

**APPENDIX D.
CITYWIDE WORKSHOP**



COMMUNITY ISSUES

APPENDIX D. CITYWIDE WORKSHOP

Throughout the General Plan program, a series of citywide workshops will be held. The purpose of these workshops is to solicit input from the community at-large at key points during the Calabasas General Plan program. The first meeting was designed to explain the General Plan process and to work with members of the community to identify and prioritize issues currently facing the City.

To do this, a technique called issues identification was used. The first part of the process was a "brainstorming" session. Participants were asked to come up with descriptions of their community:

- What they liked about it;
- What they did not like about it;
- What they would like to change and what they would like to preserve.

Ideas were proposed, without making any critical assessments. Each new idea was recorded on a large tablet as it was proposed. When one sheet was full, it was hung on the wall and another sheet started. When the ideas were exhausted, each participant was given five dots and asked to place them next to the issues that they felt were the most important.

The result of the first citywide forum are presented in this appendix.

- Citywide Workshop, October 1, 1992.

CITY OF CALABASAS
COMMUNITYWIDE WORKSHOP

October 1, 1992

ISSUES	# OF CONCERNED
1. REASONS PEOPLE MOVED TO CALABASAS	
a. Schools	
b. More Rural Atmosphere	5
c. Open Space	9
d. Warm Climate	
e. High Elevation of Lot	
f. Quiet	
g. Blue skies	1
h. Useable Open Space - Trails	
i. Convenience to Los Angeles	
j. Dark Night	2
k. Mulholland Highway	2
l. All Scenic Corridors	1
m. Low Density	4
n. Little Commercial	2
2. ASSETS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO DRIVE FOR	
a. Good Place for Children	1
b. Different from San Fernando Valley	1
c. Identification with Land	1
d. Coexist with Natural Environment	3
e. Physical Separation of Housing	
f. Access to Santa Monica Mountains	
g. Edge of Urban Area	1
h. Low Crime - Security	4
i. End of Line -- Little Traffic	
j. Open Ridgelines	9

ISSUES		# OF CONCERNED
k.	Oak Trees	7
l.	Clean Air for Recreation	
m.	Access to Ocean	1
3. TRANSPORTATION		
a.	Speed on Mulholland Highway	
b.	Lack of Cohesive Circulation Plan	1
c.	"Z" Traffic	1
d.	Freeway Bridges - Congested and Unsafe	1
e.	Commercial Parking on Residential Streets	
f.	Kilroy/Ahmanson Parking (Future)	
g.	Public Transit	
h.	Parking at Entry to the City (Near Sagebrush Cantina)	
i.	Multi-Use Streets: Pedestrians, Bicycles and Public Transit	1
j.	Wider Bike Lanes (for Safety)	1
k.	Continue to Keep thru Traffic Off Residential Streets	4
l.	Better Internal Circulation, without thru Commercial Use of Residential Streets	
m.	Routing Construction Traffic Away from Residential Neighborhoods	
n.	Beautify Streets	1
4. GROWTH AND COMMUNITY CHARACTER		
a.	Growth Constraints -- Determine Carrying Capacity Streets, Schools, Sewers	3
b.	Live within Existing Limits	4
c.	Limits Established by Those Most Directly Affected	
d.	Consider Economic Needs of City when Setting Limits	1
e.	Control of Service more Important than Additional Services	1
f.	Create a Fiscally Stable Community, but Retain Community Character	
g.	Minimize Bureaucracy - Responsive to Citizens	

ISSUES		# OF CONCERNED
5. COMMUNITY CORE AND THE NEED FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER		
a.	Old Town Maintain Existing Standards & Atmosphere	4
b.	Old Town as Entry Symbol, Not a Functional Entry	
c.	No Need for Civic Center	
d.	Centralize Community Services	
e.	Too Decentralized	
f.	Accessible Outdoor Gathering Place	1
g.	Burden of Parks on Adjacent Residences	
6. RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT		
a.	Impact of Large Houses on Rural Areas	
b.	Cabin Lots (60x80), almost Total Coverage too Close to Neighbors	
c.	Loss of Privacy with Two-Story	
d.	Lack of Control of Residential Development	
e.	Loss of Hillside Character	
f.	Visibility of Hillside Development	1
g.	Keep Scenic Corridors Scenic	1
h.	Balance Community Concerns (Design Issues) with Private Property Rights	
7. PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES		
a.	Expand Cultural/Recreational Services	
b.	Improve Law Enforcement	
c.	Better Road Maintenance	2
d.	Trash Pick-Up	
e.	City Recycling	
f.	Speeding Enforcement	
g.	Better Community Information System	
8. CURRENT ISSUES		
a.	Prevent Increased Density Traffic	1
b.	Protect Community from Large Surrounding Development: Soka and Ahmanson Ranch	4

ISSUES	# OF CONCERNED
c. Maintain Character of Community	1
d. Control Design of Kilroy/Ahmanson Project (All City Development)	2
e. Separate Traffic thru City	
f. Prevent Impact of External Forces on the City	
9. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	
a. Historic Protection (Archaeological Control)	
b. Preserve Open Space	1
c. Protect/Control Rural to South	2
d. Light/Air Pollution	
e. Landfill	
f. Finance Resources to Undeveloped Areas	
g. Resources to Protect Recreational Opportunities	
h. Tree Planting Program (Consistent with Ecosystem)	1
i. Parks & Open Space System Inter-Regional (Maintain & Restore Habitat Links)	7
10. PROPOSED CITY PROJECTS	
a. Expand Economic Base to Complement Lifestyle	5
b. Indoor Recreation/Meeting Place in Large Scale	
c. Build within Existing Systems	
d. Beautify City's Entries	
e. Senior/Youth Oriented Services and Facilities (Heritage Program)	4
f. Efficient Transit System	2
g. Senior Housing	2
h. Promote Regional Impact Analysis	

VI. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Community Growth and Change Issues

- * Calabasas residents are satisfied with the quality of life in the community, but they are concerned about the impacts of continued growth.
- * Residents are supportive of policies that will strengthen the identity of Calabasas as a unified community.
- * Residents are concerned about urban problems such as crime and traffic which they see linked to continued rapid growth of the community.
- * There is strong interest in limiting the rate and magnitude of future growth in the community.
- * Housing affordability issues such as first-time buyer programs are much more important to the minority of the community who rent their dwellings than to the majority who are homeowners.
- * There is very little community support for apartments and higher density housing.
- * Housing for seniors is one change which is supported by many Calabasas residents.
- * Residents express strong support for policies designed to protect the environment including open space preservation, hillside protection, grading restrictions, oak tree protection and sign ordinances.

Economic Development Issues

- * Residents make their basic purchases locally, but travel to the San Fernando Valley for most of their higher-order shopping needs.

- * The community is divided over the need for additional shopping opportunities in Calabasas. Substantial numbers of residents are strongly for and strongly against the need for additional retail stores.
- * The need for additional quality restaurants is one area where residents are likely to be in agreement.
- * Residents are not overly concerned about the need for additional employment opportunities in Calabasas.
- * Opposition is strongest to the growth of industrial jobs; office and retail jobs are considered more acceptable. Low and moderate income households view industrial jobs more favorably than do higher income households.

Local Service Issues

- * Residents are satisfied with the quality of major local services such as sheriff and fire.
- * Residents are very dissatisfied with the quality of recreation, cultural and age-specific services including senior services, youth and teen recreation programs, library services, and cable TV.
- * Residents cite specific needs for additional park facilities, a community center, museums and theaters.
- * The City is not expected to provide for all the cultural and recreation needs of the community. A balance of public and private efforts is preferred.
- * Many Calabasas residents are also dissatisfied with traffic conditions in the 'community. Problems include major streets such as Mulholland Highway and Las Virgenes Road as well as local streets where through traffic disrupts neighborhoods.