

## **Vietnamese American Community Center Project Task Force Meeting**

Wednesday, November 18, 2009: 6:30 PM – 8 PM  
George Shirakawa Center  
2072 Lucretia Ave, San Jose, CA 95122

- Present:** *Task Force* – James Dinh, Dac Doan, Bryan Do, Dan Hoang, Dennis King, Cherry Nguyen, Vuong Nguyen, Quyen Vuong  
*City Staff* – Marie Alberry-Hawkins, Dan Greeley, Cindy Ho, Ashwini Kantak, Jennifer Luc, Ed Shikada  
*District 7* – Steven Le
- Absent:** Lien Cao, Thuy Le, Hung LeDang, Michele Lew, Don Long, Dinh Nguyen, Hieu Nguyen, Thuy Nguyen, Mylinh Pham, Tina Pham, Martin Renteria, Lynne Tran, Clark Williams

### **Agenda**

- I. Review Agenda** **6:30 – 6:35**
- II. VACC Updates** **6:35 – 7:20**
- District 7 Project Statement (Steven Le)  
Steven presented a statement from D7 office regarding the VACC Project delay.
  - VACC Project and Budget Updates (Ed Shikada)  
Ed reviewed the Frequently Asked Questions with Task Force members resulting in the following questions and discussions:  
Q. What are the immediate plans for the Shirakawa Center?  
A. It has not yet been determined although Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services have proposed use of the center as a City of San Jose Transition Center for mid-level youth offenders from Thursdays to Saturdays only, 6 pm – 2 am, post-August 2010 for a period up to one year.  
Discussion: Task Force members wanted to know if the center can be used by organizations that provide services/programs to the Vietnamese American community post-August 2010. Community members will then be able to get used to the center, and the building will have constructive usage. There is concern that a negative stigma may result from the presence of the Transition Center and wanted the City to be sensitive to that while selecting programs for the center.  
Q. What is the City's plan for presenting the status of the project to the community?  
A. Information will be communicated through the VACC project website and mailings will be sent to those who participated during the Vision Event.  
Discussion: Some Task Force members do not believe that mailing letters is sufficient because of a community expectation that there would be a follow up

meeting from the event. There should be a medium for discussion of the VACC project and explanation of the financial situation. The follow through and explanation for the delay will establish credibility of the Task Force members and the City. The message still needs to be refined and will not be clear until the Information Memorandum is complete. This topic has been tabled until January.

Q. What can Task Force members do to continue formal recognition of the members?

Discussion: The Task Force will need to reassess who is still committed, explore whether new members can be added and find out from the City if there is a possibility that the Task Force can still be officially recognized as the VACC Project Task Force after February 2010.

**III. VACC Project Information Memorandum 7:20 – 7:50**

- City Council Information Memorandum Outline and Timeline Review
- Cindy presented the VACC Info Memorandum framework key themes per feedback from 12 of the 21 Task Force members. Cindy will follow up with the remaining 9 members to wrap up the interview process by early December. Drafting of the report will then begin.

**IV. Summary and Next Steps 7:50 – 8:00**

The next meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January 2010. Cindy will coordinate the meeting, invite Mario Maciel from the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force to discuss interim programming and the City's plans for Shirakawa Center, and seek to get input from all other Task Force members to complete the VACC Information Memo by January's meeting.