

**SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING
1701 W. EL CAMINO AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT
Summary provided by Martin Eichner, Meeting Facilitator**

The Meeting began with a presentation from Vera Gil, Project Manager for Affordable Housing. Ms. Gil described the overall project review and approval process, including the first council public hearing on October 20, 2015 to address reservation of funding.

Candace Gonzalez, Executive Director for Palo Alto Housing and Jessica De Wit, Senior Project Manager for PAH, outlined the specific project to be built at 1701 W. El Camino. They described the type and number of units on the property and the specific eligibility criteria, including income levels and veteran preference. Laura Shagalov, representing the project architect, Van Meter, Williams and Pollack, described the proposed architectural and design elements for the project, including parking and integration with the surrounding neighborhood.

The remainder of the meeting was open for questions or comments on the project.

The following are summaries of the questions and comments from the meeting:

[Questions and comments from community participants are listed in bold under the primary bullet points. Responses and input from Palo Alto Housing and City staff are listed under the sub-bullets].

- **Is the proposed project in the Medium-Intensity Corridor of the El Camino Precise Plan?**
 - ~ Yes.
- **Can eligibility for veterans seeking to apply for units in this project be opened to all veterans, not just veterans currently living in Mountain View?**
 - ~ Mountain View gives priority to households living or working in Mountain View for affordable housing opportunities, but everyone is encouraged to apply for the units.
- **It is good to see an affordable housing preference for veterans because veterans are being forced out of this area by the high cost of rental housing.**

- **The Palo Alto Veterans Administration should be invited to partner on this project to help identify potential eligible veterans.**
 - ~ This suggestion is a good one.
- **As representatives of the Peninsula Veterans Lion Club, we are prepared to offer our help to identify and recruit eligible veterans.**
- **I like this project, it looks like a good idea, but I am worried about the negative impact on traffic on El Camino and the surrounding neighborhood.**
 - ~ Typically, affordable housing projects have less impact on traffic, compared for example with market rate developments. The eligible population is less likely to drive private vehicles and more likely to utilize public transit or alternatives such as bicycles. One of the advantages of the location of this project, is its proximity to public transit and local shopping options, which are within easy walking distance.
- **I think this is a great project.**
- **I hope this building will not be like the PAH project at Alma Place, which has been criticized as too massive and too closed in.**
 - ~ This project will not be similar because it will have larger individual units and more variety in its various design elements.
- **Will the project provide access for tenants with disabilities?**
 - ~ Every unit will be accessible or adaptable for residents with disabilities.
- **When will this property be open for occupancy?**
 - ~ The goal is to complete the approval process and open for occupancy in approximately 18 months after the reservation of funding.

The meeting ended with reminders about the October 20 council hearing to discuss reservation of funding and the availability of an interest list for this project on the city's website.