

Neighborhood Improvement Team Meeting

General Meeting, Rancho Medano Jr. High School

October 18, 2017, 6:30-8:30pm

City Staff Present: Joe Sbranti, Garrett Evans, Jill Hecht, Kristin Pollot, Ron Nevels, Paul Reinders, Fritz McKinley, Hilario Mata, Ramona Anderson, Jason Moser, Kolette Simonton, Laura Wright, Maria Aliotti, Bruce Smargiasso, Lt. Adam Deplitch, Toni Baldazo, Ofc. Heidi Maguire, Myla Rivers

WELCOME – Garrett Evans, Assistant City Manager

- Welcome
- Been with City for almost 21 years
- City has grown in 21 years, downtown has evolved, BART going in on Railroad, Hwy 4 Bypass, a lot of investment in City
- Have done NIT meetings for 13 or 14 years and the City enjoys doing them because we get good ideas from the community on how to make improvements within the City
- Approximately 70,000 citizens and only 265 employees
- City employees can be reached through forums like this, or through calling, emailing, or entering concerns in our Government Outreach system
- This is a good community with a fantastic quality of life
- Many members that help this city run
 - Jill Hecht – Community Development
 - Been with City for about 12 years
 - Came up through Public Works, now with Building, Planning & Engineering
 - Folks here from department:
 - Kristin Pollot – Planning manager
 - Ron Nevels – Senior Civil Engineer for infrastructure investments
 - Paul Reinders – Senior Civil Engineer for Traffic Division
 - Fritz McKinley – City Engineer
 - Recent meeting with High School Village where a suggestion came up of “No BART Parking” signs, which the City had never seen before, but now it has. It is those kinds of suggestions the City gets from the community to borrow ideas.
 - Hilario Mata – Public Works
 - Been with City for 18 years. Started as an Engineer and now I am the Assistant Director of Public Works.
 - (925) 252-4936 is Public Works main line for water, sewer, storm drains, streets, street lights, street sweeping, landscape, street trees, parks, garbage on the street
 - Ramona Anderson – Street Tree Supervisor

- Jason Moser – Water Plant Superintendent
- Kolette Simonton – Economic Development and Recreation
 - Been with City for 9 years, born and raised here
 - Work with existing business community to keep businesses here
 - Work with new businesses looking to relocate
 - Work with businesses within the community trying to expand and grow
 - Work to provide programs and activities for all ages
- Laura Wright – Environmental Affairs Manager
 - Been with City for 20 years
 - Team Pittsburg makes this community work and it means city employees and citizens are working together in the community to make changes
 - Civic Pride Day – April 28, 2018
 - Coordinate Emergency Operations Center for the City
 - CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Pamphlets in the back – six week course, it will help in the event of a disaster so you can help yourselves until City services can reach you
- Maria Aliotti – Director of Community Services
 - Been with the City for 15 years
 - Properties acquired under Redevelopment Agency – I have a list of properties for sale
 - CDBG – Community Block Grant Program
 - Grant money available to assist with home repairs that are considered a health and safety issue
 - Oversee the Housing Authority
 - Bruce Smargiasso – new Housing Manager
- Lt. Adam Deplitch – Police Department
 - With the City and at the police department for 21 years
 - Police Department has a lot of the citizens at heart and want what’s best for the citizens
 - Toni Baldazo
 - With Police Department for 16 years
 - Liaison between community and Police Department
 - Coordinate Neighborhood Watch with Officer Maguire
 - Officer Heidi Maguire
 - With Pittsburg about 12 years
 - Worked Patrol, Traffic, Street Crimes and School Resource Officer, now transitioning into Community and Youth Outreach dealing with Homeless and also working on the PD’s Explorer Program, I am an advisor for the running club at the high school,

and work on any facet that has to do with youth and community outreach

- Pink Patch Project – PD is selling the pink patches throughout October and all proceeds will be donated to a Breast Cancer Charity.
- Myla Rivers – Code Enforcement
 - Been with City for 9 years now
 - Code Enforcement fields calls pertaining to blight, abandoned vehicles, anything that may be an eyesore in the City
- Joe Sbranti, City Manager, is also present at the meeting

*QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (answers marked with ** in blue)*

- I live on Chestnut Drive and currently Chestnut and Alamo have become BART parking so the street sweepers are unable to get in there and adequately clean the gutters for months. Can the City prohibit parking on street sweeping days so that the sweeper can get out and do its job?

**The City is a contractor for street sweeping for Delta Diablo. In order to put a sign up we would have to go to Council first. There are different things the City can do to help rectify this.

- When they took away the dirt lots where everyone used to park they started migrating into the neighborhoods. Will they be developing those lots into parking lots?

**The lots across from Safeway belong to the County and they will be developing the lots into residential. We appreciate hearing this because Code Enforcement will now head out there to make sure nobody has left an abandoned car. Every car is supposed to move every 72 hours and when that doesn't happen someone calls Code Enforcement so they can go check it out.

**CSS Burns went out to Chestnut and Alamo the following day and only found one vehicle to red tag. All other vehicles were legally parked, currently registered, clean and clear of cobwebs and debris.

- What is going on with the Casino? There is a survey asking residents if they want a casino in the community. The way the survey is worded all of the answers make it seem like a casino is wanted.

**The City does not have any applications or proposals for a casino. Sometimes entities will take it upon themselves to contact the community to see what the community thinks about having a casino. The paper did a follow up but they only released certain questions from the survey.

- There was something on Next Door today that said the City was going to use eminent domain in relation to this cause, for the casino.

**The City, through redevelopment, did use condemnation. With redevelopment gone there are no condemnation rights anymore for businesses. Now cities can only use condemnation for streets, parks, and for a public purpose. A casino would not be for public purpose.

- Will the asphalt sidewalk on Bliss Avenue by BART ever become a real sidewalk and not such a hazard?

**Yes, Bliss Avenue will be fully developed (curb, gutter, sidewalks) to city standards when the adjacent properties develop. You'll see at La Piñata and at some of the other developments they have concrete sidewalks, BART tagged on to those for a walkway from the BART parking lot down Bliss and across to the BART station. That is in there short term. For the long term there will be full improvements with a planned path on the south side of the freeway. There will be pathways on both sides of the freeway to get to the BART station.

**The City has been aggressive in getting grants (approximately \$4,000,000 worth) to design and construct trails for walking or biking, to access BART. Where BART has their location, the City is trying to get people to the location. California Avenue at Railroad Avenue is more than just a parking lot. It's a safe place where busses can stop, where folks can come in on their bikes. They can pull in and they are not stopping on Railroad Avenue.

- The sidewalk on Bliss Avenue is currently, clearly, not ADA. There is a drop off of 18 inches at some point. When I walked it I thought this must be temporary, but is it a couple of years temporary?

**The sidewalk is ADA complaint but it is short term. The timeframe hinges on development. The City will go out and make sure the sidewalk is ADA compliant.

- I want to commend Public Works. They are doing a great job in repaving the street and getting rid of graffiti. I did use the Go Request app for that and I got a response within the same day.
- I also want to say thank you to the City. I had a complaint about the use of gas powered leaf blowers and the City switched over to electric. Thank you.
- I want to raise awareness about air quality. There are a lot of issues for kids like cancers and other health issues because of air quality. I know the City had Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) install a monitoring station. I would like to know where I can get information regarding Pittsburg's air quality.

**A few years ago BAAQMD had a monitoring system in our city and removed it for numerous reasons one being their lease was up. A lot of people in this city expressed the want for another system. A study was done by BAAQMD and a new spot in the city was found where the equipment could be installed and there would be a long term lease option. This location is next to the garden by Los Medanos Hospital, and the equipment is currently installed and testing is being done. To get information regarding the air quality in Pittsburg follow this link:

- Does the equipment monitor the whole city or just a small area within the vicinity of the equipment? I'm concerned about downtown where all of the diesel trucks are and then we are putting in BART which runs on diesel also.

**BART is run on clean diesel so it's a little bit different technology and a lot of the trucks will have new state requirements to convert over to clean diesel. How BAAQMD designed the equipment and where the equipment was installed is to accurately monitor all of the city because we are kind of in a bowl and the equipment will capture everything.

- There is concern that Keller Canyon is causing dust and particulate matter to come down off of the hillside. What is going to be done about that?

**Please call to complain about the odor and air quality concern. A public hearing is coming up regarding Keller Canyon and we want to make sure the County has all of the complaints/concerns from Pittsburg residents.

- Also with Keller Canyon sometimes it's difficult to get onto the freeway because of all of the trucks coming from the landfill.

**That is one of the things we are trying to work with the County about – the enforcements Keller Canyon is supposed to abide by. This is why we want people to call that number so that all of the complaints and concerns are logged. You can also call us. We log it and then forward the information to the County.

- What about the commercial San Marco?

**One of the things we've heard in these meetings is "where can we shop?" other than the Safeway at Bailey. There are thousands of homes and there is a need for another grocery store and/or other commercial services in our City. One of the things the City has looked at is by the detention basin at San Marco half of the park is complete. The City still needs funds to complete the second half of the park. The City has come up with an option of rezoning that second half into commercial retail space or a smaller grocery store like Alde or Sprouts. At this point the City is trying to get consensus from the resident on what to do about that. There are other parks that need to be built so any funding for that park would go towards the funding of the other parks.

**Kolette Simonton recently attended International Council of Shopping Centers Retail Convention. These are retailers that range from fast food to grocery stores. Kolette spoke with several different grocery store chains to share what the City was interested in gaining and she will be following up with all of them for feedback/interest in opening up in this city. Kolette even spoke with Safeway Corporate to voice the concerns/complaints of the store on Bailey Road. Corporate had no idea residents had any complaints about that store. The City is in the very preliminary stages of getting an additional grocery store in that area and will be holding more meetings with the community regarding this issue.

**Planning Department is working on the regulatory framework of getting the area rezoned like looking at any potential environmental impacts retail would cause there and getting the land use changed. Planning is hoping to have a packet completed by second quarter of next year for Planning Commission to review.

**One other update...the City was looking at Alves Ranch, on the north side of Leland, and had a meeting with a developer to reiterate how much the City would like the fourteen acres designated for commercial developed into more of a retail aspect. Again, the City is trying to get retail into that area at any opportunity.

- Are there any plans to bring commercial development into Old Town Pittsburg? There are a few good shops but downtown buildings are mostly empty and there is a need for a grocery store in that area.

**Yes, there are vacancies in downtown buildings, which are challenging and disappointing, especially when the vacancies are seen in the newer buildings like Sienna Court. That is a disappointing vacancy because it is a prime building with windows and store fronts that should be developed. The property that the City controls was almost 100% leased until Sassy Sweets closed this week. There is about 300,000 square feet of commercial space downtown and the City controls about 100,000 square feet of that. The City tries to help where and when it can with the privately held properties because that is where you see most of the vacancies. The other challenge for a grocer is they want to have about 15,000-20,000 square feet and there are not many buildings downtown that have that much square footage that are not already occupied. Sienna Court has about 8-9,000 square feet. So we're challenged with some of the spaces. The City completely agrees they'd love to see more retail. There is a men's clothing store currently and a women's clothing store will be opening on October 28th. The City has been trying to get a grocer downtown for years. There was a grocer working with Chris Lanzafame to utilize all of his space (about 17,000 sq. feet), but it was a Grocery Outlet, not necessarily what you would want down there. But once they looked at the structural integrity of the building and the tenant improvements they didn't get to the point where they sealed that deal. That was about five years ago. Prior to that, Fresh and Easy was looking into going onto the corner of W. 10th Street, where the gas station is. They were going to take a huge portion of that area and got all the way to signing the paperwork and one of the three property owners backed out and the deal fell through. The City is out talking to the different grocery stores and other retailers like CVS, but just hasn't found the right fit, with the right numbers, to make it work. Please send the City ideas of grocers that you'd like the City to reach out to and we will try and do that.

- It's just difficult for residents downtown because there is nowhere to go if you need a last minute/late night item.
- What about developing something downtown that is an attraction? There is some vacant land east of downtown that could be developed. (Third and Harbor)

**That is something that the City has been looking at if it can acquire the right funding, like a community center, gym, an activity facility but finding the financing is a bit of a challenge. There is a private charter school that is in discussion of building on the John Manville property but they have not submitted an application. Retail is a difficult market and the Planning Department been doing research on what makes downtown successful. One of the key things found is to have more feet on the ground. The Planning Department is trying to create more flexibility in the zoning regulations downtown. They have been working with the Planning Commission on this. Planning is trying to think outside the box and is trying to take a different approach in regards to the buildings.

- Is there no way that cities could target the private buildings downtown that are eyesores? Don't the property owners have to be accountable for keeping the vacant buildings up?

**There are board up requirements that require the property owner to actively market the property/vacancy. Yes, there are certain things the City can do, but not as much as it would like. Any building in particular you would like to pass along to us, we will move that to the top of our list.

- Is there no longer a redevelopment department and no longer redevelopment monies for properties?

**That is correct. February 1, 2012 Gov. Gerry Brown ended redevelopment. Pittsburg had \$45 million dollars a year that they could reprogram that they no longer had.

**BART takes 1,000 cars off the road per day, reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 260 thousand pounds per day, and reduces vehicles miles traveled by 99 million miles per year.

**Regarding the connection of Leland with Santa Theresa – the City has the plans in for plan check and construction should start in the spring or summer of 2018.

**Crews were out striping the right turn lane up in San Marco for the reconfiguration.

**On Tuesday phase 2 of ramp metering began on Highway 4. The City heard it did not go well on San Marco or Bailey Road. The City has an agreement with Cal Trans that in six weeks, if the cue for that morning ramp extends to Leland, Cal Trans will go to 2 cars per green light.

**Long term – right turn lanes will be constructed for the north bound traffic onto Leland.

- Thank you to the Police Department for enforcing in the San Marco area in the morning because it's horrible up there during commute time.
- In 2008 developer fees were lowered to spur the economy for building. Is the City going to revisit the amount of the fees for construction of the James Donolan Extension?

**The transportation fees were cut in half several years ago, during the recession, to stimulate the economy and they were re-raised a few years back. We are talking about \$18,000 per single family home for regional fees. They were cut back to about \$9,000 and now they are going up again next year. We have the highest fee in Contra Costa County for regional transportation.

- How short are we dollar-wise for getting the James Donolan Extension?

**About 5% or approximately \$5 million and hope to start the project in about 3-4 years.

- Regarding BART parking – on Power Avenue, along the freeway, I feel people will park there for BART and walk over to the station.

**This area is the PG&E right of way and is private property. We are working with private property owners in and around BART to give them options on how they address the parking situations, whether they want to put up No Parking signs or utilize their property to generate income.

- Entry way onto Brickyard Place – the palm trees are overgrown, dropping fronds that puncture tires and droppings seedlings. Can the City trim or remove the palm trees?

**The City will schedule to trim those trees.

- I live off of W. Leland – since the rains that road is deteriorating. Will the asphalt be repaired before the next rains? The road is kind of a hazard.

**The City just had about \$290,000 released for a patch paving contract to be put out for bid. Leland is too big for all of it to be repaired, but there is another project to be followed up. The City has a grant for about \$1.2 million for long term local streets and roads repair but the money won't be release until 2020. There is also the passing of SB1 which increases the amount of money for street maintenance, paving or anything related to streets. This is an example of how Public Works and Engineering work together. Public Works is out there fixing the patches, etc. while Engineering is working on the long term paving projects. If there are roads other than Loveridge and Leland, please let the City know so we can add those streets to the priority list. That is what makes this city more competitive for the grants we receive for safety improvements and for paving.

- There is a house that is burned on Stoneman Avenue and it is burned enough that the roof has fallen in. It has been like that for a number of years. What is the City going to do about forcing the owner to do something about that? There is also a house visible from Santa Theresa near W. Leland that you can look over and see the roof fell in during a fire that was caused by marijuana grow. What is the City going to do about that?

**From a Code Enforcement perspective the City works with owners or banks to bring these properties into compliance. The house on Tampico (by Santa Theresa) was acquired by a contractor that will be renovating the property. An investor is looking into purchasing the burned, occupied property on Valle Vista to repair/renovate it. Code Enforcement has been citing, abating, and liening the citations and abatement fees onto the property taxes of the house on Stoneman Avenue.

- You mentioned earlier that the Planning Commission is meeting about Keller Canyon. Are they looking to expand?

**It is actually County Planning Commission. Keller Canyon is governed by Contra Costa County and the City just received a notice that Wednesday night the County Planning Commission is going to have a public hearing in review of Keller Canyon's present planned use permit. It's a requirement that was put in their use permit they have to have a review. They have talked about potential expansion but that is a different process all together.

- Where is the public hearing and can Pittsburg residents participate? I guess it's just a general review for this one but we are always leery of what's going on with the situation.
- I received a notice of the hearing but I know a lot of people don't receive these notices. I posted the notice on Next Door.

**You probably requested to receive notification. The City can give you their (the County's) email and they will put you on the email notification list. The meeting is Wednesday night, 7:00pm @ 30 Muir Road, Martinez.

- With the consideration of moving retail to the second half of the park at San Marco, I know there another park going into Positano. When is that going to happen? Also, are there plans to build a trail or pathway down from San Marco down to the AM PM or other retailers?

**We do have plans of constructing a trail that will extend from where the existing asphalt trail is on the west side of San Marco Blvd. The City is trying to work out whether it can be built on the west side of the channel to put a little sidewalk, or construct a bridge across. The City also needs to work with the developer to get some property from them because the City only owns a few feet and the rest of it will need to be dedicated. The City has a grant to help pay for the project.

- A lot of the meetings that I have attended recently over the last couple of years have been with issues about the San Marco area and it seems like the master plan for that area was woefully under planned and everything that is being done now is a patch or a fix, like putting a trail in when the developer should have done that up front. All of these things, when things go before the Planning Commission, these are the things they should be looking for. Those are the things that they should be saying. This community that so-and-so developed or wants to build why is not up to the overall living standards of our community? Why don't we have predetermined retail designed areas? Why don't we have predetermined parks? Why is it not the developer's responsibility to make sure that these things happen? Before the traffic is so outrageous that there aren't enough ramps to get on. How is it that 20 years later we're patching all of this? I know that when I moved to Pittsburg I looked at those houses, before any of them were built, there was a row of model homes and what I was told at the time that area was all going to be commercial. 20 years later it is all houses. I guess what I'm trying to say is, a lot of what I heard today is the City employees are doing a great job of what they do today, and they are trying to catch up and fix the bad planning that has gone on for the last 20 or 25 years and unfortunately that is exactly what we're doing. They're playing catch up and they're patching. Just like the streets where they're fixing them and it makes everybody happy when they're fixed but it wasn't done properly in the first place. So what do we do moving forward, in the City of Pittsburg, to make sure future plans aren't designed this way; that we don't throw up ten thousand homes in an area and not have any construction for it. I think that's the key thing. We're building a BART station that is designed ostensibly to be built into a transit village and yet we don't have a transit village, so we ought not have that in City of Pittsburg's design. I know it seems like I'm complaining about that after the fact but I think that it's kind of like the elephant that's in the room that no one's talking about. Why did it even get to where it is today? Everyone's doing a great job of making it better, and that's great but we're spending an awful lot of money fixing something that we wouldn't have had to spend money on to fix in the first place if it had been done right.

**It's a fair question from the standpoint that the San Marco development came around 1992 during a time when there was a threat that the Keller Canyon trash company was not going to be tucked back on Bailey Road, it was going to be right there on the freeway. At that time the developer negotiated his way into an agreement and they started building around 1999 and we have what we have as a result of that agreement that that was not well negotiated agreement on behalf of the City. We have learned from

our mistakes on that. The development agreements that we've done since that time incorporate many more conditions on the developer. They pay much higher fees: the transit fees, the park fees, the infrastructure fees that they pay are tremendously higher. They actually do pay their fair share now. But, back to that San Marco development, that is a 2900 unit development and it's still not built out, they still have close to 1,000 homes left to build. It's a project that they've been building for the last 18-20 years. The commercial that we should have had out there should have been years ago and we tried very diligently to convince them to replace some of the residential with commercial. The Toscana project that is on Portofino Drive, right there at the corner of San Marco and Leland would have been an ideal place for commercial. The City "twisted the arms" to the extent they had the ability to but the developer had a entitlements dated back to 1992 and the agreement they got back in 1992 allowed them to make more money selling houses than they would converting to commercial. So they did what business people do, they sold more houses. Yes, from that standpoint we are trying to fix it. To go to roads, I would not say that roads are a situation where we are patching them because they weren't built right. Roads just don't last. They did build the roads correctly in the first place. What we are doing now is we're constantly doing maintenance which you are always going to see. I heard earlier that there is some patching that needs to be done and we will definitely be on top of that. The comments that you all bring to us in these types of meetings are different every time we do these meetings and when we receive those comments you are going to make contacts with folks that you can stay in contact with for years to come and when you have those concerns you have a direct line. I know several of you in this room had a direct line of communication to the folks who can answer your question. If it's Keller Canyon, Laura can address your concerns. If it happens to be a development issue Kolette happens to be in the back and Kolette can directly answer your questions. Some of you may be frustrated because some of these problems seems like they reoccur but please keep coming back to the meetings and telling us your concerns. The very first question of the night about parked cars, that's a pretty easy one that we can attack and address real quickly. If we didn't know about it we're not going to be able to do anything. There is about 250 city employees and about 70,000 residents. You coming to these meetings and pointing out what we can do better is exactly why we do it. We want to keep coming back to you and asking these questions over and over again.

**With regards to the BART station there is a Railroad Avenue specific plan that has a vision. I cannot say that that vision is going to happen overnight because it's a big change for Pittsburg to evolve into what a transit village would look like. I started working at a building in Pleasant Hill in 1989, the day of the Loma Prieta Earthquake, and that particular area had one or two buildings in it, no transit village. 28 years later it is a thriving transit village with all of the parking they need, with businesses everywhere, commercial as well as office space. It may take 28 years for the transit village to really take shape but without BART locating at that site and without the vision of the Planning Department putting the specific plan in place there's no way that that would ever have happened. Would we like it to happen more quickly? Would we like all of the services in downtown to happen more quickly? Absolutely, and we're going to keep pushing for that. Sometimes that looks like we are trying to "patch" things but we're working with the tools that we have. Another comment I'll make and this is not an excuse, it's just reality, we're a city the size of Walnut Creek. We have approximately 70,000 people now. Walnut Creek is about the same size, plus or minus a couple of those, they have double the budget we have to

accomplish the same amount of services. That is a huge advantage that they have. They make more in parking meters than we make in property tax. That is something that we're trying to overcome which you'll see around you staff that is committed to make things happen. In some cases, yes, it is patch work and we are going to keep at it and make the best of what we have to work with.

**All of you are here because you care about the City and want to make things happen and I want to thank you all for coming.

- What about Positano Park? Since you're taking away half of the park on Leland when will Positano Park be complete?

**If half of the park is going to be commercial the next one to be completed is the one up on the hill. It will all depend of if the lower park becomes commercial. The funds that were going to go into the three acres at San Marco will be put towards Positano, as well as whatever proceeds may be received from the possible sale of the three acres. Positano Park will be completed more quickly.

- What is your vision for the City of Pittsburg? What do you envision it to be? Do you envision it to be a bedroom community? Do you envision it to be commercial? What is your vision to raise it up other than to stay just stagnant in some areas like it is right now? You need to work with what you have to make it better. I hear about developers coming into this area and if everything is going to be done at the developers' discretion or you are doing anything with the developer to make more money – dollar versus what the quality of life of the City can be. What is going to take precedence? The developer and its money, to make money off of low income housing for Section 8? Or is the vision to actually develop some kind of affordable housing so people from other areas are looking forward to coming/moving to Pittsburg, rather than, like where I live, people leaving the area and the houses that are being sold are all becoming rentals. I look up and down my street and around the area and I can pretty much just look and figure out what is a rental and not a rental. The people living in them may or may not feel like they are living in a Pittsburg that is a viable community, something they can look up to and stay in and purchase goods at versus a community with so many Dollar Stores and Grocery Outlets. A community can become so over saturated with those stores that people that are coming into Pittsburg or the people you want to entice to come into the community get turned off by that. They see that there is no up and coming commercial. So my question is what is your vision for this?

**Those are huge questions but what I can say the vision is not really what staff wants, it's about you the community wants. The reason I say that is because we have a General Plan which is a guiding document or blueprint on how the City wants to grow in a 20 year timespan. The City is at the point right now where the existing General Plan is nearing the end of its life. It goes to 2020. The City is at the point where it's starting the process of updating that General Plan. A comprehensive update will be done and we'll have a ton of community meetings to discuss what citizens want to see and how they want to see the community grow over the next 20 years, to 2040. The City had a very preliminary initial meeting and will bring a consultant on board to help with the process. Next year is when this will really get going and the City will be doing public outreach.

- Will the city create a place on the website where people can go to and see what is being discussed?

**Yes. The City recently signed up for a program called Peak Democracy which will allow the City to have an open town hall format on the website and we'll use that for the General Plan update process. The City wants to have as much information out there as possible.

- We've had a lot of talk about transportation, but one of the City's greatest assets is the water front. I would think studies would be done to put in a ferry dock for transporting folks. Is that part of the vision?

**Moving forward there are opportunities for redevelopment. In response to the ferry question – Antioch did a study about two years ago to have a ferry go through the channel and it actually failed.

**In Redevelopment days the City talked to different fleets for a ferry in our waterfront and the conditions they threw upon us was a million dollar contribution from the city to write down their costs. Also, if you're looking at the time it takes to get from Pittsburg to Richmond and then to San Francisco from there, it takes a long time.

- Would anyone like to prognosticate about our housing rental costs and our housing sales given the fires in the north with it burning so many homes and people now looking for places to live?

**That is a very good point. The City has not considered fully those ramifications but they will just drive up the City's rental and home values even more. With the BART station coming, a half mile to a mile around that area and Highway 4 the values of homes are going up.

- I know there is a Community Outreach person, but is there someone that actually monitors what other people are talking about?

**Toni Baldazo tries to monitor what is being said in Pittsburg. She is a resident and has an interest in the community also. She brings back to the Police Department what is being said on Next Door, etc.

**Sometimes things get garbled on Next Door or other social media sites, even though people have the best intentions. So if you have questions or concerns about something you've seen on Next Door or Facebook or any other social media site about the city, send us an email and we can give you the correct answer about it.

- With Pittsburg growing is Pittsburg planning more schools?

**Yes, the City sits down with the school districts and shares with them the homes that are coming on line so they can project what they need for their student populations.

- The traffic going down Railroad Avenue in the downtown area is 20 mph but at any given time of the day people are driving 30-40 mph. We used to have a couple of motor officers down there that are no longer there.

**Our traffic division is very active and good at getting to the problem areas. Continue to let the police department know where the problem areas are and we will get the traffic officers out there when we can.

- Will the police department have any more “Coffee with a Cop”?

**The PD will be having another one which is in the planning stages now. The PD is planning the next one at the Starbucks on Buchanan Road since it was recently remodeled and this one is being planned for the weekend.

- How are we moving in the direction of speed enforcement with the cameras?

**We are not moving in that direction. The cameras that the City has are for criminal purposes to help find stolen vehicles and help with solving other crimes but they are not used for speed enforcement.

- Coming off of the freeway at San Marco east bound the bushes are so high they create a sight distance issue.

**The City will look into it.

- Is there an ordinance against parking diesel trucks on residential roads? On Cumberland between 8th and 4th Streets there are commercial vehicles that park and make it difficult for two vehicles to drive down that street.

**There is an off street parking ordinance but this is only enforceable with No Parking signage. We have addressed other commercial vehicles parking in the area and we will continue to monitor that location. Always feel free to contact Code Enforcement when this is happening.

- Has the City ever thought about applying for Keller Canyon Funds/Grants under the public safety and code enforcement sections? I’m asking because of the recent fatalities and thought they could be used for Public Safety.

**The City has applied for the Keller Canyon Grants and use the money for programming as the grants are usually capped at \$5,000. These are usually smaller grants used to support community activities. The City is very aggressive and creative with the use CDBG funds for Code Enforcement and public safety.

**Thank you for coming and please make sure you sign in for follow-up.