

**Alameda Creek Watershed Center at Sunol  
Planning Meeting  
Monday, September 22, 2014**

*Sunol Conference Room  
505 Paloma Way  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.*

***Attendees:***

Irvin Tiessen  
Diane Tiessen  
Rich Cimino  
Henry Baum  
Mary Marshall  
Rosemary Chang  
Ted Buttner  
Derek Johnson  
Barry Kaminsky  
Ann Dowling

Paul De Freitas, Architectural  
Associate  
Nick Ancel, Landscape Architect

Jenny Rigby, The Acorn Group

From the SFPUC:

Tim Ramirez  
Bryan Dessaure  
Carla Schultheis  
Amy Dawson  
Betsy L Rhodes

From Building Design and Construction,  
SF Dept of Public Works:

**Notes**

- I. Update on Project – Bryan Dessaure, SFPUC
  - a. Schedule. Submittal of the Phase II architectural designs should go to the SF Civic Design Review on November 20, 2014. We are currently nearing 65% design, moving toward 95% design on the Watershed Center in January, 2015 and 95% for the Sunol Corporation Yard in December 2015.
  - b. We hope to have 100% design in March of 2015.
  - c. Bid and Award is expected shortly thereafter in Spring 2015. .
  - d. Environmental Review: The Mitigated Negative Declaration is expected to be released for comment in December 2014. We hope for final certification of the document in February 2015.
  - e. Public Art: Thank you to all who provided comment on the Public Art component. The SF Arts Commission selected Mark Brest Van Kempen as the artist for 2 installations – a sculpture piece near the front entrance and something at the pond. We just brought Mark under contract last

week, and will begin incorporating his design into the design of the center.

II. Further refinements on the landscape plan and building design – Nick Ancel and Paul DeFreitas, Building Design and Construction, SF Dept of Public Works

Nick and Paul provided an update on the overall layout of the Watershed Center Building and landscape design. Please see attachments for a copy of the presentation.

- a. A question was asked whether Jeff Miller had provided formal comment on the landscape plan.
  - i. Tim Ramirez replied that about a year and a half ago we received a letter from Jeff regarding native landscaping. The landscape plan since has been changed to reflect natives whenever possible, and drought tolerant species that are easier to maintain.
- b. It was suggested that we place bike racks at the front of the building somehow, as this location will become a trail hub for cyclists.
  - i. Noted. We have not identified the location of the bike racks, yet, but do appreciate that they will be important.
  - ii. There will also be a drinking fountain for refilling of water bottles.
- c. The response to the architectural and landscape plans were very positive. “I would use it as a teacher.” “You are giving us what we never knew we wanted.”
- d. It would be helpful for the group to know when the project goes to Civic Design, so they can let the panel know the feelings of the group on the process and what has been presented so far.

III. Interpretive Exhibit Design – Jenny Rigby, Acorn Group  
Jenny presented her updated drawings of the interpretive exhibits. These are still subject to change. Please see attached presentation for details.

- a. Overall, the responses were, “Wonderful.” “Excellent.”
- b. Henry Baum, President of Niles Canyon Railway was introduced to the group. It was hoped that there would be an opportunity to include the history of the town as being a stop on the Transcontinental Railway, and to collaborate.

- c. Others hoped that additional information of any kind could be included in the Microsoft tables, that will enable the showing of photographs, videos, manipulation of 3 dimensional objects, and links to other information.

IV. Next Steps:

- a. Phase II Civic design review in November.
- b. 95% Design at the end of this year, early next
- c. Release of draft Mitigated Negative Declaration in December, 2014.