

CITY OF COTATI

AGENDA for the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, October 17, 2011
TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE OF MEETING: Cotati City Hall, City Council Chambers
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati, CA 94931

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. For the meeting of September 19, 2011
- B. For the meeting of October 3, 2011

IV. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

V. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - *Public is asked to please step to the podium and state your name and address for the record. Please limit your comments to items not already agendized for discussion.*

VI. MATTERS AT HAND

- A. General Plan Update meeting #4: Circulation and Noise

VII. REPORTS BY STAFF

VIII. REPORTS BY COMMISSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Cotati Planning Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Community Development Department located at 201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati, California, during normal business hours.

Disabled Accommodation: Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate formats to persons with disabilities as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should contact the Deputy City Clerk at (707) 665-3622 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SONOMA, CITY OF COTATI, I declare under penalty of perjury that I am employed by the City of Cotati in the Planning Division; and that I posted this agenda on the bulletin boards of City Hall, U.S. Post Office, and Veteran's Memorial Building on or before October 13, 2011.


Keri L. Pajon, Administrative Secretary

CITY OF COTATI
MINUTES for the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, September 19, 2011
TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 pm
PLACE OF MEETING: Cotati City Hall, City Council Chambers
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati, CA 94931

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Brady, Ford, Ritter and Chair Moore
Commissioners Absent: Hancock
Staff Present: Parker, Harris, and Pajon

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. For the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2011

Motion:	Commissioner Ford made a motion and Commissioner Brady seconded the motion to approve the June 20, 2011 minutes.
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Yes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

IV. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral or written communications.

VI. MATTERS AT HAND

A. Request for Design Review approval of a Master Sign Program at 7911 Redwood Drive. This application is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15311, Accessory Structures.

PA #1/11

Applicant: D&C Ling Family Limited
Partnership/Brian Ling

APN #:

144-020-005

Assistant Planner Harris presented the staff report, explaining the history of the site, the proposed sign program and the Conditions of Approval. Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. PC 11-09 for Design Review approval of a Master Sign Program.

Commissioner Ford commented on Condition No. 3, stating that the sentence “it shall be a minimum of 25 square feet” is confusing. He said that the Land Use Code is written with a maximum square footage.

Assistant Planner Harris explained that Condition No. 3 helps make sure that a minimum sign area is available for each tenant so that they have a reasonable size.

Community Development Director Parker said that the condition establishes uniformity for the overall site.

Commissioner Ford said that he reads the condition as if we are prohibiting the applicant from installing less than 25 square feet.

PUBLIC HEARING opened at 7:12 pm

Brian Ling, Applicant, responded to Commissioner Ford’s comments and stated that Condition No. 3 is acceptable.

PUBLIC HEARING closed at 7:13 pm

Chair Moore commented on finding 3.h. in the resolution, which would allow additional sign colors on the main building for regional or national tenants with a trademarked logo. She expressed concern that review will not occur and the colors may not complement the site.

Assistant Planner Harris explained staff recommends flexibility in case a large tenant with an established logo locates here. She advised the Commission that they could change the recommendation.

Discussion ensued on signs for regional or national chains and color palettes.

Commissioner Brady expressed concern for the property owners, stating that it might make it difficult for the property owners to gain tenants.

Community Development Director Parker recommended requiring staff approval of that sign.

The Commission agreed that a condition requiring approval at staff level would be fine.

In response to Commissioner Ford, Community Development Director Parker said that it is part of staff’s normal course of review to evaluate aesthetics for a sign.

Commissioner Ford requested that Condition No. 3 read “shall be allowed a minimum of 25 square feet.”

Motion:	Vice Chair Ritter made a motion and Commissioner Ford seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. PC 11-09 with changes to the Conditions of Approval.
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Yes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

1. Pursuant to the City of Cotati Land Use Code Section 17.62.040, Design Review is granted for a Master Sign Program for an existing site at 7911 Redwood Drive.
2. Prior to installation of any signage, the applicant shall obtain a sign permit from the Community Development Department. Prior to installation of any wall-mounted signs and/or lighting fixtures, the applicant shall obtain the required building permits.
3. **AMENDED.** Each tenant identity sign, identified as signs D1, D2, and D3, shall be *allowed* a minimum of 25 square feet per Land Use Code 17.38.060.B. The 6" high suite number is required by the Building Code and, therefore, excluded from sign area calculations.
4. "Auxiliary signage" shall not exceed 20% of the area of the man door. The 6" high suite number is required by the Building Code and, therefore, excluded from sign area calculations.
5. Each wall sign shall be installed such that the top of the sign does not exceed 20 feet above grade in compliance with Land Use Code section 17.38.050.C.2.

CITY ENGINEER

6. Prior to final inspection, the applicant shall submit the final compliance documentation required by the water-efficient landscape ordinance.
7. Prior to final inspection, the applicant shall install low-flow toilets and fixtures to the satisfaction of the City Engineer.

PLANNING COMMISSION

8. **ADDED.** If a business with a trademarked logo with colors in addition to those identified in this sign program locates in Building A and proposes signage visible from the public right-of-way, the additional colors may be allowed at the discretion of the Community Development Director.

- B. Request for an amendment to a previously approved Conditional Use Permit to temporarily allow construction activities to occur on weekends at 7764 Old Redwood Highway. This application is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PA# 01/08
APN #

Applicant: Peet's Coffee & Tea
144-080-015

Community Development Director Parker presented the staff report. Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. PC 11-10, approving an amendment to the Peet's Coffee and Tea Use Permit to temporarily allow expanded construction activities to occur on the weekends.

In response to Commissioner Ritter, Community Development Director Parker explained that it would be atypical for an applicant to request with end construction hours with their original approvals. Typical workdays for projects are Monday – Friday.

In response to Commissioner Ford, Community Development Director Parker explained that the applicant could begin the new requested immediately following the 10 day appeal period.

In response to Commissioner Ford, Community Development Director Parker said that noticing was done for this request.

PUBLIC HEARING opened at 7:26 pm

PUBLIC HEARING closed at 7:26 pm

Motion:	Commissioner Ford made a motion and Chair Moore seconded the motion to approve the Resolution No. PC 11-10 with Conditions of Approval.
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Yes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

**Peet's Coffee & Tea Use Permit Amendment (PA# 08/10)
Planning Commission Resolution No. 11-10**

1. Hours of construction shall be expanded to allow work on Saturday's and Sunday's from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, beginning October 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.
2. Applicant shall designate both an on-site and corporate project manager to receive and respond to all complaints regarding noise or other nuisances during weekend hours and post those individual's name and contact information in at least two locations on the construction site which are safely and easily accessible to the general public.
3. The above information shall also be provided to the Chief of Police, Cotati Police Department.

City Attorney

4. The Applicant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City and its agents, officers, attorneys or employees from any claim, action, or proceeding brought against the City or its agents, officers, attorneys or employees to attack, set aside, void, or annul the Planning Commission's and/or City Council's decision to approve the amendment to this conditional use permit. This indemnification shall include damages or fees awarded against the City, if any, cost of suit, attorney's fees, and other costs and expenses incurred in connection with such action whether incurred by the Applicant, including its partners, the City, and/or the parties initiating or bringing such action.
5. The Applicant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City, its agents, officers, employees and attorneys for all costs incurred in additional investigation of or study of, or for supplementing, preparing, redrafting, revisiting, or amending any document, if made necessary by said legal action and if the Applicant desires to pursue securing such approvals, after initiation of such litigation, which are conditions on the approval of such documents, in a form and under conditions approved by the City Attorney.

6. In the event that a claim, action or proceeding is brought, the City shall promptly notify the Applicant, of the existence of the claim, action or proceeding, and the City would cooperate fully in the defense of such claim, action or proceeding. Nothing herein shall prohibit the City from participating in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding. In the event that the Applicant is required to defend the City in connection with any said claim, action or proceeding, the City shall retain the right to 1) approve the counsel to so defend the City, 2) approve all significant decisions concerning the manner in which the defense is conducted, and 3) approve any and all settlements, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The City shall also have the right not to participate in said defense of said claim, action or proceeding. If the City chooses to have counsel of its own to defend any claim, action or proceeding where the Applicant has already retained counsel to defend the City in such matters, the fees and expenses of the counsel selected by the City shall be paid by the City. Notwithstanding the immediate proceeding sentence, if the City Attorney's office participates in the defense, all City Attorney fees and costs shall be reimbursed by the Applicant.
7. The Applicant shall indemnify the City for all the city's costs, fees, and damages, which the City incurs in enforcing the above indemnification provisions.
8. Unless a shorter period applies, the time within which judicial review of this Resolution must be sought is governed by California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6.

VII. REPORTS BY STAFF

Community Development Director Parker advised the Commission that both meetings in October would be General Plan Update meetings and that a possible special meeting will be needed in order to accommodate projects.

VIII. REPORTS BY COMMISSION

In response to Commissioner Ford, Community Development Director Parker said that the October meetings will begin at 7:00 pm.

Chair Moore commented on foreclosure homes in the community that aren't being taken care of. She recommended an ordinance be developed to support City efforts to maintain structures and yards of these foreclosed homes.

Community Development Director Parked responded to Chair Moore, stating that she would research the issue and return to the Commission with a recommendation.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Moore 7:32 pm

Keri L. Pajon
Planning Commission Secretary

CITY OF COTATI
MINUTES for the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, October 3, 2011
TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 pm
PLACE OF MEETING: Cotati City Hall, City Council Chambers
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati, CA 94931

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Brady, Ford, Hancock, Vice Chair Ritter and Chair Moore
Commissioners Absent:
Staff Present: Parker, Harris, and Pajon
Consultants: Beth Thompson and Ben Ritchie, DeNovo Planning Group

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

IV. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

V. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral or written communications.

VI. MATTERS AT HAND

A. General Plan Update meeting #3: Public Facilities and Safety

Assistant Planner Harris welcomed everyone and turned the presentation over to Consultant Ben Ritchie.

Consultant Ritchie presented the Public Facilities and Safety segment of the General Plan Update.

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 7:13 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT closed at 7:13 pm

Which three public facilities issues should be prioritized?

Chair Moore

- keep Thomas Page school open

- in need of a public safety plan; emergency preparedness, including safe (earthquake-proof) public facilities
- lack of a recreation department / underuse of the Cotati room

Vice Chair Ritter

- keep Thomas Page school open
- parks, we are underserved – especially on the west side / increase quality, if not quantity of facilities available
- water quality, sewage treatment

Commissioner Hancock

- school quality - safe routes to all schools; complete streets
- water quality and stormwater management, especially with any hillside development impacts downstream
- resilience of infrastructure – keeping SCADA free from attacks

Commissioner Brady

- water quality
- relationship with SSU is important
- partner with RAFFPD, support them in station #1 building issues

Commissioner Ford

- prevention of stormwater infiltration into sewer and discharge of pollutants during storm events
- connections with SSU
- need public spaces for community gatherings

In reviewing the 1998 General Plan policies related to public facilities and services:

- Which 1998 General Plan goals and policies best address the concerns you identified?*
- Which priorities are not addressed in the 1998 General Plan?*

Vice Chair Ritter

- update language regarding stormwater

Commissioner Hancock

- need complete streets
- urban stormwater management needs more specific and stronger language
- the Laguna system at E. Cotati Avenue seems to be at capacity and needs professional evaluation
- need an emergency plan

Commissioner Ford

- SSU needs to be included in planning efforts
- community gathering goals needs strengthening
- stormwater language appears okay

Commissioner Brady

- providing health and emergency classes is still important, possibly new implementation tools

Community Development Director Parker recommended a modification to policy 7.4.1 and 1.2.2.

The Planning Commission was supportive of the recommended modifications; wanted to ensure that all policy language will come back to them for review before finalization.

Consultant Ritchie reviewed the Safety segment of the General Plan Update.

In developing a goal and policy framework to address safety, what top three issues or actions should the City prioritize?

Vice Chair Ritter

- fire prevention
- hazardous waste removal and remediation

Commissioner Hancock

- L.U.S.T. sites (leaky underground storage tanks)

Commissioner Ford

- update safety

Commissioner Brady

- emergency preparedness - make, plan and identify the contents of the plan

In response to Commissioner Ford, Consultant Ritchie said that an action plan and a timeline for an emergency plan could be included in the General Plan.

BREAK – 8:08 pm

Meeting called back to order at 8:15 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 8:15 pm

Richard Merriss, Lebec Lane

- Does the City continue to offer the low flow toilet program?
- How does Cotati's 3% allotment of capacity compare to other cities?
- Are there incentives to providing more efficient hot water systems in existing residences?

Joyce Garcia, Olof Street, said that Los Gatos has a high quality disaster plan.

Steve Davidson, RAFFD

- RAFFD may soon be in a situation of having expenses in excess of revenues and it could affect staffing

- emergency preparedness – Rohnert Park is finishing their plan, which could be used as an example
- RAFFPD's disaster response is integrated with the county's emergency plan
- flooding – pipes from water tanks need earthquake valves

Jenny Blaker, Arthur Street

- would like broader support for community gathering
- wants outdoor public bulletin board

Martha (last name indecipherable), Windmill Farms, had miscellaneous questions that were deferred to staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED at 8:25 pm

Community Development Director Parker responded to Mr. Merriss' comment about wastewater and said that with the recently completed master plan update, the number is much closer to 4%, and represents Cotati's contribution to the overall capacity.

Assistant Planner Harris advised Mr. Merriss that the low flow toilet retrofit program is still active.

Commissioner Ritter advised staff that this meeting was not advertised on the community board.

Community Development Director Parker discussed adding additional meetings in October and November. October 24th and November 14th were the agreed upon dates.

VII. REPORTS BY STAFF

Community Development Director Parker commented on the following:

- advised the Planning Commission that a project schedule was included in their packet
- they received updated information this evening on the Brown Act
- workshop for the Association of Environmental Professionals in October – RSVP to Keri
- training for Planning Commissioners at SSU in December – RSVP to Keri

VIII. REPORTS BY COMMISSION

Commissioner Brady advised the Planning Commission of Octoberfest scheduled for Saturday, October 8th.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Moore at 8:35 pm

Keri L. Pajon
Planning Commission Secretary

Cotati General Plan Update

MEMORANDUM

October 17, 2011

TO: Planning Commissioners

FROM: Vicki Parker, Community Development Director
Beth Thompson and Ben Ritchie, De Novo Planning Group

SUBJECT: Transportation and Noise

DATE: October 17, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This Planning Commission meeting will focus on the topics of Transportation and Noise. This meeting packet includes specific reading materials related to transportation and noise and raises key issues to consider in preparation for the fourth General Plan Planning Commission meeting. The Circulation and Noise Elements are required elements of the General Plan.

As part of the Visioning Process, residents and stakeholders were asked to identify their vision and priorities for the City's future, as well as challenges and opportunities associated with the General Plan Update. Many issues associated with transportation, including traffic volumes, traffic-related hazards, and needed bicycle/pedestrian system improvements were raised during the Visioning Process, with a lesser number of noise-related issues identified. The primary priorities and concerns related to transportation and noise identified during the Visioning Process were:

- Extending/increasing bicycle lanes
- Improving/expanding sidewalks
- Reducing vehicle speeds
- Reducing vehicle congestion
- Old Redwood Highway and Highway 116, Old Redwood Highway and East Cotati Avenue, and the East Cotati Avenue corridor were the top locations identified as having critical circulation issues
- Number of bars and associated noise

A detailed list of transportation issues raised during the Visioning Process is included as Attachment 1. Locations identified as priorities for circulation improvements, including new/expanded bicycle lanes, safe pedestrian routes, and traffic safety improvements, are shown on the attached Circulation Priorities figure (see Attachment 2).

To: Planning Commissioners
Subject: #4 - Transportation and Noise
Date: October 17, 2011
Page: 2 of 2

The City's 1998 General Plan includes goals and policies specifically related to transportation and noise. It is anticipated that the Commission will review these policies for relevancy and scope, and if necessary, expand upon them as part of this General Plan Update.

REQUIRED READING

Prior to the meeting on October 17th, please read the following items:

1. Visioning Workshop #4: Transportation Priorities and Problems (see Attachments 1 and 2)
2. Background Information – Transportation and Circulation: Chapter 4 of the Background Report
3. Background Information – Chapter 8 of the Background Report (previously provided)
4. 1998 General Plan Goals and Policies related to Transportation and Circulation (see Attachment 3)
5. 1998 General Plan Goals and Policies related to Noise (see Attachment 4)

WORK EXERCISE

After reading the materials identified above, please consider the following questions and be prepared to discuss:

1. In developing a goal and policy framework to address transportation and circulation, what top three issues or actions should the City prioritize?
2. In reviewing the 1998 General Plan policies related to transportation and circulation:
 - a. Which 1998 General Plan goals and policies best address the concerns you identified?
 - b. Which priorities are not addressed in the 1998 General Plan?
3. In developing a goal and policy framework to address noise, what top three issues or actions should the City prioritize?
4. In reviewing the 1998 General Plan policies related to noise:
 - a. Which 1998 General Plan goals and policies best address the concerns you identified?
 - b. Which priorities are not addressed in the 1998 General Plan?

ATTACHMENT 1

VISIONING WORKSHOP #4: TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES AND PROBLEMS

Visioning Workshop #4: Transportation Priorities

Additional transit service

ADA improvements

Public transit more efficient and smaller buses running more often, revamp routes

Improve transit service - currently there is service to SSU but not from SSU

Expanding bike lanes

Linking up with regional bike trails

Extending/improving bike lanes

Bike safety

Bicycle lanes

Decrease vehicle congestion

Extending and connecting LOS A+B bike options - should be able to get anywhere within 5 miles safely and comfortably

Extending bicycle lanes

Linking up with regional bike trails

Traffic flow improvements - using roundabouts instead of 4-way stop signs

Decrease vehicle congestion

Extend bike lanes

Decrease vehicle congestion

Extend bike lanes

Extending bicycle lanes

Increasing bicycle lanes

Extending bicycle lanes

Better freeway access - Railroad and Sierra Ave

Decrease vehicle congestion

Get rid of 4-way stop signs

Consistent bicycle street treatment

Extending bike lanes

Bike lane to SMART

Increase local transit services and amenities and bus stops

Improving perception of bicycle and pedestrian safety

Decrease vehicle speed

Address speed on West Sierra

ATTACHMENT 1

VISIONING WORKSHOP #4: TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES AND PROBLEMS

Decreasing vehicle speeds

Decreasing vehicle speeds on West Sierra Ave

Decreased speeds on Old Redwood

Safety at Hwy 116/Madrone - major accidents and people killed there

Breaking down the road block at Arthur Street and E. Cotati the residents installed years ago

More parking

Improving sidewalks

Improving sidewalks

Improving sidewalks

Improving walkability

Improving sidewalks

Pedestrians: signal change at Old Redwood Hwy/E. Cotati/W. Sierra is VERY slow for pedestrians

More sidewalks

Improving sidewalks

Lack of sidewalks in older neighborhoods - i.e., Page Street

ATTACHMENT 1

VISIONING WORKSHOP #4: TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES AND PROBLEMS

Visioning Workshop #4: Transportation Problems

West Sierra & Valparaiso - turning left to 101 - can get stuck in line of traffic
Additional freeway on-ramp and off-ramp at W, Sierra and US Hwy 101
ADA improvements - many crosswalks have ADA access on one side of street but not the other; lamp posts in sidewalks, etc.
Safe Route to Thomas Page School so children can safely walk/bicycle instead of parents driving every day
Walkability on all streets - what happened to walkable Cotati
Way-finding signs for bicycle routes (could direct tourists to local businesses as well)
East Cotati - traffic is too much, too fast
East Cotati Ave
East Cotati/Old Redwood signal timing
Left turn from Old Redwood Hwy to E. Cotati Ave
Pedestrian flow crossing 116 along Old Redwood Hwy
Intersection of E. Cotati and La Salle
Old Redwood - HUB - 101 congestion, suicide lane, high speeds, need an intersection
Bike/ped circulation at Old Redwood/Hwy 101 interchange
New center divide/island at Old Redwood Hwy and N. 101 entrance - street lines
Circulation problems - W. Sierra + W. School St.
Gravenstein Hwy + W. School Street
Old Redwood Hwy, especially in early evening
Bicycle lanes, safety going north on Old Redwood Hwy from Valparaiso to La Plaza
Making left turn south on Old Redwood Hwy (between George St & Walgreens)
South on Old Redwood towards E. Sierra - turning lane gets blocked up
Hwy 116- Dangerous intersections need improvement
The pedestrian barrier on E. Cotati Ave that keeps getting hit
Access/left turn east bound 116 into Crossroads- new island project- creating traffic- non emergency access
Old Redwood and 116
Old Redwood and 116 (intersection at Walgreens)
Hwy 116 east/west
Old Redwood and 116
116 at Madrone- autos and peds

ATTACHMENT 1

VISIONING WORKSHOP #4: TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES AND PROBLEMS

Hwy 116 under Hwy 101

For bikes, railroad crossing on East Cotati Ave is extremely dangerous

Railroad crossing at E. Cotati Ave: future transit site, no ped crossing, rough for bicycles (need to dismount)

Old Redwood Hwy between Hub and 116 needs to be "beautified"

Old Red

Old Redwood Hwy and Railroad Ave.

Through traffic on Old Red- back up- and cutting through on residential streets

Biking along Old Redwood Highway north of Hub and onto 116

Old Redwood Highway

Old Redwood near Page St: no bike lane thru, heavy congestion at 5pm, bridge pavement causes excessive noise

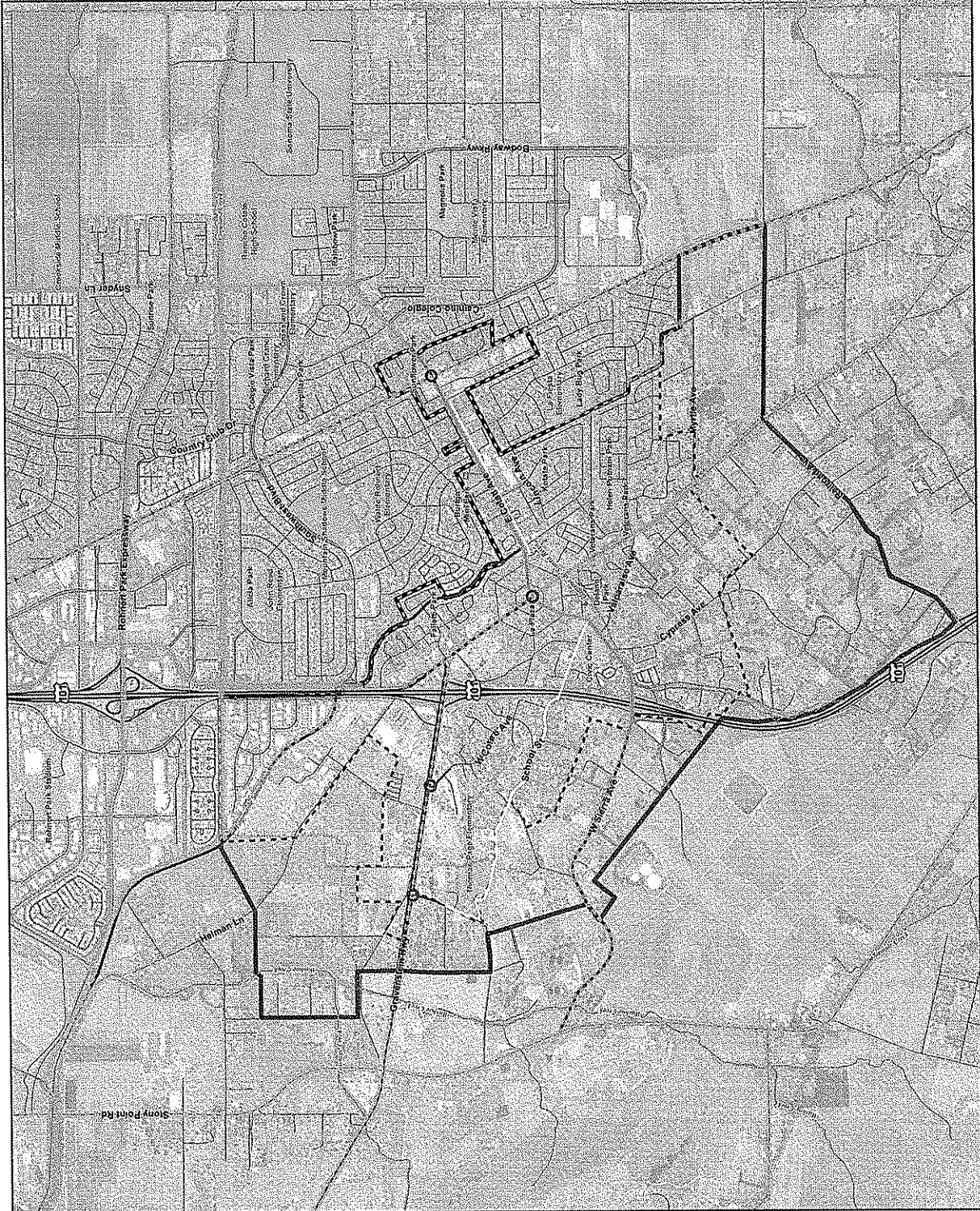
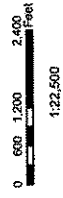
Hub to Old Redwood

Old Redwood Hwy and E. Cotati Ave at the Hub

Cotati General Plan Update

Visioning Workshop #4
Circulation Priorities
Attachment 2

- Priority Segments**
- New or Improved Bicycle Lanes
 - Safe Pedestrian Route
 - Safety Improvements
- Regional Bicycle Network**
- Existing Route
 - Proposed Route
- Parks and Schools**
- Park
 - School
- Planning Areas**
- City Boundary
 - Sphere of Influence



City of Cotati, California
Map Date: October 11, 2011

De Novo Planning Group
A Land Use Planning, Design, and Environmental Firm

ATTACHMENT 3

1998 GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES: TRANSPORTATION

GOAL 2 DEVELOP A SYSTEM OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES THAT PROVIDES SAFE AND EFFICIENT ACCESS TO ALL PARTS OF THE CITY, INCLUDING THOMAS PAGE SCHOOL, SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE REGION, AND REINFORCES THE DESIRED LAND USE PATTERN.

2.1.1 Encourage the use of park and ride facilities in safe and convenient locations.

2.1.2 Encourage the provision and maintenance of covered and lighted seating areas at existing and future transit stops along Old Redwood Highway and East Cotati Avenue to ensure safety and convenience for riders. (See map 4.)

2.1.3 When state monies become available, explore the possibility of an on-demand or regular transit service for west, south, and southwesterly portions of Cotati that have no public transit, thus providing access to activity centers and public transit facilities.

2.1.4 Encourage a schedule where Sonoma County Transit buses stop every half-hour at designated bus stops along Old Redwood Highway and East Cotati Avenue, to and from activity centers in Cotati, Sonoma State University, and the region.

2.1.5 As demand increases, the City shall work with Sonoma County Transit and other State agencies to locate and construct new park and ride facilities.

2.1.6 Encourage the consolidation of Golden Gate Transit Service and Sonoma County Transit bus shelters at La Plaza to better serve the bus traveling population.

2.1.7 Establish a rail transit center at the site of the historic East Cotati Avenue transit stop along the Northwest Pacific Railroad right-of-way.

2.2.1 Establish and maintain continuous clearly identifiable bicycle routes and facilities on Old Redwood Highway, East Cotati Avenue, Gravenstein Highway, and West Sierra Avenue.

2.2.2 Maintain and develop a network of walkways and sidewalks along arterial and collector streets to provide for safe and efficient travel.

2.2.3 New development shall provide the rights-of-way for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

2.2.4 Priority shall be given to upgrading and maintaining existing bicycle and pedestrian routes before new routes are established.

2.2.5 Continue to provide secure bicycle racks in the Hub, future and existing commercial areas, park-and-ride transit facilities, schools, and multiple unit residential developments.

2.2.6 Provide curb cuts and ramps at the intersections along Old Redwood Highway and East Cotati Avenue and throughout the community, to serve the needs of the mobility-impaired.

2.2.7 Identify streets on the west side of Highway 101 where reduced pedestrian facilities, such as an asphalt path, would more closely support the rural character.

ATTACHMENT 3

1998 GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES: TRANSPORTATION

- 2.2.8 Establish pedestrian facilities under the Gravenstein Highway and West Sierra Avenue interchanges to facilitate safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle travel throughout Cotati.
- 2.2.9 Enhance the safety of pedestrian crossings in the Hub area while ensuring a delightful downtown experience.
- 2.3.1 Require future commercial development near residential areas to provide adequate parking so that those adjacent areas are not impacted with spillover parking demand.
- 2.3.2 Multiple unit residential developments shall provide adequate parking facilities to serve both residents and guests to minimize on- street parking impacts.
- 2.3.3 Encourage the use of multi-purpose parking lots that serve both multi-family residential and commercial uses.
- 2.3.4 Pursue the formation of downtown parking assessment districts which assembles parking to the rear of Hub businesses as depicted in the City of Cotati Downtown Specific Plan.
- 2.4.1 Seek alternatives to traditional traffic solutions; these measures could include traffic signals, street widening and stop signs. Traffic calming measures, which decrease environmental impacts, slow vehicular speed and encourage pedestrian and bicycle modes of transportation, shall be given the highest priority above the traffic improvements recommended below.
- 2.4.2 Policy 2.4.2 deleted by City Council Resolution No. 04-79, adopted November 10, 2004.
- 2.4.3 The following intersections and street segments are congested or near capacity and should be given a high priority for improvements (see map 7a and 7b):
- 2.4.4 Realign Madrone Avenue so that it forms a four-way intersection with Gravenstein Highway and Locust Avenue.
- 2.4.5 Realign the U.S. 101 Highway northbound on-ramp.
- 2.4.6 Allow a maximum of 1,500 to 2,000 vehicles per day on all residential streets which have more urban facilities such as curb, gutter and sidewalk and well-conditioned pavement. Allow a maximum of 1,000 to 1,500 vehicles per day on all residential streets which are more rural in nature and are typified by poorly conditioned pavement and the absence of pedestrian walkways. If residential streets moderately to significantly exceed these standards, the City should consider measures to reduce through traffic volumes. These measures would primarily include diversionary devices to prohibit movements and/or traffic calming devices. Traffic calming devices are simple street design features that cause motorists to drive with more care, to drive more slowly or perhaps via another route. A menu of traffic calming devices can be found in the Appendix.

GOAL 3 MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF THE CITY'S RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS.

ATTACHMENT 3

1998 GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES: TRANSPORTATION

3.1.1 Reduce automobile trips and local traffic congestion. Refer to, Goal 2, the transportation section for additional policies that would reduce automobile use.

GOAL 6 ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF COTATI RESIDENTS THROUGH THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WELL-DESIGNED AND APPROPRIATELY SERVED NEIGHBORHOODS.

6.4.1 Site designs shall minimize paved surfaces and roadway lengths while providing adequate access for normal circulation and emergency vehicles.

6.4.2 Site design shall minimize vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian conflicts.

6.4.3 Site designs shall maximize access to commercial uses, recreational uses, employment, public services and other destinations using a minimum of pavement.

GOAL 7 MAINTAIN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT BY PROVIDING ADEQUATE PROTECTION FROM TRAFFIC, FIRE, CRIME, NATURAL DISASTER AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

7.6.1 Sites with a high frequency of traffic accidents shall be modified to minimize such occurrences.

7.6.2 A "Level of Service D" shall be the minimum Level of Service maintained at all intersections. (See Appendix for definitions of "Levels of Service" and an Intersection Service Levels analysis of already impacted intersections. See Map 7a for the current Level of Service ratings for these intersections.)

7.6.3 Bicycle paths shall be established, maintained in good condition and/or repaired, in order to keep bicyclists safe from vehicular traffic. (See map 5.)

7.6.4 Safe pedestrian paths shall be maintained throughout the community. (See map 6.)

GOAL 9 PROMOTE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY AND OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES.

9.5.3 Layout and design of future development shall be such that the use of transportation modes other than automobiles and trucks shall be feasible and practical.

GOAL 11 ESTABLISH THE INNER HUB AREA AS A PRINCIPAL RETAIL AND SERVICE CENTER.

11.1.2 Provide sufficient funds for anticipated traffic improvements.

11.1.3 Decisions on individual site uses in the Hub shall consider potential impacts on the Hub and on collector and arterial streets.

11.1.4 Provide safe walking areas for pedestrians, allow safe on-street parking and provide adequate street width for fire safety vehicles in the Hub.

11.2.1 Provide off-street parking behind existing and new businesses or in centrally located shared parking areas.

ATTACHMENT 4

1998 GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES: NOISE

GOAL 3 MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF THE CITY'S RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS.

- 3.3.1 Encourage the maintenance of the Noise and Land Use Compatibility Standards indicated in Table 3.1 (Appendix).
- 3.3.2 Control non-transportation related noise from site specific noise sources.
- 3.3.3 Develop and enforce a City of Cotati Noise Ordinance.
- 3.3.4 Local truck traffic, including loading and unloading, shall be limited to specific routes, times and speeds appropriate to each zoning district.
- 3.3.5 Encourage the enforcement of sections of the California Vehicle Code relating to adequate vehicle mufflers, and modified exhaust systems.
- 3.3.6 Work with Caltrans to ensure that adequate noise studies are prepared and alternative noise mitigation measures are considered in State projects.
- 3.3.7 Require acoustical studies and mitigation measures for new developments and transportation improvements that affect noise sensitive uses such as schools, hospitals, libraries, group care facilities, convalescent homes, and residential areas.
- 3.3.8 Stationary equipment, such as air compressors, shall be located as far away as feasible from sensitive noise receptors, and shall be shielded. Construction equipment shall be fitted with effective mufflers. The hours for construction operations shall be limited to the weekdays and the daytime where extreme noise sources are found.