

# Ponte Vista Open Houses Garner Input

In a move to get its project back on track, new Ponte Vista head Ted Fentin, who replaced Robert H. Bisno, hired a consultant to interview more than 50 community members and develop a new, more acceptable plan.

Interviewees ranged from staunch opponents to project cheerleaders. They were asked for their opinions about density, traffic, and other specific concerns.

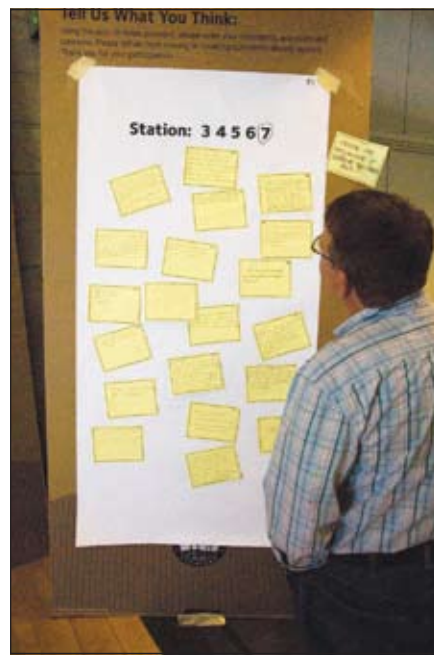
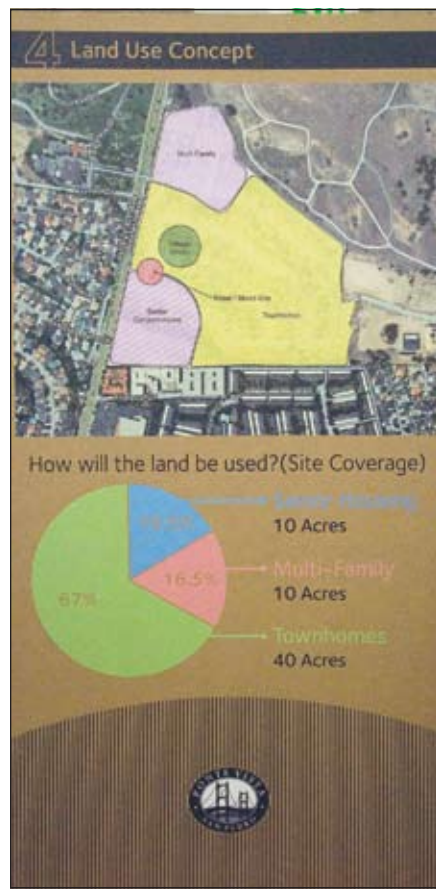
Those interviewed included Coastal San Pedro board members Doug Epperhart, Bruce Horton, June Burlingame Smith, and John Stinson.

Using this feedback, DLJ developed a new plan for 1,395 units which it revealed at an open house in March. About 400 turned out at Peck Park to view display boards detailing the project. They were invited to provide notes that were posted at various "stations" throughout the room. A second open house at the L.A. Harbor Boys and Girls Club drew about a hundred individuals. Comments ran the gamut from "build it now" to "R1 forever."

Changes to the Ponte Vista proposal include moving the "senior village" condos from the northwest to southwest corner of the property, replacing the six-acre park with a two-acre "village green" and moving multi-unit buildings to the northwest corner.

Most of the property would be occupied by 630 townhomes. There would also be 380 units for seniors and 385 units in multifamily buildings.

The planning commission kicked the project back to staff and DLJ for another 120 days to see if a compromise plan can be worked out.



Dozens of displays like the one at left presented Ponte Vista's new plan. Sticky notes of various hues spelled out how open house participants felt about the project. Below, a Ponte Vista crew member gets feedback.

—Photos by John Stinson



## Councilwoman Janice Hahn's Statement on Ponte Vista

Following the planning commission meeting on April 9, Councilwoman Janice Hahn released the following statement:

During last week's planning commission meeting on the proposed Ponte Vista development, the community came out in full force to express their opinions and concerns. Ultimately, the planning commission rejected the proposal and gave the developer 120 days to come back with a revised plan.

It is my sincere hope that over the next few months, working with planning department staff, the developer will move closer to the staff recommendation and propose a project that is substantially smaller, with more traffic mitigation measures and benefits to our community built into it.

The good news is that whatever project is finally approved, it will have been well vetted by our very active and involved citizenry. When it's all over, I envision the entire community coming together to celebrate the fruits of their dedicated and enduring efforts to make San Pedro a better place.

# April is Earthquake Preparedness Month; Are You Ready for the Big One?

Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently and without warning. Identifying potential hazards ahead of time and advance planning can reduce the dangers of serious injury or loss of life from an earthquake.

### Before an Earthquake

- Check for hazards in the home.
- Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items such as bottles, and glass, in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items such as pictures and mirrors away from beds and couches. Brace overhead light fixtures.
- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections
- Secure a water heater by strapping it to the wall studs and bolting it to the floor.
- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations.
- Store pesticides and flammable products securely in closed cabinets with latches.

### Identify safe places in each room

- Under sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk or table.
- Against an inside wall.
- Away from where glass could shatter around windows, mirrors, pictures
- Away from where heavy bookcases or other heavy furniture could fall over.

### Locate safe places outdoors

- Away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, or elevated expressways.
- Make sure all family members know how to respond after an earthquake.
- Teach all family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity, and water.
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire .

### Develop an emergency plan that includes:

- Family meeting place
- Evacuation sites
- Out-of-state contact
- Plan to pick up children from school
- Alternative transportation routes

### Assemble an emergency kit that includes:

- Drinking water
- Nonperishable food
- Flashlight
- Portable radio
- Extra batteries
- Extra clothing
- Prescription drugs
- Prescription glasses
- Dentures

### Prepare an evacuation kit that includes:

- Blankets
- Pillows
- Medical supplies
- Hygiene supplies

### Identify shut-off valves for:

- Electricity

- Gas
- Water

### During an Earthquake

- Take cover under a heavy furniture or against an inside wall and hold on.
- Stay inside. The most dangerous thing to do during the shaking of an earthquake is to try to leave the building because objects can fall on you.
- If outdoors: Move into the open, away from buildings, street lights, and utility wires.
- Once in the open, stay there until the shaking stops.
- If in a moving vehicle: Stop quickly and stay in the vehicle.
- Move to a clear area away from buildings, trees, overpasses, or utility wires.
- Once the shaking has stopped, proceed with caution.
- Avoid bridges or ramps that might have been damaged by the quake.

### After an Earthquake

- Be prepared for aftershocks.
- Although smaller than the main

shock, aftershocks cause additional damage and may bring weakened structures down.

- Aftershocks can occur in the first hours, days, weeks, or even months after the quake.
- Help injured or trapped persons.
- Give first aid where appropriate.
- Don't move seriously injured persons unless they are in danger of further injury.
- Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for the latest emergency information.
- Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance.
- Stay out of damaged buildings. Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- Clean up spilled medicines, bleaches or gasoline or other flammable liquids immediately.
- Leave the area if you smell gas or fumes from other chemicals.

## Talk to the City Council— Without Leaving San Pedro!

A new videoconferencing pilot program at San Pedro City Hall now enables Harbor area residents and surrounding communities to give live testimony to city council without having to travel to downtown Los Angeles. The program is similar to one that city council has offered from Van Nuys for the past four years.

"We understand that distance and traffic can make it difficult for Harbor area residents to express their comments and concerns before city council," said Councilwoman Janice Hahn. This is an effort to ensure that their concerns are represented fairly."

The six-month video conferencing pilot program launched on March 25. It will be available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 10:00 a.m. at San Pedro City Hall, 638 South Beacon Street in San Pedro. Identification is required to enter the building. For more information, please contact Councilwoman Hahn's San Pedro office, at (310) 732-4515.

## NC Funding Reports Online

If you want to know where the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council spends your tax dollars, go online to [www.lacityneighborhoods.org](http://www.lacityneighborhoods.org), click on "Funding" and the "Monthly Funding Statements." You'll find a listing of check and debit card expenditures of the city's neighborhood councils, including Coastal San Pedro. The information contained in the monthly funding report reflects actual expenditures and doesn't include money that councils have voted for, but have not yet paid. Each council is given \$50,000 per year for administration, outreach, and neighborhood improvement projects.