ways, including conducting outreach, reviewing documents, and representing projects at the Charrette. Outreach to Latino community members would not have been possible without the expertise and work of Congregations Organizing for Renewal (COR). Throughout EALI Phase II, Prevention Institute worked closely with community leaders, helped organize the Charrette, and contributed to this report.

### **DATA AND INDICATORS**

Alameda County commissioned the Urban Strategies Council to create the Eden Area Community Profile 2013. The Community Profile provides baseline data for understanding the Eden Area using the 2010 Census and other public data sets; it also serves as a reference to measure community changes since the first edition of the Community Profile was published in 2008. The Eden Area Community Profile 2008 and 2013 are available online at <u>www.acgov.org/edenareavision</u> under the "Community Profile" tab.

## **THRIVE LIVABILITY FACTORS**

The THRIVE Livability Factors were developed based on a review of the Local Government Commission's "Ahwahnee Principles" and Prevention Institute's THRIVE (Tool for Health and Resilience In Vulnerable Environments) Factors. These factors were adopted by the Joint Leadership Committee during EALI I and ratified by the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee at the outset of EALI II to provide the overarching framework and focus of the processes. For more information about THRIVE, visit www.preventioninstitute.org.

### Place

-opo

- 1. What's Sold & How It's Promoted rule, 2. Look & Feel [Community Design; Historical Character] 3. Safety 4. Parks & Open Space [Squares, Greens & Parks; Placement and Design] 5. Getting Around [Transit Networks; Housing and Jobs within Walking Distance; Pedestrian and Bike-Friendly Design] 6. Housing [Diversity] 7. Air, Water & Soil [Healthy Environments; Efficient Water Use; Energy Efficiency] 8. Arts & Culture
  - 9. Preserve Resources/Natural Terrain
  - 10. Defined Communities [Signage; Public Art; Green Spaces]
  - 11. Public Places for All Ages/Interests

### **Equitable Opportunity**



- 12. Racial Justice
- 13. Jobs & Local Ownership [Range Of Types For Residents]

16. Participation and Willingness to Act for the Common Good

14. Education

#### People

- 15. Social Networks & Trust

- 17. Norms/Expected Behaviors & Attitudes
- 18. Planning Integrated Communities [Commerce; Parks; Schools; Civic Life; Housing]
- 19. Community Focal Points for Commercial, Civic, Cultural, and Recreational Uses
- 20. Health Care Access & Treatment

## **Process**

#### Figure I. EALI II Timeline



EALI Phase II was initiated at a Blue Ribbon Steering Committee in October 2012. At that time, six Visioning Groups were formed around topics of community concern: Agriculture & Environment; Citizenship, Immigration & Naturalization; Economic Development; Education; Governance; and Public Safety & Realignment. The Citizenship, Immigration & Naturalization group met once, and future meetings were postponed to insure proper outreach and preparation, leaving a total of five Visioning Groups.

These groups were charged with developing goals for enhancing the livability of the Eden Area, which were put to a community-wide vote at the November 2013 Charrette. The Blue Ribbon Steering Committee began to advance EALI Phase II next steps at a January 2014 meeting, including establishing working groups to advance community-selected goals.

## BLUE RIBBON STEERING COMMITTEE

The Blue Ribbon Steering Committee met six times from October 2012 to October 2013 to develop and oversee the Visioning Group and community Charrette process; over 100 unique individuals participated in these meetings. The Blue Ribbon Steering Committee provided a venue for Eden Area stakeholders from diverse backgrounds and sectors to provide feedback and shape EALI Phase II. The committee fostered community involvement and ownership of EALI, and allowed community members to guide the development of the EALI planning and structure.

#### VISIONING GROUPS

The five Visioning Groups (Agriculture & Environment, Economic Development, Education, Governance, and Public Safety & Realignment) met up to five times each from January to September 2013. In total, over 90 residents of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo participated in more than 20 Visioning Group meetings over the ten-month period. The Visioning Groups were charged with developing and prioritizing goals related to their topic area, as well as identifying example projects to address each goal. Each group was led by an Executive Team, whose members developed a preamble describing the vision and goals of their group. Members of the Executive Team also delivered a presentation on behalf of each Visioning Group to the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee and at the community Charrette.





#### **COMMUNITY CHARRETTE**

On Saturday, November 16, 2013, over 400 Eden Area community members gathered at the Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward for a participatory planning meeting, also called a community Charrette. An extensive outreach campaign, which included advertising the Charrette by word-of-mouth, fliers, email, mail, and local press, brought people from throughout the five Eden Area communities.

The Charrette was designed to inform the community about the vision and goals developed by the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee and Visioning Groups. Each eligible participant received a ballot and voter handbook (see appendix), which described each Visioning Group's overall purpose, livability goals, and example projects to achieve these goals. Charrette participants heard updates from EALI Phase I Working Groups on two ongoing projects, the Health & Wellness General Plan Element for Ashland and Cherryland, and the Cherryland Community Center. Representatives of each Visioning Group made a presentation describing their vision for a healthy, livable Eden Area, and



Supervisor Miley welcomed the crowd

outlined goals and example projects to achieve this vision. Following the presentations, participants had the opportunity to visit tables staffed by the Visioning Groups to ask questions, share their own ideas for a livable Eden Area, and interact with fellow community members. The tabling time also gave people a chance to review the voter handbook, which described the goals up for vote in greater detail. Participants then cast votes for their priority goals, a process that was overseen by The League of Women Voters Eden Area and the Alameda County Registrar of Voters to ensure accountability and transparency. Supervisor Miley concluded the Charrette by announcing the winning goals, describing the next steps in the EALI Phase II process, and thanking everyone for their participation.

Overall, Charrette participants expressed excitement about the opportunity to learn about the Eden Area and have a voice in their community. Many reported enjoyed meeting other community members and appreciated having their voices heard. While some participants noted the importance of increasing community outreach and were uncertain about how to remain involved in EALI, many were excited about seeing the priority goals selected and wanted to continue participating in the EALI process. Complete video footage of the Charrette is available online at http://bit.ly/KwushE.

> "We can change the world. And youth can vote!" -Youth participant



Youth participants received special recognition from Supervisors Miley and Chan's offices

Blue Ribbon Steering Committee member Keith Barros warmed up the crowd with the song "Charrette" (to the tune of "Charade")



"Welcome to our Charrette. Here you can make a difference. Hear all the goals and go to the polls, this fine day at our Charrette.

At our very first Charrette the youth center gained its traction. I took a chance on governance and came back for even more yet.

Everyone had their own ideas of what they wanted to do. After ten months the committed stayed on to see the consensus come through.

So come on let's all get set. This moment is why we've been working. It's ripe on the vine, with rhythm and rhyme. Now is the time. Charrette!"

## **COMMUNITY CHARRETTE OUTCOMES**

The following goals, organized by Visioning Group topic area, were selected through the community vote at the November 16, 2013 Charrette.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
✓ Provide educational opportunities in the school system and surrounding community about agriculture (farming, ranching, and equestrian) while seeking park and open space opportunities in the urban built out environment.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Promote private economic investment in Eden Area and attract both businesses and customers.
EDUCATION
Advocate and provide avenues for increasing resources and opportunities for all schools and students in the Eden Area.
GOVERNANCE
☑ Enhance local self-governance.
PUBLIC SAFETY & REALIGNMENT
<ul> <li>Establish guidelines and protocols regarding licensed and unlicensed housing establishments such as group homes, care facilities, half way houses, and other therapeutic treatment facilities to ensure quality of service and safety of the community and program residents.</li> <li>Prevent crime and reduce recidivism.</li> </ul>

### **NEXT STEPS**

As the next step in EALI Phase II, the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee will review the winning goals and establish working groups in early 2014 to develop implementation plans for each goal. Community members in the Eden Area are welcome to participate in the implementation process, which will take place from 2014 to 2019.

#### CHARRETTE EVALUATION: SELECTED RESULTS

At the end of the day, participants completed an evaluation of the Charrette. Selected questions and responses are shown below.

#### Were the instructions and materials clear for the Charrette activities?

On a scale of 1 "not very clear" to 5 "very clear," more than eight out of ten participants – and more than nine out of ten Spanish speakers – rated the instructions and materials as a 4 or 5, meaning clear or very clear.

Pating	Not very clear Very c			<ul> <li>Very clear</li> </ul>	
Rating	I	2	3	4	5
Results	1%	3%	11%	39%	47%

#### What is your overall rating of the Charrette?

On a scale of 1 "poor" to 5 "excellent," eight out of ten people rated the instructions and materials as a 4 or 5, meaning very good or excellent.

Pating	Poor				<ul> <li>Excellent</li> </ul>
Rating	I	2	3	4	5
Results	0%	3%	13%	46%	38%

#### How did you hear about today's Charrette/EALI?

Friend/ Neighbor	Flyer	E-mail	School or Youth Organization		Community Organization	Event	Online Press/Social Media/Web	Other
28%	18%	16%	<b>9</b> %	8%	8%	6%	4%	3%



State Senator Ellen Corbett (far right) attended the Charrette and thanked everyone for their participation

"The most valuable aspect of the Charrette was the passion of the presenters and empowerment of community." -PARTICIPANT

## **Reflections & Recommendations**

Reflecting on the success of EALI Phase II, a number of key elements stand out. In some instances the success was the result of the process constructed at the outset, but flexibility and responsiveness were also necessary to address needs and take advantage of opportunities that emerged. While EALI Phase II did largely achieve its goals, there are areas for ongoing attention and improvement that should be considered in future EALI efforts.



**Charrette participants** 

## ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND OWNERSHIP

The EALI process is dependent on the participation, skills, and leadership of community members. In order to generate the level of indepth discussion necessary to define and refine goals, Visioning Groups were asked to meet multiple times for several hours, as described in previous sections of this report. That level of engagement and shaping of the process built a high level of ownership among participants. That sense of ownership was enhanced for those individuals who became "Executive Teams" for each Visioning Group and became responsible for refining group preambles and organizing, preparing, and presenting the teams' work. "EALI was challenging and interesting. It was an opportunity to get to know the community – hear different perspectives. There is a lot of passion in the unincorporated area." -PARTICIPANT

For those who were unable to make the time commitment necessary to participate in the Visioning Groups, the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee meetings offered a less time-intensive opportunity to monitor overall initiative progress and provide input. The Charrette was widely publicized through local media, existing networks, and outreach to individuals as an exciting opportunity to have direct input on the direction of the community. The number of new faces at the Charrette demonstrated the success of those efforts. However, engaging those "new faces" in EALI moving forward is both a challenge and an opportunity. The community residents who made the greatest investments in EALI through the Visioning Groups and Blue Ribbon Steering Committee do not reflect the racial, ethnic, or age diversity of the Eden Area. As the EALI process moves into intensive consideration of the priority goals established at the Charrette, attention will need to be paid to incorporating the perspectives of an even broader range of Eden Area residents.

## PROVIDE AMPLE TIME AND VENUES FOR STRUCTURED DISCUSSION OF CONTENTIOUS ISSUES

As described previously, the EALI process brings together diverse people from communities that are in the process of developing a sense of shared destiny. The issues under consideration are complicated and in many cases have been worked on for years prior to the initiation of EALI. As a result, there are many different points of view and a need to work methodically toward shared understanding. The EALI structure and facilitation is based on a core belief that true democracy requires that groups of community residents voice and resolve conflicts. For example, there were a number of perspectives and strong opinions about who should be eligible to vote at the Charrette; through a process of soliciting input, developing a proposal, and listening carefully to feedback, the voting process was able to move forward based on the final decision.

## ESTABLISH A CLEAR PROCESS AND EXPECTATIONS

During the first phase of EALI, the following Japanese proverb was posted on many written materials and at meeting sites: "Action without vision is a nightmare; vision without action is a daydream."The spirit of that aphorism was carried into the planning and implementation of Phase II. The active engagement of Supervisors Miley and Chan, their staff, and county agency staff, along with focus on the Charrette as a culminating event, helped to maintain the sense that the EALI process would result in action. Establishing Visioning Groups focused on broad topics, with a step-by-step process of moving from an open discussion to prioritized goals, prompted a focus on visionary thinking.

On the other hand, there were a number of times during the process when it was necessary to make adjustments by, for instance, adding or removing meetings, bringing in outside expertise, and even modifying the scope of recommendations each Visioning Group would place on the Charrette ballot. In the first phase of EALI, the focus of the Charrette was on selecting "catalyst projects" that would address community needs and goals. Early in the EALI Phase II process, a number of participants compellingly argued that the focus should instead be placed on prioritizing aspirational goals given the breadth of discussion in the Visioning Groups, the importance of establishing a shared vision, and the complexities in choosing feasible projects that met the needs of all communities. As a result, it was decided that each Visioning Group would agree on a set of goals while also identifying the types of projects that could achieve each goal, and that a community-driven process would be set up to move each goal prioritized at the Charrette toward implementation.



Charrette participants visited Visioning Group tables to learn more about the proposed goals

## EVALUATE IDEAS USING CRITERIA INCLUDING FEASIBILITY AND ADVANCEMENT OF LIVABILITY PRINCIPLES

In order to move systematically from vision to action, EALI participants were encouraged to consider ideas in light of two main criteria: feasibility (fiscal, legal, etc.) and likelihood of achieving the sort of community transformation that is the basis of EALI. The dialogue about feasibility created a valuable exchange wherein county staff were able to articulate their perspectives and constraints. The regular reference to and review of the THRIVE Livability Factors (described previously) served to tie the discussion and process back to "big" themes and research based elements of healthy, thriving communities. Referring back to the Livability Factors also served as a reminder that the process is intended to result in improvements in conditions in all the Eden Area communities and a hedge against focusing on narrow issues that might not be relevant across the entire area.

## Conclusion

As the Eden Area Livability Initiative enters its tenth year, it is a good time to pause and reflect on the process and outcomes to date, as well as where the Eden Area will go from here. As with anything worth doing, EALI has not been without its challenges. The Eden Area still remains a group of communities that have distinct senses of character and have not established a shared sense of destiny. As the Community Profile by Urban Strategies Council illustrates, new economic and demographic challenges are emerging. Improving community environments, particularly under these circumstances, is not easy work; it requires a comprehensive approach that creates bridges across communities and sectors. Realizing the vision for livability in the Eden Area requires the involvement of even more people working in partnerships to create strategies that address issues of collective concern.

What makes EALI exceptional is that Eden Area stakeholders invest their time, leadership, skills, and energy with genuine intent to solve these challenges. Nearly a decade into the community"It was stressful to keep going. But we found a commonality with other communities and what we could do for each other."

-PARTICIPANT

driven visioning and planning process, EALI is moving the Eden Area in the right direction by fostering:

- Increased civic engagement;
- A shared vision for the future of the Eden Area;
- A set of prioritized goals and projects designed to improve community livability;
- Collaboration among community members and with public agency staff; and
- More responsive, robust Eden Area representation in county government.

With continued leadership, collaboration, and innovative thinking, the next decade of EALI will lead to a brighter, more livable future for the Eden Area communities.

# Acknowledgments

Alameda County Supervisors Nate Miley and Wilma Chan wish to thank the following individuals and groups for all their hard work and for making the EALI Phase II process possible.

- The members of the **Blue Ribbon Steering Committee** who met six times from the fall of 2012 through the fall of 2013 to develop and oversee the Visioning Group and Community Charrette processes. We appreciate the time and energy they put into guiding us. Their ability to debate and deliberate is an example of democracy in action.
- The more than 90 residents of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo who demonstrated extraordinary commitment to our communities by participating in the more than 20
   Visioning Group meetings over a ten-month period in the areas of: Agriculture & Environment, Economic Development, Education, Governance, and Public Safety & Realignment.
- The **Working Group** members who strive to implement the goals and vision set forth in EALI Phase I to see the Cherryland Community Center and Public Health Element completed.
- The **Executive Team** members of the Visioning Groups who worked together to develop and finalize the preambles and prepare their presentations to the Blue Ribbon Steering Committee and at the Charrette. Your leadership is an example to our Eden Area communities of vision and commitment to what is possible for us to achieve together.
- Alameda County, Castro Valley Unified School District, San Lorenzo Unified School District, Hayward Unified School District, AC Transit, and HARD for providing support and research during the EALI Phase II process.
- Supervisors Chan and Miley's staff and interns for their hard work on over the past 12 months to support the EALI Phase II process in the areas of constituent communication, logistics, and facilitation. Both their behind-the-scenes and front-and-center work has made important contributions to the success of this process.
- The League of Women Voters Eden Area and the Alameda County Registrar of Voters for volunteering to oversee the Charrette voting process and to certify the outcome. They play an important role in our community and to ensure a fair, open, and credible process.
- Eden Area neighbors who volunteered to make the community Charrette a success.
- Our consultants in the EALI Phase II process, **Prevention Institute** and the **Urban Strategies Council**, for helping us every step of the way, from developing the Community Profile to helping with meeting set up, scribing, providing updates at meetings and preparing the Charrette Ballot, Voter Handbook, and the final EALI 2013 to 2019 Plan.
- Eden Church and the Castro Valley Library for providing space for the EALI Phase II process over the last 12 months, including the Visioning Group meetings, Blue Ribbon Steering Committee meetings, and the Charrette.
- Lucy Wicks, Seth Kaplan, and the interns and volunteers who worked on EALI Phase I for their dedication and legacy in making it a success-to-emulate; their work was instrumental in launching EALI Phase II.
- Ben M. Gurule from Ben's Signs for his donation of the Charrette welcome sign.

## **Appendix A: Visioning Group Details**

#### AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

#### Participants:

Allen, Shanale*	Hatcher, Rick*	McElligott, Liz*
Ambrogio, Dave	Herrera, Hank*	Moore, Chuck★
Arias, Mario	Hodges, Paul	Murtaza, Layma
Baratta, Mike	Hoffman, Cheryl★	Nunez, Sergio
Baratta, Ruth	Jameson, Minane	Oliver, Becky
Beckman, Howard	Jelincic, Debbie	Orselli, Louis
Bunch,Yani	Jurich, Bernadette	Ortiz, Aaron
Campisi, Erica	Kirk, Steven	Roache, Cathy <b>*</b> <sup>∗</sup>
Carrera, Art⁺	Krysiak, Anne	Rosen, Peter*
Fountain, Juli	LaRock, Christine	Ruiz, Rick*
Gil, Kathy*	Lepore, Larry	Salisbury, Lloyd

Silva, Dale Steel, Mimi Sullivan, Pat Torres, Ron\* Turner, Matt Warren, Guy Warren, Rex Welsh, Abari Woloshian, Diane\*

★ Executive Team ⇔Alameda County Staff

Preamble:

Farming, gardening and ranching are an important part of the heritage of the Eden area and continue to contribute significantly to the county's environment, economy and community. Various forms of agriculture have different needs that must be met with policies, programs and regulations to avoid negative impacts on agricultural operations. Public outreach, education and environmental stewardship will maintain agriculture in both urban and rural areas, while improving and strengthening the agricultural foundation of our community to provide a healthy environment. We recognize the difference between open space and undeveloped agricultural lands and that both provide critical wildlife habitat and visual resources for the Eden Area. Our goal is to foster and promote the positive impacts that strengthen the economic benefits and sustainability of agriculture. Through these efforts, the county will drive investments to enhance our communities, improve the environment and contribute to the value of important open space. All wealth comes from the land.

#### Priority Goal:

✓ Provide educational opportunities in the school system and surrounding community about agriculture (farming, ranching, and equestrian) while seeking park and open space opportunities in the urban built out environment.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Create coordination between county agencies, community based organizations, and non-governmental organizations
- Sharing Alameda County Crops production report in the High Schools (grapes, cows, horse)
- Increase coordination between schools, agriculture, ranches for work opportunities where students receive credit, training, and certification
- Provide food production/growing/food process education in school system and surrounding community
- Provide training opportunities to spur job growth in the environmental and sustainable agriculture sector

#### AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

#### **Example Projects:**

- Expand the FFA and 4H into urban communities
- Provide educational opportunities in the school systems and surrounding community about nutrition and littering
- Develop large central plazas in the downtown areas as focal points for the community such as the properties at Daughtrey's, Mission & Mattox, and San Lorenzo Village
- Advocate for infill and pocket parks such as, the lot at Hacienda and Via Toledo
- Improve and upgrade local parks such as Cull Canyon Lake

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### Participants:

Ahuja, Jerry	Christi
Ambrogio, Dave	Cleme
Arteaga, Gabriel	Crawfo
Ashton, David	Cunha
Baratta, Mike*	Dalton
Baratta, Ruth*	Estrada
Barba, Suzanne	Gacher
Bass, Hilary∻	Garule
Beckman, Howard	Gil, Ka
Bell, Ellen	Greer,
Bock, Audie	Hatche
Bunch, Yani	Herrer
Byrd, Zelma	Hodge
Campisi, Erica	Jurich,
Campisi, Robert	Kavasc
Carbone, Ken	Kirk, S
Carrera, Art÷	Kleeba
Chong-Jeung, Aileen	Kline, J

ine, Judy ent, Christine ord, Marc , Sheila n, Eileen\* a, Fernando rieu, Dustin e, Ben athy Paula er, Rick a, Hank es, Paul Bernadette\* ch, Catherine Steven uer, Susan Iennifer

Knudsen, Dave Kral, Beverly Lehner, Jack Manos, Kathy McClain, Gwendolyn Michieli, Marc Miraglia, Cheryl Moller, Ingrid Mulgrew, Bill Nehring, Rev. Arlene Nunez, Sergio O'Donnell, Ellen Ontiveros, Steve Orduna, Rodrigo\* Pirone, Robert Raderman, Michael Ready, Kathie Rivera, Sandi\*

Rivet, Roberta Rosen, Peter Ross, Steve Ryzanych, John Sanchez Para, Carey Sherwood, Cliff\* Shultz, Nicole Spanos, Kristin\* Speed, Mel Spencer, Stephanie Thiemann, Kelly\* Turner, Matt Vanderbilt, Randy Waage, Randy Wydler, Diane Young, Michael Young, Andrea

★ Executive Team \*Alameda County Staff

#### Preamble:

Strong business activity creates dynamic, healthy communities. The Eden Area—in population the fourth largest community in Alameda County—has enormous economic potential and waits for discovery. The Eden Area needs a business friendly, streamlined and focused approach to attract new business and support existing business. Business enterprise will benefit our community with local jobs, increased tax revenues, and improved availability of goods and services. We possess a rich network of commercial corridors that provide significant opportunity for local entrepreneurs and their businesses—a competitive advantage that can drive economic growth and build community. We must act. The following goals and suggested projects reflect this vision and promote economic development for a wholesome, thriving Eden Area.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### Priority Goal:

#### Promote private economic investment in Eden Area and attract both businesses and customers.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Support business creation, retention, and entrepreneurship by providing technical assistance and financial incentives to local business via the use of small business development center, mentoring, employment links, and small incubator program, and adult education linkage, etc.
- Create a working group to develop policies that would make the county more business friendly
- Pursue site development of vacant, underutilized and/or blighted sites by attracting good quality businesses based on standards and guidelines developed by the community
- Update county planning documents (general plans, other policy plans, zoning ordinance) so they are consistent with each other and reflect the priorities of the community for economic development
- Hire an events coordinator and create community events to promote business and attract customers via street fairs, food truck events, parades, etc.
- Create and distribute marketing materials about the Eden Area for potential investors, commercial brokers and businesses:
  - Community Guides for both overall Eden Area as well as individual communities within include history, demographics, statistics, resources, and amenities
  - Web Page enhance and keep updated with relevant information
- Perform ongoing economic analysis, review and revise existing economic development plans based the updated data and make data publicly available

#### EDUCATION

#### Participants:

Amborgio, Dave	James, David	Merritt-Smith, Patricia	Passeggi, Susie
Baraan, Ted⁺	Kelly, John	Moehle, Charles	Sanchez Para, Carey
Baratta, Mike	Kline, Jennifer*	Mogilefsky, Kelly	Shah, Tony <b>*</b>
Baratta, Ruth	Knowles, Aisha*	Monroe, L. Karan	Sims, Trey
Bock, Audie	Lacocque, Rebecca	Moskovitz, Carolyn*	Spears, Melanie
Byrd, Zelma	Lamm, Nickie	Negri, Jim*	Stadelman,Vicki
Foster, Brian	Loss, Jo A.S.*	Nott, Bill	Theodore, Dot
Friesen, Janice	McClain, Gwendolyn	Ontiveros, Steve	Walker, Annette

#### Preamble:

We believe...

- Children, education and schools matter.
- Educated citizens are the basis of our democratic society.
- Eden Area residents recognize that robust, successful schools are an essential component of strong, vibrant communities.
- Students will thrive when given every opportunity to reach their potential.
- All students will be educated and supported by caring and committed staff.
- All parents must be engaged in every aspect of their child's education.
- We must take the initiative to provide the resources to make this happen.

\* Executive Team

\*Alameda County Staff

#### EDUCATION

#### Priority Goal:

Advocate and provide avenues for increasing resources and opportunities for all schools and students in the Eden Area.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Encourage the Alameda County Office of Education to identify sources for technology resources for Eden Area schools
- Evaluate and consider a resource clearinghouse (i.e. volunteers, mentorship, student internships, etc.)
- Ensure diverse opportunities for parents in Eden Area schools to understand K 12 requirements for their children and the value of parent involvement
- Identify and support community based organizations and businesses that can provide and commit to meaningful community service opportunities and other informal opportunities for teenagers

#### GOVERNANCE

#### Participants:

Ambrogio, Dave	Decker, J
Ashton, David	Foster, B
Barba, Suzanne	Fountain
Barros, Keith*	Gil, Kath
Beckman, Howard★	Higgins,
Bock, Audie	Hodges,
Briggs, Dan	Hoffman
Byas, Dr. Dennis	Jurich, B
Carbone, Ken	Kavasch,
Chen, Annie*	Kleebau
Chong-Jeung, Aileen	Knudsen
Clark, Dawn	Kral, Bev
Conway, Rich*	Kusiak, N
Crawford, Marc	Lopez, A
Cunha, Sheila	Mathur,

Decker, John\* Foster, Brian Fountain, Juli Gil, Kathy Higgins, Chris Hodges, Paul Hoffinan, Cheryl urich, Bernadette Kavasch, Catherine Kleebauer, Susan Knudsen, Dave Kral, Beverly Kusiak, Michael\* Lopez, Albert\* Mathur, Lahit Mellon, Frank Michieli, Marc Miraglia, Cheryl Moller, Ingrid Morris, Randy\* Moser, Lois Negri, Jim O'Donnell, Ellen O'Donnell, Hugh Ontiveros, Steve Orselli, Louis Padavana, Erin Poniatowski, Mark Ready, Kathie Rosen, Peter Sanchez Para, Carey Schmidt, Mathi Siegel, Lee Silva, Dale Spalding, Jewell Speed, Mel Steel, Mimi Tedesco, Sal Turner, Matt Turner, Nina Wallace, Mike Washington, Brian\* Wydler, Diane

\* Executive Team \*Alameda County Staff

#### Preamble:

As unincorporated communities we do not rely on our own, local entity to deliver government services; rather, we rely on Alameda County to establish municipal laws and provide services like planning, policing, and community infrastructure such as roads and street lights. Representing about nine percent of Alameda County's 1.5 million residents, about 130,000 people live in the unincorporated "Eden Area" communities of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo, located in central Alameda County. Counties are created by the state and are not designed to efficiently deliver municipal services to large, densely populated unincorporated areas like the Eden Area communities. Services and programs

#### GOVERNANCE

#### Preamble (continued):

for the county at-large normally dominate the priorities of a county. Municipal services to unincorporated communities do not. We observe the following:

- 1) Residents of Alameda County's unincorporated communities encounter county administrative and governance structures not exclusively focused on the unique needs of their communities.
- 2) Residents deserve responsive municipal services that reflect the priorities and desires of the unincorporated communities.
- 3) Alameda County should seek to implement governance structures that maximize unincorporated community self-governance and participation.

#### Priority Goal:

Enhance local self-governance.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Community manager/coordinator for the Eden Area (Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview)
- Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council with Board of Zoning Adjustments powers
- Elected Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council
- A municipal advisory council for each community
- One municipal advisory council for the Eden Area
- Incorporate Castro Valley
- Incorporate the Eden Area
- · Annex unincorporated communities into cities
- Two municipal advisory councils: One for Castro Valley and one for the Eden Area

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY & REALIGNMENT**

Aldana, Rachael Baker, Effrim Baraan, Ted\*\* Baratta, Mike Baratta, Ruth Batteate, Mike Batteate, K. Byrd, Zelma Campisi, Erica Chen, Annie\*\* Christine, Judy Davis, Ellen Decker, John<sup>‡</sup> Gardner, Linda<sup>‡</sup> Higgins, Chris Hodges, Paul Holloway, Morton Lark, N. LeRoi, Catherine Liness, Linda Mattovich, Frances Moller, Ingrid Mueller, Andrea Neideffer, Marty<sup>‡</sup> O'Donnell, Hugh\* Pinon Robinson, Angela<sup>‡</sup> Proietti, Al Reboredo, Spencer\* Rudman, Sara\* Silva, Michael

Streeter, Arthur\* Theodore, Dot\* Thompson, Cleo Torres, Cindy\* Williams, Marcus Wydler, Diane

★ Executive Team \*Alameda County Staff

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY & REALIGNMENT**

#### Preamble:

The EALI Public Safety Visioning Group (PSVG) believes that residents have the right to **feel safe, live safe, and move safely** throughout the Eden Area and we believe these things can be accomplished through policy, planning, increased community involvement and awareness.

We are challenged by a disproportionately high number of residents in the criminal justice system. With the transfer of many individuals from State prisons to Alameda County supervision, we have a choice to let them find their own way straight or we can give them the integrated support has proven to be successful across the country. We believe the safety and well being of the community can be improved through the development and implementation of re-entry resources to reduce the cycle of re-offending.

The PSVG regards transitional housing as having an important role in our communities. With AB109, we know that many more group homes will be opening to accommodate the numbers of formerly incarcerated persons released into the Eden area with no family or housing. In order to ensure safe and effective housing services to clients, we desire a conditional use permit all group houses that it is retroactive to ensure all existing group homes comply. Having a formal review process will give us more peace and value to our neighborhoods.

Also under the aegis of public safety is the right of residents to move safely in the Eden Area. The PSVG believes this can be achieved through community identified public works projects. We believe that sidewalks, bike paths, and traffic-calming devices can improve the safe movement of residents around the Eden Area. The EALI Public Safety visioning group understands the diversity of the populations that live in the Eden Area. We recognize the strengths of the Eden Area communities and that each community is unique. We have in common, the need for improvements in public safety to enhance the quality of our lives in the Eden Area.

#### Priority Goal:

Establish guidelines and protocols regarding licensed and unlicensed housing establishments such as group homes, care facilities, half way houses, and other therapeutic treatment facilities to ensure quality of service and safety of the community and program residents.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Support a county ordinance to regulate unlicensed group homes and avoid a concentration of licensed and unlicensed group homes
- Establish a neighborhood committee to ensure enforcement of the facilities

#### Priority Goal:

#### Prevent crime and reduce recidivism.

#### **Example Projects:**

- Analyze crime data and develop programs
- Support and create a centralized location for formerly incarcerated residents and their families (Crime Prevention and Restorative Justice Center) to access resources such as job training, recovery services, housing, legal resources, wrap around case management, etc.
- Identify how the Eden Area gangs impact area schools and the surrounding communities and develop programs to address them
- Encourage the development of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs

## **APPENDIX B: Blue Ribbon** Steering Committee Participants

Aguirre, Mariah Ahuja, Jerry Aldana, Rachael Allen, Shanale Ambrogio, Dave Ashton, David Baptista, Lori Baraan, Ted\* Baratta, Mike Baratta, Ruth Barba, Suzanne Barbieri, John Barros, Keith Batteale, KJ Beard, John Beckman, Howard Benjumea, Juan Bock, Audie Boyland, Michael Briggs, Dan Brill, Fred Brochier, Rene Byrd, Zelma Campisi, Erica Campisi, Robert Chen, Annie\* Chong-Jeung, Aileen Christine, Judy Conway, Rich\* Cox. Deborah Crawford, Marc Cunha, Sheila Dalton. Eileen\* Davis, Ellen Decker, John\* Dieter, Carol Dieter, Catherine Eisenberg, Judy Ely, Kerrilyn Engel, Maury

Ferguson, Pat Finistes, Sabrina Foster, Brian Freed, Michael Freitas, Aaron Friesen, Janice Frost, Sandy Furber-Dobson, Amy Garule, Ben Gil, Kathy Girard, Marion Hatcher, Rick Herrera, Hank Higgins, Chris Hodges, Paul Hoffman, Cheryl Hovingh, Mary Intro, Lew James, Ryan Jameson, Minane Javid, Dave Jurich, Bernadette Karrick, Michelle Kavasch, Catherine King, Bruce King, Ollie Kirk, Steven Kleebauer, Susan Klepper, Sherry Kline, Jennifer Knowles, Aisha\* Kral. Bev Krysiak, Anne Kusiak, Michael Lambert, Bill\* Lam, Nguyen Lamnin, Sara Lasser. Allison Le Roi, Catherine Lehner, Jack

Lieberworth, Audrey Linda, Christa Liness, Linda Livingston, Dave Lomotan, Francesca Loss, Jo A.S. Mader, Paul Mahadevan, Dev Manos, Kathy Marciel, Doris McClain, Gwendolyn McElligott, Liz\* Mears, Chris Mellon, Frank Menges, Lyman Miraglia, Cheryl Moller, Ingrid Moore, Chuck Morgan, Heidi Morris, Karen Morris, Max Moser. Lois Mueller, Andrea\* Murtaza, Layma Najarian, David Negri, Jim Nehring, Rev. Arlene Neideffer, Marty\* Nelson, Andrea Nott, Bill O'Donnell, Ellen O'Donnell, Hugh Ontiveros, Steve Orselli, Louis Ortiz, Aaron Parma, Bob Parma, Robert Pena, Ande Pitta, Kathy Popejoy, Victoria

Pratt, Linda Raderman, Michael Ready, Kathie Reavis, Prescott Reboredo, Spencer Rosen, Peter Rudman. Sara Ryzanych, John Sadoff, Dave Shah, Tony Shea, Megan Sherlock, Basil Sherwood, Cliff Silva, Derry Silva, Michael Smith, Andy Smith, Gerald Spalding, Jewell Spitzel, Jeff Steel, Mimi Stimpson, Doug Streeter. Arthur\* Sugimura, Carol Teague, Susan Terry, Nick Theodore, Dot Thompson, Cleo Torres, Cindy Towles, Cindy Turner, Matt Vilcheck, Deanna Waage, Randy Warren. Rex Wehrlie, Ann Wilhite, David Williams, Mark Wydler, Art Wydler, Diane Zuska, Leslie \*Alameda County Staff

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# Appendix C: Charrette Vote Results

FINAL RESULTS	Top 3	By group
Agriculture & Environment		
Identify, promote, and protect the Eden Area's unique agricultural potential.	45	90
Provide educational opportunities in the school system and surrounding community about agriculture (farming, ranching, and equestrian) while seeking park and open space opportunities in the urban built out environment.	61	152
Environmental issues from climate change to water conservation and energy efficiency impact our health and wellbeing and should have priority.	48	86
Economic Development		
Improve the look and feel of the Eden Area.	71	96
Promote private economic investment in the Eden Area and attract both businesses and customers.	87	121
Improve infrastructure and communication technology in the Eden Area to enhance and attract investment within the community.	69	120
Education		
Advocate and provide avenues for increasing resources and opportunities for all schools and students in the Eden Area.	62	89
Identify and implement strategies and mechanisms to ensure student and staff safety for all schools in the Eden Area.	35	61
Evaluate and consider existing traffic conditions and infrastructure to ensure safety for all Eden Area schools.	35	81
Encourage school districts to expand engagement and communication with the Eden Area community.	23	38
Promote healthy lifestyles in Eden Area schools and communities.	24	58
Governance		
Increase the accountability to the community of the land use planning and permitting process.	48	74
Enhance local self-governance.	87	123
Revise the County's annual budget format so spending priorities are clear and specific funds for the Eden Area are identified.	52	94
Establish opportunities for the public to educate itself about the county, community organizations, and their processes.	17	43
Public Safety & Realignment		
Establish guidelines and protocols regarding licensed and unlicensed housing establishments such as group homes, care facilities, half way houses, and other therapeutic treatment facilities to ensure quality of service and safety of the community and program residents.	62	108
Prevent crime and reduce recidivism.	91	103
Evaluate crime issues emanating from skate parks and see what can be done to increase family comfort and presence.	8	9
Make places such as abandoned buildings, vacant lots, vacant homes, and underpasses safer through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.	27	50
Ensure pedestrian and traffic safety.	58	68

## **Appendix D: Charrette Ballot**



- 2. The ballot is two pages long: Fill out both pages.
- 3. On this page, vote for up to three goals total. You may not double vote in one box, or vote for more than three goals on this page. You may vote for less than three goals.
- 4. You are allowed to vote for the same goals on both pages 1 and 2.
- 6. Submit your completed ballot to a designated ballot collection box in Oliver Hall by 12:15pm. Ballots that have been filled out incorrectly will not be counted.

#### \*On this page, vote for up to three goals total\*

<ol> <li>Identify, promote, and protect the Eden Area's unique agricultural potential.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Provide educational opportunities in the school system and surrounding community about agriculture (farming, ranching, and equestrian) while seeking park and open space opportunities in the urban built out environment.</li> </ol>
<ul> <li>B. Environmental issues from climate change to water conservation and energy efficiency impact our health and wellbeing and should have priority.</li> </ul>
4. Improve the look and feel of the Eden Area.
5. Promote private economic investment in the Eden Area and attract both businesses and customers.
<ol> <li>Improve infrastructure and communication technology in the Eden Area to enhance and attract investment within the community.</li> </ol>
<ul> <li>7. Advocate and provide avenues for increasing resources and opportunities for all schools and students in the Eden Area.</li> </ul>
<ol> <li>Identify and implement strategies and mechanisms to ensure student and staff safety for all schools in the Eden Area.</li> </ol>
<ul> <li>9. Evaluate and consider existing traffic conditions and infrastructure to ensure safety for all Eden Area schools.</li> </ul>
10. Encourage school districts to expand engagement and communication with the Eden Area community.
11. Promote healthy lifestyles in Eden Area schools and communities.
12. Increase the accountability to the community of the land use planning and permitting process.
13. Enhance local self-governance.
14. Revise the County's annual budget format so spending priorities are clear and specific funds for the Eden Area are identified.
15. Establish opportunities for the public to educate itself about the county, community organizations, and their processes.
<ul> <li>16. Establish guidelines and protocols regarding licensed and unlicensed housing establishments such as group homes, care facilities, half way houses, and other therapeutic treatment facilities to ensure quality of service and safety of the community and program residents.</li> </ul>
17. Prevent crime and reduce recidivism.
18. Evaluate crime issues emanating from skate parks and see what can be done to increase family comfort and presence.
19. Make places such as abandoned buildings, vacant lots, vacant homes, and underpasses safer through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.
20. Ensure pedestrian and traffic safety.



EALI Phase II Community Charrette BALLOT (Page 2 of 2)



#### Voting Instructions

- 1. On this page, vote for a maximum of one goal in each visioning group (up to 5 total votes). You may not vote for more than one goal per visioning group, or vote for more than five goals total on this page. You may vote for less than five goals.
- 2. You are allowed to vote for the same goals on both pages 1 and 2.
- 3. Mark your selections with a single ⊠ or ⊡ mark in the provided box.
- Submit your completed ballot to a designated ballot collection box in Oliver Hall by 12:15pm. Ballots that have been filled out incorrectly will not be counted.

#### \*On this page, vote for one goal per visioning group (up to 5 total votes)\*

	Visioning Group: Agriculture & Environment
1.	Identify, promote, and protect the Eden Area's unique agricultural potential.
	Provide educational opportunities in the school system and surrounding community about agriculture (farming, ranching, and equestrian) while seeking park and open space opportunities in the urban built out environment.
	Environmental issues from climate change to water conservation and energy efficiency impact our nealth and wellbeing and should have priority.
	Visioning Group: Economic Development
□ 1.	Improve the look and feel of the Eden Area.
2.	Promote private economic investment in the Eden Area and attract both businesses and customers.
□ <sup>3.</sup>	Improve infrastructure and communication technology in the Eden Area to enhance and attract investment within the community.
	Visioning Group: Education
	Advocate and provide avenues for increasing resources and opportunities for all schools and students in the Eden Area.
□ <sup>2.</sup>	Identify and implement strategies and mechanisms to ensure student and staff safety for all schools in the Eden Area.
□ <sup>3.</sup>	Evaluate and consider existing traffic conditions and infrastructure to ensure safety for all Eden Area schools.
4.	Encourage school districts to expand engagement and communication with the Eden Area community.
5.	Promote healthy lifestyles in Eden Area schools and communities.
	Visioning Group: Governance
□ 1.	Increase the accountability to the community of the land use planning and permitting process.
2.	Enhance local self-governance.
□ <sup>3.</sup>	Revise the County's annual budget format so spending priorities are clear and specific funds for the Eden Area are identified.
□ 4.	Establish opportunities for the public to educate itself about the county, community organizations, and their processes.
	Visioning Group: Public Safety & Realignment
<b>1</b> .	Establish guidelines and protocols regarding licensed and unlicensed housing establishments such as group homes, care facilities, half way houses, and other therapeutic treatment facilities to ensure quality of service and safety of the community and program residents.
2.	Prevent crime and reduce recidivism.
□ <sup>3.</sup>	Evaluate crime issues emanating from skate parks and see what can be done to increase family comfort and presence.
□ 4.	Make places such as abandoned buildings, vacant lots, vacant homes, and underpasses safer through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.
5.	Ensure pedestrian and traffic safety.