

Dimond Gateway Fruitvale Ave/Woodbine Corner

Community Meeting, Monday, June 6, 2011

City contact: David Ralston <dralston@oaklandnet.com>

Present: Gregory Ross, Mary Bergan, Paula Barber, Querido Galdo, Ashley Rogers, Karen Marie Schroeder, Tom Rose, Tim Little, Kathleen Russell, Robert Raburn, Sofia Tselentis, David Ralston

Dimond Gateway/Fruitvale Ave./Woodbine Corner Community Meeting.

This meeting was held at Asia House restaurant 2141 MacArthur. There were approximately twelve people attending, including David Ralston of Oakland Redevelopment Agency.

The meeting began at 6:00 pm with a discussion of the erroneously placed fence below the Shell Station on Fruitvale. There were varying opinions, but the majority felt that all of the fencing along Fruitvale in Dimond should be harmonious. The Fruitvale Alive group had originally chosen a blue fence with a reed motif. This fence is black and was designed for Josie De La Cruz park, but erected here. The vote of the majority was to remove this fence and replace it with the previously chosen one.

What will be done on the median in Fruitvale at the Gateway? Currently it is cement and there are three large pots on it, filled with plants. The Friends of Sausal Creek would like to see a creek theme and native plants utilized to maximum extent. Shall the cement be removed from the median. What would that cost? Will the City do it? Should rocks and stones be placed in a curving pattern to represent water? Will there be pots or plantings directly on the median? Tim Little mentioned that it was difficult to keep litter out of the growth, especially glass. Weeds would also be a problem and we will be the ones to maintain the median. Maybe hardscape could be used along with planted pots. Leslie Golden had sent along a design, which Ashley Rogers modified to include the pots. The vote was to keep the pots, remove the cement and set up large flagstones in a curving pattern. Pots might be planted with native plants.

Ashley suggested that the median above the 580 freeway might eventually be designed to match the one we are discussing. Tom Rose agreed.

The signage and light on the Woodbine corner needs to be changed. There needs to be a new streetlight illuminating the planted area, a directional sign in the Dimond district design and a FOSC interpretive watershed sign. This latter sign would be set back from the others. Who would maintain new plantings at the Woodbine Corner? Ashley said that she would communicate with Woodbine St. residents about this matter.

On the corner of the Park and Ride Lot, Harold and Fruitvale, there used to be a sign announcing Dimond District. Robert Raburn would like to see this sign replace with another wooden one. People agreed and that there should be a small garden planted here.

Robert also advocated for the new fence to go up to the gate on Harold as well as along Fruitvale Ave. The decorative panels would be included.

David Ralston stated that he would allocate the remaining thirty-four thousand dollars to Dimond Improvement Association to complete these projects. Will the City Council agree? Who will monitor the progress of this project's completion? The meeting ended with details to be decided.

Woodbine Corner Project meetings to date:

11/18/10; 12/2/10; 1/8/11; 2/12/11; 4/10/11; 6/6/11  
PDF meeting notes can be viewed at  
<[http://www.diamondnews.org/dia/about\\_dia2](http://www.diamondnews.org/dia/about_dia2)>