

Facilitator Notes and Highlights
Dine and Dialogue: Green Spaces
July 8, 2015

Table 1:

Question 1 – What did you learn about this presentation?

- Community gardening
- Organizations working together and how it works
- Leadership needed for coordination and getting along
- How is the community participating together
- Why it is unincorporated

Question 2 – Why do you think this topic is important?

- Parks for kids with special needs
- Community meeting place. Bringing everyone together
- Health & Wellness
- Important to have a dog park

Question 3 – How does the concept of available parks, gardens and green spaces relate to North Fair Oaks?

- People don't know where there are parks
- Maps for the parks
- Put them available online
- Make them available
- Put signs in the community
- Diversity
- Proximity to the neighbor

Highlights:

- Zoning in the green areas
- Idea of having a park for children of special area
- County is being proactive in developing parks

Table 2:

Question 1 – What did you learn about this presentation?

- Community gardens
- Interest in what the goal is – gold standard?
- Challenge of all collaborative efforts; hard to manage leadership
- Incorporation possibility
- Programming in parks
- Zoning, noise, and cars big issue in NFO

Question 2 – Why do you think this topic is important?

- Different kinds of parks important
- Need bigger library
- Even though JPA in place, schools are not really open
- They need signs; not all about tech as not everyone has phones

Highlights

- Need place for kids with special needs
- Need more parks in NFO – zoning implication
- Acknowledge good work of County in developing parks
- Partnerships in developing parks
- Humans and nature connections
- Accessibility/barriers to getting people out
- Need for trees in NFO and its effects

Table 3:

Question 1 – What did you learn about this presentation?

- Surprised by the number of parks in SMC
- Started thinking about accessibility to parks (physically and financially)
- In the past, transportation makes a huge difference in attendance
- Community-organized trips to parks
- Many people are not culturally familiar with the concept of spending time in nature

Question 2 – Why do you think this topic is important?

- Health benefits: physical and mental health
- Helps improve air quality and the environment
- Safety
- Improves climate
- Feeling of living in a complete city
- Community gardens to help neighbors

Question 3 – How does the concept of available parks, gardens and green spaces relate to North Fair Oaks?

- Not a lot of trees compared to other areas, and that has an effect on people
- Not a lot of yard space
- Aesthetics
- Balance out the industrial aspects of the community
- Limited parking causes people to cement lawns for parking

Table 4:

Question 1 – What did you learn about this presentation?

- Process to partner with SFPUC
- Parks department is a department
- Youth mentoring through health dept (take a kid fishing)

- Surprised there is only one Marine Park
- Process to partner with other agencies or property owners

Question 2 – Why do you think this topic is important?

- Wellness and health benefits of nature
- Good for you, stress reliever
- Need to be aware of nature and health benefits of parks
- Humans naturally are connected to nature and belong in nature
- Accessibility: Want for more parks closer by so transit is not an issue
- Way to socialize; public safety benefit
- Increases awareness of nature and food; there's more than technology

Question 3 – How does the concept of available parks, gardens and green spaces relate to North Fair Oaks?

- Sounds like there is a deficit, only pocket parks
- Large parking lot near Siena Youth Center could be an opportunity for a park
- Ideas to partner with Caltrans, take a bike day, roof top gardens